



2019

# GRANT PROGRAM RECIPIENTS

Scotts Canada Limited launched the first edition of the new Gro for good program on January 16, 2019. The program aims to keep the spirit of community and connection to nature alive in Canada by providing grants to deserving communities, schools and non-profit organizations seeking to develop sustainable gardens and green spaces.

The recipients of the 2019 Gro for good grants, valued at \$2,500, are:



## The Gathering Food Gardens Simcoe, Ontario

The Gathering Food Gardens (TGFG) is a community-building, food-security initiative in Simcoe, Ontario. TGFG volunteers gather together to grow produce for residents of Norfolk County who have limited access to fresh, healthy food. TGFG helps to supply local meal programs, teaching kitchens, and food banks. The Gro for good Grant, enabled the expansion and upgrade of the garden at the Evergreen Heights location - one of the 3 gardens operated by TGFG. The Gathering Food Gardens also garnered the most votes in the social media contest to win an additional \$2,500 grant.



## Ridgewood Community Garden Edmonton, Alberta

The Ridgewood Community Gardens vision is to be a place of beauty and serenity where all community members are welcome to visit; a place for learning, socializing and enjoying nature, to engage and educate children and youth, persons with disabilities and newcomers to Canada. The garden aims to enhance the physical, mental and emotional health of community members and to increase food security by engaging people in the process of growing their own food. Grapes, berries growing along the fence will be accessible to anyone from the community.



## The Farm - Rocky View Schools Airdrie, Alberta

The Farm, is an agricultural "hobby farm" school, on a 15 acre plot of land where around 40 students will take up their full grade 9 or 10 curriculum, including core subjects, without ever having to set foot in a traditional classroom. The Farm will have the students raising chickens, building and operating a greenhouse, becoming beekeepers, growing vegetables/pulses and exploring other agricultural opportunities through the help of local farmers and industry partners. One of the main goals of The Farm is for the 24,000 other students in the school division to be able to have a space where they can learn what it takes to grow vegetables and herbs suitable for our climate. The funds from the Gro for good grant provide the building materials needed for planter boxes, obtaining soil and seeds.



## Palermo Community Rain Garden Oakville, Ontario

The Palermo Community Rain Garden is a collaborative initiative of St. Luke's Church and Oakvillegreen Conservation Association to create a welcoming outdoor space for community programming, horticultural therapy, intergenerational learning and various cultural gatherings while also demonstrating rainwater infiltration and conservation technologies, including building a rain garden with native pollinator-friendly plants, and encouraging rain storage. The garden is accessible to all public. The garden will contain native species that support local pollinators and biodiversity. The Gro for good funding enabled the purchase of native plant material, and soil amendments.



## De la semence à notre assiette Laval, Québec

The Centre AVC-Aphasie garden is for people who have survived a stroke with various physical effects and modest incomes. The Center has integrated gardening into its summer activities, to encourage its members to adopt healthy lifestyles and food habits. It is accessible to all members including those with reduced mobility. The Gro for good grant has been used to purchase small greenhouses, a lighting system, seedbeds and a drip irrigation system to minimize water wastage and reduce waste and the risk of diseases for our plants. The garden also includes more than 20 floral planters to attract butterflies, bees and especially to fight the heat island effect of the adjacent parking lot.



## Tricultural Community Garden and Food Forest Salisbury, New Brunswick

The Tricultural Learning Centre for Indigenous, Acadian and English youth is aimed at building cross cultural awareness, mutual respect, and reconciliation among the three cultures. The garden and food forest is a partnership between youth and community partners involved in the Centre. Part of the food produced is donated to a community food bank and available to both youth and the community at large. The remaining food is used in the teaching kitchens and to provide healthy meals for the youth participants, many of whom are from under-represented and marginalized target groups. The community garden and a food forest incorporates fruit and nut trees, shrubs, herbs, vines and perennial vegetables in partnership with volunteers from the community on the Centre's two acres of land.