



Western Canada Development Plan

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Restoring Three Vedic Values

Cows * Land * Knowledge

Vedic Eco Village Western Canada

We are seeking people to help build eco village infrastructure and expand farming, cow care, ox power and food sovereignty. Key developments are cows barns, grazing land fences and a Goshala foundation in the colony. Our building projects and facilities for volunteers are advancing thanks to our mill and abundant lumber.

Introduction

Construction of the Eco Village began in 2017 and continues daily. Our mission is to manifest the vision of Varnasrama villages, as proposed by Srila Prabhupada and our Acharyas. Varnasrama provides self sufficiency and fulfils the material and spiritual needs of our community and the next generations

The eco village imbibes principles of permaculture, natural farming and cob building promoting a simple and sustainable lifestyle centered on farming, cow care and Lord Krishna.

Vision

Vedic culture focused on cows, land, agriculture and knowledge.



Mission

Manifest the vision of Varnasrama villages, as proposed by our Acharyas by providing a social system that fulfils the material and spiritual needs of our community and future generations.

Srila Prabhupada predicted that, "One day millions of people would be coming to our Hare Krishna farms because they are unemployed. And we must accept them. We must feed them. We must let them live there and they will gradually become spiritualized. We will put them to work, they will get their food and there will be prasadam. They will hear something about Krishna and they will gradually by the millions become devotees."

Participants

Vedic Eco Village was created, mapped and is guided by His Holiness R.P. Bhakti Raghava Swami

Permanent villagers Laura and Ramanath manage the eco village grounds, hosting volunteers and students who help with farm & building projects.

We provide support for local farms and producers. We offer opportunities to students to receive a meaningful education based on traditional technologies in keeping with Vedic science and principles”.

Target audience

Those seeking varnasrama education and a vedic way of living.

Those attracted to krishna consciousness, cows, ox power, ahimsa vegetarianism, sadhana, regulative lifestyle, agriculture, back to the land, pioneering, collective integrity and self sufficiency

Some of our recent volunteers: permaculture enthusiasts, travelling musicians, students of nutrition, vedic knowledge seekers, and kids from local schools

Activities

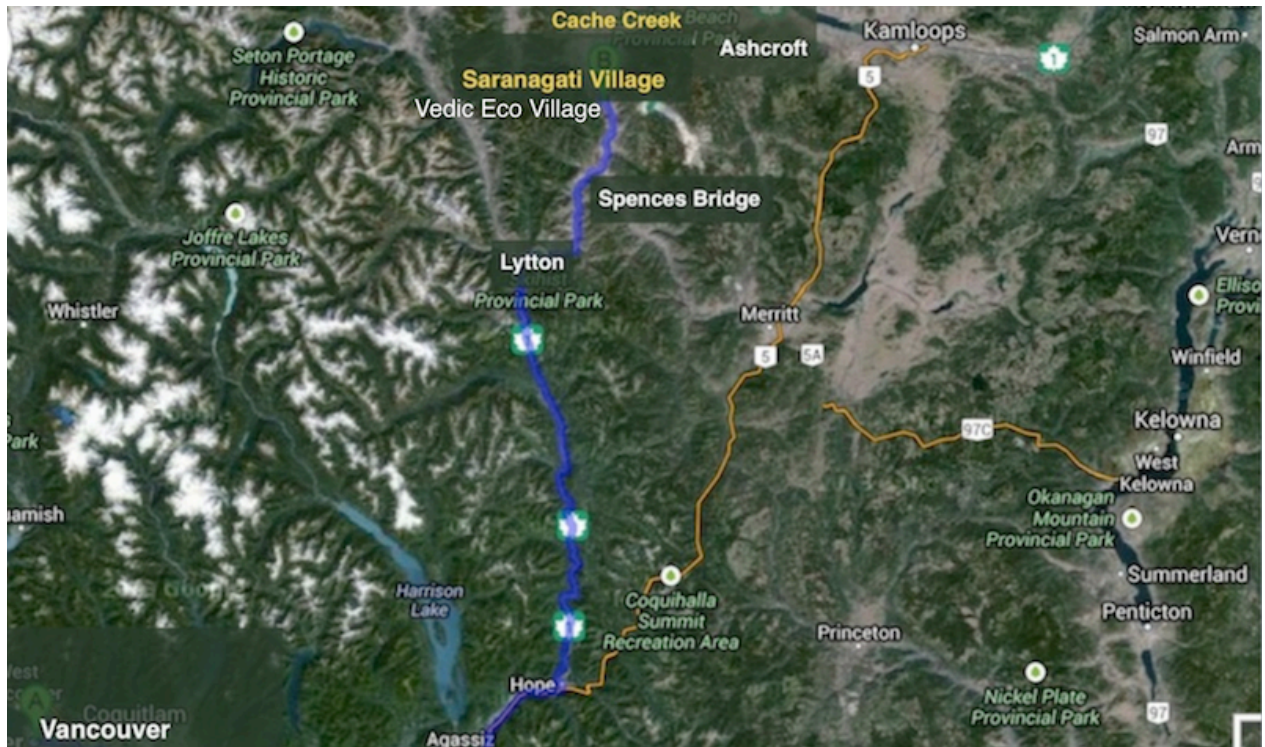
Harvesting, cob building, clearing forests, milling trees, planting fruit trees & gardening are seasonal activities.

Year round activities:

- Landscaping and road making
- Fencing for cow grazing
- Living and cooking facilities
- Bath, shower and solar powered hot water expansion
- Expanding food production and fruit tree orchard
- Expanding mini greenhouse & walipini (underground)
- Preparing and serving prasad,

Location

We are located south of Saranagati Village in Western Canada, approximately 4 hours from Vancouver and 8 hours from Calgary



Acreage

The Eco Village covers 70 acres (30 Hectares) of land including farm fields, a lake, forest hills and mountains in a remote valley in the interior of British Columbia.

Half of the land is arable with good soil for crops and fruit trees. Half of the land is pine and fir tree forest. The forest is overgrown and needs thinning for fire safety (lots of lumber available)



Project Finance

Eco Village Budget (Canadian Dollars)									
2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
\$29,506	16,452	6,979	15,034	6,845	5,400	5,961	10,000	20,000	20,000

Project	Status	Description	Cost
Library & Camp upgrade	In process	Campground needs a new Cob-in + Library bath hut upgrade + composter + kitchen + chulha upgrade	2,000
Fencing grazing land	In process	colony fences (aka X-fences) from thinned trees in nearby over-grown forests.	2,200
Underground Greenhouse	In process	Hole dug by excavator. South wall of glass and north wall of logs/cob next. Reciprocal roof	3,000
Eco Village Fencing	in progress	Colony fence is 1/4 complete. South Eco Village fence. 1 of 4 borders of Colony is complete	1,000
Orchard Expansion	in progress	orchard has berries, apple, pear, plum and apricot trees and berries, plus hazelnut and walnut trees.	2,000
Main Cabin upgrade	In process	To do: greenhouse, doorway to bath hut, kitchen upgrade, oil deck. Complete: Deck expansion, enclosure bath hut. composting toilet,	3,000
Learning Center	not started	Facility for workshops, classes, seminars	20,000
Goshala in Colony	not started	Landscaping NE facing dug-out cave for cowshed, wood stove, worker house, storage shed, warm water	30,000
Kitchen	not started	Prasadam for the workers, teachers and residents. Current hydrant will be branched out	5,000
Nature Cure Clinic	not started	Health center and apothecary in the colony near the goshala.	5,000
Volunteer Colony	not started	Landscaping, communal cob-in, kitchen and bathing facility for volunteers.	5,000
Wood Mill	complete	Bandsaw mill cuts 2 feet wide trees, up to 10 feet Good for making 4by4 pillars, beams and boards.	
Water pipeline	complete	Waterline covers 3500 feet, seven hydrants.	

Funding Required (Canadian Dollars) **\$78,200**

Development Timeline

2017 Project begins, land acquired, waterlines built
2022 Expansion of garden + mass heater for worker facilities
2023 Ox shelter in garden + expansion of gardens + outreach center
2024 Grazing land fences + Home Lake barn + Goshala foundation begin
2025 Goshala hosts cows, construction of Mandir, remaining project and Colony plot construction begins

Seasonal Timeline

- Forest management and milling: October to February
- Seed starts indoors February/March
- Greenhouse planting begins April
- Building construction begin in April
- Outdoor planting in May and June
- Insulation/cob work begins in July
- Harvest until October

Challenges

Our biggest challenge is attracting pioneer workers to build the eco village. Farming challenges in recent times include: extreme and unpredictable natural events, such as heat waves, smoke, wildfires, disrupted wildlife (bears), drought and extreme cold.

Social challenges include building infrastructure compliant with local government and ALR (Agriculture Land Reserve) and Saranagati Village Holdings Inc. bylaws and standards. The solution is building moveable and biodegradable structures that provide heat, shelter and basic cooking and cleaning for our pioneers & future workers.

Contact

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Key Projects

Farming Expansion

1/2 acre of garden is cultivated and 1/2 acre berry and tree nursery with 300+ fruit and nut trees. Expanding seasonal crops, grains, flowers and forest foods.

Current Farm goals:

- Expand production in fields
- Transition existing greenhouses to underground
- Build more moveable greenhouses
- Build sunroom @ Maharaj's cabin porch for spring starts
- Finish Underground Greenhouse (Walipini)
- Build 3-season cottages & living infrastructure for workers
- Expand irrigation in colony

Current production:

- root crops: potatoe, beet, carrot, parsnip, celery
- market greens, brassicas, asparagus
- fruit, nuts and berries
- flowers, ornamentals and herbs
- beans, grains
- millet and buckwheat seeds for future plantings.
- hemp for food, cloth, medicine and building materials

Top Producers: Carrots, Potatoes, Peas, Beets, Cucumber, Broccoli, Kale, Chard, Lettuce, Spinach, Strawberry, Cabbage, Green Beans, Zucchini, Tomato, Cherry Tomato, Corn, Peppers, Melon, Radish, Squash, Asparagus and more

Planted trees are Apple, Pear, Cherry and Apricot and Hazelnut and Walnut trees. Raspberries, strawberries, currants, gooseberries, honeyberries (hascaps) and saskatoon berries are growing.

Assorted flowers, herbs, and spices are grown. Our value added items are Jams, Pickled Good, Juice, Teas and Baked Goods.

We harvest alfalfa, hay and other crops for Ahisa Goshalla and our future cows. Southern fruit orchard has 1 fruit tree planted with drip potential.

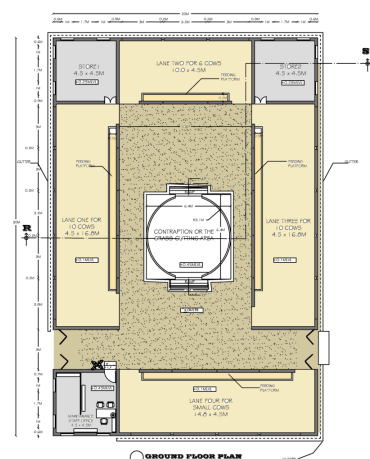
Goshalas for Cows and Ox

The future Goshala will be the home for a few cows, ideally Gir cows, depending on their availability. As in the original Vrindavan, cows play a central role in the lives of the Brajavasis, similarly, we plan to focus all the activities within our Vedic Eco Village around cows and agriculture. The bulls and ox will be in a separate area.

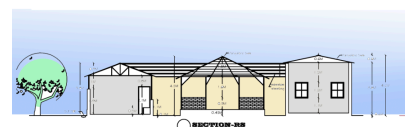


For the maintenance and good health of the cows we will have designated grazing areas and when the weather permits, will arrange for the cows to be out grazing most of the day. In connection with cows, we plan to introduce Panchagavya products such as body soaps, incense, washing soap, tooth powder, phenol and other products.

The cow shed will be a structure of wood and cob built into a NE facing dug-out cave. It will have an adjacent worker house with dung/wood stove, milk storage area, water storage tanks, stalls and feeding area.



Srila Prabhupada wanted us to protect cows and he wanted that we take products from protected cows.



A cow from the beginning till the end of life is extremely useful, especially because of its cow urine and dung. It is more useful than milk. Of course milk is very important, but milk is not the only utility from cows.

Nature Cure Clinic and Yoga Shala Health Center

A small "Nature Cure" clinic for Eco Village residents and guests. We grow and create our own medicines.

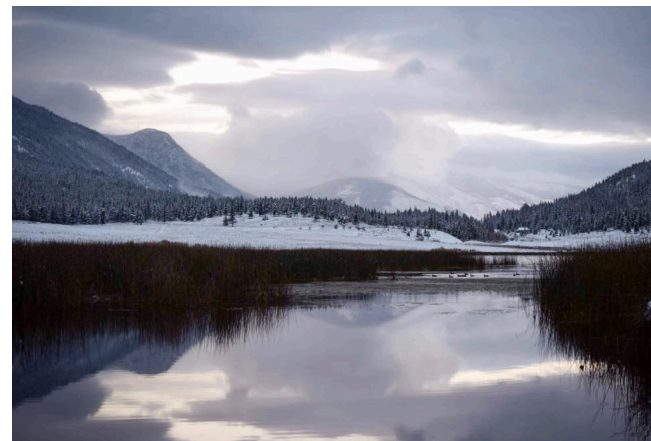


- Natural, locally grown and harvested medicines
- Cow medicines
- Holistic health care
- Patients stay in small cabins during summer time.
- Yoga Therapy

A Varnasrama College can host seminars and hands-on workshops at the Vedic Eco Village. Topics include [Vedic Knowledge](#), [Daiva Varnasrama](#) and [Krishi \(Vedic Farming\)](#).

Volunteer Village and Facilities

An area will host volunteers for 3 seasons (no winter). Camping area for Tents, RVs, Tiny Houses, Vehicles, etc
Facilities provided: solar shower, composters and kitchen.



Varnasrama College Campus

An opportunity to learn aspects of our Vedic culture often forgotten or neglected. Students learn hands-on about Permaculture Farming, Building shelters, Cows and Ox care, Natural Fibers for Clothing and more.

We train and educate students in the traditional Vedic lifestyle and sacred values known as Varnasrama Dharma.

Workshops:

- Cow Care & Protection
- Training Ox
- Permaculture and Regenerative Agriculture
- Tree Planting, Grafting and Care
- Traditional Crops growing, harvesting and storage
- Irrigation and Fertilization
- Wildcrafting, native plants and flower

We analyze different types of Varnasrama like Asuric, samanya, and Daiva. We also discuss the duties of different varnas and asramas.

See this webpage for more information:

<https://vedicecovillage.ca/varnasrama-college-canada/overview>



Traditional Craft Center

A center for locally produced crafts. Some crafts include weaving cloth and natural decors. Technology in bygone ages meant maneuvering natural resources only for essential higher purposes in life without disturbing the equilibrium in the ecology.

Learning Center (Patha Shala)

Needs and activities of students include:

- Nutrition and Health
- Organic Farming & Water Management
- Building using local materials
- Forest Preservation (Food Forest)
- Soil Fertility (the science of grazing)
- Animal Power (ox and horses)
- Character Formation

A future Gurukula will provide primarily brahmana and ksatriya training. Daily morning practicals of cleaning the asrama, cow care and agriculture.



Eco Village Colony



The Colony is divided into plots where different activities and purposes have all been allocated to specific plots based on Vastu principles.

Vedic Eco Village Links

- News reports <https://vedicecovillage.ca/reports>
- Project updates <https://vedicecovillage.ca/projects>
- Master Plan: <https://vedicecovillage.ca/master-plan-eco-village>
- Development Plan video
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZrciR6B4XBM>



Vedic Eco Village

Restoring Three Vedic Values

Cows ★ Land ★ Knowledge