

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT & CAPACITY ANALYSIS OF MT. PLEASANT COMMUNITY CENTRES

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PURPOSE

- To offer the Parks Board input to improve, increase, and promote environmental education (EE) programming at community centres (CC) with the final goal of creating a baseline report to understand current EE programming and opportunities, including next steps.

PROCESS

- Researched individual community visions, such as the Mt. Pleasant Community Plan
- Researched already existing and past EE programs at each CC
- Conducted interviews with each CC program coordinator
- Compiled findings and compared results between CCs
- Produced baseline report

OUTCOMES

- We identified the need to:
- Properly allocate funding for EE programming at the CCs
 - Establish an Environmental Education Board under the Parks Board to assess funding and develop EE programs for CCs
 - Develop a standard training for CC program coordinators to learn about the goals of EE (i.e. a workshop)
 - Develop an EE toolkit for each program coordinator to refer back to as a guiding document
 - Provide opportunities for community members to deliver EE programming

CHALLENGES

- Similar challenges were identified at all five CCs, the most prominent of which include:
- Adequate staff capacity to research and implement EE
 - Designated funding for EE programs
 - Obtaining permits to implement EE programs and
 - Determining liability associated with outdoor activities

OPPORTUNITIES

- Opportunities identified across CCs include:
- Change already-existing programming to have an environmental focus (i.e. Silly Science at Douglas CC, or art classes at Mt. Pleasant could be themed for a session)
 - Improve access to nearby natural assets (i.e. Hillcrest CC to Queen Elizabeth park, or Creekside CC to Habitat Island)
 - Collaborate with local businesses or nearby non-profits who share similar values (i.e. Mt. Pleasant CC and MEC)



MEET THE TEAM

From left to right: Jasmine Smith B. Eng., Leah Karlberg B.A., Tamara McPherson B. Eng., Rajan Sandhu B.A. and Stephanie Pawluk B.A.



VISIT THE SITES

Our site consists of five community and recreation centres, roughly spanning the Mt. Pleasant area.

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