

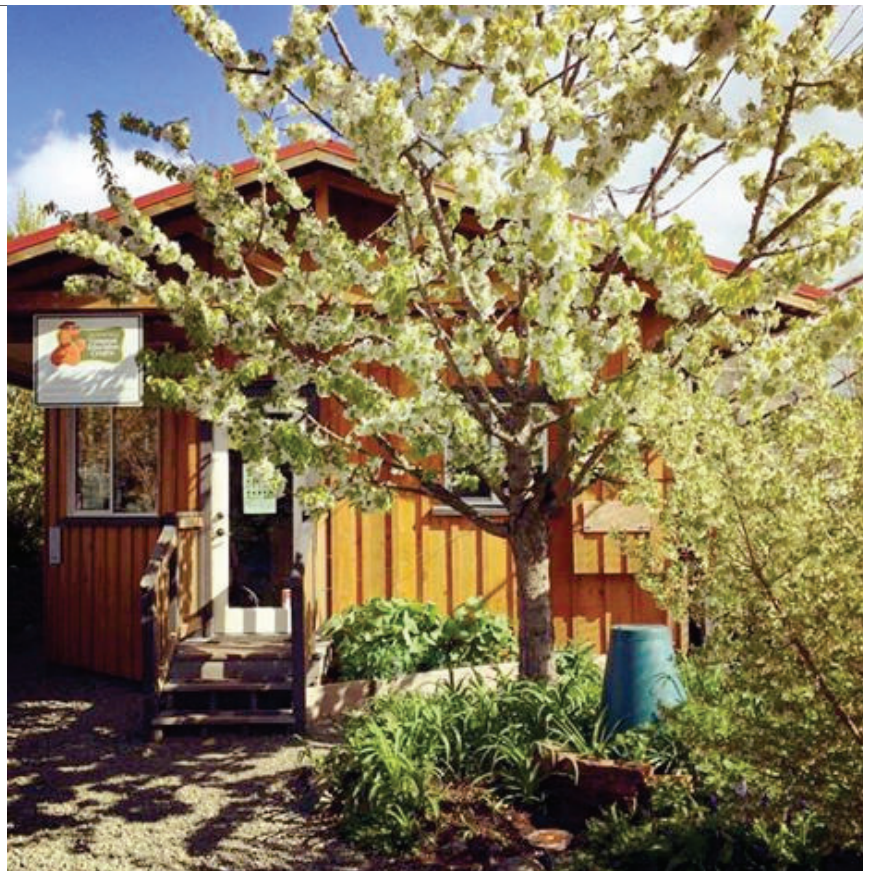
# Compost Education Centre Programming for the City of Victoria

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Victoria City Council Open House  
14 November 2024



Introduction to the CEC  
City of Victoria Funding  
Community Benefits



## (Quick) Introduction to the CEC

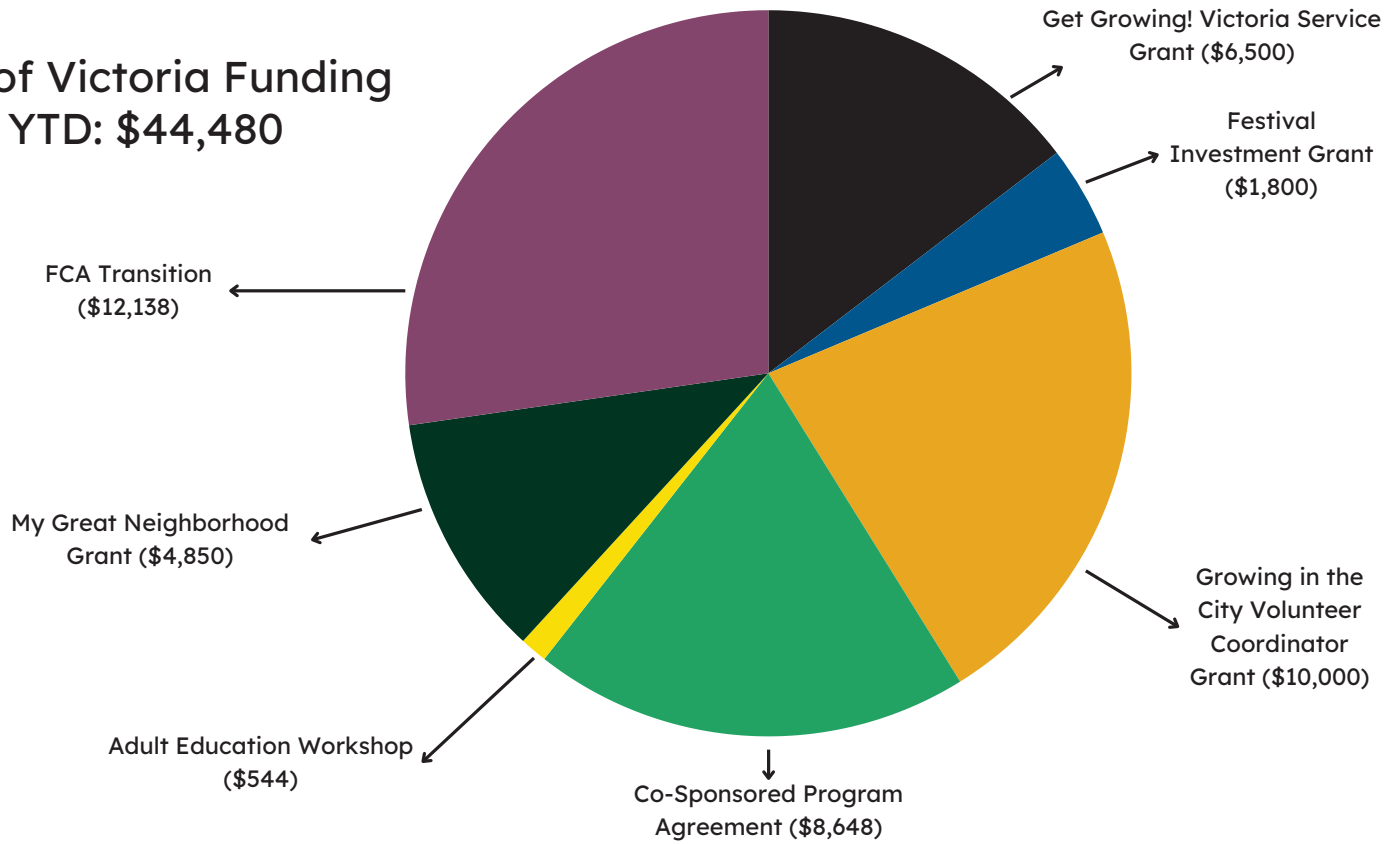
- Established in 1992, we have a longstanding reputation for a warm and welcoming educational approach, emphasis on equity and access, and attention to climate action and social connections.
- Our vision is to cultivate resilient communities, which enable the land and all living beings to thrive.
- Through education, research, and stewardship, we encourage CoV residents to grow their own food, improve their organic waste management, and support their community.

## CEC's Demonstration Site

- Located at 1216 North Park St, open to the public for all to enjoy.
- Features eight different composting systems, multiple rainwater harvest systems, native plant rain garden, farm stand, greenhouse, vegetable gardens, and more!
- Receives 1,500+ visitors every year.



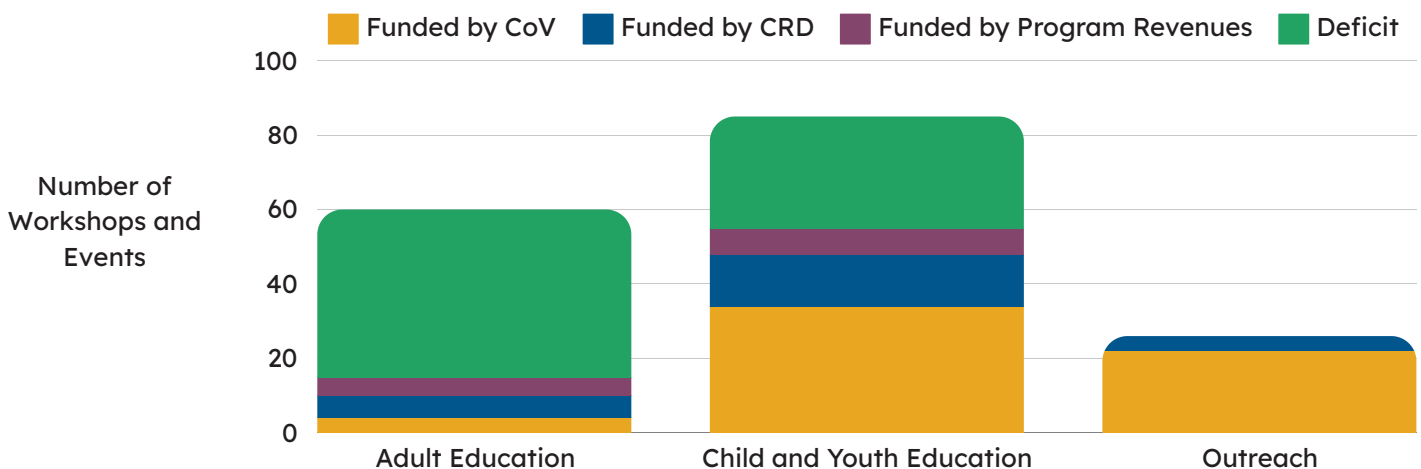
## City of Victoria Funding 2024 YTD: \$44,480



## CEC Activities in City of Victoria - 2024 YTD

\*assuming ~25% of our funding from the CRD is for CoV based on relative population distribution

\*covered by CEC fundraising, grantwriting, etc.





## Fernwood Community Association Transition (\$12,139)

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Transfer of unspent grant funds from FCA's "Volunteer Coordinator Grant" and "Community Garden Design Grant"

- 2 gardens maintained
- 1 garden designed
- 69 gardeners supported



## Growing in the City Volunteer Coordinator Grant (\$10,000)

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Volunteer coordination to maintain a boulevard garden network in Fairfield-Gonzales and a fruit tree orchard in Alexander Park

- 91 volunteers engaged
- 201 sq. ft. of urban garden maintained



## Co-Sponsored Program Agreement (\$8,648)

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Beacon Hill Spring, Summer, and Pro-D Day Camps

- 82 child participants
- 16 camp days
- 34 workshops



## Get Growing! Victoria Service Grant (\$6,500)

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Education at “Neighborhood Distribution Days”

- 22 educational outreach days
- 2,250 outreach attendees
- 2 free online workshops
- 22 workshop attendees



## My Great Neighborhood Grant (\$4,850)

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Backbone organization of 2024 Seedy Sunday, the City of Victoria's flagship event for soil health and seed sovereignty. The event stimulates local economy for farm and seed vendors.

- 1140 event attendees
- 71 vendors



## Festival Investment Grant (\$1,800)

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Live bicycle-powered music at two annual plant sales

- 4 musical acts
- 757 plant sale attendees



## Adult Education Workshops (\$544)

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Adult education workshop delivery requested by the City of Victoria

- 2 workshops
- 42 adult participants

### Summary of Benefits

- **COMMUNITY:** social connections created through our warm and welcoming educational approach, urban garden management, and volunteer opportunities
- **EMPOWERMENT:** community members educated and engaged in hands-on regenerative soil practices like at-home composting, sustainable food growing, and pollinator care
- **IMPACT:** healthy soil, strengthened food security, improved organic waste management, and strengthened community resilience

## Alignment of CEC Activities with City of Victoria Guiding Policy Documents

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>2023-2026 Strategic Plan</b></p>         | <p>Accelerate the reduction of emissions from transportation and waste.<br/>           Create more public gathering spaces with experiential features.<br/>           Expand supports for urban agriculture, gardening, and food security and food sovereignty initiatives.</p>   |
| <p><b>Zero Waste Four-Year Action Plan</b></p> | <p>Increase diversion from multifamily dwellings from 51% to 72%.<br/>           Divert yard waste an additional 2 percentage points from curbside garbage stream to organics.<br/>           Support diversion of avoidable and unavoidable food waste volume produced by small businesses.<br/>           Develop and disseminate Zero Waste event guidelines.</p>                                |
| <p><b>Official Community Plan Goal</b></p>     | <p>Goal 17(A): A healthy share of the food that supplies Victoria’s daily needs is sustainably grown, processed, and packaged in the city, in surrounding agricultural areas, and on Vancouver Island.<br/>           Goal 17(B): Victorians have access to skills, knowledge, and resources to produce and process their own food in urban areas.</p>  |
| <p><b>Fernwood Neighborhood Plan:</b></p>      | <p>Encourage community gardening and local food production by providing multigenerational, collaborative opportunities for learning and growing.<br/>           Fernwood Neighborhood Plan: Continue to support opportunities to grow, access and learn about food close to home and encourage the prioritization of equity, diversity, and inclusion in food, cooking, and gardening programs.</p> |

