

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Biodome Garden Receives Certificate of Recognition



The Biodome Garden is scheduled for completion in July. PHOTO BY ED KUCERAK

By Ed Kucerak

Friday the 13th proved to be a lucky and special day for the Brewer Park Community Garden, when it received

a special Certificate of Recognition for the many hours that garden volunteers have contributed to the development of their Biodome Garden. The Brewer Garden, along with a

number of other community gardens and companies, were recognized at Ottawa's official Garden Day ceremony which celebrated the city's garden culture and heritage and local horticultural industry on June 13, 2014.

"Ottawa's Garden Day Volunteer Recognition Ceremony celebrates those in our community who have given of their time to create and beautify public garden spaces. These individuals and companies have made an impact on our community that is greatly appreciated and a benefit to all residents of Ottawa," said Mayor Jim Watson.

Brewer Park Community Garden President Marcel Belanger accepted the award along with garden members Michael Oster, Guy Souliere and Johanne Ranger, and with Martin Buffam of Future Foods Biodome Systems.

"The development, planning and construction of the biodome garden would not be possible without the hard work, dedication and the

enormous amount of volunteer hours that Michael, Guy, Johanne and many garden and community members have committed to the biodome project," says Marcel Belanger.

The construction of the biodome is scheduled to be completed in July when the grow beds and the aquaponics system, which safely uses fish wastewater to nourish plants and increase yield, will be in place and ready for operation.

Garden Days is a three-day celebration of gardens and gardening across Canada organized by the Canadian Garden Council. Its objective is to draw attention to Canada's garden culture, history and innovations and to underscore the importance of public and private gardens, the values of home gardening and promotion of environmental stewardship.

Brewer Park Community Garden is a non-profit community-based organization that operates a community garden open to all who live, work or study in Old Ottawa South and in neighbouring areas.

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(L to R). David Chernushenko (Capital Ward Councillor), Guy Souliere (Biodome Co-lead & Garden member), Andrea Flowers (City of Ottawa), Johanne Ranger (Biodome Liaison & Garden member), Marcel Belanger (Garden President), Martin Buffam (Future Food Biodome Systems) and Michael Oster (Biodome Lead and Garden member).

PHOTO BY ED KUCERAK