



green thumbs growing kids

Our Mission:

To work with urban children, youth and their families to learn about, grow and prepare fresh foods, cultivated in an environmentally sustainable manner, in hands-on programs.

“I never liked vegetables until our school got a garden”

- Alex, grade 2

2010 Annual Report

Schools and their gardens are fertile grounds for growing community and for learning! In 2010 Green Thumbs Growing Kids has continued to demonstrate the potential of urban school gardens to produce good food for kids and be a venue for building healthy neighbourhoods, especially in low income and newcomer communities.

In teaching our children and youth to grow and handle food, we are “**re-skilling**” our communities, with a hopeful vision of the future. Climate change has caused us to shift our paradigm and to think about resilience and sustainability in new ways. Kids growing their own food at school will prepare them for a lifetime of learning about sustainability.

In 2010 we expanded our summer youth employment program, collaborated on outdoor art installations, helped other community agencies to grow culturally appropriate food, and increased opportunities for inner-city kids and families to get their hands dirty and eat fresh produce out of the garden.

We designed more curriculum-linked garden and food lesson plans, and worked with partner organizations to plan and facilitate more teacher training workshops, to further empower community leaders and educators to use hands-on gardening activities and projects to teach science, math, social sciences, arts and language skills. We worked with local farmers and partners to build and install sustainable earthblock beds and rainwater collection systems in our gardens.

Our programs couldn't have happened without the support of funders, community partners, volunteers and supportive individuals. Please continue to grow with us!

Sunday Harrison,
Executive Director

From the Board of Directors

2010 has been an exciting year for Green Thumbs Growing Kids. As an organization, we are maturing. We are very pleased to bring on new board members David Clandfield, Chris Jacobson, Kathleen Quan and Robert Spence at our Annual General Meeting. Already they are enriching our organization with their expertise in the areas of strategic planning, employment law, and education. Donations to Green Thumbs grew, an encouraging development as we plan towards a more sustainable future for our organization. Our base of committed volunteers, in the gardens and in our office, has also grown and is now an integral part of Green Thumbs. Together, in 2010 we served more children and harvested more produce than ever before. Thank you for your ongoing support and we look forward to another year of creativity and growth.

Kristin Schwartz, President





january



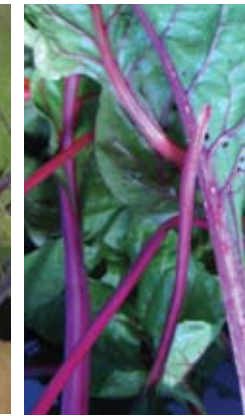
february



march



april



may



june

Teaching Through the Seasons

2010 Workshops & Programs:

WINTER PROGRAMS

Outdoors through the cold season, the **Kids** checked their hoop houses for greens, composted, and collected seed from the meadow. Indoors, classroom workshops focused on food literacy, nutrition, Stone Soup, Seed Saving, Food & Media, Colour Me Healthy, Design Your Own Garden, Mystery Vegetable in a Box, and Worm Care workshops. We ran an Eco-Cooking Club with grade 7 and 8 students at Winchester Public School, where students learned about food security, chose recipes and made vegetarian lasagna, vegetable jalfrezi, rice and beans, and fresh salad dressings from scratch. Delicious!



seed packing - food and language literacy

SPRING PROGRAMS

Throughout spring, we ran more than 150 garden-based workshops in both French and English at the greenhouse and school food garden sites at Rose Avenue, Winchester and Gabrielle-Roy public schools.

2010 was our fifth year at Allan Gardens Children's Conservatory, in partnership with the City of Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation. As a walking half-day trip for local schools, the **Kids** started long season

plants like tomatoes, peppers, squashes, melons, cucumbers, herbs and flowers that they later transplanted into their own school food gardens in the spring. With exciting programs on offer from Kindergarten to Grade 8 in the beautiful horticultural

facility, the greenhouse season is a **Kids** favourite!

Spring programs in school gardens included all elementary grades seeding, transplanting, tasting the emergent perennials, picking and harvesting for the lunchrooms, plus digging around in the compost bins. It's a way to bring the curriculum to life, and teachers in the know bring the garden into all their subjects. By being present in the school garden for instructional sessions, equipped with knowledge, activities and lesson plans, GTGK created enormous opportunities for learning, for 2,841 students in the first half of 2010.



SUMMER PROGRAMS

We've long thought that student summer jobs and school gardens are made for each other! We were proud to partner with Youth Voices Research Network, in their Food4Health Equity project. In this project, 8 students from St. James Town joined us for the summer and received training to facilitate and design new garden activities, and teach visiting children how to compost and grow food. The youth were instrumental in facilitating family drop-in programs and camp visits. They also installed a rainwater catchment system, earthblock garden beds, garden signage and built a bike blender. They explored issues around food security and health in

Partnerships

CENTRE FRANCOPHONE DE TORONTO

We helped start a new children's and family garden at Allan Gardens Children's Conservatory in collaboration with the City of Toronto Forestry, Parks and Recreation Dept. We ran garden-based nutrition workshops with the Centre Francophone de Toronto's pre and post-natal moms group, Pas à Pas, run by the Community Health Worker Candice Nsongo. This Francophone garden provided a great program space for mothers and their children ranging in age from 3 to 6 – and also provided a lot of fresh and nutritious vegetables!





july



august



september



october



november



december

“Working at GTGK has been... the kind of job that gives you the opportunity to learn about the bounty of the earth, community building, and especially about yourself.”

the community, and designed their own responses.

Youth ran at least 4 workshops each week with our support, with visiting day cares, camps, and family evening drop-ins, serving a total of 650 people. Says summer youth staffer Sarah Haimes, “It is the kind of job that gives you the opportunity to learn about the bounty of the earth, community building, and especially about yourself. Having the opportunity to be responsible and a role model to children gives you a sense of purpose and fullness when you accomplish your job.”

FALL PROGRAMS

Harvest season in the Kids’ school food

gardens was blessed with an exceptionally long warm autumn, making for a bounty of greens, mouse melons, tomatoes, ground-cherries, sunberries, peppers, lemon cucumbers, lettuce, beets, carrots, sweet potatoes, okra, coriander, Chinese chives, Tulsi and Genovese basil, and many more. These beautiful foods went right into the mouths of 1,165 Kids, in the gardens, classrooms and lunchrooms.

To increase schools’ capacity to compost, we launched our “Composters of the Month” program at both Rose Avenue P.S. and Winchester Jr. & Sr. P.S. in the fall of 2010. Each month, a different class is responsible for taking the food waste out into the compost bins.

AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Riverdale Farm after-school programs continued in spring, summer and fall, with the Toronto Kiwanis Boys and Girls Clubs walking 12 children to the Farm each week in spring and fall, from their partner schools in Regent Park. This garden-based program is aimed at neighbourhood

children without a school garden, to increase their access to the same set of benefits including better nutrition and increased environmental awareness.

TEACHER TRAINING

In November we offered, in partnership with FoodShare, the first of four workshops for in-service teachers and engaged parents, on how to run curriculum-linked programs in school gardens. 30 teachers attend each workshop.



Gabrielle-Roy students with their new raised bed built from Earthblocks

2010 by the numbers

Cultivated space: 4,534 sq. ft./421 square metres

Food Production: 3,627 lbs/1,645 kilograms

Healthy Eating and Gardening Workshops delivered: 359 (50 in French)

Total Attendance: 6,160

Number of students during school year: 4,006

Percentage newcomers to Canada: 70%

All ages served in summertime: 660

Greenhouse gases reduced: 3.45 Tonnes from local food production, 13 Tonnes from composting, 16.45 Tonnes total

Events & Special Projects

Eat-In Ontario

On October 8th, supporting FoodShare's Recipe for Change campaign, Green Thumbs Growing Kids facilitated a curriculum-linked composting workshop in front of Queen's Park in collaboration with many



other organizations as part of Eat-In Ontario, a province-wide fall harvest celebration with fun-filled activities, using fresh local produce to teach students of all ages the

joys of cooking, growing and tasting good, healthy food.

Middle Childhood Matters

On May 12th, the Middle Childhood Matters Coalition held a conference titled: A City Fit for Children, One School Age Child at a Time. Sunday Harrison, director, presented the Green Thumbs Growing Kids approach to "Addressing Nature Deficit Disorder". The presentation was well received.

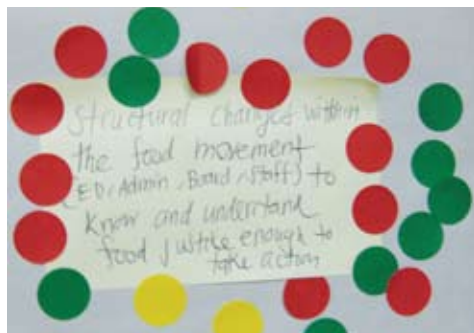
Food Secure Canada

Green Thumbs Growing Kids participated at this year's Food Secure Canada Conference in Montreal that took place November 26th to the 28th. The focal theme was "Weaving together food policy and

community action: an agenda for change'. We presented in both English and French at a workshop on Schools as Spaces for Nutrition (L'école un espace alimentaire lié à sa communauté) with other panelists from FoodShare, Jeunes Pousses and Établissements verts Brundtland. Hosted at the University of Montreal, many French organizations, international organizations and inspirational speakers attended this national biennial event.

Growing Food and Justice For All Initiative

In partnership with Afri-Can FoodBasket, Green Thumbs helped organize two "Grub It Up" events at Lawrence Heights in March and November. The aim of the gatherings was to bring people together who are committed to dismantling racism and promoting food justice. We ate together and strategized on future directions. A group of people from Toronto attended the Growing Food and Justice for All Gathering in Milwaukee back in 2009 and 2010 and were inspired to start a regional L.E.G. - Local Empowerment Group of Growing Food and Justice For All Initiative.



Students do a "dry" build, Earthblock machine in background

Earthblocks!

Thanks to Live Green Toronto funding we were able to design and construct Earthblock beds at 3 schools! Raised beds extend the growing season and allow gardens to be built just about anywhere. Thanks to Banyan Youth Initiatives and Henry Weirisma at Fifth Wind Farm in Cobourg, students from Green Thumbs' partner schools got to go to the farm to see how Compressed Earth Blocks are made. With an ecological footprint 1/10th that of concrete, this sustainable building material has a future!

One Grade 5/6 teacher, our own board member Kathleen Quan, made the Earthblock Bed building experience a full-on student-driven inquiry-based learning pilot documented by the Institute of Child Study.

A note from our friends at Ontario Natural Food Co-op:

"We appreciate the work that you do to sustainably transform the land through the hardworking hands of young gardeners."

Introducing our newest school partners

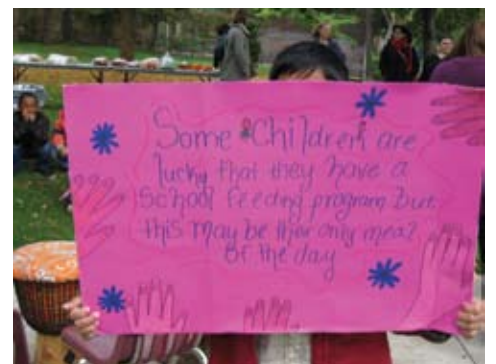
Sprucecourt Jr. P.S. in Regent Park is the newest school garden partnership for Green Thumbs Growing Kids. In celebration and to deepen awareness, we worked with the school to commemorate World Food Day on October 15th. A driving force in the project has been Lead2Peace, a youth group with roots in Regent Park who attended Sprucecourt as children.

Students from the school put on a play to demonstrate many of the socio-economic challenges faced by people who are

heavily affected by hunger and unfair economic trade practices. The students also played drums and sang. Mohsin Kahn, a former Sprucecourt student and youth leader from Lead2Peace, spoke about the garden that the group started at the school earlier this year and the importance of giving back to your community.

Other partners in the garden project include the City of Toronto, the Christian Resource Centre, Dixon Hall, and

Meal Exchange, as well as some keen neighbours. Look for a new garden installation and programs in 2011!



More Events

Green Thumbs Growing Kids wishes to thank all of our friends and allies in the food security community for a fantastic year!



Toronto Food Policy Council February 2010: Sunday Harrison presented at the meeting with support from the Heart and Stroke Foundation, demonstrating the beauty and diversity of school gardens and looked at ways the City can support them, such as summer jobs.



Garden Party May 16

A big, big thank you to those who attended the GTGK Garden Party and Flower Tasting Fundraiser on Sunday May 16, and also those who purchased Gift

Cards in our December fundraising drive.



GTGK Funders Recognition Event - August 17

On a beautiful August evening, during one of our weekly community drop-in nights, we were very happy for the opportunity to express our thanks to the community and to some of our wonderful funders and allies for supporting us. *From left Sunday Harrison, ED, MPP Glen Murray, Rinaldo Boni from Ontario Trillium Foundation and Rowena Rodriguez from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario.*



GREEN THUMBS GROWING KIDS

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2010

Brendan Pennylegion

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members,
Green Thumbs Growing Kids

Report on the Financial Statements

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Green Thumbs Growing Kids, which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2010 and the statements of operations and changes in net assets for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements
Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility
My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion
In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Green Thumbs Growing Kids as at December 31, 2010, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Brendan Pennylegion

Chartered Accountant
Licensed Public Accountant
April 19, 2011
Toronto, Ontario

287 Carlton Street Suite 2 Toronto Canada M5A 2L6 Telephone 416/323-1335 Facsimile 416/323-0724

GREEN THUMBS GROWING KIDS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2010

	2010	2009
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash	\$ 70,937	\$ 42,801
Amounts receivable	8,295	5,799
Prepaid expenses	1,487	1,554
	<u>\$ 80,719</u>	<u>\$ 50,154</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 5,046	\$ 5,833
Deferred revenue (note 5)	43,811	42,104
	<u>48,857</u>	<u>47,937</u>
Net assets		
Unrestricted	31,862	2,227
	<u>\$ 80,719</u>	<u>\$ 50,154</u>

Approved on behalf of the Board:

Capital Director
Mike Seely Director
Melissa Rodriguez Treasurer

GREEN THUMBS GROWING KIDS

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND NET ASSETS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

	2010	2009
REVENUE		
Grants (note 6)	\$ 142,898	\$ 149,515
Donations	47,410	3,646
Service fees and member dues	12,434	25,219
Interest	46	50
	<u>202,788</u>	<u>178,430</u>
EXPENSES		
Personnel	113,030	120,789
Program	36,165	34,853
Office and general	7,123	8,892
Occupancy costs	5,696	3,533
Travel	4,731	3,208
Professional fees	2,733	7,232
Website	2,022	4,092
Insurance	1,723	1,889
Board and staff development	630	1,898
	<u>173,153</u>	<u>176,384</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR	29,635	2,036
Net assets, beginning of year	2,227	191
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 31,862</u>	<u>\$ 2,227</u>

GREEN THUMBS GROWING KIDS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2010

1. THE ORGANIZATION

Green Thumbs Growing Kids (the "organization") is incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation without share capital in the Province of Ontario.

The organization's mission is to teach urban children and their families to grow and appreciate fresh, nutritious foods, grown in an environmentally sustainable and socially just manner, in hands-on programs.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Management is responsible for the preparation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with prior years. Outlined below are those policies considered particularly significant:

Capital Assets

Individual capital assets are capitalized in the year of purchase at cost. Amortization is provided annually at rates calculated to write-off the assets over their estimated useful lives.

Revenue Recognition

The organization follows the deferral method of revenue recognition. Under the deferral method, amounts received in the year for expenses to be incurred in the following year are recorded as deferred revenue. The organization's principal sources of revenue and recognition of these revenues for financial statement purposes are as follows:

- Unrestricted grants are recognized as revenue when they are received or receivable if the amount received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Restricted grants are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred.
- Service fees are recognized in the year in which the services are provided.
- Donation revenue is recorded when funds are received. Donated materials and services which are normally purchased by the organization are not recorded in the accounts.
- Interest income is recognized as revenue when earned.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of these financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities as of the date of the financial statements and the reported amount of revenues and expenses during the reporting periods. Estimates and assumptions are reviewed periodically and, as adjustments become necessary, they are reported in the year in which they become known.

3. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Financial assets and liabilities are carried at cost, which approximates their fair value due to their short-term nature.

It is management's opinion that the organization is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks.

Page 3

GREEN THUMBS GROWING KIDS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2010

4. MANAGEMENT OF CAPITAL

In managing capital, the organization focuses on liquid resources available for operations. The organization's objective is to have sufficient liquid resources to continue operating despite adverse events with financial consequences and to provide the organization with the flexibility to take advantage of opportunities that will advance its purposes. The need for sufficient liquid resources is considered in the preparation of an annual budget and in the monitoring of cash flows and actual operating results compared to budget. As at December 31, 2010, the organization had met its objective of having sufficient liquid resources to meet its current obligations.

5. DEFERRED GRANT REVENUE

Deferred grant revenue is composed of the following:

	2010	2009
Community Service Partnerships	\$ 18,450	\$ nil
Foodshare	10,440	9,921
Live Green		
Ontario Trillium Foundation		40,964
Other	5,000	1,140
Deferred grant revenue, end of year	<u>\$ 43,811</u>	<u>\$ 42,104</u>

Continuity of deferred grant revenue for the year is as follows:

	2010	2009
Deferred grant revenue, beginning of year	\$ 42,104	\$ 37,619
Add cash received from grants in year	144,805	154,000
Less grant revenue recognized in year	(142,898)	(149,515)
Deferred grant revenue, end of year	<u>\$ 43,811</u>	<u>\$ 42,104</u>

6. GRANTS

Grant revenue was recognized from the following sources in the year:

	2010	2009
Ontario Trillium Foundation	\$ 78,364	\$ 67,436
Youth Voices Research Group	20,159	
City of Toronto	18,215	10,000
Ontario Agri-Food Education Inc.	15,720	26,160
Green Shield Canada	8,000	
Foodshare	1,440	30,919
Toronto Parks and Trees Foundation	nil	5,000
Other	1,000	10,000
	<u>\$ 142,898</u>	<u>\$ 149,515</u>

Page 4

GREEN THUMBS GROWING KIDS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2010

7. INCOME TAX STATUS

The organization is exempt from income tax in Canada as a registered charitable organization under the Income Tax Act (Canada).

Partners and in-kind supporters

Year-round school garden demonstration

sites: École Gabrielle-Roy, Rose Avenue Public School, Winchester Public School

After-school Program Partners: City of Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation at Riverdale Farm, Toronto Kiwanis Boys and Girls Club

Summer school-community garden

program partners: Art City, Art Heart (Regent Park), Cabbagetown Youth Centre, Central

Neighbourhood House, Toronto Kiwanis Boys and Girls Club, Upwards Art Collective

Youth training and employment partners:

U4Change, Banyan Youth Initiative, Youth Voices Research Network, Youth Employment Services

Spring greenhouse partners:

Partner schools, City of Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation at Allan Gardens, Centre Francophone, Growing Together (Hincks-Dellcrest Centre)

Funding

GRANTS

Ontario Trillium Foundation
Ontario Agri-Food Education Inc.
City of Toronto Community Service Partnership
City of Toronto Recreation Grants
Live Green Toronto
Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario
Carrot Cache Community Resources, Inc.
Ontario Natural Food Coop
Mountain Equipment Co-op
Green Shield Canada
Youth Voices Research Group

PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion and Sport, with FoodShare

DONATIONS: Individuals and Corporations - **\$1000+** Anonymous, Cheryl Buchwald, Sarah Dobec/Women's Healthy Environments Network, TD Bank

\$10-\$1000 Ilze Purmalis, Susan Butler, Mary Collier / Dan Perlitz, Rebekka Hutton, Allan Wands, Sheila Casgrain, William Chetta, Robert Spence, Jamie Beckett, Gwen Feagan, Karen Augustine, Cecile Van-Cao, Harry Rudolfs, James Woollatt, Kathy Sliwa, Suzanne Druker, Abhaya Kulkarni, Oksana Hohol, Kathleen Quan, Marie Campbell, Leigh Davidson, A.S. Macpherson, Kristin Schwartz, Elise Houghton, Curtis Evoy, David Biderman, Michie Garland, Jessica Williams, Brook Thorndycraft, Liam Quan, Todd Irvine, Trudy Chatwin, Kari Dreyer, David Dorsch, Ruth Lima, Carol King, Susy Alvarez, Brittany McKee, Robbie Turgeon, Angeliqve Davies

DONATIONS: Family Foundations

The Acapella Foundation • The EJLB Foundation • F.K. Morrow Foundation • The Geoffrey H. Wood Foundation • George Lunan Foundation • J.P. Bickell Foundation • Lawrence Family Foundation • Lloyd Carr-Harris Foundation • Leanne Palylyk Children's Foundation • Marjorie Wright Foundation

Youth Wage Subsidies: Youth Employment Services



THE ONTARIO TRILLIUM FOUNDATION



LA FONDATION TRILLIUM DE L'ONTARIO



www.kidsgrowing.ca

603½ Parliament Street
Toronto, Ont. M4X 1P9

(647) 348-5437 647-FIT-KIDS

Charitable Registration # 80696 2353 RR0001

Who we are:

At our Sept. 25/2010 AGM, 20 members elected the following Board:

Executive:

Kristin Schwartz, President
Anne Sorrenti, Vice President
Chris Jacobson, Treasurer
Susan Butler, Secretary

Directors:

Susy Alvarez-Pocasangre
David Clandfield
Joe Durand
Ruth Lima
Kathleen Quan
Robert Spence

Executive Director:

Sunday Harrison

Program Staff: Abbey Huggan, Xuan-Yen Cao, Lara Mrosovsky

Contract Staff: Christine Hayhurst, Shannon Crossman, Erica Peña

OISE Interns: Lyndsay Barwell, Mehrdad Wellington

Translation: Settlement & Education Partnerships Toronto, Bob Huggan

Summer staff:

James J. Cheyne, Sarah Haimes, Winston Kathirkamanathan, Abie Quayson, Jijo Quayson, Sailaivasan Vettivelu, Amanuel Zewdie, Jiawen Zhou

Regular Volunteers: Amber Farrell, Claire Gatto, Claire Trepanier, Mehrdad Wellington, Lyndsay Barwell, Gwen Feagan, Poonam Goel, Tim Fry, Joanne Hovey, Kristy Schippel, Todd Irvine, Keenan Way, Guillermina Campos, Natasha Large, Katherine Ahlberg, Mary-Margaret McMahon, Ellen Michelson, Bob Huggan, Charlotte Rose, Ellen Farrelly, Anne Tran, Steven Chabot, Cate Ahrens, Chantale Killey, Liam Quan, Fado Blues, Watershed, Blake Howard, Michael-Owen Liston, Doug Tielli, Emily Cho, Michelle Lynch, Jessica Williams.



FSC paper