



## Rideau Hub

Bringing nature into community. Bringing unity into the hub The Rideau Hub is announcing the opening of its new service that hopes to unite the community both inside and outside the hub. With the help of nature, the residents of the hub aim to host collaborative projects that aid with so-cializing, building lasting connections and harboring a sense of community within the decommissioned school, with hopes of transferring these experiences throughout the entirety of ward 13.

Within nature, the appearance of connections between different organisms is normal and commonly seen, these natural connections are vital for the functioning and survival of different ecosystems and the life within them. Using this philosophy, the resident NGOs of the Rideau hub are hoping that by enforcing collaborative efforts that utilize plants and the workers of the different NGOs, the same sense of connection that can be seen in nature, can hopefully be communicated throughout the hub. This leads to a friendlier, more welcoming environment that aims to invite more people to use the available facilities, and also garners a sense community and comradery both inside and outside the hub.

The first instance of this collaborative effort is the implementation of DIY hydroponic gardens inside the hub. Different NGOs such as Maker 13, Social Planning Ottawa, Youth Action Now, and many more, are hoping that in collaborating amongst themselves, the people around them will feel a stronger desire to build connections with other members of the community, thus beginning the move towards a more connected ward 13. In addition to the social use of the gardens, they will allow for all-season usage due to their indoor nature. Anyone in any season will be able to visit and garden with the lovely community members. The hydroponics are a simple first step to bring the community together.

