

Growing our community

THE MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY community garden was launched with the help of more than 80 volunteers during Make Midterm Matter and I Love MUNdays this past fall.

Located between Queen's College and Long Pond, the garden is the result of a university-wide team effort lead by Dr. Rodolphe Devillers of the Department of Geography department, Sustainability Co-ordinator Toby Rowe and Kim Kelly of Career Development and Experiential Learning.

“The garden could not have happened without a collective effort,” says Kim.

The garden planning group included staff and faculty from the Harris Centre, Faculty of Arts, Marketing and Communications, Department of Geography, Academic Advising Centre, Career Development and Experiential Learning, Department of Biology, Facilities Management, Office of the Vice-President (Research) and the Glenn Roy Blundon Centre.

Designed for use by all members of the Memorial community, the garden will operate as a co-operative. Plots will be rented on an annual basis and common spaces and infrastructure will be shared. Portions of the garden will be used for teaching and research. In time, it is hoped the garden will be used to grow food for the campus food bank.

“As an island, Newfoundland is one of the most sensitive places in Canada regarding food security as we import



Steve Noseworthy of Facilities Management's carpentry shop and Nancy Burt of the Sustainability Office take part in the community garden launch.

almost everything we eat. Memorial has a unique responsibility to contribute to awareness of this issue,” says Rodolphe.

Toby says the garden fits perfectly with Memorial's Sustainability Declaration.

“Composting, water conservation and growing food locally all involve sustainable initiatives. The garden will

provide space for students and others who might not have access to one and be a place where people can learn in a fun and supportive atmosphere.”

Those interested in receiving more information about the Memorial community garden can e-mail listserv@mun.ca. Leave the subject line blank and type “subscribe community-garden-1” in the body of the e-mail.