



Change is Good.

In spite of snow persisting up high, the temperatures in town are letting us know that we've officially hit the shoulder season. Change is good and though we staff are lovers of snow, we are looking forward to summer.

With the pandemic overstaying its welcome, we continue to be vigilant and run our programs as best we can. With the warmer weather, our outdoor programs are flourishing and we are enjoying the physically distanced interactions with passers-by (and volunteers).

Staff news.

Along with the change in weather, we have some staff changes to report. First off, we are sad to say goodbye to Amy Villeneuve, our Good Food Bank Coordinator. Amy has been with the Nelson Community Food Centre for two years now and is moving on to a great job at the Kootenay Career Development Society (KCDS) where we know she'll thrive. Amy has brought a lot of energy, skill and humour to the Good Food Bank and deserves profound thanks and appreciation for her work over the last, pandemic-filled, year. Thanks, Amy. With her departure, we have a job opportunity. If you, or someone you know, are interested in the job, [look here](#). Note that the closing date for the application is end-of-the-day this Thursday.

Emil Fischer, our new garden coordinator, has been with us for a few weeks. If you've been by the Community Food Centre lately, you've seen some of his handiwork. Emil has already shown his gardening skill, gathered from years of helping out with a massive family/urban/community garden. Welcome to Emil—we look forward to seeing the "vegetables" of your labour.



And....some program news.

Our four programs continue to forge ahead. Our two-day a week Good Food Bank continues to provide healthy food (with lots of fresh produce) to our program participants. The warmer weather means we are able to interact with folks more (and we don't have to worry about letting the cold in through the front doors!). We are talking with several local farms about a rotating schedule whereby we'd provide a variety of their vegetables over the coming weeks. More on that later.

After running several Kids Club Meals Kit programs, our Food Skills Coordinator, Michaela, will be switching to a Zoom cook-along format where we all cook something together at the same time. This format has been successful at other Community Food Centres (like [Montreal](#) and [Winnipeg](#)) and we are looking forward to making it happen in Nelson. Consider subscribing to [our YouTube channel, here](#) for a better idea of what we are up to with this program.

Because of its curb appeal, the Community Food Centre Garden is always a hot topic this time of year. As well as constructing hinged hoop beds and growing super-charged compost (see photos), Emil is also in the early stages of putting together two expert/volunteer-run workshops—one on composting and one on soil analysis for gardens. All this on top of his planning and planting of what we think will be a great garden for our program participants.



VOLUNTEER PROFILE. We heard it was volunteer appreciation week a while back and, because we have too many great volunteers to celebrate and thank in one week,

we'll be thanking a new volunteer every week [on social media](#). Here is the first of many: April Robertson began volunteering in the Community Food Centre Garden in June of 2018. She has helped out with community dinners, bagged groceries and organized the snack table with our Good Food Bank. She is currently one of the leaders of our "Patience" Sourdough Bread program (hence her apron). April likes the Community Food Centre's supportive, healing environment and finds it gives her life purpose and direction—she also likes all the opportunities it offers to connect with others. We love having April with us and really appreciate all her help over the years.

Thanks very much, April!



Support the 'Centre

Many of you already support us and for that we are very grateful. If you are interested in becoming a **monthly donor**, it's an easy way to feel great all year long. To learn more, [just click here and follow the simple instructions](#) You are also able to make a one-time donation if you so choose.

Thanks for reading and stay tuned for more good things to come from the Nelson Community Food Centre.

Sincerely,

Andrew Creighton
Community Relations Manager
(On behalf of the Nelson CFC team)



PS: If you haven't already, consider joining our monthly donor program and support us all year long.

We have moved over to a new emailing system so my fingers are crossed that this all goes well here. If you'd like to continue getting our email newsletter every 4-6 weeks, great! No action required. If you'd rather not, we're sorry to see you go. Please click the unsubscribe link below.

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