

And suddenly, it's summer.

Dear smartname,

There's nothing quite like writing a newsletter to remind one of how much is going on at the Nelson Community Food Centre. With the spectre of COVID lifting and summer in full swing, we are enjoying a return to our full range of programs—as are our program participants.

We continue to run our Good Food Bank out of the lower hall of the Covenant Church down the street. The team at the Covenant has been very generous in providing a space for us to offer this program while the renovation is happening in our kitchen at the Nelson United Church. The story of this renovation is a common one these days. It is taking longer than anticipated but once it is "in", it'll be a great addition for our programs and the community at large.

Other Program News.

If you've driven, walked or biked by our HQ at Josephine and Silica, chances are good that you've noticed the activity in our 14 raised-bed garden. As well as being a hive of volunteer activity, the garden has begun producing and will hit its peak production in about a month's time. Garden Coordinator, Emil Fischer, also put on a volunteer-run workshop on biodynamic composting that was well attended, fun and informative.

Because our kitchen is unavailable due to the renovation, our Harvest Rescue program is downsized for this year. No kitchen means we are unable to process fruit so we are taking a different approach. To learn more about what that is, and opportunities for your participation, <u>click here.</u>



On the Food Skills front, we are very happy to have Hannah deBoer-Smith back as our new coordinator. You can see an action photo of Hannah, above to the left, recently running a pickling demo. We've been creative over the last while with our Food Skills program (<u>check out the new Keiko videos on our YouTube channel</u>) and welcoming Hannah as our new coordinator signals a return to more in-person programs—yeah! Stay tuned for information on our next community dinner, coming soon.

But wait... There's more!

Didn't I tell you there was a lot going on? I also wanted to acknowledge our collaboration with the Nelson & District Women's Centre. For the second season, our garden coordinator and volunteers have been working with them in an effort to bring their garden back after being "dormant" for a while. Look for an article in the Nelson Star on this.

Next up... we are partnering with the City of Nelson and the British Columbia Association of Farmers Markets (BCAFM) on a coupon program. We provide BCAFM coupons to a selection of Nelson CFC program participants who are senior, pregnant or part of a family. These individuals are then able to purchase items at the Nelson Farmers' Markets. It's our first year running this program and we are hopeful it'll be an annual thing. See the snap above right.



Earlier in the spring, we also were finally able to throw a little volunteer party at Lakeside Park. The grill was going, games were played and the awesome work of our cherished volunteers was acknowledged. It has been a while since we've hosted this kind of an event and it felt great. Here we are above, in a circle, telling stories.



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. It helps us focus a little less on fundraising and more on delivering our four programs. If you are interested, and we hope that's the case, becoming a monthly donor is very easy. Just click here and follow the simple instructions.

Thanks for reading this and stay tuned for our next e-news letter. There may be an invite to an in-person community meal!

Sincerely,

Andrew Creighton Development Director (On behalf of the Nelson CFC team)



PS: <u>If you haven't already, consider joining our monthly donor</u> 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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