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**Horticulture Centre
of the Pacific**



October 2022 eNews

Garden hours: 9:00am to 4:00pm

Everyday



A Message from our General Manager





HARVEST *Festival*

OCTOBER 29TH, 2022

9:00am - 3:00pm

Admission by donation

Pumpkin people photo op, family activities, workshops, Exhibits featuring; **Habitat Acquisition Trust (HAT)**, **Rocky Point Bird Observatory (RPBO)**, **West Coast Seeds** will have an activity station for growing microgreens (and other seasonal tips) **Bartlett Tree Experts** will be providing seasonal tips ...and **much more!**

EVENT PARTNERS



West Coast Seeds.





Have you checked out our new website? hcp.ca

A Message from our Head Gardener

HCP Fall Plant Sale recap:

Well, the weather was perfect, and the shoppers came out.

Setting up the tables is a time-consuming task, as all plants have to be in alphabetical order. It requires a lot of lifting and organizing.

A huge shout out to the Thursday polyhouse volunteers, Giles, Emily, Cheri and her husband as well for set up.

The pre-sale day for HCP members and volunteers was very well attended.

The keeners lined up at the gate with their plant lists.

Saturday was not as busy, but there was a steady pace with visitors enjoying the sale and a stroll in the garden.

Thanks again to the volunteers, PHC students and staff for making this another successful plant sale!

Now we are focused on propagating plants for 2023 sales.

Stay tuned for some exciting new cultivars and a section called 'plants for the ever-changing climate'.

Cheers to Fall,
Linda



Thank You Volunteers!



October 5th was a day for honouring all of our amazing volunteers that give of their time so selflessly to the HCP and it was in that spirit that the festivities began! Cheri cut and marinated a "boat-load" of salmon before taking on the

job of BBQ'ing 125 smokies, and Giles was on the helm of the second BBQ successfully creating some very tasty fish!

This was our 1st Volunteer BBQ since 2019 and we made the most of it!

The weather was gorgeous as we welcomed the more than 85 volunteers who were able to join us and celebrate the gardens and each other under the big white tent. Jane and Heather prepped the tables for Linda to add the lovely center-pieces. The staff were out in full-force to help and make sure everything went smoothly and that everyone had enough food, including takeout for some! My apologies to the staff for not introducing everyone. I will make sure to do so at the Holiday Tea so the volunteers know who you are and how your role helps to ensure the success of the gardens.

A **HUGE** thank-you to the following for their support of prizes for the event:

Butchart Gardens <https://www.butchartgardens.com/>

Victoria Butterfly Gardens <https://butterflygardens.com/>

Bateman Gallery <https://batemanfoundation.org/gallery/>

Gardener's Kit <https://gardenerskit.com/>

Mosi Bakery, Café & Gelateria <https://mosibakery.com/>

Shaw Discovery Centre <https://www.salishseacentre.org/>

Wildwood Outdoor Living Centre <https://wildwoodoutdoorliving.com/>

Elk Lake Garden Centre <https://elklakegardencentre.weebly.com/>

Patio Gardens <https://www.patiogardens.ca/>

Russell Nursery <https://russellnursery.com/>

A beautiful Bouquet made by Emily and HCP Gift shop baskets completed the prize table.

And for those that wanted the name of the salmon marinade - I have attached a picture of it above and it is available at Save-on Foods.

THANK-YOU everyone.

Deborah, GM

For more information or to apply as a volunteer please contact Kim at volunteers@hcp.ca



Do you have any overgrown perennials that you are dividing this fall? We would love if you donated your extra clumps to HCP for us to pot up and possibly sell at our Spring Plant Sale. Please contact me if you have any available: headgardener@hcp.ca. Plants particularly in demand include:

- Rudbeckia
- Libertia peregrinans
- Ornamental Grasses
- Iris sp.
- Aconitum
- Brunnera
- Astilbe
- Echinacea
- Hosta
- Persicaria
- Achillea
- Primula

Please note that I need to have the proper cultivar name of the plant(s) you are donating.

October-early November is the best time to divide perennials.

Thank you!

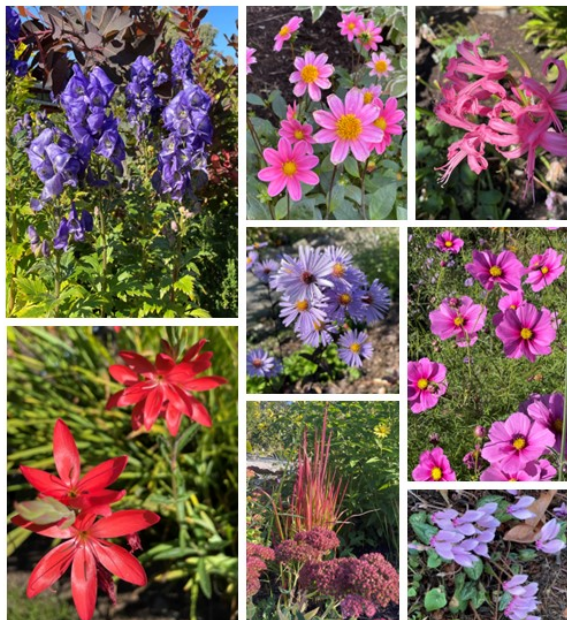
Linda



Click to download our Community Education [Workshop List](#)



Clockwise from top left: Aconitum napellus; Anemone japonica; Nerine bowdenii; Cosmos bipinnatus; Cyclamen coum; Sedum and Japanese bloodgrass; Hesperantha coccinea. Center: Aster 'Calliope'



What an extraordinary October! We could definitely do with some heavy rains, but I am never going to complain about the warm golden sunshine we are enjoying day after day. And though the night temperatures are going down and down the days are sufficiently warm to keep the advance of fall at bay. Looking back to last year I see that the Japanese maple at the entrance to the Takata garden was at its glorious orange best on 17th October. Today, only five days away from that date, its leaves have hardly even begun to change. I do not always find the intense heat of midsummer easy to bear but these precious days of open blue skies and kindly temperatures are a gift for which I give thanks.

And I think the garden plants agree with me. The Cuttings Garden is still full of so many colourful blooms, cosmos, and calendula, echinacea and alyssum. And in the 3B's Garden beside it the Helianthus 'Lemon Queen' shines so bright it is almost hard to look at. Salvias are now as full of colour as they have been all season, the red and white of S.'Hot Lips' and the purple of S.'Amethyst Lips' filling the annual beds below the Rotunda and S.'Amistad' at the top of the Hardy Beds glowing a deep royal purple.

All through the upper gardens there is an intriguing range of shades of red and pink. Nearest to the office the dusky scarlet *Alstroemeria* sits close to the smokey pink of a clump of *Gaura* 'Belleza Dark Pink'. Bright red rose hips compete with the vivid scarlet of river lilies (*Hesperantha coccinea*). And then intense pinks come in many varieties, the powder pink of bulbous nerines (*Nerine bowdenii*), the varied fierce pinks of autumn anemones (*Anemone japonica*) and the almost artificial pinks of cosmos. Roses in the Rose Allee and fuchsias next door in the Fuchsia Garden display more vibrant strong reds and then I spot the deep pink of Sedums contrasting in a bed with the spikes of Japanese Bloodgrass (*Imperata cylindrica*) and I'm aware that there is really no limit to nature's constant variations.

But having remarked upon all these shades of red, I realise there are almost as many shades of purple. In the Winter Garden cyclamen have popped up and carpet the the upper beds. Are they pink or are they lilac? I would be hard put to declare either way, but they are definitely a wonderfully pale shade. And in the 3B's Aster 'Calliope' is another extremely pale lilac, contrasting so uniquely with their black stems. Everywhere in the Gardens *Verbena bonariensis* is standing proud, heads of somewhat darker lilac held aloft their tall deep green stems. And then we come to surely the star of the month, Monkshood (*Aconitum napellus*). This is such an impressive plant, I find it rather peculiar that it flowers so late in the year. It has so many similarities to Delphiniums and in fact it is in the same family, Ranunculaceae. Both leaf shape and flower form are alike, and both are tall imposing perennials with long stems of flowers though the colour range of *Aconitum* is narrower, essentially limited to deep purples and whites. But the flowers of Monkshood (or Wolf'sBane) are each topped by a 'helmet' requiring pollination by long-tongued bumblebees and in contrast to Delphiniums they are not heavy-feeding plants, living much longer on poorer less fertile ground. But here now in October they are looking absolutely magnificent in the Hardy Borders. It should however be remembered that all parts of the plant are very poisonous, and they are best handled with gloves. The neurotoxin Aconitine has been used as a poison throughout history. It has been long used for arrow and spear tips in hunting and warfare and it is often the preferred means of murder in much literary fiction.

<p>Treat yourself to a visit to the Gardens</p>



and the amazing food at
C&Q
OPEN
Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun.



Pictured: 2022 Full-time 2022 Certificate Program students in Landscape Design class.

After a 3-year hiatus, PHC hosted its annual Information Session on September 26! It was wonderful to connect with prospective students in person to answer their questions about the college programs and horticulture industry. A huge thank you to our instructors and current students who presented, and to all that attended!

With less than 5 weeks left of their program, the Full-time 2022 Certificate Program students are working away on final projects and assignments. Some highlights from September include their second Work Experience week, assisting with our annual Fall Plant Sale, a garden tour day, a Cowichan Valley horticulture field trip, and their participation in a garden installation project at the Cool Aid Society Downtown Community Centre. The students also entered and won several ribbons in the Saanich Fair! Make sure you are following @pacifichorticulturecollege on Facebook and Instagram to see what the

students are up to in real time! Courses that follow through to the end of the year include Practical Skills, Landscape Design, Plant ID, and Intro to Food Growing. New topics introduced this month include Grading and Drainage, Hardscaping, Business Practices, and an exciting Special Topics class on Mycology.

Meanwhile, the 2022 Level 2 Apprenticeship students are already just over halfway through their program! September and October courses include Pruning, Softscape Maintenance, Plant ID, Water Stewardship, Hardscaping and Preconstruction Activities.

The college staff are working hard to prepare for the upcoming Level 3 Apprenticeship Training course starting on October 31 and look forward to welcoming back many familiar faces!

There are 2 upcoming Integrated Pest Management courses on October 22-24 and November 16-18. If you missed registration for the October course dates, there is still space in our November course. Please visit our website for information and to register: <https://hcp.ca/college-programs/integrated-pest-management-training-courses/>

Programs Now Open for Applications:

2023 Level 4 Landscape Horticulturist Apprenticeship Training - January 9 to February 17, 2023

Deadline to Apply: December 5, 2022

2023 Landscape Horticulture Certificate Program - January 16 to November 14, 2023

Deadline to Apply: November 1, 2022 (Waitlisted)

2023 Level 1 Landscape Horticulturist Apprenticeship Training - January 23 to May 24, 2023

Deadline to Apply: December 12, 2022

Application forms and requirements can be found online. Applicants are encouraged to still apply even if a program is taking a waitlist. Please contact the college at collegeadmin@hcp.ca if you would like to be added to the interest list for any of these programs or have any other program questions.



Children & Youth Programs

HCP Kids — Children, Youth & Family Nature Programs

Look what is happening this October ...

- New Facebook and Instagram for our Youth Programs to keep you in the know of what we are up to! Check us out at HCP.Kids! @hcp.kids for both.
- Planning a stop-in at Charlotte & The Quail or for a wander at The Gardens this month? Be sure to visit our display of Pumpkin People on the Lower Lawn and vote for your favourite. Ballots are available at the HCP Office window, and these can be deposited into the ballot box at the same location.
- Are you a HomeSchool family? Are you looking for another outdoor experience to impact your children's learning? See the Drop-In and Series for programs under the HL Banner below. All of our workshops and school programs are also available for group presentations. Connect with us to set a date or to discuss other options at youthprograms@hcp.ca
- Non-Instructional day on **Friday, Oct 21, 2022** (SD 61, 62, 63), and on **Monday, November 14, 2022** (SD 61, 63). Our Pro D Day Camps feature outdoor nature experiences, gardening, and activities. These small group camps fill up quickly!



Harvest Festival

We have a very exciting day planned for you! Partners from Habitat Acquisition Trust (HAT), Rocky Point Bird Observatory (RPBO), West Coast Seeds (WCS) and Bartlett Tree Experts will be joining us with exhibits and activities including lots of fun bat facts, Northern Saw-whet owl banding stats and facts, easy and nutritious microgreen growing and everything you need to know about trees and their care during drought! We are featuring a series of demonstrations: including bulb planting for spring (9-11am), wreath making with natural materials (9-12). There will be a mason bee cocoon cleaning (1-3pm) so plan to bring along your cocoons and prepare them for winter or watch and give mason bees a try next year. Take a walk on the wild side and learn about local species in and around our garden habitat on a Habitat

Scavenger Hunt! Take photos alongside the Pumpkin People Display and vote for your favourite one. We will also have activities for children and youth of all ages to help celebrate the Harvest season!

- **Date:** Saturday, October 29th, 2022
- **Time:** 9:00am - 3:00pm
- **Age:** ALL WELCOME
- **Fee:** Admission by Donation



Home Learners' Day Program

New Plant Connections: A Garden Discovery Program

Home Learners are invited to join us every Thursday for a full day of land based outdoor learning in our gardens and surrounding woodland areas. This is an opportunity to spend time with other home learning families to get active, explore, study, and care for plants and their garden neighbours. Register for the full time or drop in options.

Contact youthprograms@hcp.ca for more information on how your child can participate.

- **Dates:** [Thursdays](#), February 02 to June 01, 2023
- **Time:** 9:30am - 2:30pm
- **Ages:** 5-14+ years
- **Fees:**
 - Full Program (18 weeks \$50 sign up fee is included \$800)
 - Drop In (returning \$55/day; one-time \$50 sign up fee)

Please be sure to select your program option when you pay the Sign up fee.

- **Register:** [Here](#) or call 250-479-6162



Our Garden - Fall Series

This 2-part series offers hands-on skill development and understanding of plants and their needs for fall and winter. We will learn about the importance of soil development and amending while we tend the HCP Kids Garden for its fall maintenance during week 1. For week 2 the focus will be on planting of late fall crops and the use of cover crops and covers for winter protection. We will end off with a Cob Oven celebration.

- **Dates:** Mondays October 24 & 31, 2022
- **Time:** 9:15 am - 12:15 pm
- **Ages:** 8 - 14 years
- **Fee:** \$70/participant
- **Register:** [Here](#) or call 250-479-6162

Mushrooms - Drop In Program

We all know about toadstools and the wonderful myths created around them. Mushroom awareness though is often based on their possible dangers, but they are often overlooked in their many other roles. Join us and learn about how mushrooms grow, reproduce and provide awareness to another world of existence and their connections with plants.

- **Date:** Friday, November 4, 2022
- **Time:** 9:30 am - 11:30 am
- **Ages:** 5 - 14 years
- **Fees:** \$25/registrant
- **Register:** [Here](#) or call 250-479-6162

Habitat Series

Calling all home learners! HCP is excited to offer a program just for you! Come explore the different habitats in and around the gardens while connecting to other home learners in your community. Through hands-on activities, games, and crafts, we will discover the many plants and animals

that live in neighbouring wetlands, forests, meadows, and of course, a backyard garden! Please note, this is a drop-off program. See you at The Gardens!

- **Dates:** [Wednesdays February 1, 8, 15, 22, 2023](#)
- **Time:** 9:30 am - 11:30 am
- **Ages:** 5 - 7 years
- **Fee:** \$85
- **Register:** [Here](#) or call 250-479-6162

Our Garden - Spring Series

Fast forward to spring and once again it is time to use our hands-on mentoring techniques to prepare our garden space for new additions to the garden and to plant them. Week 1 will include the use of overwintering crops for soil development, preparing plots, and harvesting of fall and winter crops. During week 2, we will seed trays for a variety of vegetable crops to plant out in the future. Summer planning will also be an important part of this spring series.

- **Dates:** [Mondays March 6 & 13, 2023](#)
- **Time:** 9:15 am - 12:15 pm
- **Ages:** 8 - 14 years
- **Fees:** \$70/participant
- **Register:** [Here](#) or call 250-479-6162

Garden Creatures - Drop In Program

Join us for a fun morning in the gardens! These drop-in sessions focus on the different animal species we find in the garden and the important role they play in that habitat. Each session will include hands-on activities, games, crafts, and garden explorations! Sign up for one or all four sessions.

- **Date:** Fridays April 14, 21, 28, May 5, 2023
- **Time:** 9:30 am - 11:30 am
- **Ages:** 5 - 14 years
- **Fee:** \$25/session; \$85/4 session bundle
- **Register:** [Here](#) or call 250-479-6162



Check out our [SCHOOLS](#) programming for 2022/2023!

Our gardens offer many seasonal opportunities to connect with indigenous plants and food crops among the many demonstration gardens onsite. Pathways lead us through, allowing for vital relationships of natural systems to be observed and supported in the gardens and throughout the connecting wilderness spaces..



Garden Nature Academy - Fall Session

We are halfway through our fall session. If you would like your child to join us, there are a few spaces still available for drop-ins. Parents are welcome to stay and participate. Contact youthprograms@hcp.ca for more information and registration.

Garden Nature Academy - Winter/Spring Session

The outdoors offer safe and seasonal opportunities for your preschooler to explore through play, games, songs and activities! These outdoor sessions will include time in our vegetable garden, as well as numerous pathways and native plant forest areas to explore. The small group sizes and our experienced nature educators help to create a nurturing and engaging environment for young children to learn, play and grow!

- **Dates:** [Tuesdays from January 31 to June 13, 2023](#) (off for spring break)

- **Time:** 9:00am to 11:30am (Morning)
- **Age:** 3 to 6 years old
- **Fee:** \$440 (18 week series)

**Registration is now open!*

- **Register:** [Here](#) or call 250-479-6162



Wreath Making for Families

Wreath making for families offers a family-friendly pace and technique allowing children to participate in creating a masterpiece to take home or gift! This takes place in our own youth area where we feature outdoor covered space

(and washroom facilities) to keep us all comfortable and enjoying the process. All materials are provided and participants are encouraged to bring along their own secateurs (hand pruners). Some people like to use garden gloves, but do plan on using form fitting ones as flexibility is essential.

Click on a date and time below to register:

Date & Time: [Friday, November 25, 1:00pm-2:30pm](#)

Date & Time: [Saturday, November 26, 10:00am-11:30am](#)

Date & Time: [Saturday, November 26, 1:00pm-2:30pm](#)

Date & Time: [Friday, December 02, 10:00am-11:30am](#)

Date & Time: [Saturday, December 03, 10:00am-11:30am](#)

Age: Suggested for 4+ years, All children and youth need to be accompanied by an adult

Fee: \$35/wreath

*Consider booking a full workshop for your family, friends or home learners' group.

Private Workshops (Birthday Parties)

HCP offers private workshop bookings to celebrate your child's birthday in our gardens. These are hosted exclusively outdoors (rain or shine, year round) and feature the popular themes offered each season in our In-Person Workshop listings. See our list above for our current offerings or contact our Youth Programs Coordinator for more information

(youthprograms@hcp.ca).

- **Fee:** \$25/child (up to 10 participants)
- **Time:** 10:00 am to 11:30 am *or* 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm)
- **Dates:** Select Saturday's



Garden Camps

Join us in the gardens for our JMG (Junior Master Gardener) Pro-D Day camps! An outdoor garden experience where we take on seasonal gardening tasks and activities in our very own HCP Kids Garden plot. There are also opportunities to explore the vast wilderness areas to experience the natural systems that keep our gardens growing, get our hands busy with garden arts and activities.

Pro D Day Camp Dates 2022/23:

- [Oct 21, 2022](#)
- [Nov 14, 2022](#)
- [Feb 17, 2023](#)
- [May 19, 2023](#)

Times: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Ages: 5 to 12 years (school age)

Fee: \$40/child



Register: Click on camp date above to register or call 250 479 6162

Spring Break 2023 Camp Dates:

Mar 20 - Mar 24, 2023 (full day, 5 days/week)

Mar 27- Mar 31, 2023 (full day, 5 days/week)

Spring Break Camp registration opens January 9th, 2023. Please check our website for the links in the new year!

	<p>Treat yourself to a visit to the Gardens and the amazing food at C&Q OPEN Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun.</p>	
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Keep The Flowers Blooming





Thank you so much for your generous support!

As a charity, the Horticulture Centre of the Pacific depends on the support and generosity of others to help us make a difference. The maintenance of our gardens is funded through our memberships as well as donations, sponsorships, grants and income from our gardens through admissions, plant sales, events and weddings. Even though much of the creation and maintenance of the gardens is carried out by teams of hardworking and cherished volunteers, there is still a large financial commitment when caring for nine acres of curated gardens. Your donations provide essential support, especially now.

Thank you so much for your continued support -- we couldn't do it without you! Visit our [website](#) or phone (250) 479-6162 to donate today.



Membership Reminder

Revenue from annual memberships supports youth programming, horticulture student development, plants and supplies for garden improvements, and volunteer appreciation.

You can purchase a [new membership](#) or [renew your membership](#) today online or by calling (250) 479-6162.

Memberships are a great value and include:

- Free admission to the Gardens
- A free guest pass with each membership
- Discounted rates for additional guests
- 10% off plants and gift shop purchases
- Discounted member rates on Community Education Workshops
- Borrowing privileges at the HCP Library
- Discounts at select garden centers throughout Victoria
- 20% off Admission at Victoria Butterfly Gardens
- 20% off Admission to Bateman Foundation
- Free admission, free parking, or other discounts at participating gardens in the American Horticultural Society's Reciprocal Admissions Program



Recent Acquisitions to the Library

Earth Repair: A grassroots guide to healing toxic and damaged landscapes

(Leila Darwish, New Society, 2013)

Urban Homestead: Your guide to self-sufficient living in the heart of the city

(Kelly Coyne & Erik Knutzen, Process Media, 2008)

Food Plants of the World: An illustrated guide *(Ben-Erik van Wyk, Marshall Cavendish, 2005)*

Defiant Gardens: Marking gardens in wartime (*Kenneth Helphand, Trinity University, 2006*)

American Meadow Garden: Creating a natural alternative to the traditional lawn (*John Greenlee, Timber Press, 2009*)

Beatrix Potter's Gardening Life: The plants and places that inspired the classic children's tales (*Marta McDowell, Timber Press, 2013*)

(See the article in the Bookend below for more info)

Our full list of Recent Acquisitions can be found [here](#) or go to our webpage (hcp.ca/library) and click on the green Recent Acquisitions button.

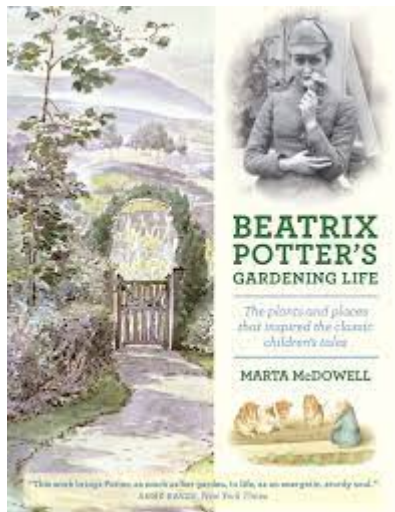
To place a hold on any of these books contact us at library@hcp.ca

The Library is open Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday from 10am to 1pm

Happy Reading!



The Bookend



Beatrix Potter's Gardening Life: The plants and places that inspired the classic children's tales

Marta McDowell

Beatrix Potter (1866-1943) was enchanted by gardens from a young age. Long before the invention of Peter Rabbit (self-published in 1901 at 35), she was drawing and painting botanical illustrations. Her parents encouraged her

and sent her to art lessons. And as an adolescent with health problems, this was her best method of coping. Fast forward to 1905, and after the death of her fiancé, Potter bought a working farm with a cottage and a modest garden.

Marta McDowell's *Beatrix Potter's Gardening Life* is part biography, part seasonal garden essay and part travelogue to the British landscapes that inspired Potter. It is profusely illustrated with her artwork (plants, fungi and landscapes), plus photos from the past and present. Tables of her plants (grown and published) round out this thorough inspection of the botanical aspect of her life.

Borrow this book from the HCP Library and be inspired.

Open 10am to 1pm on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

Library Hours:

Wednesday 10:00am - 1:00pm

Thursday 10:00am - 1:00pm

Saturday 10:00am - 1:00pm

Check our [online catalogue](#) to see our entire book collection, available 24/7.

Questions? Email library@hcp.ca anytime.

We at HCP gratefully acknowledge that we occupy unceded territory of the W̱SÁNEĆ and Lək̓ʷəŋən peoples. We recognize these lands and ecosystems are not our own. We recognize our role in the continuing process of dispossession, colonialism, and reconciliation. We recognize the need to do better. We humbly welcome all to join in this learning journey.

Office - 250-479-6162

Website - HCP.ca



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