



Meeting the Challenges

2020 Report from the Board

2020 was a year of immense change for the world, our community and organization. We were required to adapt, take care of each other and find new ways to share and connect around good food.

Early in the year, we were pleased to transition Jess Chant into the full-time Executive Director role and officially welcome two new members to the board: P'nina Shames and Christine Hadakel. We were sad to see Deryn Collier and Laura Lundie leave the board and we thank them for their service over the past few years.

In addition to facing a pandemic, we will remember 2020 as the year that our society confronted issues of inequity, discrimination and racism. Our organization made a commitment to exploring, learning from, highlighting and amplifying anti-racist and anti-oppressive approaches to food justice.

Through all of these changes, NCFC continued to focus on good governance and completed an assessment of our organization's strengths and areas for improvement with support from the Columbia Basin Trust's Non-Profit Advisor program. We look forward to using this assessment to develop our new Strategic Plan for 2022-2026. The Board also spent significant time planning the future of our physical space and looks forward to a kitchen renovation in the near future.

The learnings, challenges, and successes of 2020, along with a Strategic Plan in progress, have allowed us to focus our commitment, more than ever, to create spaces for people to share, connect and advocate around good food.

*P'nina Shames
& Kady Hunter*

BOARD CO-CHAIRS



Year in Review

NCFC faced the challenge of 2019-2020 with overwhelming support. We were the recipients of unprecedented individual donations as well as emergency funding from long-time funders such as Community Food Centres Canada and Columbia Basin Trust. We consulted with our volunteer Covid Committee to help guide us through the provincial health orders and how to implement those orders within the Centre.

In the face of a global pandemic, we saw increasing demand for our programs, specifically our Good Food Bank, and renewed recognition of the importance of social connection. Our staff team showed incredible resilience, adapting programming models and taking advantage of funding opportunities to serve our community. We adjusted our programming to ensure participant safety and accessibility, and continued to provide our Good Food Bank programming on a weekly basis. Through our *Dinners on us* program, we partnered with local restaurants and purchased dinner coupons distributed through our Good Food Bank. We also worked with Nelson Cares and Nelson Community Services to provide food to those folks temporarily housed at local motels, through our “No Cook” program. Through our virtual Kids Club, we supplied families with a recipe, all of the ingredients and a video on how to prepare meals together. NCFC continued to have a strong presence in the Nelson community and we began our participation in Together Nelson, Nelson’s poverty reduction plan initiative. Through this initiative, we will continue serving those facing adversity in Nelson, addressing systemic issues of poverty, and bringing people together around good food for all.

“Without your help, I’d only be eating 3-4 days a week.”

GOOD FOOD BANK PARTICIPANT



Our Vision

A thriving community where people come together around good food for all.

61 sessions of Good Food Bank

149 average number of households supported at each GFB session

371 total meals sent home

5,068 lbs of fruit harvested through our Harvest Rescue Program

7,576 lbs of produce harvested from our Garden



Up Next

It's a challenge to look forward when many of the elements that made 2020 so trying are still looming. Luckily, with a strong staff — and support from the Board, community, partners and funders — we are able to look ahead and fine-tune our programming while staying true to our mission.

We are enormously thankful to all the individuals and organizations that supported us over this time — hundreds of them new. Valuing these relationships means ongoing communications as the Nelson CFC evolves. We are proud of what we do and sharing this kind of news and information is easy.

Our “No Cook” program is an example of an initiative that answers the specific need of a unique group. We look forward to exploring this kind of “directed approach” because it is an effective means to help our neighbours who may be facing the most difficulty. We'll be exploring innovative ways to bring this thinking into our Food Skills program (Kids Club especially).

Other seeds planted during this time include our work with local farmers. As with our connection with local restaurants, we are keen to build more two-way partnerships. We believe this kind of mutually beneficial collaboration is the most effective means to battle food insecurity and contribute to a healthy community.

The network of Community Food Centres continues to grow across the country with a total of 13 sites (including us) coast-to-coast-to-coast. It's very helpful having the food centre network, and the collective intelligence and experience, to give us strength and support as we move ahead into another year of helping people make connections around good food. And our Strategic Plan will give us a framework and key points on which to focus.

“I now feel part of something rather than feeling isolated.”

FOOD SKILLS PARTICIPANT

Our Mission

To create opportunities for people facing adversity to share, connect and advocate around good food.

185 Kids Club meals shared and sent home

243 Kids Club participants (in person and virtual)

560 approximate number of “no-cook” bags prepared and delivered to those who are precariously housed at local motels

2,002 total volunteer hours

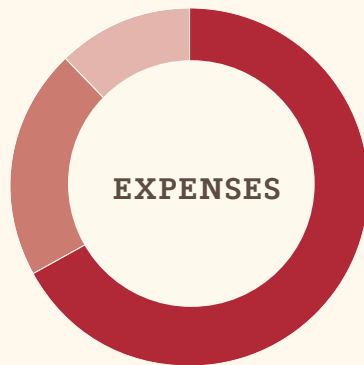
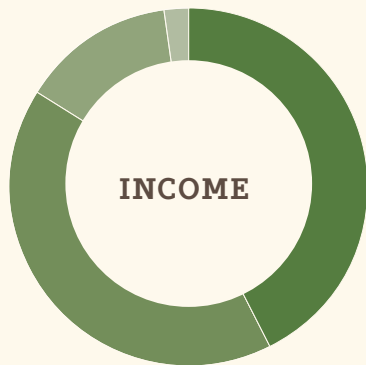
Thank you more than ever

Again this year, we thank and appreciate our volunteers, whose thousands of helping hours make such a difference. We also thank all of the individual donors (many of whom are new), our partners, and the Nelson community. Because of limited space we've only included major donors and funders below.



Financial Snapshot

Fiscal Year // November 1, 2019 – October 31, 2020



“The NCFC has always felt like one of the best things Nelson has going for it.”

MONTHLY DONOR

- Financial donations – 43%
- Private grants – 42%
- Government grants – 14%
- In-kind donations – 2%
- Program – 67%
- Administration – 21%
- Fundraising – 12%



NELSON
community food centre

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250-354-1633
NELSONCFC.CA



NCFC Staff, Pre-COVID (L to R): Andrew Creighton, Amy Villeneuve, Jess Chant, Michaela Woeller, Sherri Kyle (absent: Dayna Jackson)

The Nelson Community Food Centre acknowledges our respect for, and deep gratitude to, all the ancestors and keepers of the land on whose traditional territories we are honored to live, cook, play and work.