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Two Victories for Kitchen Gardens Everywhere!

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At the risk of sounding immodest, let me say just this: we **ROCK**!

By "we" I mean the over 30,000 gardeners who took action over the past three weeks in support of the food garden cause. Together, we helped win not just one victory but two. The first and most important was the Drummondville front yard garden case which attracted over 30,000 petition signatures, significant international media attention and what seemed to be an endless parade of supportive emails (I stopped counting after the first 200). Earlier this week, the Drummondville Municipal Council announced that henceforth front yard kitchen gardens will be allowed and have even invited gardeners, Josée Landry and Michel Beauchamp, to help shape the city's new guidelines for urban food gardens. You can see the news story translated here [1] and Josée and Michel's blog post here [2]. I am convinced that this victory will prove to be a landmark case that will influence urban agriculture in a positive way, not just in Canada but around the world. So let me join Josée and Michel in thanking you for all your support and good wishes.

And for the frosting on our celebratory cake (carrot, of course), we learned last week that we pulled off a surprising come-from-behind victory in the "Do Good Outdoors" contest thanks to the nearly 1200 people who voted for our entry [3]. We were 3rd out of 115 going into the final day of voting but when the dust had finally settled and all the votes were verified, we finished in 1st place! We'll use the $5000 prize and the publicity in Good magazine to help plant more school and community gardens. So thank you one and all for helping us and gardens to come out on top!

I hope you'll join me (virtually or in person) in celebrating these victories and kitchen gardens in general on World Kitchen Garden Day [4] (facebook link [5]) on Sunday, August 26th. We've worked hard and it's time to party!

Image (optional):

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