

Ontario's Historic Gardens Workshop, Parkwood National Historic Site, March 31 2011

Focus Question:

What can we, as a group, do in the next 3 - 5 years to advance innovative and sustainable historic garden tourism in Ontario?

Act as advocates for historic gardens	Inventory of Resources & Information	Share physical resources within group	Form a collective	Develop outside partnerships	Develop together unique & special events	Engage our communities	Create Awareness	Link Our Gardens
Advocate for prov profile & \$ - Reach out	Inventory of sites	Plant & seed exchange	Develop an organization to spear head	Link with Horticultural Societies	Inter-Garden Festival	Involve more young people	Broad & diverse media coverage	Garden tours - public & private
	Inventory of gardens	Partner with seed companies	Historic Gardening Association Conference	Link with artists & artisans eg. Dye gdns - authors & musicians	Milestone Events - Canada 150s Site 100s	Cultivating the next generation	TV gardening series	Passport to Ontario's Historic Gardens
		Share knowledge & plants (Facebook? Website?)	Corporate brandings - Goals & standards	Promote & market non-traditional links (Rotary)	Visiting Gardener/Artist Event	Link with colleges & universities	Website with links	Garden tours by age/ years/themes
			Conservation lab & conservator	Partner with community groups: Farmers' Mkt/ Hort. Soc./School s/ Restaurant	Wills & Kate to visit	Develop programs for all demographics	Publication: Map & garden designs	Mirror other successes - Wine/ Eco/ Craft Tourism
			Professional development for skills	Brochures in garden centres	Don't be afraid to change exhibits/progs	Public input. What does public want?	Web circle to link gardens online	Maps of area gardens (+province)
			Resource pooling	Mix plants & literature (poetry, etc.)		Identify target audience	Advertise on provincial website	Regional maps & marketing brochures "Trail" - share \$, PYS
			Supporting & sustaining each other	Landscape Ontario connection		Adopt a Garden		Labelling/ brochure of what's in garden
			Green initiatives			Don't assume everyone knows your site or that you need volunteers		
			Establish communication between sites			Create volunteer network with events		

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Next steps that we, as a group could take ... [not all themes were tackled this time]

Inventory of Resources & Information	Share physical resources within group	Form a collective	Develop outside partnerships	Develop together unique & special events	Link Our Gardens
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listing sites & gardens - size; era; theme/type of garden; management • Plant documentation / collections • Seed companies / suppliers (i.e. tools, equipment) • Research dossiers • Library inventory • Identifying experts e.g. bee keepers, guest speakers • Workshops • Visual library of your site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plants & seeds • Artwork; extra tools • How-to-build _____ brochures (wheel barrow, arbours) • Share our list of plants we're growing and will share/ trade with other sites • Use gmail group • Sponsorship by heritage seed companies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use technology - e-forum • Share email addresses to start • Inventory resources to support • Partner with existing organizations • ? under umbrella of OMA? (would we have to be individual or site members?) • How to reach other members or organizations? • May need to create steering committee to discuss governance model • Can we create Ontario Branch of U.S. Historic Garden preservation society? • Funding - to seed organization? Sponsorship - Foundation, Seed Company, Lee Valley Tools, Harrowsmith 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local links - identify, contact, determine if there's a fit • Service clubs - Rotary, Kiwanis/ Kinettes, Lion/Lioness, W.I., • Historical Society • Master Gardeners • Horticultural Society • Artists - Collective; Individual • Musicians • Museums • Government - Water Works, Public Works, P & R • Churches • Schools • Culinary Groups (Slow Food), Restaurants • Book Clubs • Seniors Centres • Library • Beekeepers • Yoga/Tai Chi • Farmers' Market • Fibre Artists Prov = Landscape Ontario 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of all ntl, prov & local sig events • Traveling heritage fest/event that rotates through sites • Develop a flagship event across al sites: Doors Open/ Heritage Wk • Annual photography context • Plein air painting • Garden sculpture/ design • Sponsor garden design (reg.) • Garden experts symposium • Declare and annual ... • HISTORIC GARDEN 2012 • HISTORIC GARDEN WEEK • SHARE THE HARVEST 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a database of historic gardens - survey? • Link by region/ BIA/ Chambers of Commerce • Identify which are public / private • Identify special interest groups/ themes • Identify contact orgs with successful programs

Group members:

- Form a collective: Julia Gregory, Audrey Caryi, Shawna Foxton, Harry Vandompeler, Simon Taylor, Barbara McIntosh, Wayne Keilty
- Develop outside partnerships: Tess Empster, Joyce Higgs, Betty Hinton, Shawna Hook
- Inventory of resources & information: Sheryl Smith, Jill Thurn, Sandra Spudic, Pamela Corey, Victoria Bick, Larry Sagar
- Link our gardens: Joan Horner, Elizabeth Stewart, Alan Large, Barbara Large, Carol Mathison, Ellen Mitchison
- Develop together unique and special events: Josh S., Barb M., Deirdre C., Fred A., Barb Pratt
- Sharing physical resources: Rick Posavad, Mike Higgs, Mark Burleton, Catherine Ginies