

Larry Hnetka Community Builder Award 2016

Ross Moster



Ross Moster is best known as the founder of Village Vancouver (VV), being part of the global movement and integrated network of the Transition Movement. He has been a strong advocate for climate change and one of Vancouver's leaders in creating community-level sustainability. With a premise so simple and yet profound: **"Getting to know your neighbours can save the world,"** Village Vancouver has grown with relatively short amount of time as a grassroots network of over 3000 + people in the City of Vancouver.

Ross, along with his enthusiastic team of Village Vancouver volunteers and dedicated board members, have created socially vibrant communities through sharing resources, including but not limited to, community gardening, chicken coops, tool sharing, community potlucks, or car-free block parties, all of which help build strong human connections and ultimately, a healthy community.

If you come to the Westside Community Market on Thursday here in front of Kits House you will often see Ross there with his seed library, always willing to share his skill and knowledge about gardening with others.

Since its Westside inception in 2012, Ross has been active with the Westside Neighbourhood Small Grants, both as a project leader and as a member of the Westside Neighbourhood Small Grants Resident Advisory Committee. He extends the same integrity and dedication he holds for Village Vancouver to the Resident Advisory Committee and always tries to give EVERYONE a chance to shine as a NSG project leader and community builder.

You may have come across some of Ross's Westside NSG projects over the years – the range of his NSG projects are vast and diverse and include projects such as the Kits Plastic Recycling, Permaculture projects, his Seed Library, creating pollinator corridors, collaborative gardens, and I'm sure there are a few others that haven't been included in this list and a few others that Ross just hasn't gotten around to doing yet!

In summary, Ross is a visionary leader who is passionate about the community and has built something long-lasting – **human relationships**. He builds community through his many and varied interests and his ability to connect people to each other.

There were many worthy nominations submitted for consideration for this award this year and Ross certainly had some competition in being chosen for this award tonight! Ross Moster's contributions to building community, not only here on the Westside but all through the City of Vancouver, truly made him stand out in a group of what are simply amazing community builders and leaders.

Congratulations to Ross on becoming the recipient of the 2016 Ross Moster Community Builder Award!