

## **2015 We Are Cities: Community Innovation Grant Recipients**

### **Springboard Performance – Calgary, AB**

#### *ContainR*

Springboard Performance's ContainR project is a test-site for animating brown-fields in downtown Calgary. Comprised of a series of movable, repurposed shipping containers, ContainR is a hub for creative place-making that brings people together across cultures, generations and interests through varied programming and initiatives. The site hosts workshops around food gardening, arts events, community demonstration projects and social gatherings. Funding provided by the Community Innovation Grant will support urban agriculture programming at this unique public space.

### **Coastal Family Resource Coalition – Ucluelet, BC**

#### *Wayfinding in Nuu-chah-nulth territories*

Coastal Family Resources Coalition is working towards highlighting the rich history, culture and language of the Nuu-chah-nulth peoples in Tofino, British Columbia. Funding provided by the We Are Cities: Community Innovation Grant will go towards creating new and improved wayfinding to celebrate and preserve this culture in the region. The project will install signs complete with relevant language and cultural content as part of a larger wayfinding signage plan conducted by the District of Tofino.

### **The Creative City Network – Vancouver, BC**

#### *Happy City Neighbourhood Audit*

The Creative City Network of Canada wants every Canadian city to be a happy place to live. It is for this reason that Creative City decided to conduct a Happy City Neighbourhood Audit as part of their project. The audit will consist of a workshop/study tour of the Kelowna Community Theatre site. The results of the audit will then help inform the site's re-development plans.

### **Vancouver Public Space Network – Vancouver, BC**

#### *Downtown Public Realm Plan*

The Vancouver Public Space Network works to champion the importance of public space to the overall liveability of Vancouver. The Network is currently undergoing a multi-year initiative that aims to produce a community-generated vision for Downtown Vancouver's public realm. Through their project, they will carry out an inventory of downtown spaces, places and policy documents in order to identify opportunities for improvement.

### **Whistler Centre for Sustainability – Whistler, BC**

#### *Neighbourhood Works*

The Whistler Centre for Sustainability seeks to create change in communities to make them more liveable, resilient, equitable and sustainable. The Centre's Neighbourhood Works project seeks to address the deficit of social contact between neighbours and create synergies between neighbourhood planning and capital investment projects. In order to carry out their vision, they will create tool sheets, host workshops, and organize community engagement events such as yoga in the park and book sharing programs.

### **Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre Inc. – Winnipeg, MB**

#### *Indigenous Youth Voices*

The Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre's "Urban Indigenous Youth Voices" is a youth driven initiative that builds resiliency and civic engagement capacity among underserved youth. The Community Innovation Grant will support the Youth Voices project that provides programming and engagement opportunities for youth to get more involved in their community. Participants will be engaged in an assembly as well as 10 weeks of programming for youth by youth to discuss issues related to safety.

### **Planning & Design Centre – Halifax, NS**

#### *Switch: Open Street Sundays*

The Planning & Design Centre is committed to improving planning and design in Halifax by ensuring that communities are involved in shaping their city's future. Their project, Switch: Open Street Sundays, aims to bring Open Streets to Halifax on a regular basis. Open Streets are diverse programs that promote recreation, active transportation and leisure activities. Switch first began in Halifax in 2008 and funding provided by the Community Innovation grant will contribute to making this initiative an integral part of the region.

### **Public Health Services, Nova Scotia Health Authority – Dartmouth, NS**

#### *Halifax's Mobile Food Market*

The Nova Scotia Health Authority's mission is to work together to achieve excellence in health, healing and learning. As part of their most recent project, the Health Authority's Public Services is implementing Halifax's first Mobile Food Market. The market will bring local affordable food to vulnerable communities in a unique way; the produce will be transported via a Halifax Metro Transit bus.

### **Imagine My City – Toronto, ON**

#### *City VR: A Portable Virtual Reality Kiosk to Imagine the Future*

Imagine My City is creating and promoting citizen engagement in issues related to the built environment. Funds provided by the Community Innovation Grant will support the creation of a virtual reality kiosk that can be transported throughout Toronto. At the kiosk, citizens can use their smart phones and virtual reality headsets to see the transformational changes that will occur as new city-building projects emerge. The kiosk will encourage citizens to imagine a more sustainable Toronto.

### **EcoSuperior Environmental Programs – Thunder Bay, ON**

#### *Open Streets Thunder Bay*

EcoSuperior's goal is to create northwestern Ontario communities that thrive ecologically, socially and economically. This year, to promote physical activity and social connectivity, they are bringing Open Streets to Thunder Bay. For 5 hours, approximately 5km of roadway will be closed to cars and open to the public so that residents can walk, bike, dance and play on city streets.

### **Faith & the Common Good – Toronto, ON**

#### *Climate Change in your Backyard*

Faith & the Common Good is a national interfaith network that holds a passion for protecting the ecosystem and for community service. Through their project, Faith & the Common Good is capitalizing on momentum around climate change adaption, by engaging faith communities to serve as community

hubs for extreme weather events. With 8 pilot sites already underway, the funding will go towards scaling this initiative to 4 other communities across Toronto. Training will be provided to these communities and a tool kit will be created outlining best practices.

### **Geospatial Niagara – St. Catharines, ON**

#### *TreeOcode Niagara*

Geospatial Niagara's mission is to promote geo-literacy and community participation through geography. For their project, they will use the power of data, digital tools and community engagement to crowd-source information about the urban forest in the City of St. Catharines. Funding provided by the Community Innovation Grant will support a new initiative seeking to illustrate and quantify the benefits of urban forests as an environmental, social and economic asset.

### **Hamilton Sustainability Professionals Network – Hamilton, ON**

#### *Complete Streets in Hamilton: An Opportunity to Reenvision Our Streets*

The Hamilton Sustainability Professionals Network's mission is to promote sustainability, environmental stewardship, and sustainable systems thinking in order to create a healthier and more sustainable Hamilton. Through their Complete Streets in Hamilton project, the Network is looking to make it easier to get around the city and create more thriving communities. To address this issue, the network will host an interactive workshop to help generate some key ideas and actions on how to create complete streets.

### **Share the Road Cycling Coalition – Hamilton, ON**

#### *Bicycle Friendly Business Awards*

Share the Road Cycling Coalition is a provincial cycling advocacy organization working to build a more bicycle friendly Ontario. In order to contribute to this goal, the Cycling Coalition is developing a Bicycle Friendly Business Awards Program. The Community Innovation Grant will support the development of a pilot project to create a designation program for businesses that are bicycle friendly.

### **Catapulte – OBNL – Montréal, QC**

#### *StopGap@Montréal*

Catapulte's mission is to promote day to day adventure by developing and revitalizing public spaces. They also strive to improve the accessibility of cities for people with disabilities and restricted mobility. Through their project StopGap@Montréal, they are tackling this issue by installing colourful ramps outside of commercial and retail spaces throughout the city of Montréal. Community members will be involved throughout every step of the process, from contributing their ideas to assembling the ramps.

### **Coop les Valoristes – Montréal, QC**

#### *Dépot de contenants à boissons consignés*

Les Valoristes' goal is to improve the working conditions for binners in Montréal while increasing community awareness and promoting recycling/waste reduction. Binners are workers in the informal recycling sector who make a living or a portion of their living by collecting bottles and cans for refund. This summer, Les Valoristes will open up a bottle depot under the Jacques-Cartier bridge which will serve as a hub for binners and community members to return their bottles.

**Verdir et Divertir - Québec, QC***Vrilles et volubiles*

Verdir et Divertir's mission is to green public spaces and showcase the artistic characteristics of Québec city neighbourhoods while engaging community members. Their project will blend these two themes by creating an eco-art installation with a living wall and themed mural painted on the side of a nearby building. A public festival with performances by local youth will take place as part of the grand opening of the space.

**Queen City Hub – Regina, SK***Urbanity 101*

The Queen City Hub is a co-working and skill-sharing space in the heart of downtown Regina that seeks to improve civic participation in urban issues. Their project, Urbanity 101, empowers Regina residents with knowledge and tools to turn ideas into actions. The grant will support the second round of Urbanity 101 workshops which will build on this foundation and engage with new communities to discuss urban planning issues.