

# Ideas Into Action Summary Report

Nelson | British Columbia | July 2013

Community Perspectives on Local Strengths,  
Priority Social Issues & Recommended Actions

Researched & Prepared by the Social Planning Action Network Society



## Acknowledgements

Thank you to all community members who shared their input and ideas through Ideas Into Action Community Survey.

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The Social Planning Action Network Society (SPAN) is a network of citizens and stakeholders dedicated to strengthening community well being BC. SPAN works to promote community collaboration to identify and respond to our social needs.

This report is available for download at [www.nelsoncares.ca](http://www.nelsoncares.ca)

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## Introduction

This report is a summary of findings the Ideas Into Action spring 2013 community survey. It contains the voices of 150 Nelson BC community members and over 450 ideas on community strengths, priority social issues and recommended actions.

The Ideas Into Action survey project was organized by the Social Planning Action Network. During March 2013 the community survey was publicized in partnership with local media, made available online at [nelsoncares.ca](http://nelsoncares.ca) and in person at the Nelson Library. Additionally, it was distributed by email to key contacts across sectors in the community.

4 questions were asked and all were open-ended, except for #2 which was a multiple choice selection.

1. What do you value most about Nelson?

2. In your experience, what are the top priority social issues facing our community?

3. Considering this priority issue, what action do you recommend Nelson area take on to make a difference in 2013?

4. Nelson would be a healthier and stronger community if \_\_\_\_\_. (Please fill in the blank)

The 150 respondents were by majority Nelson residents (73%) and from the close surrounding RDCK area (26%). A broad demographic profile in terms of age range was represented; under 18 (9%), 19 to 35 (18%), 35 to 55 (39%), 55 and over (34%).

Through the coming year SPAN will utilize the input contained within this report to help inform local social planning; an inclusive community process for building on strengths and creating positive change.

**This is what we heard....**

# What do you value most about Nelson BC?....

## Top Themes:

1. Our Natural Surroundings & Outdoor Environment
2. Our Sense of Community
3. The People
4. Our Arts, Culture & Heritage



“The emphasis people place on health, good fresh local food, gardening and exercising.”

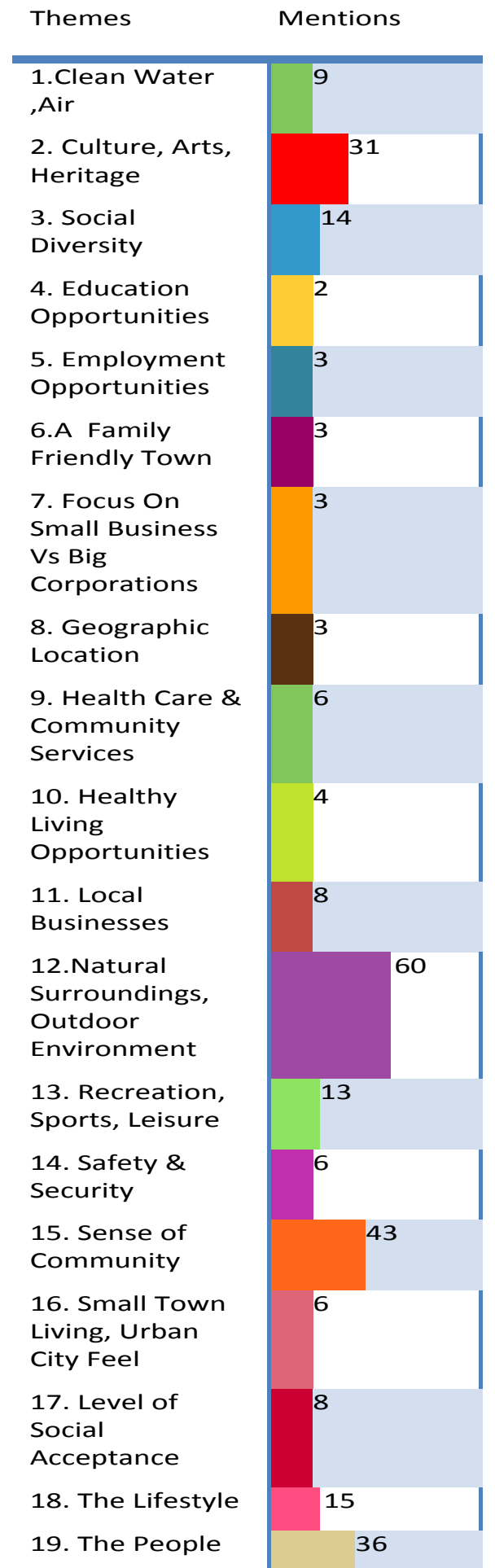


"I have lived very close to Nelson and in Nelson for most of my very long term life and I am very fond of this great city and trust it will remain a wonderful place - with beautiful lake and skiing not too far away in the winter and with great people settled here."

“The events! Where else does EVERYONE dress up, young and old, to go to James Bond film or the rocky horror picture show? Unique!”



View all community responses pp.14-19 of the appendix

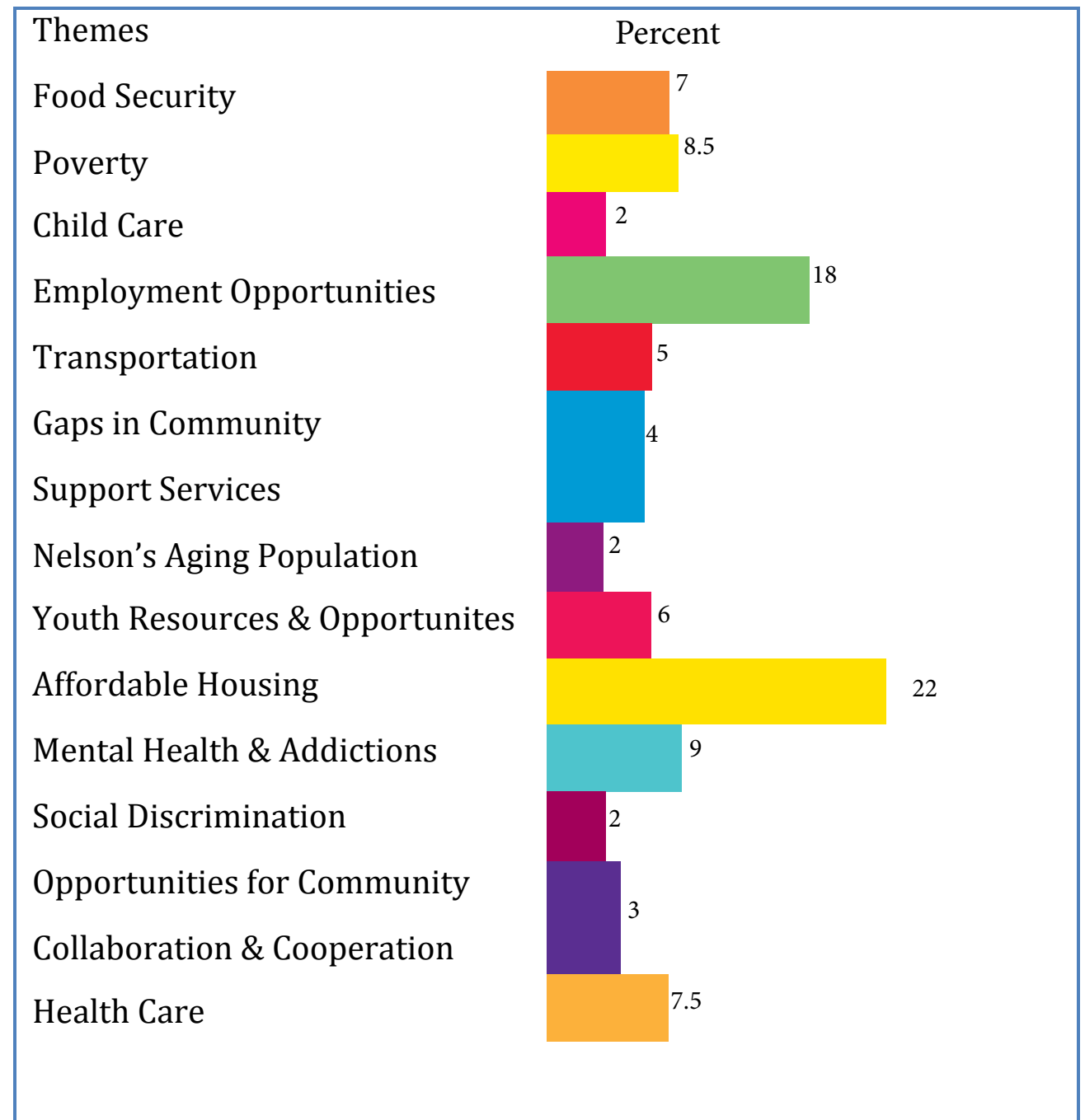


In your experience, what are the top social issues facing Nelson BC?....

Top Ranking Issues:  
Housing Affordability  
Employment Opportunities  
Mental Health  
Poverty



Respondents ranked their top 3 choices. Chart below reflects overall combined totals rounded to the nearest %.



# What action do you recommend Nelson area take on in 2013 to make a difference?

## Top Themes

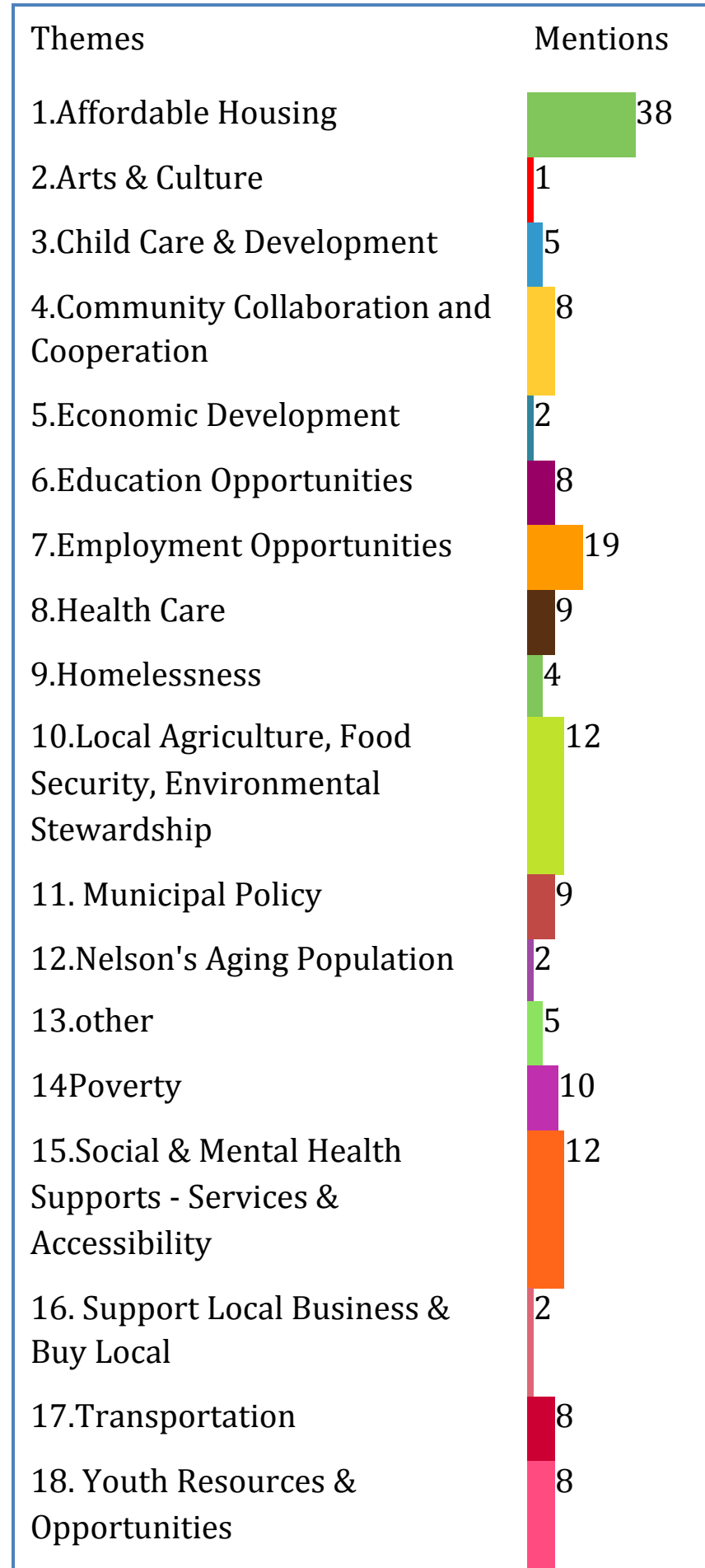
Increase Our Affordable Housing Stock  
 Enhance Local Employment Opportunities  
 Improve Services to Support Mental Health

“If we can find ways to encourage development of affordable housing, issues around mental health and addictions may be alleviated. Progress is being made (Anderson Street development), and Nelson Cares does a great job with Ward Street Place.”



“If we introduce better jobs – ones with wages capable of sustaining a young family in Nelson.”

“Take a community approach to addressing the increasing mental health issues facing our community and communities across BC and all of Canada.”



View all community responses pp. 19-25 of the appendix

Nelson would be a healthier and stronger community if \_\_\_\_\_. (Please fill in the blank)

Top Themes

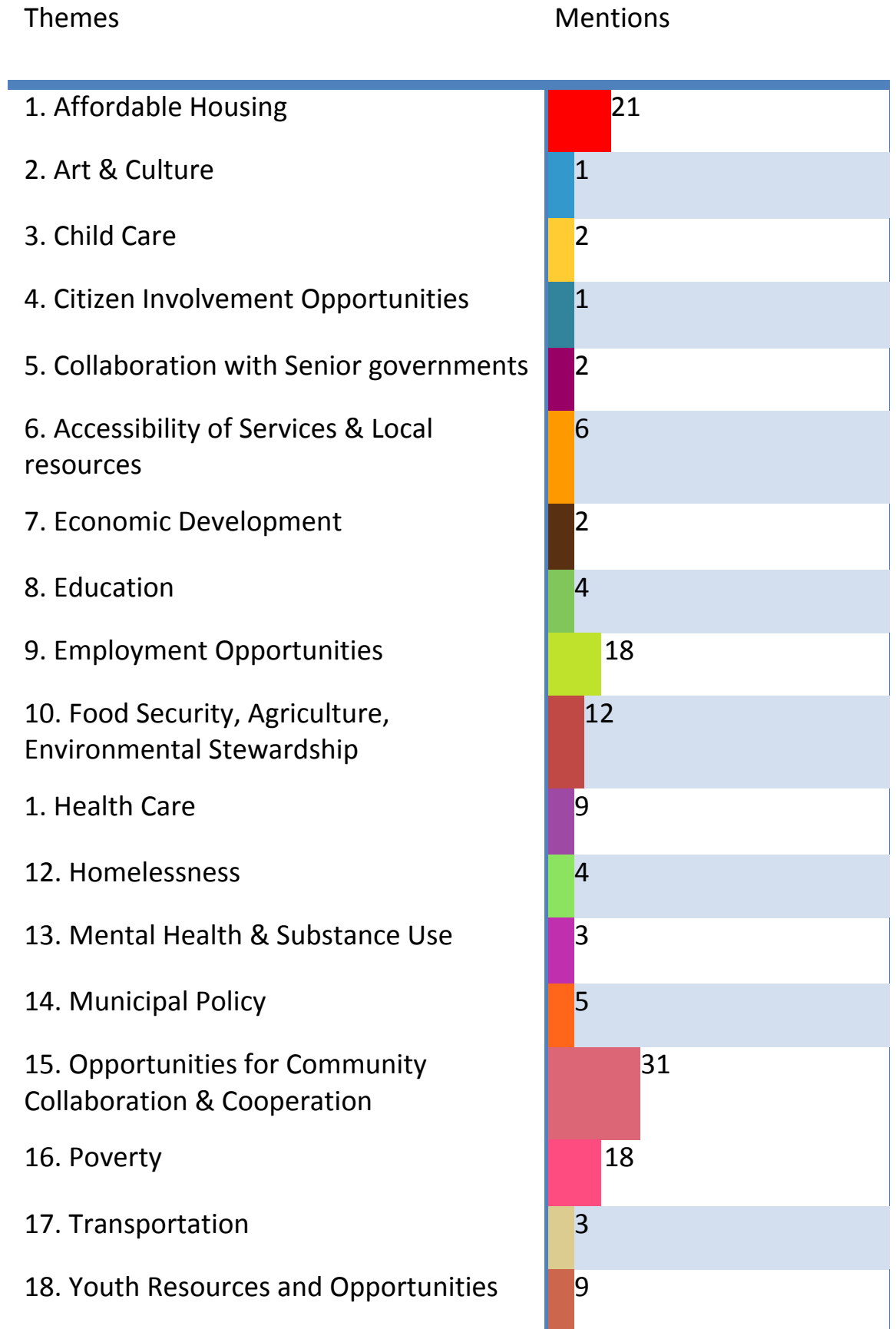
If there were more opportunities for inclusive community collaboration  
 If housing were more Affordable and accessible  
 If we took action to address Poverty  
 If there were more Employment Opportunities

“If everyone has a place to stay and a place to call home.”



“If we could work together to take better care of ALL of our citizens.”

“If there were more opportunities to come together in a collaborative inclusive way to address community issues.”



View all community responses pp. 26-31 the appendix

# Appendix

## Detailed Responses to Open Ended Survey Questions

### Q. What do you value most about Nelson BC?

| #   | Response   |
|-----|--|
| 1.  | I love Nelson's individuality but I feel it lacks community collaboration  |
| 2.  | awareness  |
| 3.  | Clean air and clean water  |
| 4.  | clean air and water forests streams rocks  |
| 5.  | I love the library of course but, the old buildings add a lot of character and all Nelsons Legends.  |
| 6.  | The arts community,  |
| 7.  | The quality and abundance of the arts  |
| 8.  | The Unique culture.  |
| 9.  | The Arts   |
| 10. | Arts, uniqueness   |
| 11. | cultural and arts diversity  |
| 12. | diversity, arts culture  |
| 13. | I most value Nelson's progressive culture and eating organic, alternative schooling, environmental awareness.  |
| 14. | A range of business venues that support the flair of the region and consumer tastes. Diversity of cultural exposure is possible. Philanthropy when needs are objectified and presented to the community in a kind/neutral means. |
| 15. | culture, lifestyle, nature   |
| 16. | The open acceptance of everyone with their differences, gifts, etc. Also richness of culture and outdoor activities.   |
| 17. | Its strong community connection, it's diverse ideas and cultural richness  |
| 18. | The sense of community. The art, culture and food that distinguishes Nelson from other interior communities. Our natural environment - mountains and lake!   |
| 19. | A walk able community that is safe, friendly, and rich with natural beauty, arts and culture.  |
| 20. | Open-minded, social conscious community, many opportunities for personal growth: local speakers, courses, music, art. Food security conscious, giving & generous community, good networking                                      |
| 21. | walk ability, cultural activities, small town feel with big city amenities   |
| 22. | Eclectic, variety. Everything is in close proximity  |
| 23. | Its diversity.   |

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|-----|--|
| 24. | Nelson's diversity of both people and sociopolitical beliefs is something that I greatly value. It's rare to find a place without the homogeny I've experienced in other communities. Nelson is varied and strong. |
| 25. | The diversity  |
| 26. | Nelson has a citizenship that is very diverse - everyone from street people, artisans, strong religious groups and we seem to tolerate each other. This is the greatest thing about Nelson.                        |
| 27. | range of educational opportunities   |
| 28. | variety of education opportunities   |
| 29. | employment opportunities   |
| 30. | The isolation from the rest of the province  |
| 31. | family friendly programs   |
| 32. | It's size, not too big, not too small. The few agencies I've connected with are strong and ongoing - those who care, really care!  |
| 33. | Access to diverse services and products with an emphasis on supporting local producers and businesses  |
| 34. | The sense of community. No racial barriers. The Co-ops provide options for other forms of shopping. Availability of resorts, hotels, restaurants and services.   |
| 35. | People tolerant to/of differences; The tree lined streets. The energy of the people. The many coffee shops and spas. The many small businesses that have come to town. Sports-minded people in all sports.         |
| 36. | I really value the beauty of all the nature that surrounds us and how accessible and untouched it truly is.  |
| 37. | It's a beautiful town and attracts people  |
| 38. | the setting  |
| 39. | The beauty and the feeling of seclusion in the natural wonders that surround our wonderful community   |
| 40. | The environment  |
| 41. | Wilderness setting   |
| 42. | beautiful scenery  |
| 43. | the beauty   |
| 44. | the great outdoors   |
| 45. | the outdoors   |
| 46. | Clean air, beautiful scenery   |
| 47. | nature, fresh air and water, low density   |
| 48. | Vibrant, small, beautiful community  |
| 49. | beautiful setting, its history, place where I grew up  |
| 50. | Beauty, diversity, creativity  |



|     |   |
|-----|---|
| 51. | physical beauty, heritage buildings, arts, diversity  |
| 52. | It's beauty, arts, Kootenay co-op Radio and services like the Women's Centre  |
| 53. | Sense of community, friendliness, nature and close to even more nature. Arts and culture scene.   |
| 54. | diversity and environment   |
| 55. | Its view. Its job opportunities.  |
| 56. | beauty, employment, shopping  |
| 57. | Its humane environment (nice buildings, trees, walk able, not just big box stores and huge streets and tons of parking  |
| 58. | hasn't been commercialized  |
| 59. | scenery, hospital care, community services  |
| 60. | community organizations, wonderful scenery, clean water   |
| 61. | Outdoor recreation  |
| 62. | Outdoor recreation opportunities  |
| 63. | The mountains, the access to the outdoors   |
| 64. | I have lived very close to Nelson and in Nelson for most of my very long term life and I am very fond of this great city and trust it will remain a wonderful place - with beautiful lake and skiing not too far away in the winter and with great people settled here. |
| 65. | Friendly, a very supportive, accessible community, and lovely scenery.  |
| 66. | Nature and close sense of community   |
| 67. | Community, Downtown Heritage Buildings, Beautiful natural Surroundings  |
| 68. | The beaches, stores and community   |
| 69. | Nelson is a beautiful community from its wonderful lakes and mountains to the openness of the hearts of its community members. I love the rich opportunities in arts and culture and its true community feel.   |
| 70. | Social acceptance, innovation, beauty   |
| 71. | Outdoor life  |
| 72. | The physical beauty, small-town feel, slow pace, gentle nature.   |
| 73. | the natural beauty and lifestyle  |
| 74. | Beauty, space, people of like mind, fairly inexpensive place to live.   |
| 75. | I value the beautiful outdoors. The people are for the most part nice as well as respectful. And I value how everything comes together.   |
| 76. | Physical beauty, great people   |
| 77. | The beautiful surroundings & friendly people  |
| 78. | Water, trees, land and good people  |

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| 79.  | The natural and beautiful surroundings, the artistic, accepting and interesting variety of people. The way community helps one another. The emphasis people place on health, good fresh local food, gardening and exercising |
| 80.  | Diversity of people, engaged community, visual performing arts, whitewater and kootenay lake sailing association   |
| 81.  | Abundance of shops, restaurants, community groups and events, recreation and sports, there is so much for such a small town.   |
| 82.  | The community and available activities/outdoor sports.   |
| 83.  | Outdoor adventure options and Nelson's unique atmosphere.  |
| 84.  | The safety of our community.   |
| 85.  | I value the community and the safe environment that it creates. I also value its progressive and imaginative ways of dealing with issues in the community and with new environmental issues that arise in our area.          |
| 86.  | Community is friendly, awesome, welcoming and loves to help  |
| 87.  | Community--people demonstrate their caring for each other  |
| 88.  | I think that Nelson is a very loving community and beautiful. The mood and people are a little hard to take in but really helpful.   |
| 89.  | It's sense of community  |
| 90.  | a sense of community   |
| 91.  | community spirit   |
| 92.  | The community of people that are there for one another.  |
| 93.  | integrity of the community   |
| 94.  | sense of community   |
| 95.  | community  |
| 96.  | small happy town   |
| 97.  | A sense of community   |
| 98.  | I value the community events. Where else does EVERYONE dress up, young and old, to go to James Bond film or the rocky horror picture show? Unique!   |
| 99.  | arts and culture, clean water, friendly and safe community   |
| 100. | The sense of community. The art, culture and food that distinguishes Nelson from other interior communities. Our natural environment - mountains and lake!   |
| 101. | diversely positive community   |
| 102. | Great place to raise kids!   |
| 103. | Nelson is a beautiful town that is supportive and open. It is the ideal place to raise a family.   |

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| 104. | 1. The community spirit. 2. The wide variety of "things"<br>a)activities/events b) goods/services c) holistic range of things available (including attitudes) here: practitioners, businesses staffed by informative, caring, knowledgeable, resourceful people; d) Organizations staffed by great people and that in themselves are set up to/or willing to "Think Outside of the Box" |
| 105. | The landscape, the community when it is working together!   |
| 106. | community, outdoor amenities  |
| 107. | Culture of connectedness and valuing each other.  |
| 108. | It is a community that is very socially conscious and concerned citizens.   |
| 109. | CITY FEEL IN A SMALL TOWN   |
| 110. | It's big and it's small   |
| 111. | Small town living with a cosmopolitan flare.  |
| 112. | Open minded, accepting community  |
| 113. | Laid back lifestyle   |
| 114. | lifestyle   |
| 115. | the life style  |
| 116. | the air quality and Lifestyle   |
| 117. | the simple lifestyle, in a natural environment with clean water   |
| 118. | Size, lifestyle, friendliness, geographic location  |
| 119. | Family, for the people by the people, higher than average intelligence per capita   |
| 120. | It's people: eclectic, interesting, talented, engaged   |
| 121. | People  |
| 122. | Quality of people   |
| 123. | The awesome people.   |
| 124. | The community-minded sorts of people who seem to be attracted to this place   |
| 125. | The people  |
| 126. | The people  |
| 127. | The people  |
| 128. | friendliness  |
| 129. | People, theatre, location, EVERYTHING   |
| 130. | The outward friendliness of citizens and the city. Plus the location.   |
| 131. | Quality of living and people.   |
| 132. | Its natural beauty and earthy people  |
| 133. | Mountains, people, food sustainability, conscious community   |
| 134. | No polluting industries, a good mix of 'leftist/progressive folks'  |

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| 135. | The beautiful setting and friendly people.  |
| 136. | amazing setting and people  |
| 137. | The community! Lots of friendly, smiling, creative, eco-friendly, trustworthy people who share their gifts. The beautiful environment. The fact that there are no McDonalds, Tim Hortons etc.   |
| 138. | People. Security. No threats.   |
| 139. | I love the security of the mountains. People here are great. More businesses.   |
| 140. | A friendly atmosphere and friendly people   |
| 141. | community of people   |
| 142. | Good community, fresh air, good water and conscious people.   |
| 143. | The caring and committed people who have worked over the years to create, and keep going, the organizations that help people and create community: the women's centre, advocacy centre, affordable housing society, Youth centre and housing, several community services... |

**Q. Considering your highest priority the social issue, what ONE ACTION would you recommend that Nelson Area take on to make a difference in 2013? |**

| #   | Response   |
|-----|--|
| 1.  | More support between "trials and tribulations"   |
| 2.  | Add a floor to the Nelson Youth Centre for affordable housing.   |
| 3.  | Affordable housing   |
| 4.  | Another Anderson Gardens   |
| 5.  | Build affordable housing   |
| 6.  | Convert any buildings that can be used into affordable housing   |
| 7.  | Develop more social/subsidized housing, especially for women (with and without children)   |
| 8.  | Drop rental prices   |
| 9.  | Hard to say, not really sure how to make changes in the world. I think people need to be less afraid, as far as affordable housing goes.   |
| 10. | Increase partnerships with provincial and federal programs to address housing needs  |
| 11. | Lower price rates - you wanna save our city people need to be able to afford living here   |
| 12. | Make rent affordable. Landlords are jacking up prices, just as everything else goes up; our wage (if we have one) remains the same, which makes it difficult to lead a well-being life. Also, the resistance against anyone owning a pet is waging a toll. As an owner of a cat, I find it ridiculously difficult to even make a move because I have an animal. Not all animal owners are irresponsible :( |
| 13. | More affordable housing  |

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| 14. | More development of low income housing, even if this housing becomes a co-op. Shared expenses - a co-op investment.  |
| 15. | affordable housing   |
| 16. | RE: affordable housing--incentives should be available for the development of other housing models such as co-housing, cooperative housing. The city could shape this by issuing specific types of development permits rather than leaving it to the open market. For example, shouldn't the co-op be developing co-op housing rather than high priced/high end housing to finance the market? |
| 17. | Redevelopment the unused land for affordable housing   |
| 18. | Rentals that allow animals and low income people. Rent is too high. Let people rent a place that doesn't cost so much and let them have pets if they're under control.   |
| 19. | Support affordable housing/food costs  |
| 20. | Take buildings sitting there, combine resources for housing.   |
| 21. | To decrease the number of local people paying more than half their income for housing: more of those of us who own property embrace that this privilege does not have to include the right to maximum profit when renting or selling.  |
| 22. | We need more affordable housing  |
| 23. | Work to create more affordable housing   |
| 24. | affordable housing   |
| 25. | affordable housing   |
| 26. | affordable housing   |
| 27. | affordable housing   |
| 28. | Be ready and willing to cooperate with BC Housing when there is funds for affordable housing in the future. Recognize the need for the people in our community.  |
| 29. | develop + begin implementing best practices around affordability, accessibility and inclusion  |
| 30. | develop an affordable housing plan   |
| 31. | funding for affordable housing   |
| 32. | make affordable housing for pet owners at least 1 pet so people can keep their dog or cat and find a place to live. Pets are good for both mental and physical health. People often have to surrender their pets to shelters in order to find homes. Thus creating housing problems for dogs and cats.   |
| 33. | looking into converting the Savoy Hotel into housing and services for the homeless people of nelson  |
| 34. | Involvement with growing and processing food. Housing collective, where money is pooled to create down payment of housing.   |
| 35. | More education on affordable housing, mental health and addictions and social discrimination.  |
| 36. | increase availability of low cost housing with integrated mental health and  |

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| 37. | better maintained public transportation and greater range of affordable housing considering the aging demographic   |
| 38. | Better communication among service providers.   |
| 39. | City should hire a social services coordinator who can connect people with services already offered in the community.   |
| 40. | Nelson is said over and over to be a strong arts community, but there is little support.  |
| 41. | Find a way to provide more affordable childcare.  |
| 42. | Locally fund supported child care   |
| 43. | Make childcare more affordable to family.   |
| 44. | develop affordable childcare  |
| 45. | Build alternatives to organizational silos  |
| 46. | Forums where those involved in, or connected to a particular group i.e. people relying on public transit/#2 could get together and collectively look for and talk about ideas and possible solutions  |
| 47. | If everyone pitched in as a community   |
| 48. | Regarding social discrimination, I would like to see more opportunities to bring all of or many of the above groups together in secular inclusive dialogue.   |
| 49. | Social Divide - address   |
| 50. | Supporting opportunities for community collaboration and cooperation would be a really great thing. Getting people to work together always gets such wonderful results.   |
| 51. | have two community connect days a year  |
| 52. | create an organization to coordinate the different roles needed to build a local food economy.  |
| 53. | Fund the arts as an economic driver. There are a lot of artists here.   |
| 54. | create a Community Economic Development organization!   |
| 55. | Poverty - Education outreach, collaborate   |
| 56. | Making information more readily available.  |
| 57. | New Middle School   |
| 58. | work towards creating a child development centre to support children in the early years. The research supports early years intervention in the prevention of many issues/difficulties later on in life, thus if you prevent or minimize these difficulties early this will decrease the stresses on the individual and "system" later on. |
| 59. | offer more adult training/education programs  |
| 60. | Education workshops for short term and long term disability. How they can help their body and become more functional.   |
| 61. | Better job training.  |
| 62. | Increase funding for hospital, bolster emergency room. Expand post  |

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| 62. | Increase funding for hospital, bolster emergency room. Expand post secondary  |
| 63. | Creating job opportunities in the area  |
| 64. | Employment  |
| 65. | employment opportunities - some sort of social enterprise?  |
| 66. | Encourage more industry.  |
| 67. | How do you create more job opportunities? I'm not sure. I always believe in education in general to create more opportunities for people.   |
| 68. | Leverage access to raw materials (wood) and rail transportation to develop higher value manufacturing (beyond sawing logs) to create local employment   |
| 69. | Need more range in possibilities that this society's purpose is about.  |
| 70. | create jobs that will be supportive to the community  |
| 71. | draw some bigger companies to the area to create employment   |
| 72. | employment  |
| 73. | employment opportunities  |
| 74. | encourage larger employers to the area  |
| 75. | introducing better jobs with wages capable of sustaining a young family in Nelson   |
| 76. | make more jobs  |
| 77. | not sure how to enhance job opportunities   |
| 78. | Work together across sectors to identify ways to stimulate job opportunities for youth.   |
| 79. | Bring a Surgeon to KLDH permanently   |
| 80. | Bring a specialist doctor to the Nelson Hospital so that people could get special attention and hopefully not have to be taken many miles to Trail or the Okanagan, or Vancouver.                       |
| 81. | Bring back OR at KLDH   |
| 82. | Find a way to recruit more healthcare dollars to our system.  |
| 83. | I think that the Nelson area should have lower fees/payments for the people who need dental as well as medical. And have it not be as much of a hassle.   |
| 84. | We need to bring back our hospital - that used to provide psychological treatments, surgery, ICU and more medical and surgical care.  |
| 85. | health care-more services in Nelson   |
| 86. | Deal better with Nelson's homeless, less fortunate citizens.  |
| 87. | Youth homeless shelter/home   |
| 88. | Allow free good, fresh, healthy food to be more accessible to the people. Gardens everywhere around town. More produce from grocery stores should go to the food bank (most of it if thrown away!! :( ) |

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| 89.  | Community owned and run garden and food production  |
| 90.  | Create Municipal Food Policy that integrates local food security measures (ex. hens, bees, rooftop gardens, etc)  |
| 91.  | For city council to support more urban agriculture by allowing chickens and bees in town  |
| 92.  | INSURE SUFFICIENT LOCAL SOURCES OF ALL FOOD GROUPS  |
| 93.  | allow chickens in town  |
| 94.  | community gardens   |
| 95.  | encourage local food growing  |
| 96.  | food security strategy  |
| 97.  | share more... projects around waste diversion, home and land sharing, crop sharing... but programs that reach everyone, even the greedy bastards that would rather throw their stuff in the dump instead of taking 5 minutes to offer it to others in the community   |
| 98.  | Approach the increasing mental health issues facing our community and communities across BC & all of Canada   |
| 99.  | Build an addiction treatment centre   |
| 100. | If we can find ways to encourage development of affordable housing, issues around mental health and addictions may be alleviated. Progress is being made (Anderson Street development), and Nelson Cares does a great job with Ward Street Place. I'm particularly concerned with young people and families unable to find housing, or having to spend too much of their income on shelter. |
| 101. | More homes for the people dealing with mental health, addictions and/poverty.   |
| 102. | Better response to Mental Health  |
| 103. | Establish more outreach positions to address homelessness and mental health issues (often similar populations)  |
| 104. | Community Groups Collaborate to create meaningful employment opportunities for people living with Mental Illness, Addiction and/or in Poverty   |
| 105. | City Counsel engaged in whole variety of Nelson groups - instead of old boys/girls networks alone   |
| 106. | curb Spending and reduce taxes  |
| 107. | Get Nelson City Council to adopt a livable wage program for businesses to emulate.  |

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| 108. | I don't have an answer to the issues I stated above. I would, however, recommend Nelson to beautify itself from within to attract more tourists and possibly bring in more jobs. I believe that the City of Nelson should offer homeowners a tax break/incentive to fix up or improve the curb appeal of their homes; especially the homes on the main drives and visible from Downtown area. I believe that if the homes were freshly painted (in less than 3 colors) and the outsides and yards were properly maintained by the owners and encouraged financially by a break or incentive that this would bring more people to the town of Nelson. We have such a unique town here and it is not as pretty as in days gone by. We need to spruce ourselves up and give ourselves a makeover, so to speak. No one can resist a beautiful, quaint town. |
| 109. | Inclusion starting at with community leadership   |
| 110. | Let people bring their dogs on Baker with poop bags   |
| 111. | The Nelson Area non-profit sector is a huge employer. Nelson Area should put more resources and financial support into the non-profit sector. i.e. property tax exemption, operational funding, exemption or decreased rate for sewer/water payments, decreased rates on hydro.   |
| 112. | raise taxes for nonresident home ownership  |
| 113. | tax breaks for locally produced items   |
| 114. | Build a big new seniors centre with ample parking and flat down where the dump is now! Combine: Broader Horizons, Seniors Club #57, and Seniors Resource Centre...All activities in one place.  |
| 115. | bring people together in an event that would educate the general public about poverty issues in Nelson and the barriers for those people who are unable to overcome poverty. The aim of this event would be to influence the policies that create the issues.   |
| 116. | A resource fair with follow-up support that can help folk make ends meet.   |
| 117. | Increase income assistance rates (provincial, I know). More free meals in public places (parks, rec center, etc)  |
| 118. | Major awareness raising campaign aimed at Nelson and area. - poverty  |
| 119. | Poverty is hidden, make it visible.   |
| 120. | Poverty - Something more than awareness, or maybe with the opening of more eyes to have more hands to make change.  |
| 121. | advocate to local gov/prov gov/national gov to deal with root causes of poverty; hold think tank to set action plan for this i.e. increase disability pension   |
| 122. | engage the community in looking at and understanding local poverty and developing a local response  |
| 123. | Something to increase the wellbeing of children & families. many are struggling. actions to address poverty + I would love to see our local government be a leader in petitioning our provincial government to create a poverty plan including universal child care. families pay so much for childcare, some even more than housing. It is expensive.  |

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| 124. | Encourage resident need to invest in their community: if they have to work away, spend their money here.   |
| 125. | Stop flying around the world on holidays - use that wealth and time in different ways here at home   |
| 126. | 7 day a week bus service, with smaller busses  |
| 127. | Better communication with the government on needs in our community i.e. travel to Trail for elders for tests   |
| 128. | Free transit!  |
| 129. | Have a more comprehensive public transport network which encourages the use of public transport and not personal vehicle.  |
| 130. | Reinstate Sunday bus service.  |
| 131. | PUT A BUS STOP AT THE WHOLESALE PLEASE! + Job creation, too many jobs pay too little, too few higher paying jobs. Rent is far too high; no one can afford to live without a roommate. More co-ops, more low income housing |
| 132. | Transportation for Seniors - the Handi Dart is quite limited to hours of operation and so is the city bus. They need transportation until 4pm or later.  |
| 133. | Advertise the "Youth Work Grant" more openly in the community to encourage more hiring opportunities in small/local businesses.  |
| 134. | Creating opportunities for youth, but getting youth involved in the creation in order to help strengthen participation.  |
| 135. | Holding more events youth can attend. I often am intrigued to watch and listen to the music offered in Nelson; I can never attend them though because it is only offered at bars.  |
| 136. | increase funding to youth programs   |
| 137. | micro home/green roof project mentoring youth  |
| 138. | youth resources and opportunities.   |
| 139. | I would recommend that Nelson support youth job creation programs.   |
| 140. | Get the old boys out of the way and let some fresh blood take over.  |
| 141. | I don't have ANY good answer. Everything I can come up with is already being done/addressed or is completely outside of our own sphere of influence.   |
| 142. | Keep doing what you're doing.  |
| 143. | Less government influence  |
| 144. | get on board with broadband offered by CBBC  |

Q.Nelson would be a healthier and stronger community in 2013 if \_\_\_\_\_. (Please fill in the blank). |

| #   | Response   |
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| 1.  | I'm not sure...  |
| 2.  | Ensure no more fast food places. Establish community gardens.  |
| 3.  | Family connectedness   |
| 4.  | It toughened up on so called "hippie culture" and the effects drug abuse   |
| 5.  | If more people were productive   |
| 6.  | If we try more   |
| 7.  | The Aquatic Centre was fixed and offered more programs in the early evening.   |
| 8.  | our rec centre was more accommodating  |
| 9.  | If everyone had a place to stay and a place to call home   |
| 10. | It had affordable housing.   |
| 11. | More affordable housing was available. Spending more than half of your income on rent isn't a sustainable way to live.                           |
| 12. | The prices in this town were more conducive to actual people living here rather than the tourists coming to town. We are not the lower mainland. |
| 13. | We densified town and created appropriate housing options (smaller, more compact, etc)   |
| 14. | we had more affordable housing and supportive housing  |
| 15. | We worked on more dollars for social housing   |
| 16. | affordable housing was built.  |
| 17. | housing were affordable  |
| 18. | more affordable community housing  |
| 19. | more people could afford housing and food, instead of housing costing such a high percentage of the average income                               |
| 20. | the rental prices weren't so high  |
| 21. | there were more affordable housing available   |
| 22. | there were more supports/affordable living for low income and marginalized   |
| 23. | we created better, cheap housing opportunities for families.   |
| 24. | people young families could afford to stay   |
| 25. | Food and housing were more affordable. Dogs on leashes instead of no dog zones. We could have a much healthier tourist income                    |
| 26. | Find a way to provide more affordable childcare.   |
| 27. | A young group of planners. People with young children could organize for their needs,  |

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| 28. | More support workshops.  |
| 29. | barriers to access of social services were studied and a plan to combat these barriers developed.  |
| 30. | different government agencies and non-profit organization aligned their priorities more and shared resources.  |
| 31. | The kids in our community, with differences, whether diagnosed or not are supported more holistically earlier eg. children with sensory processing disorder, social emotional difficulties, behavioral difficulties etc. These children fall between the cracks in the school system and then there is the possibility of them developing a negative relationship with school which stresses family and potentially leads to the kids dropping out of school contributing to our community issues i.e. crime, mental health disorders, unemployment etc. |
| 32. | there was a focus on building a re-localized economy   |
| 33. | we bought more locally   |
| 34. | Government funding for education, better health care.  |
| 35. | priority were given to health care and education   |
| 36. | Find more economic drivers, i.e., new industry   |
| 37. | More industry was in the city limits   |
| 38. | The people who want to live here could find work here.   |
| 39. | There was more potential for young families.   |
| 40. | There were less unemployed people hanging out on the streets   |
| 41. | They worked on getting new jobs.   |
| 42. | more decent paying jobs were out there for or younger families   |
| 43. | people who live here could work here (not leave for employment)  |
| 44. | there was more employment opportunities  |
| 45. | there were more employment opportunities   |
| 46. | there were more jobs with good wage available.   |
| 47. | we could entice more of the young well-paid high-tech community from Vancouver to relocate here.   |
| 48. | everyone had a place to live and a living wage.  |
| 49. | People had good work and good places to live   |
| 50. | there were more jobs and more affordable housing   |
| 51. | workshops, more jobs in area   |
| 52. | i think we should be more alert as to what is sprayed on the many vegetable and fruit brought in from other provinces of countries.  |
| 53. | If: We conserved our water instead of wasting so much of it.   |
| 54. | We created a Food Policy   |
| 55. | We were greener!   |
| 56. | it allowed chickens in town  |

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| 57. | we ate and grew more healthy foods and vegetables ourselves here in Nelson and area  |
| 58. | we had more community gardens growing food for everybody   |
| 59. | we were sustainable: knew what a need vs. a want was and learned how to grow food, use passive forms of energy and waste management and taught our children the value of living simply so that others may simply live. |
| 60. | we would convert lawns into gardens  |
| 61. | They funded the arts more. Allowed more local agriculture  |
| 62. | IHA restored our regional hospital   |
| 63. | Improve health care services   |
| 64. | KLDH hospital services are improved.   |
| 65. | nelson had more health care services-not have to go to Trail as much   |
| 66. | We returned our hospital services, provided more low income housing, provided more services to our youth to find jobs, to find help with addiction   |
| 67. | Less people were homeless.   |
| 68. | we all took better care of the homeless and marginalized members of our community  |
| 69. | Better dealt with those with mental health issues  |
| 70. | We had a community health centre and addiction treatment facility  |
| 71. | We could depend on our hospital and there were increased infrastructure for youth and those with mental illness.   |
| 72. | Garbage issues around town, city clean up, no smoking allowed on city streets (downtown)   |
| 73. | We pick up the gravel earlier, say the end of February. The dust is something we should not be breathing.  |
| 74. | smoking were prohibited in a all public area   |
| 75. | the regional districts area E, F and H (North Shore, Blewett, Win law) would be incorporated into the City and thus a Greater Nelson is created.   |
| 76. | Communicate better.  |
| 77. | Community collaboration on basic needs so that the community can thrive through prosperous activities. Particularly bringing together senior funds and youth activities.   |
| 78. | everyone had a way to contribute that they felt was meaningful   |

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| 79. | In cities like New York, there's a group of volunteers called "Big Apple Greeters". These are locals who offer visitors "unprofessional" tours of the city. That is to say, each tour is different and completely dependent upon what the guide likes to show people in his/her city. They are not paid, and although tips are accepted they are not expected. They are walking tours and are about an hour or so long. Doing an idea like that here would help some locals (after some sort of history lessons from a mentor or 2) come to a better understanding of our history and development. It could be an activity higher-functioning persons with disabilities could take part in, or high-school kids, or retirees/seniors, or??? Some might focus on development from a resource-extraction view; others might tell of historical fires in the downtown and how that influenced / was influenced by local history, another might link up spots with distinctive artwork. There are catacombs under Ward and Baker Streets, bizarre architecture/engineering features between Baker and Vernon, and terrorist activities that occurred over at Baker and Hall streets. Lots of stories that could be told, that could also attract future visitors as locals come to be better ambassadors. |
| 80. | More of us were able to live with the experience that we care for each other, knowing that we are interdependent, and that is a good way to be!   |
| 81. | Nelson is a wonderful community and people have come to my aid when I had nothing. I owe a lot to the people of Nelson who have done so much for me. I hope I can contribute once I am fully back on my feet.   |
| 82. | Organizations could collaborate to create social enterprises  |
| 83. | People came together and met each other in order to set aside social boundaries put in place by a fear based society.   |
| 84. | People mattered more to each other  |
| 85. | RESPECT ONE ANOTHER   |
| 86. | the City held more community events such as outdoor dances under the stars, movie night in the park, etc.   |
| 87. | There were more opportunities to come together in a collaborative inclusive way to address community issues. more forums on important issues.   |
| 88. | There were more unifying activities, ones which forced people to interact with their neighbors to a greater degree. Also, a large-scale event such as Street fest, which brings in new ideas and money from outside the city.   |
| 89. | We all strived to make it better.   |
| 90. | We asked and listened to what our friends and neighbors need.   |
| 91. | We could take better care of ALL of our citizens.   |
| 92. | We encouraged greater dialogue between community groups--something Career development Services is endeavoring to do (again). The more we connect, the stronger we are.  |
| 93. | We socialized more, worked on more projects together, if we relied on each other more   |
| 94. | Worked as a community to build tolerance and collaboration in the arts world  |
| 95. | everyone worked together  |
| 96. | everyone would feel heard and connected..   |
| 97. | organizations collaborate more.   |

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| 98.  | the activist type groups and the other part of the population came together, to provide solutions for realistic actions. I think that some excellent people are involved with initiating change here, I feel that there is an opportunity to approach the part of the public that does not normally get involved. Instead of trying to have these 'out of reach' goals for saving the world, let's take the community through baby steps so that folks are not left feeling overwhelmed and hopeless. It is the same group of people who go to the events that discuss solutions, I think that there needs to be a wider cross range of people. (Lots of preaching to the choir, let's come up with ways to involve those who are scared off by the activist types). |
| 99.  | the community was stronger and not so fragmented   |
| 100. | there was a strong movement countering and dismantling oppression from a unified front   |
| 101. | we could develop a sense of where we are going together.   |
| 102. | we had more opportunities to come together and dialogue important local issues and solutions ~ more community forums   |
| 103. | we work together and get to know our neighbors   |
| 104. | youths and seniors were considered equally   |
| 105. | If people got along with each other better, had better education, more job opportunities and more things for people to do.   |
| 106. | More community projects took place (like a community garden)   |
| 107. | Get rid of Nelson City Police, move in RCMP and save money   |
| 108. | if there was a stronger crack down on pot and the growing of it in the area  |
| 109. | nelson would be healthier if we maybe brought in even more diversity and opportunities. To really expand our little culture.   |
| 110. | The transient population was addressed   |
| 111. | it was more open to change   |
| 112. | people realized how little cost and effort it takes to really make a difference in someone's life.   |
| 113. | we tax on junk food and teach them easy way to cook healthy food at home   |
| 114. | All children are living out of poverty   |
| 115. | Everyone who was under housed and/or underemployed were given opportunities to better their situation  |
| 116. | If people, businesses and corporations would help more people in need.   |
| 117. | More attention was paid to our "have nots"   |
| 118. | support and care services for the marginalized people living on the poverty line   |
| 119. | The affluent or well-off segment of the population were aware of and empathetic with Nelson's poor   |

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| 120. | There was a lesser gap between the rich, well off people in town and those who are poor and marginalized   |
| 121. | We could show a little compassion for those who aren't so well off. There are alot of judgments towards those people. Though, I know, most will not change their ways. However, we need to find a way to get a long and make things work. We can't have mental illness dilute our main street, as bad as that may sound; it effects us all on a daily basis. |
| 122. | social assistance and minimum wage rates were higher.  |
| 123. | the cost of living comes down  |
| 124. | the most vulnerable members of the community were well supported (reducing the gap between the lowest and highest-status people)   |
| 125. | there was an organized and unified approach for addressing the issues and barriers of poverty so that everyone could feel a sense of empowerment and support instead of isolation and hopelessness.  |
| 126. | there were more opportunities for marginalized persons to improve their lifestyle  |
| 127. | we would all acknowledge the impact of poverty on the health (physical and mental) and education of our children and youth   |
| 128. | Food was available. Let's pull the food sources together for the people who are in need. Food that is available before it is outdated!   |
| 129. | It addressed poverty and homelessness instead of trying to push it out of town and turn a blind eye  |
| 130. | we really looked after those who need looking after, rather than just turn a blind eye, lay blame, or carry on with our busy lives, and choose not to see...   |
| 131. | The Sunday bus service was back  |
| 132. | a way was found to somehow have Sunday bus service again   |
| 133. | people were encouraged to leave their car at home and walk or use the bus  |
| 134. | More stuff for youth (skate park, movies, etc)   |
| 135. | The youth of nelson were not as ignored  |
| 136. | The youth were more involved in the community, as well as employed.  |
| 137. | there were more opportunities for the youth to get involved in community projects.   |
| 138. | more youth were involved in the community as volunteers  |
| 139. | there were more employment opportunities for youth   |
| 140. | Provincial and federal services weren't dumped on city doorsteps.  |
| 141. | We had an MLA that had some influence in Victoria. Trail has Cominco that has far too much influence and that is way the Regional Hospital is where it is... at the most Southern border of the region.  |



