

Bishop Grandin
Greenway Inc.
Annual
Report
2014

(April 2014- March 2015)

Board of Directors

President
Michelle Meade

Past President
Murray Gibson

Vice President
Derick Young

Treasurer
Richard Kish

Secretary
Debbie Svaling

Directors at Large
Bruce Garner



Our special thanks to **24/7 Teen Stop Jeunesse** for providing meeting space and being great community partners!



Trail Clean Up 2014

Bishop Grandin Greenway is more than a system of pathways-it's a network of nature areas that includes three retention ponds (Apakway, Eagles Pond and Nature Haven Pond), community gardens and public pathways that link and support human as well a wildlife communities.

Started in 1999, Bishop Grandin Greenway comprises of committed community volunteers interested in re-naturalizing the 4.5 km section of the corridor lying between the Red and Seine River. The Board set the vision of the Greenway by adopting **thematic venues to guide** the development of physical space as well as any programs, projects and events. The 4 thematic venues are **Nature, History, Education and Active Living.**

Inspired by the BGG's goals to "increase awareness, appreciation, and knowledge of the area's natural and historical value" the Board agreed to undertake one of our most ambitious projects to date: the development of **Bittersweet Way**, highlighting the cultural and natural history of south Winnipeg. A community consultation session was held in April to get the communities' feedback on conceptual plans; meetings were held with the City and Hydro for their questions and input, project budget drafted, working group terms of reference developed and ground work was laid for the first phase of the project set to start 2015.

Spring is clean up time on the Greenway. Bishop Grandin has the dubious honor of usually making it on to Take Pride list of worst roads for garbage and 2014 was no different. In addition to the many bags of garbage, volunteers collected scrap metal, car parts, building material, tent parts and even an old couch. The Community Garden is next on the "to do" list, with boxes to be cleaned-up, repaired and ground beds to weeded. Board members Debbie Svaling and Bruce Garner have been instrumental in keeping the gardens in shape and flourishing! Board member Richard Kish undertook an extensive inventory of all signage on the Greenway, listing

Those that were bilingual and flagging those defaced with graffiti.

In 2009 the first weekend in June was proclaimed by Manitoba as International Trails Day with activities planned all over the province. BGG had its own event that started in 2007 as a walk, over the eight years Trails day became part of International Trails Day and grew to a multi-site interactive set of activities, enjoyed by over a 1000 participants and volunteers.

BGG's ***Between 2 Rivers*** Trails Day offers a unique set of family of activities inspired of course by our 4 themes e.g. making dream catchers, costumed interpreter from Riel House, urban poling, flying kites, drumming workshop, hawks from the Wildlife Haven, companion gardening for small spaces, composting, to interactive reading tent and fun activities at Kids Korner - we even created our own South St. Vital Bike Loop. Unfortunately with the decision to develop Bittersweet Way came the sad realization that this year will be our last year- at least for now. We needed to focus our attention our new project to ensure that it gets done without too much of strain on our troupe of Board members and volunteers.

It was another productive season in our gardens this past year. We welcomed both returning gardeners and some new faces too. The planting boxes looked spectacular, such wonderful bursts of colour and creative displays of flowers, fruits, vegetables and herbs! We made some headway on some of our ground beds, and plan to continue the work of improving the soil and winning the battle over the weeds! Plans for the upcoming season include bringing in soil to improve the state of the ground beds and to top up the garden boxes in the fall after the harvest. The community gardens are truly becoming a point of interest on the Greenway, and they are becoming a natural gathering place on the trail for both gardeners and other users of the trail. We look forward to another fun and rewarding gardening year

Green Healthy and Sustainable Communities for All



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Kids' Corner at *Between 2 Rivers* Trails Day 2014

2014-2015 activities at a glance.

1. Community Consultation for Bittersweet Way was held at Dakota High School on April 15, 2014. Participants were given an overview of the vision illustrated by the drafted conceptual plan, and provided their feedback and offered additional ideas.

2. The annual Trail Clean Up was held this year on May 3rd, followed by Community Garden weeding and repairing of planter boxes and inventory of Trail signage. There are 5 garden boxes and 4 ground beds to be assigned to eager gardeners this year.

3. June 1, 2014 marked the eighth and last annual "**Between 2 Rivers**" Trail Day. Approximately 100 people were involved with the event.

6. Strategic Planning session was held January 17, 2015 with a focus on developing more details for Bittersweet Way.

Stakeholders, Partners & Members

BGG welcomes input from the community. You can contact us through our web page bishopgrandingreenway.com or like us on Facebook: Friends of Bishop Grandin Greenway or email us bishopgrandingreenway@hotmail.com We hold monthly meetings and our schedule is posted on our web page

Each year BGGI partners with governments, corporations, schools, health organizations other not for profit entities. We welcome the opportunity to work with you and thank you for your interest in partnering with us.

If you are not yet a member of Bishop Grandin Greenway, now is the time. Please see our web-site as listed below for ways to become an active member of BGGI.

Statement of Revenue & Expenses 2014-2015

Revenues

Rivers West	\$500.00
Memberships	90.00
Bank Interest	2.48
Total Revenues	\$592.48

Expenses

Trails Day	\$328.80
Bittersweet Way	
Public Consultation	96.85
Project cost estimate	262.50
Director's Insurance	300.00
Corp. Registration fee	25.00
Trailer Insurance	152.00
Web Hosting Service	60.08
Total Expenses	\$1225.23

Surplus/ (Deficit) -\$632.75

BGG Cash Position

Cash April 1, 2011	\$7,158.57
Less Deficit	<u>- \$ 632.75</u>
Cash March 31, 2013	\$7,792.03
Net Cash Position	\$6, 525.82

