

# CITY OF NELSON'S – PATH TO 2040 SUSTAINABILITY INVENTORY

## CITY SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES BY FOCUS AREA

### Working Group 1

<i>Arts, Culture, and Heritage</i>	<p><b>Cultural Events Calendar (launched 2009):</b> Online Calendar to highlight cultural events in the community.</p> <p><b>Art in Public Places Policy (2010):</b> Guides activity of the Cultural Development Commission in implementing the Art in Public Places program.</p> <p><b>Heritage Register Update (forthcoming 2010):</b> Completion of a contextual background for the City and Statements of Significance for 70 Heritage Sites within the City.</p> <p><b>Cultural Tourism Plan (forthcoming 2010):</b> Development of strategies for cultural tourism.</p> <p><b>Cultural Ambassador:</b> Annual endorsement of a Cultural Ambassador. 2010 Ambassador is Angelika Wirth.</p> <p><b>Community Heritage Commission:</b> Monthly meetings to review heritage matters.</p> <p><b>Cultural Development Commission:</b> Bi-monthly meetings to review cultural matters.</p> <p><b>Tax Exemptions:</b> Annual tax exemptions for Capitol Theatre Touchstones, etc.</p>
<i>Local Economy</i>	<p><b>Downtown/Waterfront Master Plan: (forthcoming 2010/2011):</b> Creation of a comprehensive plan to guide the revitalization/development of the downtown and waterfront areas, including Design Guidelines.</p> <p><b>Business Retention and Expansion Survey (2010):</b> A survey conducted by the Nelson and District Economic Partnership to plan upcoming economic development strategies.</p> <p><b>Nelson Economic Development Partnership (2005):</b> The City has partnered with Community Futures and the Nelson and District Chamber of Commerce for a collaborated approach to economic development. Areas E &amp; F joined the partnership in 2009.</p> <p><b>Invest Kootenay (2005):</b> A joint initiative of local governments, economic development organizations and Chamber of Commerce with the aim of attracting and retaining investment. The</p>

	<p>Partnership allows the parties to cooperate and collaborate in pursuit of local and regional investment attraction efforts. The focus remains on investment attraction as opposed to retention, and core activities continue to be focused on 'internal' investment attraction efforts including building community capacity and developing and disseminating 'tourist to investor' marketing collateral.</p> <p><b>Destination Marketing Organization:</b> Through the Economic Development Partnership, the City of Nelson has supported the development of the DMO by providing seed funding.</p> <p><b>Visitor Information Centre:</b> The City of Nelson provides the funding to the Nelson and District Chamber of Commerce to operate a year-round Visitor Information Center.</p>
--	--

## Working Group 2

<i>Water: Potable, Waste, and Stormwater</i>	<p><b>Water Master Plan (2007):</b> The City completed the Water Master Plan which guides the long term planning of the water system including water conservation and a financing strategy.</p> <p><b>Cottonwood Storm Water Trap Project (2008):</b> Installed 3 Stormceptor Treatment systems. The systems catch sand and gravel in a sump where it can be collected/disposed (instead of entering into the creek system).</p> <p><b>Leak Detection Program (2009):</b> The City completed a Leak detection survey in early 2009. The entire water main system was audited to proactively find leaks. All leaks have since been repaired.</p> <p><b>CBT Watersmart Program (2010):</b> City of Nelson is a member of Columbia Basin Trust's Watersmart Program. The program specific to the City of Nelson will begin in September 2010.</p> <p><b>Sewer Master Plan (forthcoming 2010):</b> The Sewer Master Plan will guide the long term planning of the sewer utility and set rates to support the sustainability of the utility.</p> <p><b>Stormwater (forthcoming 2010):</b> The City has funding to complete a Drainage Study on one of the key basins in the storm water collection system. This will be the first step towards the long term planning of the storm sewer system.</p>
<i>Solid Waste</i>	<p><b>Curbside Recycling and Waste program (2008):</b> Blue Bag program and bi-weekly garbage collection to reduce the number of vehicle trips and increase recycling rates by making recycling</p>

	<p>convenient to our residents.</p> <p><b>RDCK Resource Recovery Plan (forthcoming 2010/2011):</b> The Regional District is in the process of updating its Resource Recovery Plan to provide the policies and strategies to guide the delivery of solid waste management and resource recovery services in the future.</p> <p><b>Composting (ongoing):</b> Provided land for Earth Matters to set up demonstration project on composting.</p>
--	---

### Working Group 3

<i>Healthy Living and Social Well-Being</i>	<p><b>Nelson and District Youth Centre (1997)</b> – Established as a City Department in 1997 to provide active and diverse programming to engage youth in skill development and leadership. Programming varies from skate lessons, girls skate, skate club, art nights, special events and workshops, art shows, jam nights, garden care and food preparation. Programming is developed based on the vision and interest of youth.</p> <p><b>ActNow Grant (2009)</b> – Outdoor Senior's Exercise Area at Lakeside Park</p> <p><b>Kootenay Lake Hospital Foundation Donation (2009)</b> - Donation of City-owned land to raise funds for the CT Scanner.</p> <p><b>Comprehensive Active Transportation Plan (2010):</b> Completion of an active transportation assessment, community consultations and a comprehensive plan to highlight multi-use trails and network for active transportation. Grant funding provided through the Built Environment and Active Transportation Community Planning Grants.</p>
<i>Food and Agriculture</i>	<p><b>Market Fest:</b> Supported by various City departments</p> <p><b>Cottonwood Market:</b> Supported by various City Departments</p> <p><b>Baker Street Market:</b> Supported by various City Departments</p> <p><b>Columbia Basin Trust grant funding (2010):</b> City Council selected local community organizations as recipients of CBT grant funding.</p> <p><b>Cottonwood Market:</b> City provided funding and land for the redevelopment plan of Cottonwood Market.</p>

## Working Group 4

<i>Land Use and Housing</i>	<p><b>Sustainability Checklist (2009):</b> A checklist was created to help evaluate land development applications through the lens of the four sustainability pillars: economic, environmental, cultural, and social.</p> <p><b>Nelson Housing Forum (start-up 2009, ongoing):</b> A forum made up mostly of local service providers that cooperate and collaborate on the increasing issue of housing affordability in Nelson. Intent of monthly meetings is to provide a space for sharing information, resources, expertise, and communication amongst various groups that are working on housing/affordability/transition issues within the City.</p> <p><b>Amendment to the Land Use Regulation Bylaw (2009):</b> Allows for secondary suites in all residential zones.</p> <p><b>Contour Mapping (2010):</b> City of Nelson contour mapping at 0.5 metre contours.</p> <p><b>Housing Study (forthcoming 2010):</b> Two-phased Strategy to: 1) complete an overall analysis of current and future housing needs; to identify the potential responses to the identified housing needs; and, to identify the roles in meeting these housing needs in the form of partnerships with various levels of government, non-market housing providers, businesses, agencies and charitable foundations; and 3) recommendations on how the non-profit sector can build capacity.</p> <p><b>Subdivision and Servicing Bylaw (forthcoming 2010):</b> Proposed new subdivision bylaw to be reviewed by Community Climate Action and Energy Plan consultants.</p> <p><b>Update to the Land Use Regulation Bylaw (forthcoming 2010/2011):</b> Staff is reviewing and updating the Land Use Regulation bylaw to meet best practices and the goals and objectives of the OCP.</p> <p><b>Downtown/Waterfront Master Plan (forthcoming 2010/2011):</b> Creation of a comprehensive plan to guide the revitalization/development of the downtown and waterfront areas, including Design Guidelines.</p> <p><b>Land Use Inventory Project (forthcoming 2010/2011):</b> Examines available lands in the City suitable for development.</p> <p><b>Selkirk College Dorm Renovations (ongoing):</b> City-owned land and buildings currently being redeveloped for student housing.</p> <p><b>Advisory Planning Commission</b> – Monthly meetings to review</p>
-----------------------------	---

	planning matters.
<i>Transportation and Mobility</i>	<p><b>Transportation Planning Review and Project Implementation Strategy (2007):</b> Reviewed recommendations of previous studies to rate outstanding recommendations in terms of priority and relevance and to develop a phased strategy for implementation.</p> <p><b>Comprehensive Active Transportation Plan (2010):</b> Completion of an active transportation assessment, community consultations and a comprehensive plan to highlight multi-use trails and network for active transportation.</p> <p><b>Traffic Bylaw (2010) –</b> Updated Traffic Bylaw to meet best practices.</p> <p><b>Regional Transportation Plan (forthcoming 2010):</b> Currently being developed between RDCK and RDKB to address regional transportation issues and service levels.</p> <p><b>Local Motion Grant Funding (2007 &amp; 2009)-</b> Funding received for integrated walking and cycling network; upgrades to sidewalks and multi-use paths within the City.</p> <p><b>Public Transit Exchange:</b> Improve public transit, improve roadways to encourage reduction in car dependency, public transit innovations, paths/trails designed for commuting.</p> <p><b>City Transit:</b> Strong Municipal system and update of bus fleet with the purchase of 6 new GHG-friendly buses.</p>

## Working Group 5

<i>Energy, Air Quality and Climate Change</i>	<p><b>Community Wildfire Protection Plan (2006):</b> Began as a Province-wide initiative to investigate wildfire concerns and provide a plan for protection.</p> <p><b>E3 Fleet program (2008):</b> Energy certification for City vehicles.</p> <p><b>Wildfire Fuel Mitigation (2009-2011):</b> As a result of the CWPP areas of concern were identified. Funding from the UBCM and the Job Opportunities Program, administered by Price Waterhouse Cooper, allowed the City to begin this work in 2009. The remainder of the fuel mitigation should be completed in late 2010 or early 2011, weather permitting.</p> <p><b>Corporate Climate Change Action Plan (2010):</b> GHG inventory, building energy audit and energy reduction measures for City related emissions. The City of Nelson will decrease corporate greenhouse gas emissions by 25% of 2007 levels by 2015.</p>
---	--

	<p><b>District Heating Pre-Feasibility Study (2010):</b> To study the feasibility of a district heating system using lake water as a source of heat.</p> <p><b>Community Climate Change Action Plan (forthcoming 2010/2011):</b> A comprehensive community plan to include a GHG Inventory, forecast, reduction strategy, and targets for community related emissions.</p> <p><b>Fire Department and Fortis BC (ongoing) –</b> The Fire Prevention program allows Fire Department personnel to identify opportunities while on commercial building inspections for Fortis BC to speak with business owners about power conservation.</p> <p><b>Geothermal Project at Selkirk College (ongoing):</b> Design, Build and Operate new heating system for the renovated dorms at Selkirk College</p> <p><b>Nelson Hydro:</b> Nelson Hydro has a variety of ongoing initiatives to reduce energy use such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Downtown conversion project from 5kV to 25kV to reduce distribution losses.</li><li>- Evaluates transformer purchases using total ownership cost which considers transformer efficiency.</li><li>- Substation rebuild (high efficiency power transformers selected).</li><li>- Considers smaller and hybrid vehicles where practical.</li></ul> <p><b>Powersmart Program (ongoing):</b> Nelson Hydro participates in the Powersmart Program and Nelson Hydro Customers have access to all the Powersmart incentives for improving energy efficiency.</p> <p><b>The City of Nelson has made the following commitment to reduce energy use and GHG emissions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Climate Action Charter (Develop a plan to be carbon neutral in City operations by 2012)</li><li>- Partner for Climate Protection (Commit to complete the five milestone process and achieve 6% GHG reduction in city operations in 10 years)</li><li>- BC's Community Action on Energy and Emissions (Multiple community level targets for energy and GHG reduction).</li></ul>
<u>Natural Areas, Recreation, and Leisure</u>	<p><b>Trees for Tomorrow Project:</b> Funding received for Davies Street Park development.</p> <p><b>Local Motion Grant Funding (2007 &amp; 2009)-</b> Funding received for integrated walking and cycling network; upgrades to sidewalks and multi-use paths within the City.</p> <p><b>ActNow Grant Funding (2009) –</b> Outdoor Senior's Exercise Area at Lakeside Park.</p>

	<p><b>Art Gibbons Memorial Parks Plan (2009):</b> Comprehensive plan to incorporate a bike park, future washroom facilities and a play area.</p> <p><b>Comprehensive Active Transportation Plan (2010):</b> Completion of an active transportation assessment, community consultations and a comprehensive plan to highlight multi-use trails and network for active transportation.</p> <p><b>Cottonwood Creek Restoration Program (ongoing)</b> – In kind support to the restoration society in the form of city equipment/labour.</p> <p><b>PARKing Day:</b> City supported use of parking spaces by local community groups to transform parking stalls into temporary parks/green space.</p>
--	--