

Concerning Garden City Lands:

It would be ironic if on the location so called "Garden City Lands", we would end up having anything but **garden** of any kind. Instead, what seems to be a popular vision for this location is more development supposedly for the greater good of the citizens of this city. Why is it so necessary to build anything at all there? There is plenty of development in that area of Richmond already. What on earth could possibly be built that would be of benefit to anybody except to the money hungry developers and a few of city council who are stroked by them. Development would come at the expense of the folks who live in the area. Further densifying this part of Richmond puts pressure on existing infrastructure and as well, there is precious little green space left there.

Garden City Lands currently acts as a functioning green space much the way Burns Bog does in Surrey. Acting as "Lungs" for the city in that, whatever wild vegetation there is helps to "re-oxygenate" the environment. Not to mention, it also provides visual relief from all the towering cement just blocks away.

If the Musqueam people are disappointed at the prospect of losing the opportunity to develop the land, they may take the matter through the legal system in court. This could ensure that the fate of the Garden City Lands remains undecided for perhaps another decade. In which case, it continues to lie there doing its thing naturally like it has for hundreds of years. By the time all the legal wrangling is resolved, the land may finally be in the hands of a new generation of citizens who are coming of age. Hopefully, they will be possessed of a greener vision of Richmond than their short sighted, greedier parents have been. Perhaps our present generation does not deserve to decide what to do with the Garden City Lands after all, look around you at the mess we've already made. It was another culture that said, **"remember, the land does not belong to us, we are only borrowing it from our children"**

Pat and Liea Young