

GreenCare Community

Green+Leaders Annual Report 2020



Table of Contents

- 1 Introduction
- 2 G+L Updates
- 3-4 Stories from the G+L Network
- 5-6 G+L Highlights
- 7-8 G+L Workplace Sustainability Funds
- 9 Looking Forward

Introduction

This report showcases the work of health-care staff who are driven to make changes in their workplaces, by participating in projects and initiatives to advance sustainability across the Lower Mainland health organizations.

We celebrate the Green+Leaders (G+L) program and the individuals who make up this network for their hard work, volunteer hours, and commitment to environmental sustainability in 2020. The work of the G+Ls inspires others and contributes to a healthier workplace, community and planet.

The G+L program is administered, coordinated and facilitated by the Energy and Environmental Sustainability (EES) team. EES is driving the push for environmentally sustainable and resilient health care, but can't do it alone. The team invites the whole community of health-care staff to take action and transform their workplaces and communities. Learn more at bcgreencare.ca.

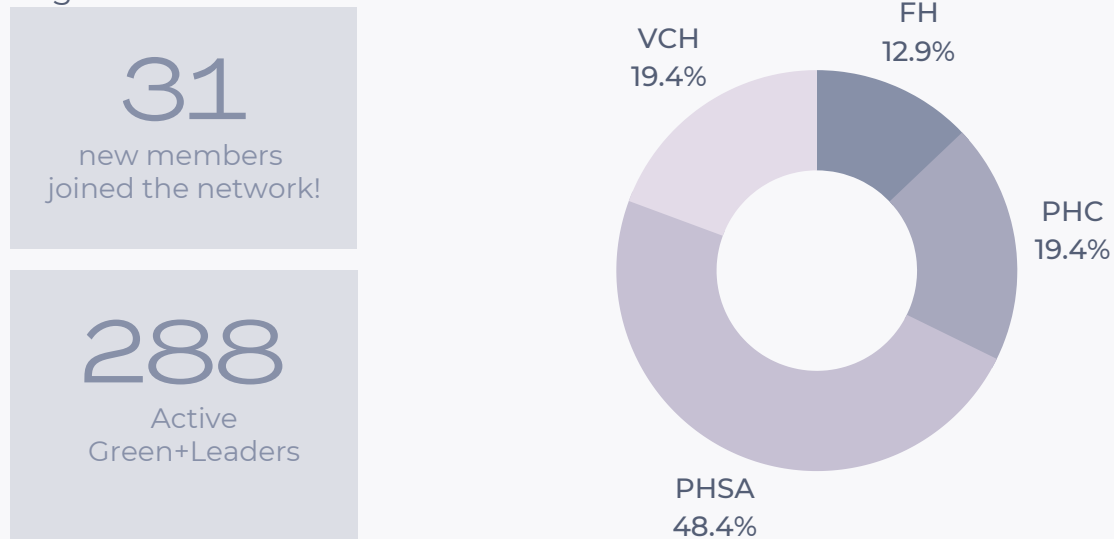
2020 G+L Updates

Goal of the G+L Program:

Together, reach, engage and inspire health-care staff to be leaders who share a commitment to and passion for healthy, sustainable and thriving communities, workplaces and environments.

In the workplace, leaders who lead by example and inspire others to do the same are critical to an organization’s success. Fostering a culture of workplace leadership for environmental sustainability in health care presents an opportunity for better health outcomes for staff and patients.

Newly registered & trained G+Ls in 2019/20 by Health Organization



In 2020, 31 new staff registered for the program, bringing the total number of active G+Ls to 288 across the Lower Mainland health organizations!

The number of G+Ls trained throughout the year refers to those staff who have received online training to support their journey as a G+L, and is measured as a year-on-year proportional increase. This training isn’t mandatory, but strongly recommended as a starting point to joining the program and having the knowledge and tools to implement initiatives that reduce the environmental impact of their workplace.

Starting a Green Team

How do you know if others in your workplace want to contribute to a more sustainable future? For the BC Cancer Foundation Green Team, it started with a simple conversation.

Through informal chats with each other and their CEO, staff at the foundation discovered that they share an interest in sustainability. And so, with the support of senior leadership, they established the Green Team.

Early on, the newly formed Green Team discovered the GreenCare team, which provided valuable assistance. *“We could not have done this without them and their willingness for us to tap into their knowledge and expertise at any time,”* Green Team Chair Milly Jones says. *“Our main barrier was that we had an interest but not necessarily a lot of knowledge.”*



The new team has been using G+L tools to set short-term and long-term goals, and it meets regularly to keep forward momentum. Having already achieved some small wins, such as increasing the recycling of soft plastics and pens and generating more conversation through interoffice communications, the Green Team is building a foundation for continued action. *“These are seeds that will grow into something much bigger, stronger and fruitful,”* Milly says. *“It has been encouraging how well received we have been by our colleagues, and to know that there is support and willingness there to make changes.”*

Key to the Green Team’s continued ability to remain engaged is that the work they do on green initiatives is not considered secondary to the work they were hired to do. Busy schedules often make it challenging to meet and plan, but team members make it a priority.

Talking with each other is what originally brought this Green Team together, and conversation remains an important tool to advance their green initiatives. *“Talk to people about what you’re feeling and thinking. Talk to people about what they’re feeling and thinking. We’ve been amazed at who is interested and motivated,”* team member Nicky Calvert says, *“and we need everyone to help us gain traction in the workplace.”*

Nicky Calvert,
Green+Leader (joined 2019)
Development Coordinator, BC Cancer Foundation

Less Waste, More Time for Patient Care

For Amy Setterstrom, the environment includes the spaces in which she works, and those spaces provide an opportunity to be better stewards of both patient care and the Earth.

Amy is a registered nurse at Delta Hospital and coordinator of the Releasing Time to Care program, which enables staff to pursue solutions that increase the time available for direct patient care. She saw the waste that was created by the need to don new personal protective equipment (PPE) each time a nurse left a patient's bedside to retrieve supplies, and also the unused supplies that littered the bedside. Her solution? A bedside supply cart.

The EES team worked with Amy to provide funding for a pilot project that tested the supply cart idea. The enclosed bedside cart contains the most frequently used items needed for patient care and protects these supplies from contamination. This prevents waste as well as the potential transfer of infection from patient to patient. *"Having these items close at hand aids the nurse in providing higher-quality patient care,"* explains Amy. *"It reduces the use of PPE and reduces the time to get supplies in order to provide care to the patient."*

The collaboration Amy has experienced with the EES team has motivated her to persevere with the project through challenging periods. "They have continually encouraged me to keep moving forward," says Amy, who is continuing to collect data on the project.

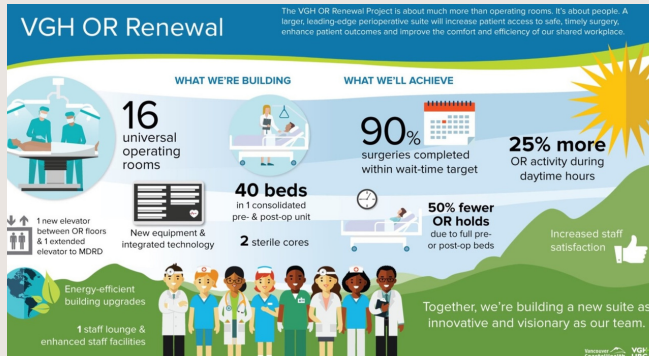
"I feel empowered to make change and raise awareness about the possibilities of change!"

Amy Setterstrom
Green+Leader (Joined 2019)
Registered Nurse, Emergency Department, Delta Hospital



2020 G+L Highlights: Community Learning

Lunch + Learn



VGH Green Operating Renewal Project Lunch and Learn was a great success! Huge thanks to G+L and Clinical Project Manager for the OR Renewal Project, John Filer! This presentation inspired us to think about future developments and new technologies to minimize the environmental impact of Operating Rooms.

Dialogue Webinar

In 2020, we launched the Healthy and Green Building Series as a way to initiate conversations with G+Ls, to understand the design process and learn how the built environment impacts human and environmental health.



Coffee Conversations - NEW!



We launched Coffee Conversations in 2020 as a way to network and meet other G+Ls. These 30 minute chats led to meaningful conversations, inspiring stories and great connections. G+Ls joined from all over the Lower Mainland to share coffee, tea and laughter - something we all needed in 2020!

2020 G+L Highlights: Community Action

The Together Campaign

Recruitment is key to increasing our work and impact.

Special thanks to G+Ls De-Ann Chan, Rashmi Chadha, Rick Molnar, Susan Shyluk, Corinne Thompson, Jodi Booth, Lexy Wishlow, and Nicky Calvert for participating in this poster campaign!



GreenCare Website

The website is currently undergoing a refresh and a committee is crucial to this work. We appreciate the insight G+Ls bring to the team.

Thank you for the ongoing support and being part of the committee, Joanne Lee and Kaleigh McLeod!



Recycling Campaign

G+Ls provided essential feedback and comments in the poster design process.

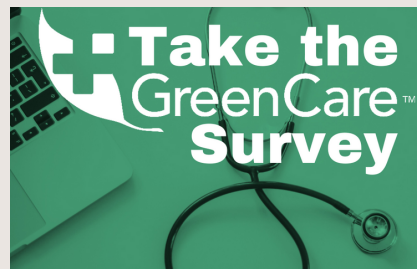
Kudos to Gigi Wong, Rashmi Chadha, Celia Galvez, and Kue K'nyawmupoe for sharing your insight!



GreenCare Survey

Hearing what matters in the health care community involves reaching beyond the EES network.

High-five to all who helped spread the word, distributed the survey and provided feedback!



G+L Workplace Sustainability Funds

Workplace funds are available to support energy and environmental sustainability initiatives in health-care for active Green+Leaders.



Fraser Health: Exnovation Grants

- Greencare collaborating with Fraser Health's Innovation team.
- 1 project approved for funding: \$1,000 awarded
- The project seeks to reduce bedside waste and implement the use of bedside carts to encourage change.
- Kudos to Amy Setterstrom and her continued efforts in moving this project forward!



Providence Health Care: Workplace funds for G+Ls

- New initiative launched in 2020 with approval and support from Providence's CFO (and newly trained G+L!)
- 3 projects approved for funding.
- \$2,850 funded to improve environmental sustainability on waste reduction-related projects across Providence.
- Kudos to Lexy Wishlow, Henry Ng and Yasmin Hamzah!



G+L Workplace Sustainability Funds



PHSA: Health Promotions Initiative Fund

- GreenCare collaborating with PHSA's Healthy Promotion Initiative Fund team.
- Projects support active and clean transportation and workplace garden spaces
- A total of 8 projects
- Over 190 participants benefitted from these projects
- \$5,170 awarded in funds
- Kudos to G+Ls Corinne Thompson, Arthur Gregoris, Nico Preston, Emily Cote, and others who lead projects!



Vancouver Coastal Health : Spark Challenge*

- Crowdsourcing community ideas and input from the VGH and UBCH OR Department.
- 39 ideas crowdsourced on the innovation platform Spark
- Kudos to Paddy Assenheimer, Dr. Andrea MacNeill, and Dr. Rashmi Chadha for all of your work on this project!

Do you have an idea that could make our operating rooms more environmentally sustainable?

Calling all members of the perioperative community!

- Share your ideas with the community on our innovation platform Spark.
- Add one idea or add many, comment on ideas submitted by others and vote on the ideas you like.
- No idea is too big or small. Watch your ideas become reality!

To submit an idea, visit spark.vch.ca

Challenge launches September 2020!

Spark | Bring Ideas to Life

Vancouver Coastal Health | one VCH

*Spark Challenge is not a G+L Fund. We are inspired by this project and we hope to use this innovative tool in the future as a platform to generate ideas and support G+L-funded projects at VCH. Stay tuned in 2021!

Looking Forward

The work isn't finished

As we work towards ensuring the best support possible for staff, the EES team will continue to engage and support leadership as it addresses environmental sustainability; refresh the GreenCare website; support, engage and celebrate staff; and seek out professional development opportunities for G+Ls.

In 2021, the EESteam will be joined by a UBC sustainability scholar, who will explore best practice engagement metrics for the G+L program, helping us shape future activities for the program into 2021 and beyond.
Stay tuned!

*We thank you for your continued
support and efforts as a
Green + Leader!*

Tell others about our network + apply to become a leader today!

Simply complete the registration form below and someone from the Green+Leader team will be in touch with more information.

[Green+Leader Registration Form](#)

www.bcgreencare.ca