

# Delvin Solkinson CV 2026





# Permaculture Highlights

## Taken

6 Permaculture Design Certificates  
4 Permaculture Design Diplomas  
Masters Degree with Bill Mollison  
Doctoral Degree with Larry Santoyo  
13 Advanced Permaculture Design Courses (in person)  
13 Permaculture Teacher Trainings (in person)

## Taught

60+ Intro to Permaculture Days  
27 Year-Long Permaculture Design Certifications  
10 Advanced Permaculture Design Courses  
8 Years Permaculture Diploma Programs.

## Accredited Teacher with

Permaculture Institute (AU)  
Permaculture Research Institute (AU)  
Permaculture Association (UK)  
Permakultur Danmark (EU)  
Permaculture Institute (NA)  
Permaculture Institute of North America (NA)





# Notable Positions

2018-present Diploma Program Co-ordinator Permaculture Institute

2018-present Diploma Tutor Permaculture Association

2023-2024 + 2026-present Permaculture Lead at Dr. Elaine's Soil Food Web School

2025 Dean of the Permaculture School at Pacific Rim College

2022-2025 Permaculture Instructor at Pacific Rim College

2017+2021 Permaculture Design Teacher at Coast Mountain College

2010-2021 Created and led Visionary Permaculture at CoSM

2014-2017 Permaculture Design Teacher at Langara College

2003-2017 Heart Gardens including Eco-Education Centre, Seed Bank + Farmers Market



Visionary Permaculture Design Class, New York, 2016

Photo Jon Ohia



# Education

1992 Seycove Secondary School : Graduated with Honors  
1997 Liberal Arts Baccalareate Degree : Simon Fraser University  
2001 Liberal Arts Post-Baccalareate Degree : Simon Fraser University  
2002 Permaculture Design Certification : Permaculture Visions, April Sampson-Kelly + Lance Wildwood  
2002 Permaculture Design Certification : Permaculture Visions, April Sampson-Kelly + Ainsley Krone  
2003 Permaculture Design Certification : Australian Correspondence School, John Mason + Ainsley Krone  
2003 Permaculture Diploma : Permaculture Institute AU, Bill Mollison  
2006 Permaculture Teacher Training : Tom Ward & Jude Hobbs  
2007 Permaculture Teacher Training : Bullock Brothers with Michael Becker  
2007 Food Cycles : Sustainable Living Arts School, Robin Wheeler  
2010 Advanced Permaculture Principles Course : David Holmgren  
2010 Permaculture Design Certification : Permaculture Institute AU, Geoff Lawton & Bill Mollison  
2010 Up, Close and Personal Advanced Course : Permaculture Institute AU, Bill Mollison  
2010 Masters Degree in Permaculture Education : Permaculture Institute AU, Bill Mollison & Patricia Michaels  
2011 Teacher Training and Facilitators Course : Permaculture College Australia, Robyn Francis  
2011 PDC Teacher Training Course : Permaculture Research Institute, Geoff Lawton  
2011 Dynamic Groups, Dynamic Learning : Earthcare Education, Robin Clayfield  
2011 Creative Community Governance and Decision Making : Earthcare Education, Robin Clayfield  
2011 Permaculture Design Teacher Training : Blue Mountains Permaculture Institute, Rosemary Morrow  
2011 Advanced Permaculture Principles : David Holmgren  
2012 Turning your Garden into Gaiá's Garden : Verge Permaculture, Toby Hemenway  
2012 Permaculture Design Certification : Permaculture Institute USA, Toby Hemenway  
2012 Permaculture Teacher Training : Permaculture Institute USA, Scott Pittman & Larry Santoyo  
2012 Permaculture Diploma : Permaculture Institute USA, Scott Pittman & Larry Santoyo  
2013 Permaculture Teacher Training : Michael Becker  
2013 Urban Permaculture : Toby Hemenway  
2013 Social Permaculture : Starhawk

Bill Mollison & me, Stanley, Tasmania, 2010  
Photo by Nicholas Man





# Education

2014 Permaculture Teacher Training : Permaculture Institute USA, Scott Pittman & Larry Santoyo  
2015 Permaculture Training of Teachers : Blue Mountains Permie Institute, Rosemary Morrow & Looby Macnamara  
2015 Dynamic Groups, Dynamic Learning : Earthcare Education, Robin Clayfield & Looby Macnamara  
2015 Social Permaculture : Looby Macnamara, Robin Clayfield, Robina McCurdy, Starhawk, Peter Cow  
2015 Permaculture Design Course : Blue Mountains Permaculture Institute, Rosemary Morrow & Tina Lymberis  
2016 Advanced Permaculture Design Course : Doug Bullock & Sam Bullock, David Boehnlein & Paul Kearsley  
2017 Permaculture Master Class and Teacher Training : Permaculture Institute (USA), Larry Santoyo & Scott Pittman  
2017 People Permaculture Facilitator Training : Designed Visions, Looby Macnamara & Peter Cow  
2018 Permaculture Teacher Training : Permaculture College Australia, Robyn Francis  
2018 Advanced Permaculture Planning & Design Process : David Holmgren & Dan Palmer  
2019 Doctoral Degree in Permaculture Education : Permaculture Academy, Larry Santoyo  
2020 Diploma in Applied Permaculture Design : Permaculture Association UK, Looby Macnamara  
2020 Registration Level Tutor Training : Permaculture Association (online)  
2021 Cultural Emergence Effective Design with Looby Macnamara & John Young (online)  
2022 Cultural Emergence Effective Design with Looby Macnamara & John Young (online)  
2022 Assessment Level Tutor Training : Permaculture Association (online)  
2023 Registration level Tutor Training : Permaculture Association (online)  
2023 Certificate in Applied Permaculture Design, Permaculture Association, Wilf Richards  
2024 Assessment Level Tutor Training : Permaculture Association (online)  
2024 Permaculture Teacher Training (Teaching Assistant) : Jude Hobbs  
2024 Professional Diploma of Permaculture Design : Permaculture Institute North America, Monica Ibacache

## Ongoing

Post-Doc in Permaculture Education: Permaculture Institute, Larry Santoyo  
Senior Tutor Training : Permaculture Association UK, Looby Macnamara

David Holmgren & me, Melliadora, Australia, 2018  
Photo by Keri Chiveralls





# Permaculture Work Experience

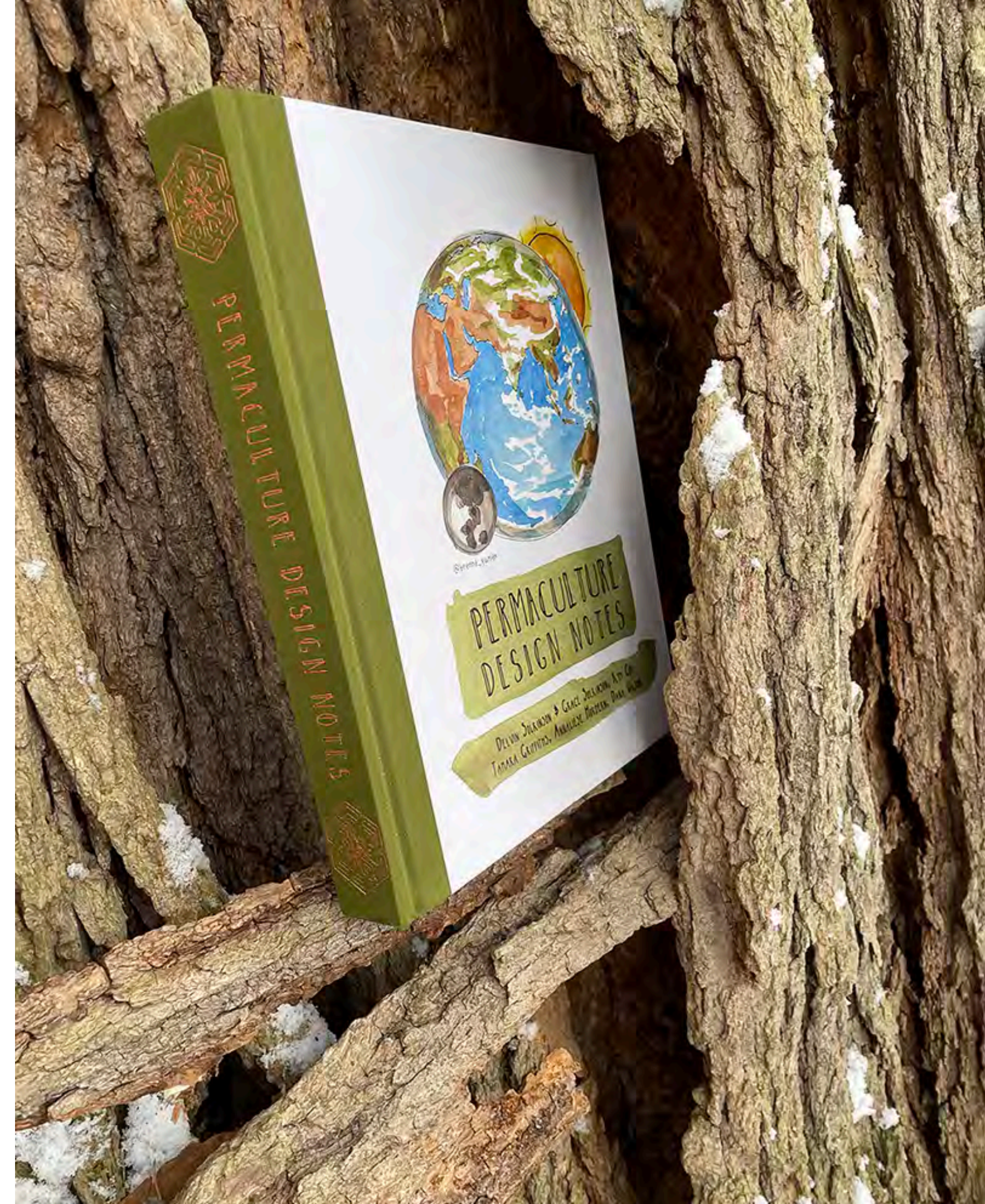
1992-2002 : Gardener (Self-Employed)  
2002-2003 : Co-Designed and Co-facilitated Eco-Tech Permaculture Youth Program  
2003-2017 : Designed, Implemented, Maintained and Taught at Heart Gardens  
2010-2021 : Created and Led Visionary Permaculture Design Program  
2022-2025 : Permaculture Instructor at Pacific Rim College  
2025 : Dean Permaculture School at Pacific Rim College

2003-present : Permaculture Design Teacher  
2018-present : Diploma Program Co-ordinator Permaculture Institute  
2018-present : Diploma Tutor Permaculture Association  
2019-present : Co-facilitate Group Diploma Adventure with Looby Macnamara  
2025-present : Senior Diploma Tutor Permakultur Danmark  
2025-present : Social Media Manager Permaculture Magazine  
2023-2024 + 2026-present : Permaculture Lead at Dr. Elaine's Soil Food Web School

## Creative Output

Permaculture Design Notes Book  
Permaculture Design Deck  
Permaculture Design Elements Game

Permaculture Magazine Articles  
Permaculture Videos  
Permaculture Designs





# Heather Boright

I am pleased to recommend Delvin Solkinson as a conscientious team member with superb organizational and interpersonal skills. I worked closely with Delvin over sixteen months to successfully develop a large and complex online course with 75 contributors from 21 countries. We met weekly during the project while I acted as the project lead and content editor, and he worked as the course's lead instructor and curriculum designer. Delvin consistently demonstrated exceptional time management, self-motivation, and attention to detail. He fostered positive relationships with both the core team and worldwide contributors, contributing greatly to a cohesive and highly productive work environment.

Delvin has accumulated extensive experience through years of continuous learning from and collaboration with global permaculture elders, practitioners, and organizations. This has equipped him with a uniquely rich and broadly applicable set of skills and knowledge that I witnessed him employ at every stage of our project. I am confident that Delvin will bring integrity, competence, creativity, and enthusiasm to any future endeavor.

- Heather Boright, Content Editor,  
Dr. Elaine Ingham's Soil Food Web School, July 9, 2024

Carla Portugal, Heather Boright, Adam Cobb, me and Dr. Elaine Ingham  
Corvallis, Oregon, 2023  
Photo Grace Solkinson





Larry Santoyo and me, Oahu, Hawaii, 2017  
Photo Rob Herring

# Larry Santoyo

Through a two year Diploma process and now a Doctoral study, I have been able to observe Delvin's deep commitment to following and trailblazing a permaculture path and making significant contributions to the ecological and sustainability movements. As an educator he has trained hundreds of students, as Field Mentor through PI USA he has been mentoring 35 advanced students through their Diploma process, offering support and guidance to those who want to make permaculture a significant part of their life work. Delvin has creating a series of teaching tools for permaculture and has generously offered them as free, open source learning tools. I am impressed by his work and proud of him for these significant accomplishments. Its been an honour to be his mentor and I believe he will be an asset and benefit to any team, project or course that he is a part of in the future. I would recommend him as a permaculture teacher and mentor for those interested in pursuing the permaculture path.

- Larry Santoyo, Senior Planner  
EarthFlow Urban Design Works  
Vice President, Permaculture Institute





# Looby Macnamara

Delvin is a natural leader and is unafraid to provide a support for others to find their ways to shine. Delvin is very grounded, dedicated and knowledgeable, providing a comfortable environment for self and group discovery. Delvin has a beautiful combination of passion and resourcefulness and commitment in his work ethic that bring forth inspiration and empowerment. Working with Delvin has brought me much joy during the Planetary Pilgrimage.

- Looby Macnamara, 2015

Delvin is a highly committed person, focusing on bringing permaculture principles to a wider audience. He is continually upgrading and revitalising his skills and knowledge through aligning himself to many of the most experienced permaculture teachers globally. His work arises through a deep sense of service that he offers with generosity back to the permaculture community. As a facilitator he is filled with humour, enthusiasm and he infuses his classes with a nourishing sense of the possible.

- Looby Macnamara, 2017





# Rosemary Morrow

Earth Literacy : Agricultural Ecology and Permaculture

Delvin has participated in permaculture teacher training and his strength is in integrating new knowledge and using it effectively. He applied himself thoughtfully in carrying out the facilitation required of him. Delvin was able to quickly and creatively use local materials. He has already developed a basic teaching toolkit which he shared with others. He was particularly generous in sharing his teaching ideas and materials which were very helpful. I am confident he could teach alone or co-teach, I expect that on the ground, and in any country he would be an excellent addition to a team. In addition, Delvin is doing some important pioneer work in connecting people around the world in permaculture.

- Rosemary Morrow, Blue Mountains Permaculture Institute, 2011

Delvin is dedicated to life long learning and pushes his edges to evolve as a student and as a teacher. He has demonstrated his commitment by undertaking a variety of permaculture courses and teacher trainings. He observes patterns and processes and looks at the larger implications. He is aware of the importance of pedagogy and is interested in carrying on the lineage of permaculture core curriculum as it is taught by many different elders and pioneers. Able to contribute when called upon and assume leadership when needed, he also made space giving opportunities for other participants to contribute and become involved. His mission to ongoing consolidation and skilling up will make him a permaculture teacher with sound and extensive content and methodology.

- Rosemary Morrow, 2015



Rosemary Morrow and me  
Greece, 2015  
Photo Dana Wilson



# Toby Hemenway

Delvin has also been honing his teaching skills by offering concurrent, year-long Permaculture Design Courses as well as longer Advanced Courses as part of a Diploma program through the Permaculture Institute USA, for whom I am a Field Director. I am excited to what my student will do in the future. His generosity in developing many open-source educational materials is virtually unparalleled and is a real asset to the community. My hope is to empower his choice to teach permaculture as a life path and support him to achieve the most legitimacy that permaculture can give him to bolster his dialogues with school boards, university and K-12 educators and administrators, and others with the aim of bringing permaculture into the mainstream education system. Delvin has my absolute highest recommendation in whatever path he chooses to pursue, and I urge you to support his work wholeheartedly.

- Toby Hemenway

Director, Center for Pattern Literacy



Toby Hemenway with me, Vancouver, 2013  
Photo Dana Wilson



# Robin Clayfield

I have trained over a thousand teachers, trainers, educators and group leaders and feel very confident to recommend Delvin as a highly motivated, deep thinking, well planned and vibrantly creative teacher. He is well resourced and thorough in his preparation as well being very confident and competent with his delivery of any subject matter as well as his care and holding of the dynamic and mechanics of the group energy. I am excited Delvin has chosen teaching Permaculture as his life path and I support him to do that in any way I can. - Robin Clayfield, 2011

He has now also taken the 'Dynamic Groups, Dynamic Learning' course for a second time in 2015 in the UK with me and my guest teacher Looby Macnamara and as a result has demonstrated a deeper pattern understanding of the methods, processes and patterns that are part of my core teaching on dynamic creativity and empowered learning in education and group facilitation. In the 'Social Permaculture' program as an Apprentice, Delvin demonstrated initiative and leadership and was a great support for me personally and to the other four facilitators of the course as well as to the other participants. He worked with a media team to create documentation for the courses including notes, photographs, articles, books and short videos that are sharing the learning from the course globally. I thoroughly recommend Delvin as a teacher on permaculture and related courses. I also recommend him to any other Permaculture Pioneers that may have him support or apprentice. His energy, dedication, enthusiasm and passion for this work is immeasurable and I value his support and contribution highly. I'm excited to see what he produces now that he has taken more of my courses. His contributions to the permaculture movement at a global level are already a benefit to many other teachers and learners and expand the leading edge of Permaculture. - Robin Clayfield, 2015



Me with Robin Clayfield, UK, 2015  
Photo Dana Wilson



# Alex Grey & Allyson Grey

Delvin Solkinson has been a valued teacher, leader and manager at CoSM (Chapel of Sacred Mirrors). He has masterfully acted as Managing Editor for CoSM Journal of Visionary Culture. As Managing Editor his accomplishments include conducting interviews, collecting content and images, editing and raising all the funds from advertising that fully supports the Journal. Delvin has worked efficiently and personably with hundreds of people involved in each volume. The four-season visionary permaculture course has been created and led by Delvin who has mentored every student toward enhanced consciousness of the natural world. We are very grateful to Delvin for initiating a creative mapping project of CoSM's sacred land. Delvin is loved and respected by CoSM staff and visitors and has shown follow-through in all cases and in a self-directed manner. Creatively solving every problem, Delvin can be counted on to show diplomacy in all of his interactions. We cannot recommend Delvin more highly. It is our view that anyone working with him would be extremely fortunate.

- Alex Grey & Allyson Grey, 2015

After volunteering at CoSM Chapel of Sacred Mirrors for 9 years, Delvin has demonstrated his quality. On the Board of Directors, Delvin brings his ecological design mind with great interest in applying the Core Values, Purpose and Mission of the organization. As Senior Managing Editor of CoSM Journal of Visionary Culture, Delvin has collaborated with us and Eli Morgan to co-create a beautiful collection of art and wisdom that is shared with our global community. The creation of the Journal includes managing hundreds of different people and supporting a creative process that lasts over a year. Facilitating the Visionary Permaculture program, Delvin teaches ecological design on the land and supports the ongoing development of the compost and garden. He also leads a community mapping initiative that includes visitors and staff in an artful map and design process for the CoSM land and organization. Welcoming exceptional artist teachers to CoSM, Delvin helped program the art classes and artist residencies for the 2018 year. Delvin is beloved by CoSM Staff who he supports with mentorship and team building activities. He has shown himself to be impeccably trustworthy, and to honor his commitments with timeliness and integrity. We are grateful for Delvin's presence on our team and would recommend him highly for any workplace, team, project or teaching position.

- Alex Grey & Allyson Grey, 2018



Allyson Grey, me and Alex Grey, New York, 2018  
Photo John Harris



# Don Van Kleek

Heart of the Creek Holdings originated in 1994 when four of us purchased 1.01 acres of commercial property in downtown Roberts Creek. There were no “gardens” except the remains of the original forest including the large maple tree which is now the “centre piece” in Heart of the Creek. Our son Mark discovered Delvin, who went to work to improve the gardens. We built our first garden shed about half way along the main parking lot, where Delvin could store a few tools, a lawn mower and a weed eater. As we progressed, Delvin took an ever more involved attitude in everything about our growing company. He started early on doing daily walks around the property, picking up litter and checking for what might need his attention. Delvin is very flexible! He keeps the gutters clear of leaves and in the fall when the leaves fall in the autumn he often rakes the leaves into piles for the children to play in. He is just that kind of a guy! Delvin is no ordinary gardener. He does a lot of teaching permaculture in the “Heart Gardens”, picks up the litter, and keeps all shipshape. We feel very honoured to have met Delvin and had him in charge of our wonderful Heart Gardens and in general around to help.

- Don Van Kleek President of Heart of the Creek Holdings Co. Ltd, January, 10 2017

Me with Don Van Kleek, Roberts Creek, BC, 2017





# Mark Van Kleek

Over the 13 years of employment at the 'Heart Gardener', Delvin has more than fulfilled his responsibilities and our expectations of him as an employee. He is honest and hardworking, fulfilling his duties with a smile. Delvin is well organized and self-motivated. He accomplished many tasks to do with designing and installing gardens around the property as well as assisting to build many of the lawns, pathways, garden beds and framing the parking lot. With his focus on education the gardens became more than a source of food, seeds and genetic material, they became a learning centre for people of all ages.

The development of our property involved the entire community and many stakeholders. Delvin was instrumental in developing strong relationships to move the entire project forward in harmony with the needs of everyone involved. Delvin's communication skills and friendly nature are as exceptional as his gardening skills. We were extremely lucky to have Delvin working for us, helping to develop the downtown of our small village, and will miss him greatly now that we have retired from the project.

- Mark Van Kleek

Heart of the Creek Holdings

July 17, 2017



Heart Gardens, Roberts Creek, 2015  
Photo Poxin



# Colleague Testimonials

"Delvin Solkinson is one of the few people in this world that deeply understands how to continuously encourage and elevate everyone he works with. I have collaborated with Delvin on many projects now, and on every account I have been inspired and permanently impacted by the thorough and thoughtful way Delvin takes on assignments. He is truly humble, highly skilled at whatever he does and kind in every way possible. I would say, that the only important note I have is for others to value and appreciate Delvin Solkinson's efforts and work, as a person that holistically sees the bigger picture and always wants to help systems and others to become better. He has my highest recommendations." - Skye Jin

Education Coordinator in Permaculture Denmark  
Editor in chief of PERMAKULTUR magazine,

"Delvin, you are a wonderful facilitator! You are encouraging, inspiring, and communicative. You are able to be open and realistic in terms of addressing barriers and challenges, while also remaining positive and constructive. I appreciate your work on scheduling and on financial / budget operations. I also really appreciate the presence and humanity you have brought to interactions and group dynamics. I am inspired to be able to work with someone who is self-reflective, humble, hopeful for our collective future, and someone who engages with permaculture principles in the social realm. All of that in concert with the practice skills, experience and knowledge that you and Grace bring to the community create an amazing web of support to take part in" - Lindsay Hounslow

Herbal Teacher and Naturalist  
Instructor on the PDRE Diploma Program

Applewood Permaculture Centre, UK, 2024  
Photo Grace Solkinson





# Student Testimonials

“Mentors such as Delvin and Grace come along few and far between in a lifetime. Delvin is the most adaptable compassionate and focused person I've ever had the pleasure of learning with. His ability to relate and collaborate makes me and other classmates feel as though our presence is respected & valued. His wealth of knowledge and humble way of sharing it is one of the greatest lessons I hope to carry with me.”  
- Giuseppe Carmelo, Alumni of the 720 Hour Diploma at PRC

"Delvin and Grace facilitate learning with warmth, kindness, patience, creativity and color! Their dedication to education and permaculture principles is boundless, always going above and beyond to foster a supportive, empowering, grounded environment where we can delve deeper together. They have given me the knowledge and confidence to make mindful decisions and apply them, to create positive change in my own life, and how that ripples out to everything else."  
- Emma Youell, PRC Diploma Alumni

“Continuing education in permaculture studies, with the amazing teacher Delvin Solkinson in Vancouver BC. I'm deeply inspired by the course and highly recommend this to anyone interested in next level Earth stewardship and gardening.”  
- Bob McGruff , PDC Alumni

“Three years of University and a debt I'm still paying off today and I learnt more about the real world on this course than during that whole time. If you are interested in the natural world, sustainability, healthy living or just think the current way we do things in society is a little strange I'd recommend checking out Permaculture in some way or another.” - Josh Davis, PDC Alumni





# Student Testimonials

"The Permaculture Design and Resilient Ecosystems Diploma Program was the most meaningful learning experience I've ever had. What made it so exceptional was not just the content, but the way it was held and delivered.

Delvin and Grace put an extraordinary amount of time, care, and intention into every aspect of the program. Nothing felt rushed or surface-level and it was clear how much thought went into creating an experience that was truly next-level, deeply supportive, and genuinely transformative.

We were incredibly lucky to learn from such a legendary group of teachers, all woven together in a way that felt cohesive and alive rather than fragmented. With a small cohort, hands-on projects, and learning rooted in real relationship with land and community, the experience became personal in the best way.

I honestly wouldn't have wanted to learn in any other way, or with any other guides. Even months later, the impact of that year continues to shape how I move through the world. I am beyond grateful for my time with Delvin and Grace. It was an honour to learn alongside them."

- Michelle Bouzane, PRC Diploma Alumni



Permaculture Design and Resilient Ecosystems Diploma Program  
Co-creating an Indigenous Rain Garden with Staff and Students  
of Individual Learning Centre Saanichton, 2025



# Student Testimonials

"Deeply grateful to my mentor and teacher - Delvin Solkinson. His mentorship has been a true gift of wisdom, care, and inspiration. Thank you for holding space for my process and continuously uplifting me with your generous spirit, dear Delvin Thank you so much for your facilitation, support, and for holding the space so beautifully. It felt so safe and grounding to have you there. I'm absolutely overflowing with gratitude and admiration.."

- Aleksandra Kudojare, Diploma Alumni

"Delvin is a thoughtful, warm and passionate Permaculture Diploma Tutor. He is a fantastic guide through the Diploma, asking insightful questions that lead to deep reflections, and always bringing a bright and encouraging attitude to the process. Thank you for your wisdom and care, Delvin!" - James Atherton, Diploma Alumni

"Delvin is truly a great facilitator of permaculture education. In every class his intention is focused and he is deeply engaged. He gets all the curriculum across clearly and provides time for deeper hands-on education at each of the sites we visit. He takes the time to engage directly with each of his students and shows that he cares about each of their own development and growth. He is a great role model and embodies many permaculture ethics and principles in his own life. He makes every class a fun adventure and it becomes a joy to learn permaculture."

- Christopher Peters, PDC Alumni



Permaculture Design Certificate, Roberts Creek, BC, 2017  
Photo Dana Wilson





Graham Bell lifting me up  
Coldstream Scotland, 2022  
Photo Grace Solkinson