February in the Garden

The weather in February is often hard to predict more than a few days out. The Botanical Garden, like the surrounding region, can find itself engulfed in relatively mild air when the prevailing winds are heading straight off the ocean. This usually means rain and the conditions for early flowering. Equally, high pressure and sunshine mean winds are from the east, and this means the garden is flooded with more frigid air. Under these conditions, flowering is often delayed. 2019 being an El Niño year, we are more likely to enjoy the former regime (i.e., rain and cool, but not cold weather), but it’s worth remembering that nearly anything is possible in February. Thus, as floral forecasts for the month can be unreliable, it’s probably better to avoid the subject of flowers entirely and focus on a fascinating, but ultimately more dependable winter plant feature: that is, overwintering buds.

Updates

**Tree Chipping Success**

The 2018/2019 Tree Chipping fundraiser at UBC Botanical Garden raised over $9,000 to support the SPEC School Gardens Program at Thunderbird Elementary School.

[Learn more](#)

**Tara Moreau Co-authors Book Chapter**

The Associate Director of Sustainability and Community programs at UBC Botanical Garden, Tara Moreau, is a co-author of a new book chapter on public engagement of crop wild relative (CWR) exploration, conservation, and utilization.

[Learn more](#)

**Hours of Operation**

We have shifted to off-season hours of operation. The Shop in the Garden is open Monday to Saturday 10:00 am – 4:30 pm in January and February.

[Learn more](#)