

WANT ONE

off the wall

Vancouver's latest living wall is a monument to native plants

The wall features eight species including Pacific bleeding heart. **RIGHT:** A DIY indoor living wall sports ivy and small houseplants.

Vancouver has been spared another expanse of bare concrete wall, thanks to landscape architect Randy Sharp's green wall—the first in North America planted almost entirely with native BC species. The 10-by-50-foot, east-facing wall at the Vancouver Aquarium's Aquaquest—The Marilyn Blusson Learning Centre features eight Canadian plant species in 7,000 containers. Ranging from the pink-flowered Pacific bleeding heart to woodland strawberries, the plants were selected to create a self-sustaining ecosystem requiring minimal maintenance, and to celebrate the beautiful plants available in coastal British Columbia. They are tucked into a modular grid system (by Gsky) in peat blocks. A drip irrigation system using collected rainwater runs throughout. "It's very sculptural," Sharp says. "The plants grow to different heights and have a nice four-seasons effect with blossoms in the spring and fruit in the summer."—Heather Kent

You can build your own living wall indoors or outdoors with easy-to-install modular panels. Check out Gsky's Green Wall Panels and ELT Easy Green Living Walls (left).

