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free security!  
with Free PARKING!  
LIKE PARKWAY TRAIL

NATURAL ENERGY SOURCES!  
FEASIBILITY & AVERAGE \$

PRESERVE WETLANDS



If you were in a position to change or improve any aspect of Nanaimo now, what three things would you do? Please list your ideas in point form, in order of importance:

RE OAKS  
SITED IN  
KSTRONG  
M LOCAL  
JETIC  
CK

MORE 😊  
INCLUSIVE  
PARKS

3 meters in  
for hiker lanes.  
all roads to compensate

BUILD A GONDOLA UP MT-BENSON JUST LIKE IN SQUAMISH

USE COVID 6M - SEPARATION ON WATERFRONT  
← ❌  
→ ❌

PROTECT MORE 'GREEN' + 'BLUE' CORRIDORS DEVELOP PATRON STRATEGY

Protecting Environmental areas Parks Marsh + Community develop ment around the areas of roads

More Sidewalks for wheelchairs  
waterfront access for public

Affordable Housing Parks/Green Space

TAKE UP THE RAILS ON THE F&N AND TURN IT INTO A BIKE PATH  
be careful maintain

SECURE MORE GARRY OAK ECOSYSTEMS

rollerderby or An Amusement Park

Public Access to Waterfront

IMPROVE ROADS & SCHOOLS

PRODUCTIVE USE OF THE HOMELESS PEOPLE  
ways - to keep the city clean

enjoy pay...  
for require Landscaping

Extend Water Front Walk To Departure Bay

AFFORDABLE FAMILY HOUSING

PUBLIC WASHROOMS

tree planting targets - increase the urban forest

Build more community togetherness/ethic

Education Savings  
Education Planning for Children

More residential downtown

Continuation of sea wall Departure Bay to downtown

Do something with Acute building

BETTER SIDEWALKS

LOW INCOME HOUSING

NEEDS TO APPEAL VISUALLY FOR TOURISM (LOOKS LIKE AN...)

Indoor walking programs for all ages

REDUCE FERRY COSTS & RESIDENTS

IMPROVE GROW HOSPITAL + MORE DR!



# APPENDIX A

## MEETING NOTES

The following section includes notes from Online Welcome Meetings, Committee Meetings, City-led stakeholder meetings, Culture & Events dialogues, and other discussions held during the Phase 1 Engagement or as part of other processes (e.g., the Nanaimo Health & Housing Design Labs) that also support insight for this process.



# What do you think is Nanaimo's one biggest OPPORTUNITY to embrace in the coming years?

# What do you think is Nanaimo's one biggest CHALLENGE to tackle in the coming years?

**Growing local food - diversifying our means of doing this.**

Creating a livable city in a comprehensive way. Neighbourhood focus. Priority to maintain this for the future.

Promote local tourism and staycations (especially with COVID)

**Community Building! We are all in this TOGETHER.**

Preserve our green spaces

Wellcome more newcomers to Nanaimo (for growth, economic development, diversity, innovation, etc.) #immigrationmatters

Parkland quality preservation.

Building on our central location from an economy perspective (hub for VI).

Village building and permaculture.

Newcastle Island and AGtech opportunities for our economy.

Green alternative of building and development.

Developing a strong community identity (what are we KNOWN for? Hub city, a creative city, green city, etc.)

Developing our south waterfront (to be eco-friendly, sustainable, and bring people together).

Building on opportunity of proximity to Metro Vancouver (for transportation, economy, etc.).

Embracing ecology as resource (seed banks) and opportunities for our community to further define itself through our response to the climate crisis.

Being more integrated across education/ services sectors

Listen to neighbourhoods and set limits for development. Preserve Westwood. Manage development densities.

Climate Crisis +5 Votes (straddles both sides)

Climate crisis is key lens for both opportunity and challenge.

Climate crisis is our priority. Focus on reduction first. Then mitigation.

**Reducing dependence on automobiles**

Climate Crisis, and highlight for noise and light pollution threatening green spaces (+4 votes)

Overcoming community members' cynicism and time constraints (about this process, and more broadly). Building trust for meaningful and broad participation.

**Engaging our youth**

Safety on the streets (especially for children). Traffic calming.

Addressing systemic racism (hard to do well in a welcoming, meaningful, sustainable way without this)

**Living WITH wildlife.**

Our growing economic disparity - with 1 in 5 children in poverty.

Ensure that our City is environmentally and socially sustainable. Growth and prosperity can leave some behind.

**Becoming a just and equitable city**

Older demographic and revitalizing downtown core.

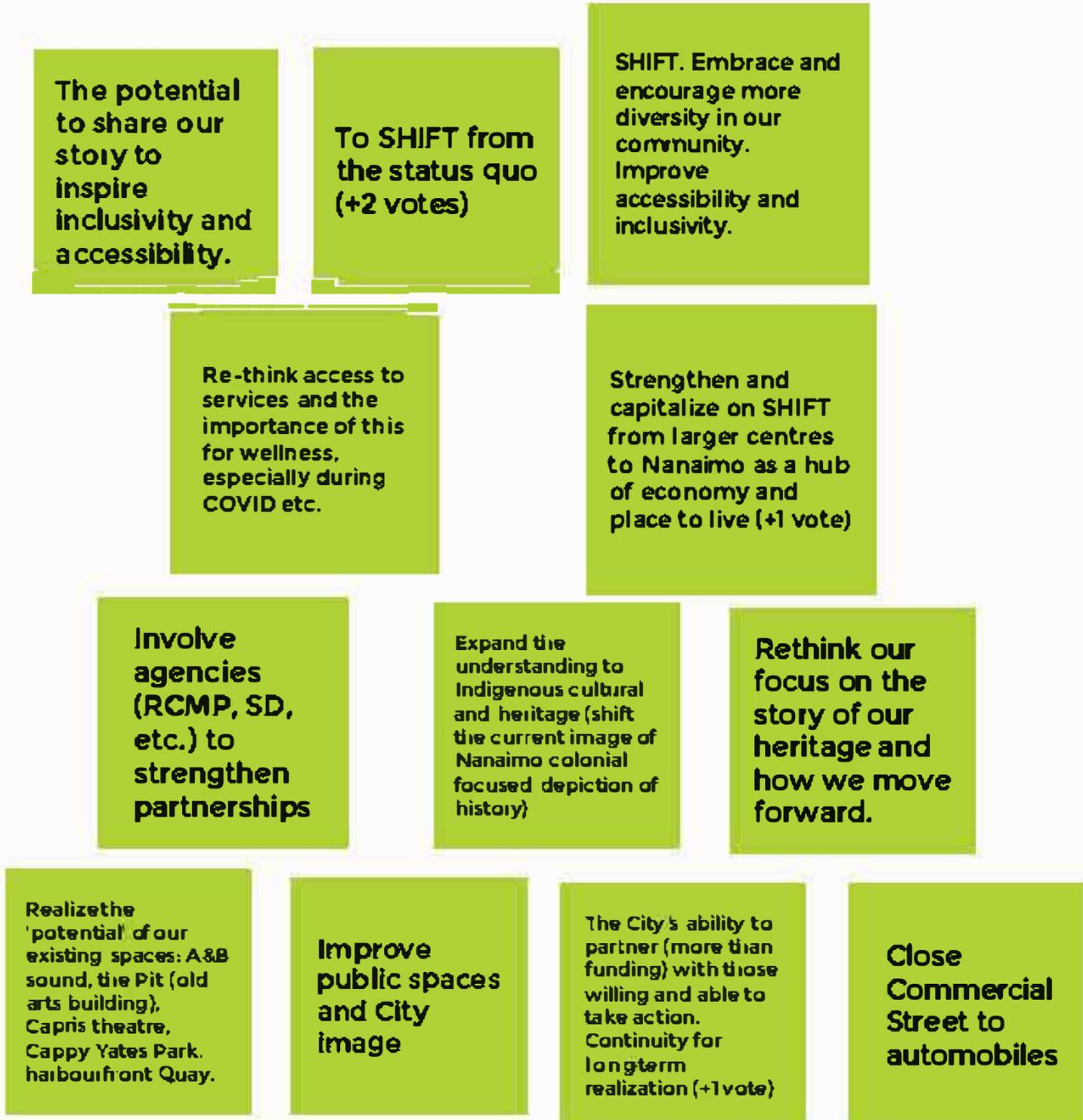
Homelessness and providing supports for all (+1 vote)

Providing effective long-term social supports for people that most need our help (e.g. homeless)

**Local food security**

Tree preservation in Nanaimo.

## What do you think is Nanaimo's one biggest OPPORTUNITY to embrace in the coming years?



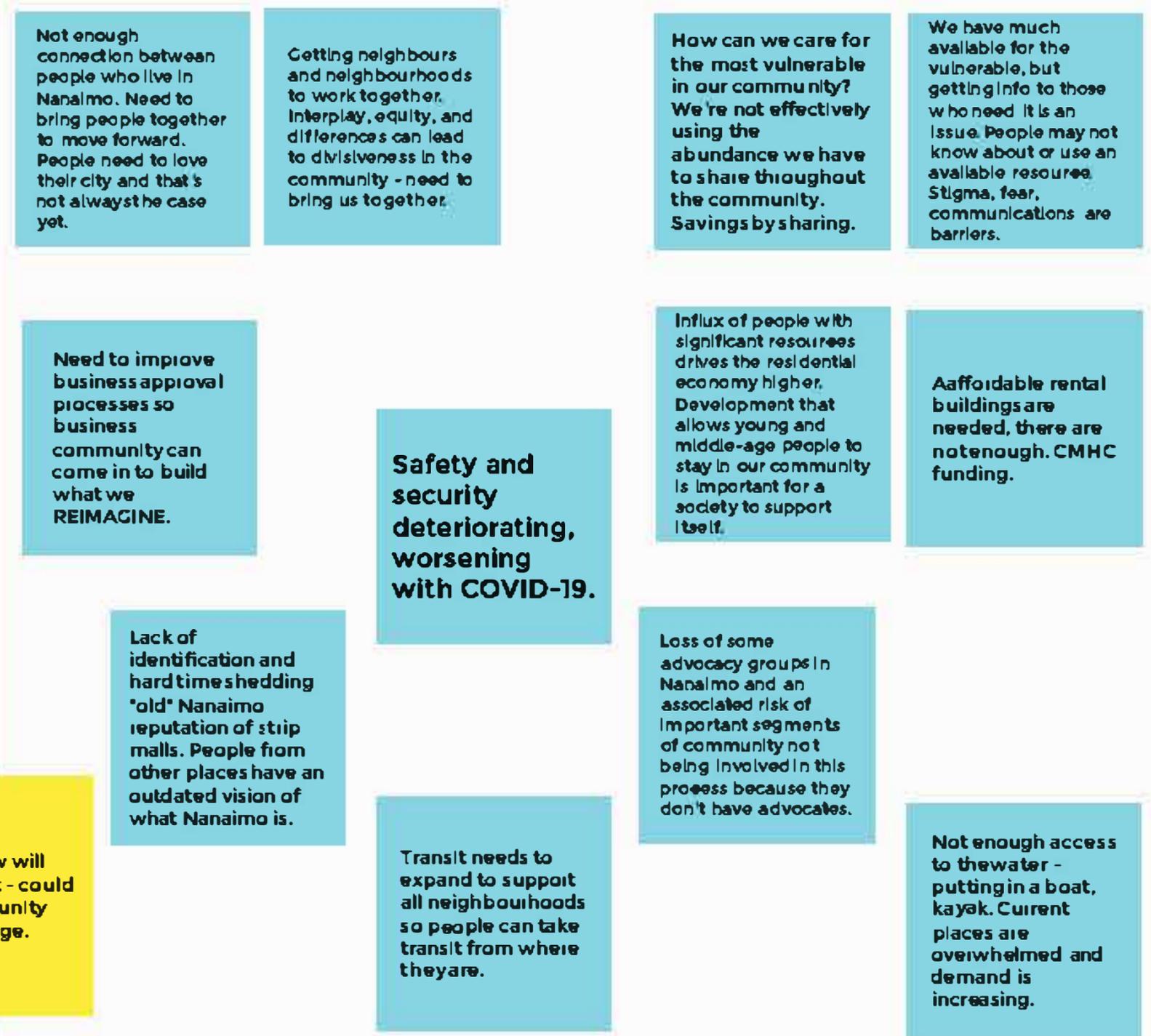
## What do you think is Nanaimo's one biggest CHALLENGE to tackle in the coming years?



# What do you think is Nanaimo's one biggest OPPORTUNITY to embrace in the coming years?



# What do you think is Nanaimo's one biggest CHALLENGE to tackle in the coming years?



# What do you think is Nanaimo's one biggest OPPORTUNITY to embrace in the coming years?

# What do you think is Nanaimo's one biggest CHALLENGE to tackle in the coming years?



## **REIMAGINE NANAIMO Input from the City of Nanaimo Accessibility and Inclusion Committee**

### **Meeting held 2020-SEPT-30, Discussion re: Transportation**

1. What are the biggest challenges with accessibility and inclusion in Nanaimo's transportation system?
2. What are the biggest opportunities to improve accessibility and inclusion in Nanaimo's transportation system?

Committee discussion took place regarding challenges with accessibility and inclusion in Nanaimo's transportation system. Highlights included:

- Trailheads are inaccessible for people with wheelchairs because of bollards which are meant to keep out dirt bikes
- Ensuring sidewalks are cleared during snow falls as it causes people using scooters or wheelchairs to be housebound
- Finding ways to encourage more people to walk or cycle instead of being so reliant on vehicles
- Transit system lacks flexibility and access to certain areas which decreases the options for people looking for affordable housing who do not own vehicles
- The City works closely with the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) to move, add or remove transit stops in and around Nanaimo
- Bus stops are not visible or clearly marked, no room for ramps and are poorly designed in some areas in regards to safety
- Concerns regarding crosswalk indicator buttons include:
  - Placement is set back from the road and not easily accessible for people in wheelchairs and those who use walkers
  - Branches and shrubs are overgrown hiding the indicator button
  - Steep crosswalk islands close to the road
- Scent sensitivity on busses
- Designing bus stops for safety and accessibility
- Input in curb cuts and ensuring curb cuts are accessible

### **REIMAGINE NANAIMO Feedback from the Accessibility and Inclusion Committee, Nov 25 2020**

**Committee discussion took place regarding Nanaimo's biggest opportunities. Highlights included:**

- Downtown Waterfront area being more cohesive and providing opportunities for people to be together, be entertained, shop, and enjoy the park space/boardwalk
- Options to make the water more wheelchair accessible
- Showcasing Nanaimo's vibrant oceanfront walkway and beautiful community
- Including more artwork in the downtown area and encouraging more culture

- Downtown night market was a great way to bring people together before COVID-19 and the current restaurant patios are a good way to provide connection
- Colliery Dam Park provides opportunities for families to enjoy the park together while providing accessibility for those who use scooters or wheelchairs
- Concerns regarding connectivity and walkability in the North end of Nanaimo
- Staff making attempts to improve walkability in the Harewood area and whenever opportunities arise
- Summer markets as a cultural highlight for Nanaimo and provide a way for people to congregate outdoors
- Expand Nanaimo's arts and culture capacity
- Offering more accessible routes within parks and along beaches for people with strollers and wheelchairs
- Better connectivity of sites and businesses in the downtown area and expanding the Waterfront Walkway
- Metral Drive becoming a complete street for all forms of transportation from Woodgrove Mall to Nanaimo North Town Centre
- Connecting the Waterfront and the Old City Quarter
- Opportunities to augment the transit system

**Committee discussion took place regarding Nanaimo's biggest challenges. Highlights included:**

- Providing more connectivity and inclusive access in all parks
- Homelessness, affordable housing and social issues
- New supportive housing facilities and poverty being a barrier to accessibility
- Supporting people who are new to Nanaimo and concerns regarding the speed with which Nanaimo is growing
- Focusing on the current health crisis in the short-term and the homeless crisis long-term
- The City juggling competing priorities in an effort to make the community the best it can be for everyone and realizing that providing buildings that are inclusive for everyone provides value to all who use them
- Gaining assistance from the provincial government with transit, health and housing issues
- Developing better job opportunities for those with disabilities
- Challenges of funding various projects/initiatives and finding creative ways to gather funding
- Healthcare issues, the need for a tertiary hospital in Nanaimo and more family doctors and psychologists

**MINUTES**  
SPECIAL ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
BOARDROOM, SERVICE AND RESOURCE CENTRE  
411 DUNSMUIR STREET, NANAIMO, BC  
WEDNESDAY, 2020-OCT-07, AT 3:02 P.M.

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Present: Councillor B. Geselbracht, Chair  
E. Boulanger, At Large Member (joined electronically, disconnected at 4:54 p.m.)  
D. Chen, At Large Member (joined electronically)  
L. Frey, At Large Member (joined electronically)  
J. Lesemann, At Large Member (joined electronically)  
L. McCunn, At Large Member (joined electronically)

Absent: Councillor T. Brown  
H. DesRoches, At Large Member  
W. Wells, At Large Member

Staff: D. Lindsay, General Manager, Development Services  
B. Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works (joined electronically 4:15 p.m.)  
J. Holm, Director, Development Approvals  
L. Bhopalsingh, Manager, Community Planning  
R. Lawrence, Environmental Planner  
C. Sholberg, Community Heritage Planner  
S. Snelgrove, Deputy Corporate Officer  
K. Lundgren, Recording Secretary

1. CALL THE SPECIAL ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING TO ORDER:

The Special Environment Committee Meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

It was moved and seconded that the Agenda be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Environment Committee held in the Boardroom, Service and Resource Centre, Nanaimo, BC, on Wednesday, 2020-JUL-15 at 3:00 p.m. be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

4. PRESENTATIONS:

5. REPORTS:

(a) REIMAGINE Nanaimo: Climate Action and Environmental Technical Backgrounders

Lisa Bhopalsingh, Manager, Community Planning, spoke regarding the importance of Committee feedback in the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process.

Rob Lawrance, Environmental Planner, noted that the technical backgrounders are included to provide greater detail and specifics, and Staff is seeking Committee feedback.

Committee discussion took place. Highlights included:

- The technical backgrounders provide extensive information and the Committee requires more time to provide feedback
- Committee members are invited to provide feedback to Staff until the beginning of November
- The technical backgrounders are currently in draft format
- The lists provided in the technical backgrounders are potential options as well as a collection of ideas based on what similar jurisdictions are doing
- Legislative limits regarding limiting natural gas use in homes

(b) Environmental Responsibility Framework

Introduced by Rob Lawrance, Environmental Planner. Highlights included:

- Environmental framework is a way to manage and assess the City's progression on key environmental priorities
- Draft environmental framework is available on the City of Nanaimo website for public access

Presentation:

1. Councillor Geselbracht provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the environmental responsibility framework. Highlights included:

- Good frameworks have the ability to be aspirational, organized around objectives and monitored
- “Doughnut Economics” is a model put together by economist Kate Raworth to visually depict planetary and social boundaries for sustainable development
  - The outer circle of the “Doughnut” includes nine key planetary limits that make up the ecological ceiling, and the inner circle includes twelve social boundaries that make up the social foundation
  - The model is based on the premise that social needs need to be met while not exceeding the planetary boundaries
  - Each category is associated with a trackable target

- Clear targets and performance indicators are not only important in communicating to the community, but also in prioritizing internal decisions and strategic direction

Committee discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Applying the “Doughnut Economic” model to fit Nanaimo in a regional context and providing an assessment of where the City of Nanaimo currently is
- How the framework is integrated in the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process
- Baseline indicators currently exist that may be drawn upon
- The importance of finding the right targets that encapsulate what we are trying to achieve, as well as resources to monitor the indicators
- Raising awareness within the community to develop a shared purpose as well as a greater understanding of why decisions are being made
- Critical to have clearly defined agreed-upon goals
- Update on the public engagement working group
- The importance of having a better understanding of the perceptions and priorities of the community
- Mindful of the overuse of questionnaires as a tool for community feedback
- The organization of small focus groups to facilitate conversation with the community

(c) Climate and Environmental Gap Analysis

Introduced by Rob Lawrance, Environmental Planner.

Presentation via Zoom:

1. David Reid, Lanarc, and Duncan Cavens, C2MP, provided a PowerPoint presentation. Highlights included:
  - Clean growth is a term that suggests that climate change policies need to be integrated with other policies rather than on their own
  - Identifying the environmental gaps yet to be addressed and strategies to be considered
  - Provided an overview of the City of Nanaimo’s greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions:
    - The City of Nanaimo is committed to reducing GHG emissions by 50% from 2010 levels by 2030, and reducing GHG emissions 94% from 2010 levels by 2050
    - Majority GHG emissions come from natural gas and oil used for heating homes and hot water
    - City of Nanaimo has many policies already in place compared to other municipalities
    - Despite policies, GHG emissions are still rising. This is largely due to the low cost of natural gas to heat homes, as well as population growth
    - Transportation is a large contributor to GHG emissions in Nanaimo
    - Two approaches to reducing GHG emissions are to increase efficiency and to switch to zero-carbon energy sources
    - Simply increasing efficiency is unlikely to decrease GHG emissions quickly enough to reach targets

- Consideration for the lifespan of urban elements
- Incentives to promote fuel switching to low carbon heating and hot water systems
- Charging infrastructures for electric vehicles
- Increasing investment in active transportation infrastructure
- Provided examples from the City of Campbell River Sea Level Rise Assessment study
  - Visual representations are powerful tools to communicate impact
  - Graphic summary tool to evaluate and compare different strategy options
  - Potential next steps in Nanaimo
- Provided an overview of drought management
  - The amount of Bulk water supply needed is determined by population growth and water consumption
  - Education on landscape design and best irrigation practices
- Provided overviews of changing heat patterns; rainwater management; and sediment, erosion and pollution control
- Nanaimo focused on efficiency in buildings in particular
- Focus on retrofitting buildings as 60% of buildings that will be here in 2050 have already been built

Committee discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Committee members are encouraged to send further feedback to Staff and chairs to be forwarded to David Reid, Lanarc
- Balancing population growth and forest protection in Nanaimo
- The REIMAGINE NANAIMO process is currently in the phase of reviewing background information and collecting ideas from the community and committees
- Next phase of the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process will include the modelling of growth scenario options. These will be provided to the community and to committees for further feedback
- The Official Community Plan is a high level document that does not go into every detail of the individual action plans
- Some goals may be more directional rather than hard targets

E. Boulanger disconnected at 4:54 p.m.

- Assessing what factors of the “Doughnut Economic” model apply to the City
- More in-depth discussion regarding frameworks to be had at the next Environment Committee meeting scheduled for November 4<sup>th</sup>

It was moved and seconded that Staff liaise with Environment Committee members to develop focus group stakeholder engagement around environmental objectives of the Official Community Plan. The motion carried unanimously.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 5:04 p.m. that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

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CHAIR

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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CORPORATE OFFICER

**MINUTES**  
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
BOARD ROOM, SERVICE AND RESOURCE CENTRE  
411 DUNSMUIR STREET, NANAIMO, BC  
WEDNESDAY, 2020-NOV-04, AT 5:00 P.M.

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Present: Councillor B. Geselbracht, Chair  
Councillor T. Brown (joined electronically)  
E. Boulanger, At Large Member (joined electronically)  
D. Chen, At Large Member (joined electronically)  
H. DesRoches, At Large Member (joined electronically)  
L. Frey, At Large Member (joined electronically)  
J. Lesemann, At Large Member (joined electronically)  
W. Wells, At Large Member (joined electronically)

Absent: L. McCunn, At Large Member

Staff: B. Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works  
J. Holm, Director, Development Approvals  
R. Lawrence, Environmental Planner  
S. Snelgrove, Deputy Corporate Officer  
J. Vanderhoef, Recording Secretary

1. CALL THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING TO ORDER:

The Environment Committee Meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

- (a) Reorder Agenda Item 7(a) Environmental Responsibility Framework to be considered prior to Reports.

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be reordered to consider Agenda Item 7(a) Environmental Responsibility Framework prior to considering Reports. The motion carried unanimously.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

It was moved and seconded that the Agenda, as amended, be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the Special Environment Committee Meeting held in the Boardroom, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Wednesday, 2020-OCT-07 at 3:02 p.m. be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

5. OTHER BUSINESS:

(a) Environmental Responsibility Framework

Councillor Geselbracht provided a PowerPoint presentation. Highlights included:

- Suggested questions to be considered when structuring environmental responsibility framework
- Opportunity to liaise with the community within the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process

Committee discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Importance of adopting a framework and having all participants buy-in
- Flexibility of the Doughnut Economy framework is important as it can be tailored to Nanaimo which provides value to this structure
- Will require discussion and collaboration across committees and City departments
- Downscaling the Doughnut and how a community can take responsibility for impacts beyond their boundaries
- Simon Fraser University is working on climate impact performance indicators for municipalities and cities
- Request that the consultant be provided the Doughnut framework to incorporate into the ongoing work
- Need for structure in the Strategic Plan and see environmental values reflected in guiding document

Councillor Brown provided the following motions for discussion and consideration:

“That Council, as part of its Strategic Plan review process, consider replacing key Focus Area 1 under the Environmental Responsibility Key Focus Area with: “We will take responsibility to build a city and community that operates within the planetary boundaries necessary to maintain core life-sustaining ecological functions.”

“That the City of Nanaimo adopt the Doughnut Economic Model as a cohesive vision for all city initiatives and planning processes, focused on social and environmental sustainability as defined by the model, and be supported by a localized, objective-based, and evidence-based framework through the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process.”

“That the Environment Committee Work Plan be amended and re-focused to address the environmental components of this social and environmental sustainability framework.”

Committee discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Including wording such as “climate change” and “bio-diversity” in the proposed motions
- Including performance indicators
- Wording is intended to be broad in order to cover various areas within the Doughnut Economy framework

- Choosing the best wording to make sense to everyone involved and avoiding emphasis on specific areas
- Engagement through the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process could help explain details and framework

It was moved and seconded that the Environment Committee recommend that Council, as part of its Strategic Plan review process, consider replacing key Focus Area 1 under the Environmental Responsibility Key Focus Area with: “We will take responsibility to build a city and community that operates within the planetary boundaries necessary to maintain core life-sustaining ecological functions”. The motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Brown spoke regarding a Zoom workshop that he and Councillor Geselbracht participated in with the consultants who are helping implement the Doughnut Economy in the City of Amsterdam. He noted the following suggestions:

- Needs to be a cross sector approach
- Not to be deterred by starting from scratch
- During the review of plans consider how goals might be achieved
- It can't be done all at once and needs addressed systematically
- Take an agnostic approach to encourage people to bring their ideas to the Doughnut

Councillor Geselbracht noted that he and Councillor Brown would be making a presentation to Council on 2020-NOV-09 regarding the process of downscaling the Doughnut. He will provide the Legislative Services department with supplementary documents related to this presentation to share with committee members.

Committee discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Process of applying the Doughnut Economy to the City of Nanaimo and sharing resources through the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process
- Timing and opportunities available with the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process providing community engagement and creating links between City initiatives
- Multiple agencies have partnered to create the “Creating City Portraits” program which provides a ten-step process for mapping, engaging, and monitoring the implementation of the Doughnut in a region
- Developing framework on the go and creating the City of Nanaimo’s “City Portrait” during the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process
- Building this framework into the City’s processes and challenges of teaching people how to use it in their daily routines
- First step is understanding the framework and then identifying the measurements
- Identifying who will create framework and how it can be accelerated
  - Suggestion of a workshop setting with community partners, consultant and Council members
- Potentially framing some questions for the consultant to provide direction
- Timing of action as the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process has already started and potential for this vision to be adopted into the Official Community Plan (OCP) and potentially other guiding documents

- Addressing the ways that environmental sustainability impacts various initiatives such as: water supply, transportation and planning
- Framework could help the consultant identify gaps

It was moved and seconded that the Environment Committee recommend that the City of Nanaimo adopt the Doughnut Economic Model as a cohesive vision for all City initiatives and planning processes, focused on social and environmental sustainability as defined by the model, and be supported by a localized, objective-based, and evidence-based framework through the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process. The motion carried unanimously.

Committee discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Potential for recommendations to create work for the Environment Committee if adopted by Council
  - Work will need to be shared and will require buy in from all sectors
  - Council would need to provide direction to gain alignment between committees and City departments
  - Wording of proposed motion does not limit the work to the Environment Committee alone
- Second and third recommendations are related and Councillor Brown or Councillor Geselbracht will address this during the Council meeting to ensure both motions are adopted together or neither are adopted
- Other Task Forces have indicated a need for a larger guiding framework
- Doughnut Economy will be a topic of discussion during the 2020-NOV-09 Governance and Priority Committee Meeting
- If this plan is implemented into the City's OCP it will be a guiding plan for various issues such as: land use, social issues, and planning

It was moved and seconded that the Environment Committee recommend that Council amend the Environment Committee Work Plan and re-focus it to address the environmental components of this social and environmental sustainability framework. The motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Bonner noted that the motions passed by the Environment Committee complemented the motions being recommended by the Health and Housing Task Force. He noted that committees influence each other and suggested that committees should be working together within the Doughnut framework.

Committee discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Integrating the Doughnut framework in the planning process and importance of having a vision statement
- Vision statement should encapsulate what the Doughnut is trying to achieve and outlines how to address issues locally and how the local economy impacts areas outside of City borders
- Developing the vision statement and Doughnut framework through the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process
- Phase two and three of REIMAGINE NANAIMO provide opportunities for the public to provide input on the draft OCP and could provide feedback on integrating the Doughnut framework into the OCP

6. REPORTS:

(a) 2021 Environment Committee Key Date Calendar

Introduced by Sky Snelgrove, Deputy Corporate Officer.

- Meetings have been scheduled on Wednesdays from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. every two months and will remain over Zoom
- Adjusting the schedule would be challenging due to limited resources

It was moved and seconded that the Environment Committee recommend Council approve their 2021 Key Date Calendar. The motion carried unanimously.

(b) REIMAGINE NANAIMO Environment Gap Analysis Review

Introduced by Rob Lawrance, Environmental Planner.

During the 2020-OCT-07 Environment Committee Meeting, members were provided three “Technical Backgrounders” for review. Staff and technical stakeholders will review these “Technical Backgrounders”. The purpose is to lay groundwork regarding what Nanaimo is doing and identify gaps by comparing Nanaimo to other same size communities. The Consultant has provided some suggested gaps and Staff are seeking input from the committee on which gaps should be prioritized and if gaps are missing from the list.

Committee discussion took place regarding each of the three “Technical Backgrounders” as follows:

Climate and Hazzard Adaptation Backgrounder:

- Suggested installing visual markers around the City indicating where the increasing water level will reach (by year)
- Development Permit Area for Coastal Zone/Hazard Areas
  - Riparian rights focus on protection of fish but not the people who live and use the surrounding land
  - Concerns regarding point-in-time reports from developers showing degradation of streams with no fish present, which allows developments to proceed, but does not allow for stream rehabilitation
  - Climate change has not been integrated into the setback requirements or flood plane areas
- A recommendation is planned for Council regarding reviewing setback and development permit process
- Outcomes are lacking from some of the backgrounders
- Food security and extending the growing season
- Developing a method to work from local data estimates rather than BC averages
- Actively planning for wind storms and mitigation in the future
- Back casting to review trends and make projections for the future
- Adaptation to share resources during a disaster situation

GHG (Greenhouse Gas) Mitigation Backgrounders:

- Banning natural gas province wide
- Development permits or performance zoning in relation to GHG building targets
- Increasing transit service and all transit infrastructure needs
- Using more aggressive language
- New buildings allowing access on rooftops and having white reflective surfaces or plants to absorb water
- Better monitoring of compost product being collected to improve organic waste diversion
- Environmental impact of both compressed natural gas (CNG) and renewable energy
- Implement planting targets in an urban forest planting program to capture more carbon monoxide
- Public Transportation needs to be a focus
- Increasing the interest in e-bike infrastructure as a priority
- Contracting a bike sharing system (specifically e-bikes)
- Circular economy policy aiming for more reusable products and less virgin material use

Green Infrastructure/Natural Areas Backgrounder:

- Soil quality and considering a soil program and types of planting
- “Soil Removal and Depositing Regulation Bylaw 1976 No. 1747” is dated and needs to be updated in order to track the movement of soil across the City and for erosion and sediment control
- Maintaining large green eco system
- Gamifying invasive plants and working with Snuneymuxw First Nation Elders to understand uses of local plants
- Adding the use of natural products for issues like bank stabilization in updates to the “Soil Removal and Depositing Regulation Bylaw 1976 No. 1747”
- Establishing storm water utilities to incentivize change
- Including natural assets inventory
- Use of environmental materials being encouraged by local government
- Promoting and incentivising environmentally sustainable business practices

(c) REIMAGINE NANAIMO Stakeholder Engagement Update

Introduced by Rob Lawrance, Environmental Planner.

Staff have been initiating outreach through REIMAGINE NANAIMO and listening to comments from the public about their environmental concerns. The consultant will be reviewing this information as well. Currently 491 organizations have been invited to participate. There have been 43 meetings held, mall pop-ups, pop-ups in the park, and Zoom meetings with various groups and organizations. Staff have attended multiple neighbourhood group meetings to hear their priorities and more meetings are planned for November.

Three questions were raised in the report “REIMAGINE NANAIMO Stakeholder Engagement Update”. Committee members were asked to review those questions and the lists of organizations that have been contacted to identify if any organizations were overlooked.

Councillor Geselbracht noted that the next scheduled meeting of the Environment Committee is 2020-DEC-09 and Staff and the Committee Chairs will discuss proceeding with this meeting closer to that date.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 7:13 p.m. that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

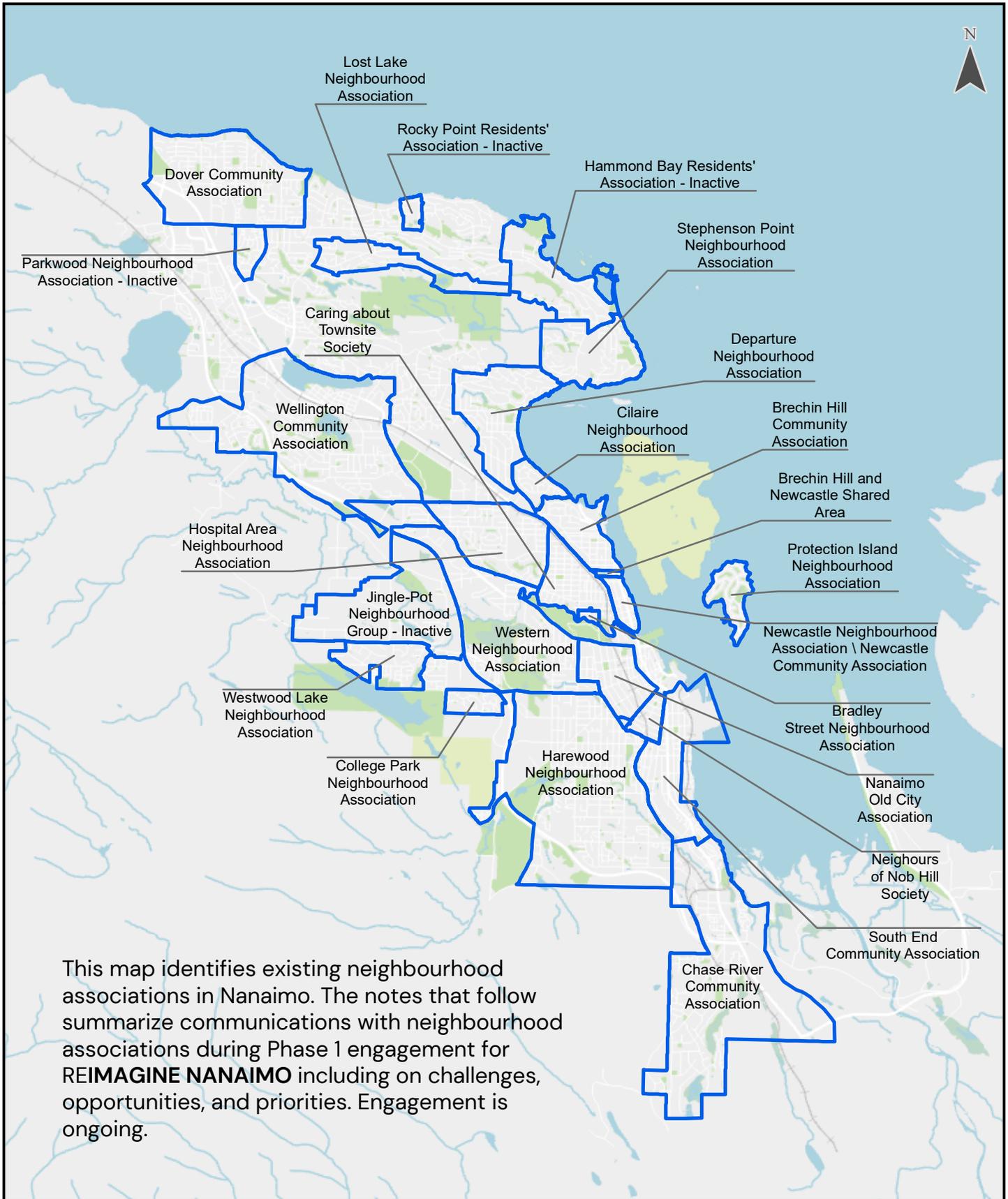
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CHAIR

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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CORPORATE OFFICER



## **Chase River Community Association REIMAGINE NANAIMO Outreach Meeting Notes, November 5, 2020, 7:00 p.m., SARC Boardroom (411 Dunsmuir Street) and by Zoom**

Attendees: 3 members of Chase River Community Association and City Staff (Community Planning), (Parks, Recreation and Culture), and (Transportation).

### 1. Introduction

City staff provided an introduction to REIMAGINE NANAIMO: background on process, etc. and spoke to the recent neighbourhood capacity survey responses noting the Chase River Community Association's priority items as follows:

1. Traffic
2. Secondary Access out of Neighbourhood
3. Sandstone

### 2. Neighbourhood Challenges

- Transportation, getting in and out – where is secondary road access going to go; access on-and-off parkway only going to get worst with new development in neighbourhood. Best to resolve sooner than latter from a cost perspective. People have an attitude problem – feel entitled to drive the way they want, to drive quickly, to not care for others in the community; city does not have control over community members' attitude (nor should it be responsible to have). Concern that not a lot of investment going into the neighbourhood with respect to infrastructure, parks, etc. Community upgrades – not getting fair share (e.g. Ranchview Park); feels like not enough attention paid to area.
- Seniors in community – need health services (Island Health nurse practitioner centre (Nexus) just opened), bus schedule (new bus schedule helping a lot), need more bus infrastructure in chase river as residential density increases (bus stops / exchange to deal with more buses) – hoping for a bus terminus on Lawlor. Rerouting bus line from Cedar was an improvement for students.
- Job market in Nanaimo, forestry industry hurting, Harmac + mill not employing as many people; Sandstone – job opportunities there, need to support new development.
- Community centre – perennial issue, not addressed yet.
- Aging population as well as young families in neighbourhood – need to focus neighbourhood services on these two populations.
- Social housing - not against, residents need clarity on purpose of any development.
- HOW DO WE SLOW DOWN PEOPLE ON EXTENSION ROAD?
- Traffic, multi-phased problem: more people (new developments, homes with suites), more speed (particularly on Cranberry/Extension Roads), more kids; anecdotally traffic accidents along busy roads in neighbourhoods (particularly at Extension and Rajeena); shouldn't have to wait for a serious accident before investing in solutions; need traffic calming – round-a-bouts,

bump-outs, speed signs (many people consider Extension Road a secondary highway).  
Extension a particular problem as no stop signs at any of the intersections to slow traffic down (80 to 90 km/hr speeds not rare);

- Secondary access – north / south needed; need to get on to the Parkway – the “Cranberry Connector” which has been talked about for years; McKeown Way could be extended, but does that get you anywhere? Access has to be onto the Parkway – this has been suggested for years – even asked for when Parkway was being designed. In the meantime, Extension is commuter road for Chase River, plus neighbourhood of Extension and beyond, with infill development increasing pressure all the time. Sandstone will apply even more pressure, particularly if no secondary access to highway created.
- Bus system good, but need something else; if you want people out of cars, need some viable option – more buses, smaller busses. Service needs to reflect need.
- Tired of waiting for studies, waiting for new councils to make a decision, waiting for new staff to make decisions. Let’s see some action.
- Sandstone – support for the project, i.e. a plus in that it will offer local jobs, local improvements, etc., and other benefits. Been waiting for it to actually start.
- New community centre – old community centre became the boys and girls club; CRNA rents space at the Moose Hall; shouldn’t have to raise membership fees to pay for space rental; city has turned down CRNA’s request for \$ for chairs – that matters to the community; would like more input into the allocation of community amenities (Junction Road community amenity contribution totalled \$200,000 – of this, \$60,000 bus shelter forced on community vs. new playground, playground equipment in neighbourhood – not right).

### 3. Neighbourhood Opportunities

- Better (highway) signage, better enforcement (bigger presence),
- Traffic calming – Departure Bay as an example; Chase River – calming at cross walks (e.g. Roberta Road/Extension and Richardson/Extension tough intersection for pedestrians and buses to maneuver through), but challenges with road grades, industrial traffic (b-trains, Cinnabar Farms) particularly during the Summer; tree trimming to improve sight lines along roads;
- Highways – reset lights to improve the flow of traffic in / out of community (particularly at 10th/Island Highway - left onto 10<sup>th</sup> often has long line of cars waiting ; Cranberry/Tenth, and Cranberry/Island Highway also tough intersections for vehicles and pedestrians, re-grade intersection of Cranberry and Island Highway to improve safety for industrial traffic to Cinnabar Valley Farms.
- Sandstone is an opportunity for community improvement; need a secondary access – E&N overpass, enough space for two lanes of traffic, could be repurposed as highway access – best opportunity to get people out of Cinnabar – costs yes, but what option is better? - no land expropriation needed, grades are relatively good, etc.

- Community centre could be located at Chase River Elementary School site, then move Chase River Elementary School to Elaine Hamilton Park site; young, growing community needs a community centre.

#### 4. Neighbourhood Priorities

- Traffic safety - Extension Road – deal with traffic, add signage, calm traffic; get in and out of neighbourhood safely.
- More jobs in neighbourhood.
- Ensure amenity contributions go into neighbourhood efficiently and to address needs.
- Need infrastructure investment and action – community is tired of waiting for community improvements: traffic, local community centre, more local jobs; talking about solutions for 20 years is the problem – need to see some action, some investment in the community.
- Revisit the Chase River Neighbourhood Plan adopted in 1999.

#### 5. Additional Comments

- PRC staff noted community centre on everyone’s wish list, one of the only priorities not completed in past parks master plan; would be a +20M\$ project; partnerships with SD, Boys and Girls Club, etc.;
- Partners in parks – Ranchview Park – removing old equipment this week; city asset, community not required to raise funds. Working through a neighbourhood process to identify what is needed in the park.
- Question – how much use is there on local trails through the community; is more maintenance required?
  1. Roots an issue on parkway trail.
  2. Trail system used near Stonecrop and Country Hills; some issue with tents in area, and wildlife; community members want more trails, new walkways near Healy (wetlands); community members not coming to CRNA with issues about trails.
  3. Local community improvements put in place have been good – pickle ball, etc. Off-lease park area would be great too.
  4. Talk about city’s 100 acre park above Cinnabar Valley Farm (and the RDN’s 50 acres) – accessing them.
- Transportation staff happy to hear about both short- and long-term issues and ideas related to active transportation; will pass on comments to staff about signage and trees (maintenance) including bus stop on Richardson Road and Ranchview – tree on city property, maple tree, more and more dead branches, want a city person (Urban Forestry Coordinator) to take a look at it.

## **Friends of Westwood Lake REIMAGINE NANAIMO Outreach Meeting Notes, October 29, 2020, 7:00 p.m., by Zoom**

Attendees: 12 members of Friends of Westwood Lake and City Staff (Community Planning), (Parks, Recreation and Culture), and (Transportation).

### 1. Introduction

City staff provided an introduction to REIMAGINE NANAIMO: background on process, etc.

### 2. Neighbourhood Challenges

- Need to preserve Westwood Lake as a nature park and protect its rural character. City needs a long term plan for Westwood Lake, or an updated plan, if one already in place.
- Condition of Westwood Lake trail an issue – not been cared for years – hazardous with rocks.
- Need to recognize natural areas in neighbourhood.
- Need to acquire tennis court land as City property – is this a possibility?
- Vehicle parking increase for park needed, but goes against natural preservation.
- Preservation of green space in the neighbourhood – need to preserve Westwood Lake as a nature park, and keep density down in surrounding neighbourhood – challenge is putting too many houses in area and changing its rural character. Need a strategy for how to build around the Westwood Lake area that places nature at the forefront.
- At Westwood Lake parking becoming a problem for pedestrians and pets.
- Disposition of development – no real opportunity for residents to speak to development applications – this is an existential challenge for Westwood Lake.
- Dark skies also a challenge, as increased lighting introduced into the area through development.
- Informal mountain bike trails are also becoming a problem – need to be controlled or moderated.
- Traffic from non-residential uses in the neighbourhood can also be a problem.
- Connection between Westwood Lake Park and Morrell Sanctuary should be reinforced.
- Jingle Pot a neat road – should have priority for cycle lanes.
- Series of green areas exists in the neighbourhood which are remnants of subdivisions – can something be done with these?
- Look at park entrances – how good are they for both pedestrians and cyclists – can be areas of conflict between pedestrians and cyclists. Safe access important for everyone. For example, a separate entrance/exit for cyclists needed on Westwood Lake trail.
- Goose poop at Westwood Lake beach area a problem.
- Lack of children's play equipment at Westwood Lake beach area is an issue.
- Need to keep character of neighbourhood rural and low density, and be mindful of preserving the natural elements of Westwood Lake – possibly enlarging it but not taking away from it.
- Need better access to services, such as shopping, medical care, etc.

### 3. Neighbourhood Opportunities

- Create manifesto for Westwood Lake which outlines what values the park has and how it should be cared for.
- Need to remind the public that Westwood Lake is a natural area, not a playground per se.
- Can Westwood Lake be enlarged? If so, that should be done.
- City should look at buying Tennis Court site, and other privately owned land in close proximity to Westwood Lake park to maintain its existing rural/parklike character. Need to prevent condos from being built along shore of Westwood Lake.
- Build a separate access/exist to Westwood Lake for bike riders to use.
- Traffic calm higher speed roads in the neighbourhood.
- Create a specific zone for park to protect from development in close proximity. Ensure zone reflects character of Westwood Lake neighbourhood (i.e. rural residential, not commercial and higher density residential).
- Spiritual elements of neighbourhood around Westwood Lake (e.g. retreats) are unique.
- Create dedicated bike trail connection between Westwood Lake and Morrell Sanctuary lands.
- Reduce vehicle traffic on Arbot Road access to Westwood Lake Park. What about creating a second access from College Heights area?
- Consider Cathedral Grove example, perhaps there could be educational interpretation opportunities (tours, signage) for Westwood Lake Park in a similar way. Celebrate its natural characteristics and values.

### 4. Neighbourhood Priorities

- Westwood Lake Park is a special place on the planet – a natural area. City needs to not homogenize every park – treat Westwood Lake Park as the special place that it is. Keep the park as close to nature as possible, and protect the trees.
- Create a plan for Westwood Lake Park if it does not already exist.
- Preserve and protect natural areas located in the neighbourhood that still remain – above all do not sell publicly owned lands.
- The Westwood Lake neighbourhood needs a neighbourhood plan that maintains the area's existing rural/residential character – no need for higher density residential or commercial development in the lake area.

## **Harewood Neighbourhood Association REIMAGINE NANAIMO Outreach Meeting Notes, October 26, 2020, 7:00 p.m., SARC Boardroom (411 Dunsmuir Street) and by Zoom**

Attendees: 5 members of Harewood Neighbourhood Association and City Staff (Community Planning), (Transportation), (Environment), (Parks, Recreation and Culture).

### 1. Introduction

City staff provided an introduction to REIMAGINE NANAIMO; background on process, etc.

### 2. Neighbourhood Challenges

- Fast growth and development, the need for more input on City services, infrastructure and transportation budget - challenge to address needs of fast growing community.
- Harewood Centennial Park is very well used and a great asset, along with Mt. Benson, Colliery Dam Park, and GNRD lands, but leaves lots of green space to maintain.
- Difficult to keep public resources from degrading.
- Balancing environment and development pressures – how do we balance growth with existing assets and loss of rural character and history in neighbourhood – would not like to see heritage lost.
- Lots of cars; new people – many living in secondary suites.
- Busy roads.
- Need to preserve agricultural heritage.
- Sixth St. in particular is like a highway – dangerous (esp. up towards Howard) – impacts surrounding road system negatively.
- Lack of pedestrian lights and stop lights (e.g. 5<sup>th</sup>/Bruce intersection). 10<sup>th</sup> Street intersection near Tillicum Lelum development is also a problem.
- Transportation network seems limited for access to neighbourhood – particularly around 7<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Development on Harewood Mines Road poorly connected to rest of City of Nanaimo.
- Lack of assessment for homeless people with mental illness (need more than Housing First).
- The disparity between haves and have nots in Harewood is growing with pricey new homes – a lot of food insecurity.
- Walkability a major challenge – need to tie development to new sidewalks. Bruce Avenue good example of high pedestrian use area. Need to focus on strategic areas to improve walkability – to VIU Campus for example.
- Cover all bus stops with shelters – most don't have a shelter.
- Too much speeding – could reduce speeds to 30Kmh in some areas and actually enforce it. 10<sup>th</sup> Street and Timberlands for example.
- There is a disconnect with trails crossing high traffic roads – e.g. 10<sup>th</sup> Street. Not safe.
- More parks geared towards toddlers needed.
- Need to consider education/school needs before approving new development.
- Need more dedicated bike lanes that connect to active transportation network.
- Look of new developments cookie-cutter like.

- Homelessness and folks with mental illness – University Village Mall has spent \$35,000 to discourage loitering/camping at mall site. There has also been an increase in neighbourhood watch groups forming in different parts of the neighbourhood due to security concerns.
- Designate land for new schools – lots of new families in neighbourhood – has that been considered?
- John Barsby Secondary School needs a facelift compared to other schools in the area – to encourage pride, and build on Georgia Avenue and Centennial Park improvements.

### 3. Neighbourhood Opportunities

- Commercial redevelopment is good and has been an improvement and retained businesses in neighbourhood.
- Could build a basic shelter for homeless out of indestructible materials (e.g. concrete).
- School lands could be sites of opportunity for housing.
- Digital signs are good and add spark to the area.
- The pedestrian/friendly culture of Harewood is strong and should be celebrated.
- Love the 'Signs of Hope' – more stuff like that!
- Taking care of buildings signals community pride.
- Excellent access to outdoor amenities. Improvements to Harewood Centennial Park are stellar.
- Artificial fields would be a good improvement to Harewood Centennial Park.
- Can't take natural park assets for granted. Need to keep maintenance levels up.
- New commercial amenities (e.g. new Quality Foods) is rounding out the neighbourhood.
- Bike lanes on Bruce a success, could use more.
- Need to connect active transportation network throughout neighbourhood.
- Like the public art features at Bruce and Fifth with the seating.
- Needs to be more dialogue between neighbourhood associations and council members – could each council member be assigned one or two associations as liaison? Or staff (noted that staff liaisons already exist).
- More benches for seniors to rest at; every 0.5km or so. Street furniture goes a long way, particularly for elderly folks.
- Smaller parks and participation/exercise-type outdoor exercise equipment would be a welcome addition to Harewood.
- More Art in the parks and along trails!
- Lack of communication between neighbourhood groups and City – can this be improved – maybe yearly meeting with planner liaison to review plans, issues, opportunities.
- Future development of Te'tuxwtun Project site on Fifth Street and DND lands on Wakesiah will go a long way toward defining the community.

### 4. Neighbourhood Priorities

- Park upkeep and cycling trails (road and mountain trails) – an awesome opportunity for Nanaimo to be like Cumberland in this regard.
- Continue to grow the active transportation network so it works for people of all ages.
- Ensure development amenities are concurrent with the new buildings and actually benefit the local residents.

- Speed limit, sidewalk issues discussed above/move forward on traffic calming and speed enforcement.
- Walkability and improved public transit – need more effective routes with quicker rides – perhaps some smaller buses moving around on shorter routes within the City.
- Location of Oliver Woods style recreation facility in neighbourhood would be great – Te'tuxwtun Project site on Fifth Street could be a location. No community space in neighbourhood with repurpose of Harewood Activity Centre to Nanaimo Search and Rescue.
- Health Centre/Clinic still a need – perhaps this could also be located at Te'tuxwtun Project site.
- Future development of Te'tuxwtun Project lands on Fifth Street and DND lands on Wakesiah.

#### 5. Additional Comments

- PRC staff noted that City will be working on GNWD Park Plan in 2021.
- Five Acre Farm site on Park Avenue will also be going through a Park Plan process in the near future.
- City will be reviewing proportion of parks/green space by neighbourhood. This will also include an assessment of the type of space available and how accessible or useable it is.

## **Lost Lake Neighbourhood Association REIMAGINE NANAIMO Outreach Meeting Notes, Nov. 3, 2020, 7:00 p.m., SARC Boardroom (411 Dunsmuir Street) and by Zoom**

Attendees: 9 members of Lost Lake Neighbourhood Association and City Staff (Community Planning), (Environment), (Parks, Recreation and Culture).

### 1. Intro/Territorial Acknowledgement

City staff provided an introduction to REIMAGINE NANAIMO; background on process, etc.

### 2. Neighbourhood Challenges

- Traffic and Safety (lots of pedestrians, more would walk if it was safer)
- Lost Lake Rd. has lots of safety concerns – as development comes in, roads need to be improved with sidewalks. Also speeding is a big issue.
- Development ok if well planned and traffic/pedestrian safety taken into account.
- Transportation options for both children and the elderly need to be better (both active and public). Currently, parents drive kids to school because not safe to walk in neighbourhood.
- Young families and older residents are moving into area – need better public transport service – perhaps on-call public transport and active transportation improvements.
- Complete communities will require a total transformation for how we plan everything from schools to commerce. Currently, mainly single family housing – need more housing variety.
- How can we respond to increasing population diversity as an opportunity?
- Traffic at Rutherford is terrible – Vanderneuk turning onto Rutherford is an issue – round about is an issue.
- Need sidewalks on Lost Lake Road, not even crosswalks! Particularly beyond intersection with Malibu Terrace. Continued development will aggravate situation.
- Getting to school (Randerson Ridge) is a challenge. Lighting is poor in dark. Getting around in neighbourhood by foot is complex and dangerous.
- Increasing density is inevitable but we need to improve amenities like sidewalks first.
- Malibu Terrace – people speeding to get away from stop lights.
- Street lights insufficient for safety.
- Loss of bus service five years ago – Why? Definitely still needed. People would like to be less dependent on car.
- Multi-family development at intersection of Vanderneuk/Lost Lake going to be an area of concern from traffic/safety perspective.
- Open ditches a challenge for bicycles and cars.
- People parking on the road adds additional barriers to active transportation.
- Should Tanya drive be developed when there are no good active transport connections and lack of services in the neighbourhood?
- School catchment boundaries need to be redrawn due to growing population in neighbourhood. Can't walk safely to nearby schools and many kids are being bused to other schools.
- Need more block watch and neighbourhood groups in area.

- Holding developers accountable for vacant properties and what happens on their properties (e.g. Ambience Drive – bush parties and street racing).
- Snow plowed onto sidewalks during winter. No safe place to walk.
- Bylaw enforcement an issue – speeding cars, parking of cars, property maintenance, snow removal, overgrown hedging on sidewalk in some locations. Invasive weeds on every single undeveloped lot.
- No intersection stop signs anywhere along Lost Lake Road to slow traffic – why not?
- Dewar/Lost Lake intersection – weird geometry for turning. Something inherently wrong with intersection design.

### 3. Neighbourhood Opportunities

- Promoting neighbourhood connections (sidewalks would help with this).
- Could fill in ditches with culverts on Lost Lake Road.
- Traffic calming - speed bumps one tool to consider.
- More sidewalks where possible (particularly along Lost Lake Road).
- A lot of vacant land – can we move quickly enough to plan the area for more complete communities?
- City could work with schools to promote walkability.
- Explore the possibility of more collaborative use of public space to optimize use.
- Celebrating diversity of neighbourhood and promote inclusion through a variety of City projects and programs – opportunity to create greater sense of community.
- Lost Lake Road sidewalks – road is same as 40 years ago, with sidewalk on one side of road – rural standard that is no longer sufficient.
- A police presence would make a difference with the speeding/safety issues. How about occasional speed monitoring.
- Lost Lake Road is becoming a commuter route – need traffic calming. Real issue driving down road at rush hour/school drop off, pick up hours – need to ease traffic pressure.
- Lost Lake is a beautiful road, it just needs improvements. Blind corners, blind hills, cars jutting out – all hazards due to speed. Dewar and Tanya Road intersections worst parts.
- Are there existing Bylaws that could be enforced re: vacant properties, property upkeep etc.?
- Potential traffic light at intersection of Vandernuek and Lost Lake.
- Comprehensive neighbourhood traffic plan needed before redevelopment gets too intense. Noted that City has set up a webpage devoted to Lost Lake Road Traffic Calming plans - See at [LostLakeRoadFeedback.ca](http://LostLakeRoadFeedback.ca).
- Wants to know why property maintenance bylaws are not being enforced (e.g. invasive weeds are on many vacant properties).
- Intersection at Dewar and Lost Lake could fit a traffic circle (it's a problematic intersection).
- Having neighbourhood association in place a huge opportunity – we can network into the neighbourhood on behalf of City. Also, great way to build community and meet new neighbours. Support of association by City is important.

### 4. Neighbourhood Priorities

- Lost Lake road safety overall (+ Vanderneuk to Rutherford).

- Active transportation; throughout neighbourhood but particularly on Lost Lake Road.
- The need to celebrate diversity in neighbourhood.
- Improve pedestrian safety with sidewalks and crosswalks.
- Speed controls and proper lighting on streets.
- Improve safe walkability to local schools with specific focus on Randerson Ridge Elementary.
- Increased public transportation service.
- Walkability all throughout neighbourhood, connecting to schools.
- Improved road safety and better enforcement of existing bylaws related to vehicle speeds, parking, and property maintenance.

#### 5. Additional Comments

- Environment staff let group know about heat pump incentive. Climate Action Retrofit for home upgrades can be sent to neighbourhood group by staff if they wish.
- Environment staff noted Broom Busters active in area – trying to remove invasive plants where possible. Group noted that private sites should be cleaned up by property owners, and some of the largest concentrations of invasive plants found in local parks.
- PRC staff let all know about future opportunity for Park plan for Linley Valley in 2021 (currently undeveloped) – once plan brought forward to Council and adopted then there should be resources for things like additional garbage cans, improved park trail access, parking areas, etc.
- Group wanted to let PRC staff know about a City garbage can full of dog poop bags. PRC staff noted and will look into getting it dealt with (short term response).
- Also noted that access to Linley Valley Park at trail head is not accessible for bikes or strollers – obstacles are in the way. PRC staff noted trail upgrade is a longer-term plan (this process will lead to eventual plan development and approval, and consequent trail improvements). Trails are not currently built to any standard.
- We need to start moving towards a zero carbon future – how can COVID be treated as an opportunity to encourage people to work from home?
- For future Linley Valley plan - Looking to put in several parking pods (e.g. 5-8 cars) at the end of a few different areas to distribute parking and increase access where wildlife is already disturbed.
- Group raised question related to climate change – how do we do this in suburban areas of the City, such as Lost Lake neighbourhood. Environment staff noted this issue can be addressed in part through increased residential density and fuel switching for vehicles, as well as on-going energy efficiencies in building development and retro-fit of existing homes.

## **Newcastle Community Association REIMAGINE NANAIMO Outreach Meeting Notes, November 2, 2020, 7:00 p.m., SARC Boardroom (411 Dunsmuir Street) and by Zoom**

Attendees: 7 members from the Newcastle Community Association and City Staff (Community Planning), (Environment).

### 1. Introduction

City staff provided an introduction to REIMAGINE NANAIMO: background on process, etc. and spoke to the recent neighbourhood capacity survey responses noting the Newcastle Community Association's priority items as follows:

1. Community building and neighbourhood. Involvement to reduce transient and criminal activity.
2. Traffic calming on Stewart Avenue – crosswalks with flashing lights.
3. B.C. Housing at 250 Terminal Avenue – ATCO trailers removed and a new complex or development built on existing site, and designed and managed in a way that considers ALL neighbours. Distribute social and supportive housing to more neighbourhoods.
4. Mitigate social issues surrounding 250 Terminal and adjacent motels being used for short-term housing.
5. Ensure the establishment of a neighbourhood association which is responsive to the community.
6. Implement recommendations in the 2011 Newcastle+Brechin Hill Neighbourhood Plan related to traffic calming Stewart Avenue.
7. Keep contacting Provincial and City officials and advocating for our neighbourhood.
8. Work at keeping our property attractive and well maintained to show that we care about where we live.
9. Be involved in the activities that will protect and improve the neighbourhood.
10. Ending the “temporary” status of B.C. Housing Newcastle Place, and rezoning the land in a manner that the community can sustain.
11. Restoring a healthy, sustainable balance of residential/commercial life in our seaside community.

### 2. Neighbourhood Challenges

- Social disorder and criminal activity – Newcastle Place a real problem.
- Negative reaction of land owners to amount of supportive housing in neighbourhood seems overwhelming. Find a better balance. City seems to have cooperative/collaborative relationship with B.C. Housing. There are issues related to local motels as well – overconcentration of supportive housing at this point in time. Newcastle seems to be the go to area for temporary housing – neighbourhood can't support this concentration – folks are moving away.
- Resilience and connectivity – no dedicated community space. We need space to facility community focus and engagement.
- Reimagine Nanaimo – want neighbourhood to feel like it did in the past. Something has changed and quiet enjoyment of properties has disappeared due to Newcastle Place. Change in past two years has been dramatic and traumatic. Concern about creating area that is like Downtown Vancouver Eastside. Community safety and security needed.

Until recently, very stable community, safe and secure, but impacted by Newcastle Place – personal safety has diminished. Fearful of being outdoors after dark.

- Concern about other small homeless encampments in Millstone River ravine area.
- Crime and property damage a real issue.
- Sense of chaos and fear in neighbourhood.
- With respect to new development, maintenance of views of waterfront very important. Want to protect the waterfront and ensure that development is suitable for neighbourhood.
- Need to keep area liveable and affordable for persons with modest income.
- Density of new and proposed development an issue. Proposal at old Moby Dick Hotel site on Stewart Avenue, as well as development that may occur on lands near Departure Bay Ferry Terminal.
- Concern about health of local businesses – Husky Gas closure an example. 7-11 and Midlands Tools businesses are also under stress. Want to have healthy and sustainable residential/commercial mix of land uses in neighbourhood.
- Marine Vista Owners – most residents of this condominium are retirees. For them, safety and security is a key issue, particularly folks that live on the lower levels. These folks don't feel safe to walk in the neighbourhood like they did prior to Newcastle Place being set up.
- Concerns with enclosed areas near new social housing development on Terminal Avenue and behind Marine Vista condominium.
- Garbage a real issue (one example at Townsite/Terminal intersection, particularly around 7-11). Also really bad on railway tracks.
- Concern about state of downtown Nanaimo – sad to see.

### 3. Neighbourhood Opportunities

- Difficult to identify with such stress in neighbourhood. Feel like in a war zone.
- Try to create community – do things that would encourage this. Hard to have hope.
- Create safe community space – gathering place for community (particularly seniors) in the vicinity of Townsite Road, Terminal Avenue and Vancouver Avenue. Perhaps as part of Newcastle Place redevelopment.
- Slow traffic down on Stewart Avenue.
- Clean up encampment under Pearson Bridge – need the Province to be involved alongside the City in these cases.
- Improve crosswalk near Travel Lodge on Stewart Avenue – basically implement what was identified in neighbourhood plan.
- At Stewart Avenue/Terminal Avenue, near Castaway Hotel, railing needed between roadside and sidewalk as safety barrier.
- At Vancouver Avenue at top of Cherry Blossom Lane – provide trail into St. George Ravine (as per recommendations in Newcastle Brechin Neighbourhood plan).
- Remove concrete foundation remains located on empty lot on Caledonia Avenue next to Millstone River – used for encampment shelter.
- Fix stairs on Caledonia that cross railway tracks – steps are treacherous.
- Limit supported housing at Newcastle Place to no more than 20 units. Provision of supported housing should be spread across the City.
- Do a safety audit every year in each neighbourhood.
- Regrade Cypress Street – new bicycle pathway and sidewalk stops at Vancouver Avenue and now need to connect to the waterfront at Stewart Avenue with a raised intersection.

- Need old Plan Nanaimo Advisory Committee to be reconstituted – need that process which allows neighbourhood representatives at the table when OCP amendments affecting their neighbourhood. Without this, there is no formal mechanism for local community to input into OCP or development process.
- Water usage in area – opportunities for water reclamation and runoff.
- Keep encouraging graffiti control on the waterfront walkway.
- Provide access to waterfront through Rosehill.
- Remove bench across from building on 200 block of Newcastle Avenue (i.e. 33 Mount Benson).
- Look at ways to improve negative reputation of neighbourhood – concerned about stigma and how to change it.
- Attitude needs to change – shouldn't be I don't want to live in neighbourhood.

#### 4. Neighbourhood Priorities

- Deal with 250 Terminal Avenue. Make it a smaller supportive housing development. Don't need another supportive housing development in the area. Cannot benefit from other improvements, such as safety and walkability of neighbourhood, without dealing with Newcastle Place.
- Improve safety and security in neighbourhood.
- Address affordability of neighbourhood (rental/ownership) would be great.
- Welcome to Newcastle Neighbourhood sign, planters, gateway improvements would be nice.
- Maintain character of waterfront so it is not overwhelmed by development. Hold to 4 storeys along waterfront as specified in the neighbourhood plan.
- Density must be moderate for neighbourhood “cautious density” – we understand positive impact, but also problems that can be created.
- Protect “heritage” character of neighbourhood.
- Consider developing empty lots in neighbourhood for dog park or community walking space (e.g. at Dawes/Vancouver intersection, across from White Spot – 100 Dawes Street).
- Increase level of neighbourhood input with respect to new development – input does not seem to be considered.
- Need more family oriented multi-family units developed in neighbourhood – 2-3 bedroom apartment units for example.

**Nanaimo Old City Association REIMAGINE NANAIMO Outreach Meeting  
October 28, 2020, 7:00 p.m., SARC Boardroom (411 Dunsmuir Street) and by Zoom**

Attendees: 5 members of Nanaimo Old City Association and City Staff (Community Planning), (Environment), (Parks, Recreation and Culture).

1. Introduction

City staff provided an introduction to REIMAGINE NANAIMO: background on process, etc. and spoke to the neighbourhood capacity survey noting the Newcastle Community Association's priority items as follows:

1. More affordable housing options;
2. The expansion of a thriving local business community;
3. More active transportation (increased numbers of cyclists and pedestrians and decreased numbers of vehicles) with the goal of addressing the climate crisis.

2. Challenges

- Neighbourhood Plan – need to keep it in order plus bring it up to date. Concern that OCP may not continue to recognize neighbourhood plan in future. Need to maintain consistency between plans.
- Identity and character of Old City is being challenged, not valued as it should be (e.g. heritage character, ease of mobility, connectivity, etc.).
- Derelict properties an issue.
- Traditional character of new development is lacking – design is crucial for neighbourhood. West Coast modern not considered appropriate to Old City context.
- Housing affordability is a challenge - need to ensure affordable housing is provided in new developments and older buildings repurposed for housing. Real challenge for young families.
- Need to meet intent of OCP housing policy.
- Investment in cycling and walking infrastructure in neighbourhood needed – no real change in the last ten years or so.
- Traffic is more intense in and through the neighbourhood.
- Need to lower emissions – zero carbon emission can be achieved not just through vehicles, but also through changes to building code for building construction.
- Green space important – need trees/urban forest – need more of it in Old City.
- Opioid use/homelessness increasing in neighbourhood.
- Climate crisis – various governments have role including City of Nanaimo – local government can affect carbon emissions through building regulation and land use policy.
- Reflecting on 388 Machleary Project – concern that no criteria applied by City Council to guide approval of development when it came to amending the OCP.

3. Opportunities

- Community liveability – keep neighbourhood as is.
- Addressing empty or derelict lots.

- Building design – heritage look, feel and design could be integral to design guidelines – need teeth in design guidelines. 25% to 33% of new development max. Could be modernist design – the rest should be traditional in appearance.
- Affordable housing – to support repurposing of existing residences, density bonusing a solution with balance being infill. Look at partnerships with lenders, Snuneymuxw First Nation, and other levels of government for public housing projects in the Old City.
- For non-market housing, look at development on school properties for new housing as well as some park areas.
- Keep affordable housing public and locate it on publicly owned lands.
- Agriculture/food security – focus on land in or near urban centre with water service. Consider intense agricultural methods. Focus on implementing food security policy and plans. Consider support for urban farming.
- Cycling and walking routes could be improved and made safer as dedicated routes separate from cars.
- Improved interconnectivity between public spaces in neighbourhood – currently not all routes through neighbourhood are connected and easy to travel.
- Use Step Code for buildings if not already doing so. Zero emissions – we need to be building zero emission buildings now.
- Create more urban forests in neighbourhood.
- Continue partnership with Island Health regarding Opioid crisis with solutions that can be support by neighbourhood.

#### 4. Priorities

- OCP/Neighbourhood Plan – how they are integrated. Respect Old City Neighbourhood Plan. Respect integrity of Old City character. Infill is supportable but should not be excessive (e.g. 5-6 stories). Ensure what is contained in neighbourhood plan is not lost in OCP update.
- Cycling/walking/connectivity is a priority for Old City.
- Urban agriculture and climate action initiatives are a priority for neighbourhood.
- Maintaining historical density and character of neighbourhood a priority.
- Strong recognition that affordable housing focus on non-market housing, not just market housing.
- Support for attractive building design and flexible densification.
- Climate action necessary – do everything we can to reduce carbon emissions
- Up our game with respect to active transportation improvements in neighbourhood.
- Less subsidization of development – apply Step Code to new developments rigorously-support developers that want to do this kind of design/construction.
- Opioid crisis and homelessness needs to be addressed. This effects the whole neighbourhood (e.g. Wesley Street encampment).
- Learned from Covid – financing can be done differently, particularly related to climate change. People do like to have a slower lifestyle – need to look at things differently in the future.
- One participant provide written comments (see Attachment A).

#### 5. Additional Comments

Community Planning staff thanked group for their input and confirmed that notes from this meeting will be considered as part of the summary evaluation of all inputs received during

through the REIMAGINE NANAIMO Phase 1 – Gathering Ideas engagement process. This process should be completed in December with a summary report going to Council either in mid-December, or in January as the City proceeds into Phase 2 – Exploring Options (through Spring/Summer of 2021), and Phase 3 – Developing Plans (through Fall of 2021). It was noted, that there will be additional opportunities for NOCA input as we work through these additional phases.

# Attachment A

**REIMAGINE NANAIMO CONSULTATION MEETING**  
With  
**Nanaimo Old City Association (NOCA)**  
**October 28, 2020**  
On Zoom and In Person (7 people maximum)

File: NOCA – Reimagine Nanaimo Consultation Meeting

**I would like to speak on five topics which I think need to be addressed specifically in the OCP.**

**1. Heritage Identity Through DESIGN in Character Neighbourhoods**

The Old City of Nanaimo has a character which comes from Nanaimo's history and the City street plans and buildings that reflect that history. This character is an important part of Nanaimo's identity and needs to be preserved just as Vancouver preserves its skyline. For this reason, I think that approval of design in character neighbourhoods should be non-negotiable and placed first in the building permit approval process. I was shocked to hear the architect for the Molner Group proudly announce (at the Hearing for the past proposed development for the Old Hospital site) that the design was West Coast Modern! How does "West Coast Modern" fit into a character neighbourhood. I was told that design would be reviewed at the end of the process so it had not been dealt with yet. Design should be the first element to be looked at in a character neighbourhood. Design needs to be kept in mind from the start to the finish of the development. If you don't talk about design at the beginning, the developer will be building his concept around an unacceptable design and will understandably push back if it is not approved in the end. This is not the only time I have come across this issue. The developer who owns the property across the street from my home at 461 Macleary St. is planning to introduce a West Coast Modern design for his townhouses. How does that fit in with the heritage houses in my block!

**I think that the OCP should stress that, in keeping with the importance of design in a character neighbourhood, this element should be non-negotiable and come first in the review and approval process.**

**2. The role of the Building Permit Department in addressing the goal of providing affordable housing.**

There are only two ways to address affordable housing – off market with government subsidy and repurposing existing buildings and residences. Both off market and repurposing is happening in Nanaimo, but only one gets a lot of attention and government money. With the help of all levels of government, off market housing is increasing. I welcome the developments that are planned for Nanaimo and look forward to an increasing supply of affordable housing until we meet the needs of our citizens.

However, repurposing is going on due to the initiative and hard work of individual homeowners without targeted help from the City. I am pleased to see that the City has started a review of the Building Permit Department and that a report is due in January. I have asked to be able to consult with Nielsen Strategies Inc. in order to offer some suggestions from my experience in applying for a building permit for the repurposing of my home.

**I think that the new OCP should include language - in the section on the goal of providing affordable housing - that the City should encourage the repurposing of housing through a transparent, logical, and timely building permit application process. Improving the process would increase costs, but not as much as providing land and subsidizing construction costs for off market housing.**

### 3. The role of densification in addressing the goal of providing affordable housing.

Densification of existing and new residential housing on single-family lots is happening. However, some districts like the Old City, which seem accepting of increased density, are artificially restricted by existing limits. A lot like the one that I live on at 461 Machleary Street with street and lane access should not be limited to two residences. I presently live in a strata-titled duplex on the property, but there is ample room on the lot for another dwelling with access to the lane below. I also welcome a townhouse development on the lot across the street and hope that the density supports the goal of affordable housing.

We should also look seriously at innovative housing and not let present building codes inhibit us when presented with new housing forms like mini houses and renovations of industrial components like shipping containers. Present costs for providing low income and supportive housing could be reduced from approximately \$350,000 per unit to under \$60,000.

**I think that the new OCP should include language that supports increased densification on single-family lots wherever possible and more flexibility in building codes to include new housing forms that have a smaller residential footprint.**

### 4. Accessing All Public Land for Affordable Housing

While cities are scrambling to find land on which to build off market housing, one source of land is untouched – schools. There are schools that are being shut down and the land either being sold at market prices or developed into infrastructure like playing fields. Using it for affordable housing does not seem to have come up in the conversation. I am especially angry when I read that school property has been sold at market prices for market priced development. Public land should remain in public hands – it is a public asset!

**I think that the new OCP should have clear language - in the section on providing affordable housing - that all unused publicly owned land, irrespective of the level of government that owns it, should be made available for affordable housing.**

### 5. Water Supply for Intensive, Urban Agriculture to Feed Our Growing Population

The “How We Adapt” section of ReimagineNanaimo points out that infrastructure systems like water supply ... are the highest costs our community faces.” It also mentions that “Proactive planning allows us to be more prepared for future climate impacts.”

The BC Ministry of Agriculture and Lands has published a report called **BC’s Food Self-Reliance – Can BC’s Farmers Feed Our Growing Population?** as part of their planning for climate change. It says that “To maintain the current level of self-reliance (for food production) through to the year 2025, farmers will need to increase production by 30% over 2001 levels. The increased production will be concentrated on the land that has access to irrigation – land that is typically in or near the urban centres.” With this in mind, local governments must consider the provision of water for agriculture when they budget water supplies and the infrastructure that delivers it.

**I think that the new OCP should include a vision for providing water supplies to support the urban agriculture that will continue to increase within Nanaimo’s urban containment boundary in response to climate change.**



## **Protection Island Neighbourhood Association REIMAGINE NANAIMO Outreach Meeting Notes, October 20, 2020, 7:00 p.m., by Zoom**

Attendees: 1 member of the Protection Island Neighbourhood Association (on behalf of PINA Executive) and City Staff (Community Planning), (Parks, Recreation and Culture).

### 1. Introduction

City staff provided an introduction to REIMAGINE NANAIMO; background on process, etc. and spoke to the recent neighbourhood capacity survey noting PINA's priority items as follows:

1. Management Plan for Protection Island forests (parks and trees).
2. Keep working to establish guaranteed public access to and from Protection Island and the City of Nanaimo – currently access is through privately owned ferry or privately controlled marinas
3. Improved dust suppression on island roads due to longer dry periods.
4. Repairs to tennis court surface (B-ball, Pickle Ball, Hockey) and possibly add another court for increased recreational demand.

### 2. Neighbourhood Challenges

- Management Plan for Protection Island forests (parks and trees) – noticing a lot of die off of trees with climate change – fire risk concern – fire smart program. City needs to have eyes on this (tree removal, etc.). Seems to be different groups talking to different people at the City. PINA needs to have a process so everyone knows what is going on – making progress in this regard. Art Groot and Charlotte Davis at the City will be reaching out to PINA, Protection Island Fire Department and Lions Club to start coordinated conversation on Management Plan and to determine community support.
- Need to secure guaranteed access to and from Protection Island via publicly owned facilities, preferably owned or controlled by the City of Nanaimo. It was pointed out that all current access routes are controlled or owned by private businesses or the Port Authority and that access is not guaranteed into the future. Concern that the Port Authority is going to divest downtown boat basin. Where is guarantee that access to Protection Island will be provided publicly in case private service discontinued? Island access not currently part of City's/RDN's public transportation system. One option would be to keep service private, but fund through City's transportation system. Protection Islanders need a secure ferry system not linked to private business. Protection Connection privately owned – if Dingy Dock goes, so too would ferry service. Brechin Boat Ramp too far away, and restricted in its use for Protection Islanders.
- Dust suppression on Protection Island roads a perennial challenge.
- Repairs to tennis court surface needed.
- Lack of protected deep-water moorage locations on Protection Island – ongoing issue.
- In light of the current liquor license application to extend hours of operation at the Newcastle Island Pavilion facility, it was asked if there was a structure in place that would give residents of Protection Island an opportunity to express any concerns they may have with respect to increased late night activity. If not, could one be created?
- Some issues related to AirBnB guests – people feel they are out camping or at a resort – for example, burning things like they are in a campground - even during COVID. Guests also letting kids drive golf carts. It was noted, that regulations for such operations are currently being developed by the City.

- Some instances of theft on the island – raiding of gardens for example. Fairly minor.
- Have a block watch program - occasional property theft (transient people come for a week in the summer). Usually short lived.

### 3. Neighbourhood Opportunities

- Long term access to and from Protection Island - proposed that we imagine a City-operated boat basin and/or a City owned boat ramp at the Wellcox lands (south of Port Place Shopping Centre). The City could consider forming a cooperative management group with representatives from the City of Nanaimo, Snuneymuxw First Nation, and citizen representatives. This cooperative would be locally controlled to meet local demands in the harbour. Such a group could guarantee access rights to the City, to Protection Island and to Newcastle Island through the harbour. A boat ramp would assist in transportation of goods to the two islands, promoting economic activity and reducing the environmental impacts of the existing longer transportation routes. Perhaps there are ways to connect the two islands as an extension of the public transportation routes of the City.
- Improved dust suppression for Protection Island roads – residents know that “chip seal” or another hard surface type is being planned for 2022. Until then, need to have dust suppression applied. It was pointed out that climate change has resulted in longer periods of drought when road dust a problem. As a consequence, would suggest that two applications of dust suppression be applied instead of one annual application, dependent on weather conditions.
- Repair tennis courts - Is in City’s draft budget for 2023. Had to be pushed back due to COVID. If approved by council, Parks would work with PINA on priorities for court upgrades. There have been some user conflicts for the existing facilities but these are being resolved through better scheduling. Strong user demand. Another court would be nice if assessment of need shows it is warranted based on future population growth – potential for another 200-300 people to live on the Island.
- Open a channel of discussion with SFN re Newcastle because of concern about Newcastle activities impacting Protection Island residents.
- Can there be synergies between Newcastle and Protection Island ferries (for mutual support)?
- Community garden support has been excellent - thank you! Is there space elsewhere on the island for another garden area? People keep wanting to expand the community garden and we have to say no.
- Spyglass Lookout – raised the idea that the City consider ways to obtain the land at 25 Spyglass Lookout and rezone it as parkland. This particular property has posed problem ever since its inception. Due to it being unsuitable for building, the City should solve the problem once and for all.
- Lack of protected deep-water moorage locations on Protection Island has put stress on existing moorage facilities. All are at or beyond capacity. As the island’s population grows, this will reinforce the need for a public transportation route to and from the island. The “Happyland” property on the west side of the island offers possible moorage facilities. Should the property ever be developed, the City should ensure some marina slots are dedicated to meet the residents’ moorage needs.
- What about a small retirement village on the island? There is a growing desire amongst Protection Island residents to have some form of “assisted living” facility in place for an aging population.

#### 4. Neighbourhood Priorities

- Short term – Management Plan for Protection Island Forests (parks and trees), improved dust suppression.
- Medium term: Tennis court resurface, road paving.
- Long term: City owned waterfront access, transit connection, Spyglass rezoning.

## **South End Community Association (SECA) REIMAGINE NANAIMO Outreach Meeting Notes, October 21, 2020, 7:00 p.m., SARC Boardroom (411 Dunsmuir Street) and by Zoom**

Attendees: 5 members of South End Community Association and City Staff (Community Planning), (Environment), (Transportation) and (Parks, Recreation, and Culture).

### 1. Introduction

City staff provided an introduction to REIMAGINE NANAIMO; background on process, etc. and spoke to the recent neighbourhood capacity survey noting SECA's priority items as follows:

1. Terminal- Nicol Reimagined
2. Community Centre
3. Pedestrian Infrastructure- sidewalks, bus benches, cross walks, etc....

### 2. Neighbourhood Challenges

- Lack of money to implement Terminal- Nicol Reimagine plans. City and Province need to work in a coordinated way on this project. People need to believe it can change. Need buy in from the community. Happy with last meeting with the City, looking forward to seeing progress. Understand it is a *large ask*.
- Large # of pedestrians within the neighbourhood – need improved and new pedestrian oriented infrastructure – infrastructure is lacking or needs improving.
- Proposed supportive housing and responding to the community's reaction to the housing proposal the largest current challenge for SECA. Willing to work with Province and City on this. Concern about # of supportive housing units in the area expressed by local residents. Concern BC Housing not being transparent with the community regarding their plans,
- Oldest neighbourhood in the City- still missing sidewalks in many areas, including some portions of Haliburton Street.
- Need to slow down traffic on Nicol Street. A lot of space given to cars, with narrow sidewalks for pedestrians. Environment feels unsafe for pedestrians.
- Haliburton Street a bike route, but dedicated bike lanes missing.
- Potential for more bus stops at bottom of Nicol Street – higher proportion of transit users in neighbourhood but less in the way of bus shelters.
- Safety of existing crosswalks on Nicol Street an issue due to road width and traffic speed, and not convenient due to long spaces in between.
- Lack of parking for businesses at bottom of Nicol Street, and convenient parking for businesses on Nicol Street in general.
- Lack of accessible meeting space. Noted difficulty accessing basement of community theatre space for those in a wheelchair. Need accessible Community Centre space or Neighbourhood House.

### 3. Neighbourhood Opportunities

- SECA good with working with imperfect solutions and problem solving.
- Consider time of day parking on Nicol Street- as proposed in Terminal-Nicol Reimagined Plan.

- Community space- good to start small and identify vacant space – if necessary, start with pilot site or existing building space.
- Pedestrian infrastructure- identify small improvements and budget for things such as benches and bus shelters. Start with low hanging fruit. Also look at bicycle lane and traffic calming on Haliburton Street.
- Budget for and implement some of the Terminal/Nicol ReImagined recommendations – gateways to neighbourhood at either end of Nicol Street could be initial focus – infrastructure and aesthetic improvements would do wonders for the neighbourhood. Number of low budget and easy to implement actions contained within Terminal/Nicol ReImagined.
- Most of Haliburton has sidewalks, while other parts don't. For example, no sidewalk on 700 block of Haliburton. Unfinished business. Connect gaps between sidewalk infrastructure.
- High pedestrian count on Haliburton due to bus stops located on the street. Consider rerouting bus route onto Nicol Street to slow down traffic and take buses off Haliburton.
- Lots of revenue coming into SECA area through new development. Spend revenue within the area.
- No sidewalk on Needham between Haliburton and Nicol. Need more sidewalk connections to south end of Nicol Street from neighbourhood.
- Consider allowing parking on Nicol Street to help slow down traffic and create a buffer between traffic and the sidewalk.
- Creation of local recreation space in neighbourhood would be very exciting.

#### 4. Neighbourhood Priorities

- Parking on Nicol.
- New Sidewalks.
- Neighbourhood gathering space/community centre.
- Terminal/Nicol ReImagine Implementation (x3).
- Reduced homelessness in neighbourhood.
- Sidewalks and bike lanes.
- Maintain character of the neighbourhood.
- Avoid gentrification.
- Develop the waterfront as public space (Port Drive Area) – access to the water.

#### 5. Additional Comments

(Environmental Policy):

- Environment staff noted Energy Retrofit top ups and programs in place.

(Active Transportation):

- Transportation staff provided update on the Active Transportation Plan.
- Noted South End has the highest rate of active transportation users.
- Consultant creating a matrix for pedestrian infrastructure improvement to help prioritize active transportation resources.
- Group noted SECA has VIU student doing a project on tactical urbanism.
- 3 key corridors
  1. Nicol
  2. Haliburton

### 3. Waterfront

- Discussed passenger train along waterfront tracks.
- Discussed retaining gantry on waterfront (bridge like structure used to load rail cars onto barge) within a waterfront park. Good example of industrial heritage within the area that should be retained as a pedestrian viewing area and for industrial heritage interpretation related to the history of the Assembly Wharf lands.

#### (Parks Planning):

- PRC staff noted parks working on securing meeting space within the South End neighbourhood, also looking at space partnerships with Snuneymuxw First Nation.
- Also looking at larger community centre (similar scale to Oliver Woods) to locate somewhere in South Nanaimo.
- Some money from Community Amenity Contributions may be available for Deverill Square Park (possibly other parks) upgrades (under \$20,000).
- Group noted Jolly Miner is for sale and suggested it as a possible community space. Kirsty noted we will look into it but not sure if space or zoning are suitable.

#### (Social Planning):

- Community Planning staff noted BC Housing considering including meeting space within supportive housing at 702 Nicol Street. Space will be available for community use.

#### Discussion on waterfront access:

- Noted Front Street extension a good first step.
- Need more access opportunities along waterfront industrial lands.
- Waterfront access tied to safe pedestrian infrastructure in the community.
- Port of Nanaimo lands a barrier.
- Waterfront park near Gabriola ferry used by homeless, not welcoming for other residents.
- Concern over loss of "Bow-tie" park due to Gabriola ferry expansion.

## **Wellington Action Committee REIMAGINE NANAIMO Outreach Meeting Notes, October 16, 2020, 1:00 p.m., at Loudon Park Beach Area (4288 Lake Road)**

Attendees: 3 members of Wellington Action Committee and City Staff (Community Planning), (Environment), (Planning, Recreation and Culture), and approximately 100 Canada Geese.

### 1. Introduction

City staff provided an introduction to REIMAGINE NANAIMO; background on process, etc. and spoke to the recent neighbourhood capacity survey noting the Wellington Action Committee's priority items as follows:

1. Loudon Park:
  - Overutilization by private interest groups;
  - Poor vehicle circulation and lack of parking;
  - Safety concerns including access to lakeside trail, poor lighting and security.
2. Island Highway/Jingle Pot Road intersection – evaluate safety and design of intersection, possible advance green and/or left hand turning lane, possible addition of sidewalks and bike lane.
3. Also, many issues and ideas identified as part of a mini-plan community workshop held in 2018 (see Attachment A).

### 2. Neighbourhood Challenges

- Long Lake Beach usage is high and will get higher as the population increases. Lake access is an issue. Safety is a concern with the number of cars parked along the street in the summer and with speeding. There is also criminal activity at night in the parking lot and treed area of the beach. Canoe Club has had break-ins, as well as instances of drug selling/use. Camping of homeless in park also an issue.
- Green spaces are disappearing in neighbourhood. Would like to see better utilization and maintenance of existing green spaces.
- Trails and boardwalks at Diver Lake are not passable due to potholes and flooding.
- Traffic congestion at the Island Highway/Jingle Pot Road intersection. Cars wanting to left turn onto highway from Jingle Pot Road do not have an advance green which causes traffic to back up.
- Loudon Park Beach – lack of sand in main beach area – being washed away.
- Conflict sometimes occurs between waterfront property owners and folks using Loudon Park's lakefront walk – need improved walking area. A lot of persons using small park area.
- Road safety – whole length of Victoria Avenue – traffic calming needed, the use of planting for traffic calming measures would be supported by the community.
- Environmental challenges – car dealerships an issue with respect to emissions control into surrounding lakes – Nanaimo Area Land Trust (NALT) has reviewed and issues are real. Further water testing will begin at Long Lake and Diver Lake in the new year as a WAC/NALT partnership.
- Housing redevelopment in the neighbourhood – a lot over the past few years, but we haven't seen dedication of new green space keep pace. Also need to maintain existing green space better.

- Existing trail on Diver Lake is often in poor condition (e.g. water logged). Utilization of park is not optimal due to its condition.
- House at corner of Island Highway and Norwell Drive is in very poor condition (4015 Corunna Drive) – slum housing. Can anything be done to encourage owner to fix up or replace with new housing? Would like to see improvement as it is located at high profile gateway to Long Lake portion of neighbourhood.
- Need more sidewalks (many areas lacking) and planted boulevards on main roads.

### 3. Neighbourhood Opportunities

- Consider traffic calming measures with street planting.
- Tap into City funding for street tree planting program (TD Bank).
- Long Lake water level controlled by weir, drains into Diver Lake – adjustment of weir could help with Diver Lake flooding issues.
- Increase external lighting on new Canoe Club building, will light up this area of the Loudon Park.
- Current storage area at Loudon Park used by Canoe Club could be made available to redevelopment and possible reuse as a drive through road to ease congestion in the parking area once new Canoe Club building is completed.
- Could additional beach area be created on Westwood Lake?
- Complete trail around the entirety of Diver Lake.
- Do landscape enhancements on cul-de-sacs adjoining 107<sup>th</sup> Street near Lucky's Liquor.
- Consider additional tree planting, natural landscape restoration in Loudon Park where canoe's are currently stored or grassy areas.
- Neighbourhood's central location, sense of place is real asset.
- Neighborhood has large areas of mature, established trees, with a lot of species diversity.
- E&N Railway Trail – access is great.
- Walkability of neighbourhood is great.
- Fishing piers on Westwood Lake are great (real social connection points).
- Stable population – people tend to stay in neighbourhood once they move here.
- Services are easy to access (shopping, etc.)
- Has variety of property sizes and housing forms.

### 4. Neighbourhood Priorities

- Increase safety and security (particularly related to Loudon Park)
- Accessibility of Diver Lake and Loudon Park, maintenance of the existing trails.
- Beautification of road hardscaping using plants (e.g. replanting of boulevard by the Country Club crosswalk at 107<sup>th</sup> and Wellesley Avenue where shrubs were taken out).
- Review of Canoe Club Project – need to review, have not seen plans yet.
- Improvements to Island Highway/Norwell/Jingle Pot Road Intersection from functional and aesthetic design perspective.

## Attachment A

### WELLINGTON TOWNSITE ISSUES AND IDEAS WORKSHOP, 2018-APR-21 NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

ASSETS	LIABILITIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loudon Park, Beach and Trailway (12)</li> <li>• Wellington Community Hall (3922 Corunna Avenue) (3)</li> <li>• Wellington Village Core</li> <li>• Treed area at Norwell and Apsley</li> <li>• Heritage character of neighbourhood – e.g. narrow lot frontages, smaller lots, smaller houses (miner's houses).</li> <li>• Private docks on Long Lake – allow fishing and small boat moorage.</li> <li>• Amenities within walking distance (recreation, commercial, services)</li> <li>• Walkability of neighbourhood.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loudon Park and Beach Area is over utilized – safety issues. Park access should not have been closed off. Issues related to snowplow, waste removal, RCMP access. Need beautification and enhancement with planting. Need new sand on beach and new playground. Need exterior exercise equipment design for seniors in Loudon Park (see Kamloops and Oak Bay for examples). Need BBQ's in Park/Beach area – similar to Brisbane, Australia. Need improved steps and handrails (not graspable) for access to Loudon walkway. Use of park by special interests (e.g. rowing club) (9)</li> <li>• Need a local, community garden area in 102<sup>nd</sup> Street right of way at intersection with Corunna Avenue (3).</li> <li>• Milfoil infestation in Long Lake (2).</li> <li>• Boat speed on Long Lake too high – causes erosion to lakeshore (2).</li> <li>• 4243 Corunna – property fence is over height by at least 2 feet.</li> <li>• Private docks have blocked access to beach space.</li> <li>• Need local, recycling drop off.</li> <li>• Need ballpark at Diver Lake Park.</li> <li>• Land growth – Access</li> <li>• Long Lake Nursery Location – redevelopment as car dealership?</li> <li>• Norwell Drive/Island Highway Intersection.</li> <li>• Poor condition of building at 4015 Corunna Avenue.</li> <li>• Vehicle speed along Victoria Avenue in summer.</li> <li>• Tripping hazards and invasive plant species on Loudon Trailway in Lake Road area.</li> <li>• Need community dock somewhere along Loudon Trailway.</li> <li>• Aesthetic look of Norwell Drive streetscape between Island Highway intersection and Victoria Avenue.</li> <li>• Wellington Community Hall needs beautification.</li> <li>• Need welcome sign for neighbourhood along island highway.</li> <li>• Need farmers market at Wellington Community Hall site.</li> <li>• Need coffee shop in village core.</li> <li>• Need improvements to intersection at Norwell Drive and Victoria Avenue to demarcate entry point to village core (e.g. crosswalk art, signage to beach, etc.).</li> <li>• Need walkable sidewalk along highway – currently an informal pathway that is not safe.</li> <li>• Invasive plant species on land by Long Lake (e.g. Bamboo and Horsetail).</li> <li>• Parking holes in gravel parking area by Loudon Trailway.</li> <li>• Not getting parkland for development in the area.</li> </ul>

- Illegal docks on Long Lake.
- Big houses built on tiny lots.
- Pot shop and Pub.

**WELLINGTON TOWNSITE ISSUES AND IDEAS WORKSHOP, 2018-APR-21  
SUMMARY OF NEIGHBOURHOOD ISSUES AND IDEAS (IN ORDER OF PRIORITY)**

ISSUES	IDEAS	PRIORITY RATING
<p><b>LOUDON PARK – OVERUTILIZATION BY INTEREST GROUPS (E.G. ROWING CLUB), NOT NEIGHBOURHOOD BASED.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-open roadway through park to allow vehicle circulation.</li> <li>• Functionality of the Park needs to be re-examined by City.</li> <li>• Revisit site design of Loudon Park with the local neighbourhood.</li> </ul>	11
<p><b>ISLAND HIGHWAY/NORWELL DRIVE INTERSECTION</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced green (evaluate need).</li> <li>• Evaluate overall lighting levels at the intersection.</li> <li>• Need left hand turning lane.</li> <li>• Do not increase traffic (look at traffic calming techniques for vehicles entering neighbourhood).</li> <li>• Intersection needs to be bike friendly (not currently the case)</li> <li>• Formally request Ministry of Highways and City of Nanaimo evaluate design and safety of the intersection.</li> <li>• Request City of Nanaimo review vehicle speeds on Norwell Drive for possible traffic calming modifications (current vehicle speeds seem high).</li> <li>• Build or update sidewalks at intersection and up Norwell Drive along village core edge.</li> </ul>	9
<p><b>OVERUTILIZATION OF PARK AND BEACH AREA/SAFETY CONCERNS (TRAFFIC, DRUG ACTIVITY)/ROAD CLOSURE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overflow parking in neighbourhood an issue during summer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need more parkland along Loudon Trailway and access to Long Lake.</li> <li>• Create parkland elsewhere to take pressure off Loudon Park and Beach.</li> <li>• Make better use of Provincial rest stop on highway for public access to Long Lake.</li> <li>• Need more parking for beach area.</li> <li>• Need Loudon Park gatekeeper or ambassador.</li> </ul>	9
<p><b>NEED MORE COMMUNITY EVENTS</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop closer community relationship through WAC hosted community events – start with one in the summer (in Loudon Park), and one in the winter (at Wellington Hall).</li> <li>• Consider hosting an open mike night at Wellington Hall. Locals do not use the Hall as much as it could be – should be key community focal point.</li> </ul>	7

<p><b>POOR STREET AESTHETICS ON NORWELL DRIVE BETWEEN INTERSECTION WITH ISLAND HIGHWAY AND VICTORIA ROAD</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With City, develop road improvement plan for this section of Norwell Drive – improve all aspects of the streetscape.</li> </ul>	<p>7</p>
<p><b>NEED FARMERS MARKET IN NEIGHBOURHOOD</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Locate at Wellington Hall</li> <li>• One possibility is to move existing market from Pleasant Valley to Wellington.</li> <li>• Parking for Wellington Hall is an issue that would need to be addressed.</li> </ul>	<p>5</p>
<p><b>NEED MORE AND IMPROVED SAND ON THE BEACH AT LOUDON PARK</b></p>		<p>4</p>
<p><b>NEED TO REMOVE TRIPPING HAZARDS AND INVASIVE PLANTS ON LOUDON TRAILWAY</b></p>		<p>4</p>
<p><b>NEED SAFE, WALKABLE SIDEWALK/TRAIL ALONG ISLAND HIGHWAY ADJOINING LONG LAKE</b></p>		<p>4</p>
<p><b>BOAT SPEED ON LAKE (SHORE EROSION)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provincial government jurisdiction – contact to enforce.</li> <li>• Consider setting speed limits within a specified distance of shore (e.g. 50 feet) – place buoys to keep speeding boats away from shorelines and slow them down.</li> <li>• Provide safety and speed limit education to boat owners on Lake.</li> </ul>	<p>3</p>
<p><b>REZONING/REDEVELOPMENT (e.g. R2 ZONE), INCREASED DENSITY, AND EFFECT ON NEIGHBOURHOOD CHARACTER</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Find neighbourhood consensus with respect to neighbourhood character and new development.</li> <li>• Request City review residential development design guidelines for Wellington Townsite Area and create guidelines specific to the neighbourhood's character.</li> </ul>	<p>3</p>
<p><b>VICTORIA AVENUE VEHICLE SPEEDS</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Request City monitor vehicle speeds and consider road-calming techniques.</li> </ul>	<p>2</p>
<p><b>POOR CONDITION OF RENTAL HOUSE AT 4015 CORUNNA DRIVE</b></p>		<p>2</p>

ENCOURAGEMENT NEEDED FOR COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN WELLINGTON VILLAGE CORE		2
NEED GARBAGE CANS AT BUS STOPS (PARTICULARLY AT INTERSECTION OF VICTORIA AND NORWELL)		2
NEED IMPROVED MOBILITY ACCESS TO AND ON LOUDON TRAILWAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgrade wooden stairway to improve access to trailway.</li> <li>• Provide more frequent maintenance of trailway.</li> <li>• Provide more benches and places to sit.</li> </ul>	1
UNCONSTRUCTED RIGHT OF WAY AT INTERSECTION OF 102 <sup>ND</sup> /CORUNNA AND EMPTY LANDS AT 4020 NORWELL DRIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with City to turn into community spaces such as garden plots or food forest similar to the one on Haliburton Street in South End.</li> </ul>	1
BYLAW SERVICES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Garbage and maintenance enforcement needed.</li> </ul>	1
NEED TO ADDRESS INVASIVE SPECIES AND PROTECT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSETS		1
TYPE OF INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN AREA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review Zoning and OCP designations within community – need neighbourhood plan to incorporate community input regarding land use.</li> <li>• Look at specific sites in nearby area – such as old Garden Centre to the north where car dealership is proposed – is this the best use of the site?</li> </ul>	
POT SHOP		
LACK OF PARKING IN WELLINGTON VILLAGE CORE		

**MORE ISSUES/IDEAS MENTIONED:**

- Restrict large truck use on Norwell Drive.
- Need sidewalks on various roadways (unfinished business).

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The Nanaimo Design Labs were held prior to the onset of public engagement specific to REIMAGINE NANAIMO. However, the insights from these labs were reviewed as input to the process. The following document is a summary of findings from the labs.



# Nanaimo

## DESIGN LABS SUMMARY

March 2-6, 2020



Funded in Part by the Government of Canada's  
Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy



# Acknowledgements

## *Land Acknowledgement*

We would like to begin by acknowledging that we are on the traditional and unceded territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, the traditional territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nation.

## Introduction/Overview

Community engagement for the Design Labs was broad in scope and designed to be carried out in two phases. Phase 1 saw nine Design Labs undertaken that offered an opportunity for community members to share and identify strategies that meet the needs of a variety of different populations in Nanaimo. To date, Phase 2 has been put on hold with the onset of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

### THE FOLLOWING PHASE 1 TOPICS INCLUDED:

- Mon., 2 Mar. 1:00 p.m.  
**Design Lab: Business Sector Solutions**
- Tue., 3 Mar. 9:00 a.m.  
**Design Lab: Public Awareness & Education**
- Tue., 3 Mar. 1:00 p.m.  
**Design Lab: Media**
- Tue., 3 Mar. 6:00 p.m.  
**Design Lab: Neighbourhood-based Solutions**
- Wed., 4 Mar. 9:00 a.m.  
**Design Lab: Legal & Justice**
- Tue., 4 Mar. 1:00 p.m.  
**Design Lab: Crime & Safety**
- Thu., 5 Mar. 9:00 a.m.  
**Design Lab: Spirit Of Recovery - Supports For Mental Health, Addictions**
- Thu., 5 Mar. 1:00 p.m.  
**Design Lab: Social Inclusion & Wellbeing**
- Fri., 6 Mar. 9:00 a.m.  
**Design Lab: Employment, Education, Poverty Reduction**

## How We Engaged

As part of the broader consultation process, community members in the City of Nanaimo attended Design Labs to support the HHTF in better understanding health, housing, and homelessness-related issues in their community. Over 200 individuals participated in the Design Labs which took place between 2 and 6 March 2020.

The sessions explored ways that certain programs could be enhanced in order to leverage existing resources and ways in which the HHTF partners could develop integrated responses to health, housing, and homelessness issues. Citizens were invited to:

- Share their experiences with ongoing challenges;
- Identify key issues for resolution; and
- Suggest solutions to the challenges in Nanaimo.

These consultations provided valuable insights to the experiences of Nanaimo residents with these issues.

## *Meeting Process*

Nine Design Labs were held at the church. Meeting capacity was capped at 40 people, and participants were encouraged to pre-register online. Each workshop was about two hours long. After a brief welcome from HHTF members, meeting participants were briefed by a room facilitator who shared meeting expectations, background context, and participation guidelines.

The solutions portion focused on the following questions:

- What are some of the challenges being experienced with X topic?
- How can current approaches for X topic be enhanced to support the Plan?
- Pool ideas and come up with up to 1-3 solutions/strategies to address these challenges.
- For each solution/strategy:
  - What should be our top three actions?
    - immediately (0-6 months);
    - short term (within 2 years); and
    - long term (2+ years)?
  - What does success look like?
  - How do you know your strategy has worked?

At each table, volunteer HHTF, City, and United Way facilitators guided the conversation and captured results. Attendees shared their experiences in small format discussion groups which created more opportunity for dialogue and encouraged productive conversation.

With 15 minutes before each session's end, table facilitators briefly shared a summary of their table's discussion with the entire room, so that all participants had insight into the conversations that were held. The themes that came out of these consultations are discussed in detail below.

## What We Heard

### *Theme 1: Systems Integration, Access, Coordination, Navigation.*

This theme was cross-cutting: every lab raised the need for a coordinated, integrated, streamlined process to support people experiencing homelessness, mental health, and/or addictions issues and, more broadly, social assistance, rent support, employment, and wellbeing. The need to better navigate and have better access to a robust continuum of care -- ranging from the built environment (wheelchairs, transit, washrooms, water stations, needle boxes, drop-in space), to rent/social assistance (barriers such as stigma/discrimination, affordable housing), to substance-use programming (detox facilities, intensive case management, psychiatric care, supported housing) -- was repeatedly highlighted throughout the week.

### *Theme 2: Public Awareness, Education, Social Inclusion.*

The stigma surrounding mental health and addictions can also be an effect of discrimination, ignorance, stereotyping, and prejudice. Participants called for better education around trauma/humanization of the homeless issue in Nanaimo, positive media stories, and more social inclusion opportunities, such as hiring people with lived experience to participate when stakeholders are designing policies and programs.

Social media was flagged as a curse and a boon, where fear overpowers logic and reason; moderators are burnt out monitoring free speech versus defamation; there is a desire to use it to culturally shift the narrative to data-informed and constructive public interest news, and to use it as a platform for spotlighting positive impacts from various community interventions, and putting a face to the data around homelessness and addiction. Participants noted the key to dealing with NIMBYism was education and outreach.

### *Theme 3: Wellbeing, Mental Health, Addictions.*

Participants pointed out that good mental health is more than the absence of a mental health condition or illness or addiction: it is a positive sense of wellbeing, or the capacity to enjoy life and deal with individual challenges. Community wellbeing was impacted by a number of factors:

- mobility/accessibility/transportation challenges for people in need of intensive social services;
- lack of interagency coordination;
- insufficient community/gathering spaces for social interaction;
- increasing income gap;
- limited livable income employment; and
- stress and poor mental health.

Further, there was much discussion on the inadequacy of mental health and addictions funding, specialists, staff, counselling/supports, and supportive housing in Nanaimo. Long waitlists, siloed care, systems navigation, psychiatric care, health worker fatigue, aftercare/follow-up, proper training, and proactive and timely prevention/interventions were all flagged as issues. Currently, the highest acuity/needs individuals in Nanaimo are falling through the cracks.

### ***Theme 4: Community Safety, Legal/Justice Issues, Neighbourhood/Business Sector Solutions.***

Discussions focused on:

- the increasing crime in Nanaimo;
- how to better prevent crime and mitigate social disorder; and
- how to help people with serious mental health issues to not wind up in the criminal justice system.

Issues focused: on systemic barriers (bylaws, access to services, policies); overuse of the criminal justice system (lack of diversion, restorative justice, stress/lack of resources for re-integration); community impacts (lack of hope leading to vigilante activity, people taking it into their own hands); sentencing not meeting clients needs (not allowing time to support with service needs); and a lack of resources in community to transition into or support.

Participants discussed the lack of cohesion and communication about issues in the community: concern about personal safety; drug-related crime; needle debris; increasing social disintegration/disorder; concern for people who are living in distress; and also stigma and prejudice towards those same people as their presence may deter more people from visiting downtown Nanaimo. Connecting and establishing RCMP, VIHA, ACT team, CMHA, neighbourhood associations, block watch partnerships.

### ***Theme 5: Poverty Reduction, Determinants of Health, Income, Employment and Education Supports.***

A single lab with the broad subject matter of poverty reduction touched on many structural issues which also emerged as discussion points in other labs: how living on a low income affects people's lives in many ways. Living in poverty can mean having fewer opportunities to fully participate in important day-to-day activities like work and education, and also experiencing poorer health than those who are better off. There is a need for more access to services (lack of family doctors, lack of community psychiatric care), and to stop the criminalization of poverty (sleeping in parkades, stealing food, punished for crimes of need).

Practical needs such as food banks/soup kitchens, a drop-in centre with showers and washrooms, rent supports, social assistance, and employment workshops to support people struggling came up in several labs.

Teaching essential life skills was noted as a solution: budgeting, household responsibilities, work/life balance, and breaking down literacy barriers (e.g. online forms, applications are sometimes difficult for people who aren't vulnerable as well as those who are) will make processes easier for skilled workers to gain certification education.

## **Recommendations from Design Labs**

Solutions suggested by the participants included:

## *Establish a Continuum of Care*

- Enhance leadership representation of all sectors at community roundtables, along with mental health/addictions services into an integrated and consolidated service delivery model. For example: better coordination and improved access to basic needs support;
- Recruit stakeholders such as the RCMP, community agencies, health care, and justice representatives to advise on what care looks like for vulnerable people.;
- Coordinated access should be implemented to allow community agencies to better utilize resources and deliver shared outcomes;
- Hire an operations coordinator to carry out the system design and logistics;
- Develop a specialized team to support access to justice and community services, and to act as navigators to support access to social services, health, and the legal paperwork required. They would foster supports for high acuity/high need individuals. They are trained to work through dimensions of complexity and vulnerability, and undertake the daily operations of coordinated access/assessment.

## *Establish or Expand Facilities*

- Increase the resources needed for structural systems and early intervention practices, specifically in transitional supports and navigation as people move within the service and housing continuum;
- Enhance capacity for mental health/addictions long-term housing;
- Develop a drop-in/community wellness/therapeutic care/resource centre where social service agency staff could rotate in/out on different days and provide various health, wellness, culturally-responsive, employment, training, legal, and art/craft sessions.

## *Collaborate with Stakeholders*

- Leverage funders and partnerships so that different sectors have knowledge of each others' programs, funding, roles, and responsibilities. This will improve coordination as multiple agencies are working together and meeting regularly;
- Include lived experience voice and representation at these decision-making tables;
- Increase youth systems advocacy and coordination, and include those with lived experience in decision making.

## *Involve the Community*

- Conduct public wellness events -- e.g. pop-up workshops, ID clinics, education campaigns for changing attitudes -- to increase the exposure to the diversity in our community;
- Public art is one medium to demonstrate the community's diversity (LiveEx, LGBTQ2S+, Indigenous, immigrants);
- Develop community champion networks (mentoring, programming, workshops). Establish stronger relationships with the media to overcome barriers to reporting factual information, and be accountable for what is being published;
- Implement block parties and other forms of community development to identify and celebrate success.

## *Low Barrier Health Care*

- Twenty-four-hour outreach, street nurses, and supportive wet and dry sites are necessary;
- Establish more positions for social work and psychologists, and incentivize those positions;
- Provide education for health professionals and use best practices -- e.g. Calgary, Medicine Hat, Intensive Case Management, open door/warm transfers, tap into university curriculum. Perhaps a certification program could be offered;
- Embed peers in the system at various points of entry to be leaders in driving change;
- Mobilize retired health professionals as volunteers.

## *Changes at the Policy Level and Implementation of Best Practices*

- Clarify roles around social assistance, living wage, and supports: all levels of government need to communicate with each other;
- Advocate for change and more funding to the province. Improve access to housing: build more supportive housing, decentralize housing, change land zoning, build tiny homes;
- Use emerging/best practice research and ensure application with local knowledge and resources and the will to (e.g. Medicine Hat model);
- Undertake cost-benefit analysis to promote supportive programs to help give greater political awareness about funding needs and to temper public vigilantism.

# Creative Rapid Fire Solutions

## *Justice*

- Trauma-informed Sentencing and Triage Release Plan where the sentencing precedence is accounting for trauma and past personal experiences, with more restorative practices to address issues;
- Establish processes for warm handovers, mental health/addictions, long-term housing, ownership in sentencing -- leading to accountability in actions and outcomes -- e.g. drug court;
- High-need individuals: liaison (navigator) in the court system and at transition points throughout justice and corrections;
- Looking at GTC, VITC Therapeutic Community Models; cost-benefit analysis of CJ System diversion;
- Culturally-informed.

## *Food*

- Plant fruit trees in public spaces;
- Provide coupons for people;
- Implement food bank deliveries;
- Establish soup kitchens.

## *Employment*

- Job creation and sustainability: green jobs -- addressing climate change, access to training for employers and employees (gardens clean-up);
- Diversify hiring policies (more LGBTQ, Indigenous, immigrant staff);
- Increase minimum wage;
- Child care -- increase spaces and affordability for working parents;
- More transitional employment opportunities.

## *Education*

- Assess educational needs; learn from multiple perspectives and ways of knowing;

- Local education campaigns to reduce stigma and discrimination that are ongoing, not one-offs, and located all over the city;
- LiveEx give talks, and people learn compassion and empathy;
- “Speed dating” engagement methods to encourage discussion and remove fear;
- Alternative news sources which bypass media bias and allow LiveEx to be authors;
- Post-secondary schools to be more community-focused and involved.

## *Wellbeing*

- Bringing the neighbourhood together: increase capacity, cohesion, connectedness and resilience, and success measures;
- Identify local initiatives and projects that the neighbourhood is willing to address that are “easier” to solve;
- Safe spaces for dialogue -- stickers on doors, forums for community conversations;
- Supervised bathrooms like in Europe, mobile washrooms, coupons for coffee to “pay” for washroom use, so vulnerable people become customers;
- Buddy system to help people through the continuum of care.

## *Housing*

- Tiny homes;
- Better distribution of housing, with a “village” in high-need locations, and recovery units located away from known problems areas;
- Decentralize housing, involve the public and private sector to build houses/apartments, ensure mixed use/mixed demographics in buildings;
- More wet and dry housing;
- Landlord incentives, rent control;
- Housing as public responsibility, garden clean-up, repairs to deter crime.

## *Mental Health*

- Incentivize training and education of our health care/social work workers;
- Tertiary care facilities: post treatment, jail, with long-term, wrap-around supports;
- Ask retired medical professionals to volunteer at low-barrier agencies.

## Other

- Higher taxes for higher-income households;
- Abolish capitalism;
- More reporting on key stats: databases, visualization, hotspot maps;
- Reinforce acceptable behaviour: aggressive panhandling education campaigns, enforce consequences;
- Leadership/local champion table who operate in “pods” and tackle issues per pod;
- Free dental care for everyone;
- Peer Advisory Committee (solving homelessness with the people who are or who have experienced homelessness);

## Nanaimo Health and Housing Action Plan

# Validation Lab Results

Prepared by HelpSeeker

Fall 2020

## Executive Summary

In September and October 2020, several validation labs were held for members of the Nanaimo with lived and living experience in the health and housing systems to provide their feedback on a draft of the new Health and Housing Action Plan (HHAP). Some validation labs also involved stakeholders in service provision. The validation labs were facilitated by local community leaders who recruited participants to take part.

The validation labs provided a rich space for discussion of social issues, and allowed participants to express their feedback on the draft HHAP as well as discuss their perceptions and ideas about how to reach their preferred future of health and housing.

Key themes across the validation labs included accountability, co-creating services, service diversity, reducing stigma, and education and prevention. The findings from these validation labs will inform the HHAP to ensure it is human-centred and embraced by service users.

## Background

Nanaimo City Council recognizes the impact the challenges related to homelessness are having on our community, and that timely action is needed to drive solutions forward.

To this end, Council appointed a multi-sectoral Health and Housing Task Force to prompt change for the betterment of our community, recognizing that these issues require working together for the common goal of improved community health and wellbeing.

As a result, the Health and Housing Task Force, the City of Nanaimo, Nanaimo Homeless Coalition, Service Canada, and United Way Central & Northern Vancouver partnered to advance a systems approach. The partners have engaged Turner Strategies and HelpSeeker to support the development of a plan to address health and housing priorities while implementing key actions throughout.

### *The Health and Housing Action Plan (HHAP)*

As a part of the work described above, a strategy outline has been developed composed of 8 priority areas and 66 strategic mandates under an integrated coordinated access (ICA) and complex needs model. The model was conceived following months of data analysis, needs assessments, community consultations, and social impact audits.

The Action Plan proposes the coordination of a Health & Housing Ecosystem in Nanaimo. All parts must work together in order for everything to thrive. Housing and support options, funders, coordination efforts in funding and operations, systems planning, information sharing, and integrated coordinated access are all a part of this ecosystem.

The development of the HHAP is begun with an Integrated Needs Assessment and data analysis phase. From there, a social impact audit was conducted to explore the effectiveness of current social impact investments, and design labs and stakeholder engagement sessions were held to begin bringing in community perspectives. Once a draft HHAP was created, informed by these inputs, communities with lived and living experience as well as stakeholders were engaged to provide their feedback on the direction of the plan through validation labs, of which the results are summarized in this report.

The purpose of these validation labs is to validate the direction of the plans conceived in earlier stages of the project with the community and generate new potential solutions to best achieve the goals at hand. The ideas gathered in these labs will be instrumental in developing the next iteration of the Health and Housing Action Plan, so that it is well-coordinated, human-centred, and embraced by the community.

## Validation Labs: How We Engaged

Recognizing that communities are generally more responsive and accessible to certain individuals and organizations, several “facilitators” were recruited and trained to run validation labs on behalf of the HHAP Task Force. The facilitators then each recruited 5-10 participants to take part in their labs and provide their feedback on the draft HHAP as well as consider impact gaps and their preferred realities.

Validation labs took place over through August and September of 2020, involving both lived/living experience communities and stakeholder communities. Leaders representing the following topics were engaged:

### Lived Experience (LivEx) Validation Labs:

1. Racialized/Multicultural Adults
2. Physical Abilities & Disability
3. Food Security
4. Women
5. Hidden Homeless
6. Homeless
7. Seniors & Housing Loss
8. Brain Injury
9. Men
10. Snuneymuxw First Nation

### Stakeholder Validation Labs:

1. Faith/Religion

2. Volunteer
3. Domestic Violence & Gender-based Response
4. Systems Coordination
5. Filling Gaps in the Housing Continuum

Facilitators were each provided with a video outlining the draft HHAP priorities, discussion questions to cover with their participants, and note sheets to report back on the participants' ideas and feedback.

## **Rapid Feedback Findings: Reflecting on the Draft HHAP**

During the rapid feedback part of the validation labs, participants were asked to watch videos outlining the initial priorities and strategies outlined in the draft HHAP. Then, participants reflected on each of these priority areas, providing their questions, initial impressions, and comments on what was presented to them.

Throughout the rapid feedback, it is worth noting that many participants struggled with some of the concepts and terminology presented to them. The impression gathered from the comments reported back was that the HHAP in its current state felt somewhat overwhelming, and not inspiring to take action on. Support for the general intent of the HHAP was expressed, but participants wanted more understanding and more tangible action items.

Most feedback otherwise was centred around service provision, with a particular focus on reducing barriers to accessing mental health services and housing services, the need for autonomy when using services, the role of stigma in preventing access, and finding ways to both prevent issues while still dealing with current needs.

### ***Overview & Commitments***

After hearing the overview of the HHAP commitments, participants had mixed responses. In general, participants were supportive of the sentiment and intention of the commitments and glad to be engaged, saying this is "something Nanaimo truly needs." However, there were some criticisms,

largely based on past experiences and worries that action would not be taken. One participant asked, "Why trust the City to ensure this will be followed through? Will my investment in this be worth legitimate effort?" while others argued that the City should "look, see, and experience the issues [...] Walk in [their] shoes" before taking any action. Overall, a common theme was the desire to see action, specificity, and empathy behind the commitments, not just promises that may or may not be fulfilled. Stakeholder participants were generally more supportive of the plan than the LiveEx participants, suggesting the plan "looks comprehensive," and that they were ready to start "taking down the walls" -- referring to the sector-based siloing that causes the duplication of services. Participants were also impressed to see the City talk about the effects of colonialism, and recognizing that "lots of factors come into play when it comes to homelessness."

Concerns were raised over how the commitments were presented in their approach, with jargonistic and complex language being cited as an issue multiple times. Participants mentioned, "some of what is being said can be confusing and [misunderstood by] those with troubles." Particularly, the word "ecosystem," referring to an ocean metaphor used to describe the health and housing system caused some hesitation, as participants wanted to speak directly about health and housing issues. One participant stated, "[the] ocean metaphor is not relatable: this is a housing crisis!...Plan commitments are great, but how?" while another said, "I was confused at first about why we are looking at fish and water, but perhaps it is a less contentious way in than jumping right to the issues." Overall, the consensus among participants was that the commitments need to be "more simplified." Comments were also made around wanting a clearer connection to Truth and Reconciliation.

## *Ecosystem Coordination*

From a lived experience perspective, the issue of moving from complex language to tangible action was raised again as a concern. Questions brought up included how to bring federal and provincial agencies into the same picture, and what the City's role would be in implementation. Again, criticism of the term "ecosystem" was mentioned, as participants discussed how although the word is used in social science and academia, it deters from the concept of helping people participate in their systems or understand its everyday use.

Representation and equality were mentioned as important components in ecosystem coordination. One participant said they wanted "nothing about me without me," while another asserted the need to

“engage more with those in need...See what their ideas are.” Others expressed worry that large organizations such as Island Health or the Ministry of Social Development weren’t focused on Nanaimo and its distinct struggles. Participants agreed that they often felt “passed around” to various service providers rather than actually getting help, saying that they were in a “constant circle until [they] run out of hope!” The main takeaway from this was that coordination needs to be done with, by, and for beneficiaries, so that processes are effective and fair. “Everyone working together is needed; we as a community all have a say.”

Regarding the infrastructure beneath coordination, arguments were made that better practices and resources need to exist in order for coordination to work. More variety of housing services (level of support, cost, family size), more public spaces to connect to community, reducing silos, and privacy mechanisms were cited as examples of supporting activities. As well, the “how” piece of coordination -- such as communication and how information would be shared, and who acts as a “coordinator” or “outreach worker” -- was cited as a precursor. Comments were also made around the importance of addressing racism from an ecosystem perspective. Coordination would also help reduce the effect of conflicting needs for individuals, such as having to choose between paying for health needs, groceries, transportation, or rent.

## *Leadership & Engagement*

Participants viewed leadership and engagement primarily through two lenses: positions of power and empathy. First, participants wanted to know who leadership is, who would have final say in decisions, who is responsible for change, and how boards are chosen. It was argued that “people in need” should choose who is in charge, and that “Native people [sit] in the meeting discussing the action plan and direction it’s heading.” Further, commitments are often made based on election cycles, and participants perceive a lack of jurisdictional understanding of who is appointed and answerable regarding specific issues. Suggestions were made to consider aspects such as succession planning to make sure initiatives are carried through, create a more resilient system, and ensure continuous leadership. Suggestions were also made to “continue having First Nations reach out [to] First Nations,” and continue “involving everyone in discussions to be aware of how things work for people who are homeless.” Accountability and funding was mentioned several times as participants wanted to see the action behind promises. Calls were made for leadership to understand finance in education and health, and stop cutbacks in education and social services, and for more specific details and

deliverables that would improve leadership and engagement. Public education was suggested to help the “vocal demographic” who often combat working groups for community change when they don’t like the placement of housing or facilities. From a leadership development point of view, having leadership share stories about which resources and approaches they find valuable was proposed to get people the help they need.

Second, participants called for more empathy with lived experience in the development of the HHAP as “people’s lived experience offers more information than the leaders themselves.” Comments were made that the HHAP needs to “get rid of judgement and stigma...understand what low-income housing really is,” and “that leadership needs to “step up and get educated about the issues...If they want to know, get down there and ask!” said one participant. One individual mentioned, “I have seen no change in three years. The city has lost their grip on social justice and human rights. Maybe get someone who is on city council to experience homelessness, use the present resources to really identify problems, then move on to how to fix it.” When prompted about the engagement piece of this priority, one participant shared this comment and was met with much agreement, “These voices have never been heard (listened to), so now they won’t speak out.” Individuals feel that they can’t share their opinions because they risk losing access to services if they do. For example, the participant brought up a story of one woman’s son staying at the Salvation Army in Vancouver who had to attend church in order to keep his housing. When he shared that he had his own spirituality, he was verbally abused and dismissed as a “wild indian.” Participants supported the value of inclusivity, especially of First Nations communities and the importance of finding “champions” of communities. An Interfaith Action Council was also proposed to support this, as volunteers viewed themselves as coordinators, funders, campaign supporters, information providers, and navigators.

Despite many of these comments not being direct feedback about the draft HHAP, it is clear that individuals, particularly with lived/living experience, are frustrated with leadership in its current state. As a result, it will be critical for leadership to continue building accountability and engaging with the community for years to come.

## *Prevention*

The majority of comments in response to the proposed prevention priorities were centred on holistic approaches to prevention. Prevention starts early, according to the participants, and as a result, it is

important that the HHAP considers education and schools, drug use, natural supports, trauma, segregation of people with disabilities, and stigma in the prevention-based strategies. “Classes, courses, experienced individuals can help change the now before it becomes the future,” said one participant. Modelling healthy behaviours, teaching mindfulness at a young age, creating inclusive and open spaces for youth, keeping realistic expectations (ie: not everyone fulfills the American Dream), and detecting issues early (especially for youth) were cited as desired outcomes for the participants. Participants also called for having more prevention in rural areas, as people often have to leave to find resources, and engaging homeless community leaders who can have creative ideas.

The prevention of poverty was generally seen in a positive light by participants as they suggested that prevention is a way to “stop the cycle,” especially for kids, as participants argued that poverty is intergenerational and is highly influenced by colonialism. According to participants, prevention needs to start primarily at the provincial/federal level, but also needs to involve schools and families. However, some simple suggestions were made that could potentially make a large positive impact. For example, giving people experiencing homelessness places to lock up their belongings, removing time limits on mental health and addiction services, and early education on trauma, stigma, housing rights, and the history of poverty. Coordination between levels of government around work, income, employment, and housing, is a necessary step for preventing unexpected consequences that can lead people into poverty. An example of an area where coordination is lacking is shelters for gender-non-conforming and trans people. A note was made that,

“Shelters are not usually welcoming to gender-non-conforming and trans people. Trans women are often sent to men’s shelters, and trans men are not welcome in women’s shelters unless they misgender themselves, and are not safe in men’s shelters. The LGBTQ2S+ community also experiences discrimination from religious-based service providers.”

Because shelters simply aren’t safe or have barriers to using them, they aren’t an option for many folks. Better coordination, such as reserved beds for LGBTQ2S+ folx and youth (especially Indigenous youth) would be a start to keep people out of camps, keep them safe from “vigilante justice/crimes against homeless people,” and give them places to store their belongings during the day while they access services and work.

As well, a clear set of pathways to resources, updating print and online information regularly, and coordinating information can help support prevention efforts. Further, clarifying the definition of

unstable housing can help make the understanding of housing in Nanaimo more realistic. An individual asserted, "there are 6000 people with unstable housing, and that's considered low!" From an Indigenous perspective, culture is a form of healing, and participants indicated interest in decolonization, trauma-informed schools, poverty-reduction supports, and building communities to be resilient. For trauma-informed education, a comment was made that "not all ECE workers will understand addictions, abuse, or notice the signs... a lot of blind eyes turned to these subjects or fear of dealing with these problems."

## *Complex Needs Capability*

Both participants in the LiveEx and stakeholder labs were quite supportive of complex needs capability as a concept, appreciating that there is lots of "rejection from the system" that prevents people from accessing services, and "asking for help can be embarrassing." This principle also validates that not everyone's needs are the same, according to participants, which was viewed as an important concept. The participants appreciated the "person-centred approach" as "a lot of these complex needs boil down to trauma...addressing trauma first will help!" Additionally, participants recognized that the system could be "capable of a lot more," particularly regarding having the right supports and services, and the presence of people they can trust.

Suggestions were made by the participants as strategies to building complex needs capability, including:

- Having unbiased "peer support" or "someone who has been there and knows how people feel";
- Open and inclusive support systems, so "everybody is treated like human beings, not being judged";
- Educating children and youth about mental health, and ensuring educators understand how to respond to symptoms of trauma or mental health issues;
- Reducing barriers to services (ex. presenting identification), particularly regarding mental health and addiction services;
- Education and empowerment for all to grow and prepare nutritious food;
- Starting with basic needs (food, water, mental health, physical health);
- Removing wait times to help people move out of addiction;
- Flexible processes to accommodate different settings and reading levels;

- Appropriate prioritization of issues and the subsequent distribution of funds;
- Sufficient infrastructure (housing, mental health, etc.) to retain services and programming.

There were two perceived barriers to building a complex needs capability. First, volunteers are often exposed to “volatile situations” with insufficient follow-up or training. Second, funding was mentioned as participants recalled that programs are often cut off after a year. Suggestions included creating an “a la carte” menu of training modules for volunteers, and for more complex needs, having larger agencies such as BC Housing or Island Health take the responsibility.

## *Poverty Reduction*

In terms of poverty reduction, participants’ priorities were generally aligned with the priorities outlined in the HHAP draft, with some criticisms. Capability building activities, such as volunteer opportunities, peer jobs, job training, job matching, and building other life skills were top priorities for participants, especially as COVID and financial disruption has “impair[ed]” employment, and living wages need to be made attainable.” Making transportation affordable and educational opportunities on the rights and services people are eligible for can also help people become more independent.

Participants discussed the “foundational economy,” in which environmental, economic, and social policy are used to merge the public and private realms as a way to reduce poverty. They also suggested the importance of education as it was viewed as a key tool to reducing and preventing poverty early on, including both formal and experiential education such as having teens who work to mentor kids. Other suggestions included taking action to improve food security such as food boxes or grocery gift cards for families, providing high school education and higher education without vast student loans, higher housing allowances for people with disabilities, improving transportation access, providing access to personal care items and housing options, ensuring everyone has a reliable source of income, and incentivizing businesses to provide living wages. It was also noted that low-income families are often overlooked, and that people often engage in self-harming behaviours or experience difficulty with finding resources from people they trust, which can contribute to furthering the effects of poverty. The cost of existing supportive housing is much more than the shelter amount people are given.

## *Diverse Housing Options*

Again, for the most part, participants were supportive of the ideas presented, reiterating the importance of providing incentives and enablers for affordable housing, supportive housing, long-term care, and reducing barriers to housing.

It is worth noting that people with physical disabilities have no alternatives to living in long-term care facilities meant for seniors (often with memory issues), where they don't fit in well due to differences in mental competency, age, lifestyles, and companionship. Many people are also homeless due to a lack of appropriate support or freedoms. Alternatively, people can also be functionally homeless because they cannot afford rooms, and are denied housing because of discrimination and stigma, especially for those who are visibly transgender. As well, sometimes better jobs can compromise people with disabilities' ability to stay in their current housing. Housing options need to have sufficient choices, so that people can keep their connections to family and neighbourhood.

A comment was made: "People deserve to live in nice, safe homes." Notably, many LGBTQ2S+ people in Nanaimo live in shared rental accommodations or illegal units that do not have security under the Residential Tenancy Act, and in which poor housing conditions and housing insecurity can have negative impacts on mental health and wellbeing. A lack of options leads to mismatches between users and services, therefore leading to higher risk. As part of the Health and Housing Action Plan, an evaluation of current housing stock should be undertaken for suitability for people with disabilities and queer-friendly rental space, and an intersectional lens should be applied to the creation of any new housing across the spectrum -- from emergency shelters to market housing.

Another point that was mentioned several times was safety and inclusion. Participants stressed that housing developers need to avoid ghettoizing communities, ensure housing is in safe areas, and make sure low-income housing doesn't look "shabby." Further, there are barriers in accessing housing that need to be addressed such as: a gap for those who cannot afford housing on their own but do not qualify for low-income housing; a lack of awareness of the organizations that help with accessing housing; and how to get on the lists to apply for affordable housing. Other barriers to finding safe housing include substance use, cycles of domestic violence and abuse, and fear. For example, people can receive hate mail for just advertising queer-friendly rental spaces. Suggestions to mitigate these

access issues include mentorship to access housing, outreach workers, creating more affordable housing in the North End, housing supports, and information on where to find housing applications.

Notably, “affordable housing” is a title given to properties that are available at 80% of market rent: a definition that is not based on the tenant’s ability to pay, according to participants. Therefore, in a market with high rents, it doesn’t provide housing stock at a price point affordable to low income individuals. Participants stated that more rent subsidies or low-income housing are what is necessary, rather than purely “affordable housing.” Discrimination is also a very real barrier to finding and securing housing: comments were made about over-priced housing for being racialized and having housing opportunities fall through suddenly due to discrimination against gender-non-conforming folx. COVID has added a layer of stress and complexity to an already difficult housing market, and the stigma of being “on disability” and relying on low income adds to the difficulty. Participants commented, “every time you get your hopes up that you got a place, it doesn’t turn out, and it’s just disheartening.”

Concern was raised over preparing for potential influxes of people experiencing homelessness and how that would be approached, especially as most of this supportive housing is clustered in the Old City/Downtown area. Accurate demand estimates of people requiring housing supports will be essential going forward in order to provide the appropriate supports needed.

Potential opportunities to explore, as identified by the participants, include the significant real estate that churches have in Nanaimo, learning from other communities with diverse housing strategies, and continuing to engage landlords formally and informally.

## ***Commitments to Truth and Reconciliation & Challenging Discrimination and Stigma***

Regarding the HHAP’s commitments to Truth and Reconciliation and Challenging Discrimination and Stigma, the participants agreed with all the action items listed. Participants recognized some efforts already underway in these areas, including: an Indigenous culture and healing centre at the Tillicum Lelum Friendship Centre; a volunteer-driven, multi-media program in Nelson, BC called ANCHORS; and a general note about “lots of good work underway in mental health, addictions, and transgender issues.”

Participants also recognized that acting on these commitments requires consistency and continuity in leadership to be effective, and that more effort is needed overall. In particular, building awareness of these issues and language sensitivities as well as incentivizing individuals to take steps to wellness and stability without stigma were mentioned as important components. “Stigma will wither away as outcomes improve,” says one participant. Stakeholders appreciated that the commitments did not seem “paternalistic,” and “focused on connections and relationships.”

## *Roles*

Following feedback on the HHAP draft, participants were asked to reflect on how they see themselves being involved in improving health and housing.

From the lived/living experience participants, a sense of personal accountability to reduce stigma was clear. Simple actions like being considerate to others, sharing stories, and calling each other out when they see each other “acting badly.” One individual noted, “We can do a lot to break stigma. There are lots of good people out there, but the negative things leave a stronger impression on people...There can be more self-regulation and peer intervention to keep each other from perpetuating the negative image.” As well, peer support was mentioned several times as a way to help people with coping.

Second, raising awareness was brought up as another role of which participants felt they could take ownership. Listening to people at a grassroots level, and bridging the communication and education gap between people at all community levels were listed as key activities. From a food security perspective, participants showed interest in food sharing programs, leading and coordinating growth on underutilized land, and continuing to collaborate with other organizations. A participant noted the importance of “[continually] showing up to repeat input, despite no follow through. Minimize stigma, maximize compassion & understanding.”

Volunteers and faith-based stakeholders expressed that many of them were already involved in initiatives, such as providing kitchen training, 12-step groups, clothing for released offenders, spiritual and social justice programs, chaplaincy services to communities, counselling, winter shelters, and many other aspects covered by the action plan. Some stakeholders, however, were overwhelmed by trying to figure out what their role would be, saying they need to find ways to stay relevant and fill

service gaps, a challenge that is difficult for faith-based organizations. Funders having restrictions that make using volunteers difficult, and the professionalization of tasks that used to be volunteer-based, are barriers to participation. Participants expressed that using lived experience has value, as opposed to having experts drive change top-down. They also expressed that involvement needs to have a “teach a [person] to fish” approach rather than a “give a [person] a fish,” which should be an exception.

The topic of bureaucracy was a point of contention for volunteers. Some volunteers expressed that “churches and volunteers historically provided services, now they’re pushed away...Bureaucracy is adding more requirements and layers of management, moving further away from the front line.” Others argued that “bureaucracy is not the big problem -- we need more communication and coordination of programs and services...” and that society should “allow diversity of services...try new models of service where appropriate...look for best practices from other communities.”

# Impact Gap Findings: Envisioning A Better Future

During the Impact Gaps portion of the validation labs, participants were asked to choose a topic on which to focus that resonated with them, and then explore the problem and solution landscapes related to those topics. Questions for discussion are listed below.

Challenge Landscape	Impact Gaps	Solution Landscape
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What’s happening?</li> <li>• What’s the impact of the challenge?</li> <li>• What’s holding the challenge in place?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is missing that could close the gap between the challenge and solution?</li> <li>• Where are the opportunities for collective impact?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What models are already being tried?</li> <li>• What’s working and not working?</li> <li>• What resources are available?</li> </ul>

## Problem Landscape

Broadly speaking, the current health and housing problem landscape can be categorized into three areas. Undoubtedly, these three areas are connected and affect one another. Although the participant’s points are grouped in this way for the sake of summary, it is essential to acknowledge the complexity of the problems at hand.

### Economy & Policy

Participants mentioned ways in which the current economic situation is a catalyst to housing loss, resulting in an increase in poverty and lack of financial resources immediately available. Rising property costs and the lack of enforcement around tenancy regulations, market rent, and the lack of leadership on local housing issues such as rental regulations were cited as forces that hold the current landscape in place. As well, participants found that government decisions (action/inaction) contributed as well. “The agencies and systems are short-sighted -- we need to look at the long term plans and views,” said one participant, instead of annual funding cycles. As well, leadership changes can cause disruptions in programs, and participants called for leadership “[that] can see a project through.”

Another point mentioned was a lack of collaboration. “People aren’t working together right now,” the stakeholders found. “There is resistance to opening up and being more transparent...lots of leaders

are focused on their own agency's agenda instead of collaborating and seeing their role in a larger system. Sometimes their agenda is just to have continued funding or to grow their agency, and that creates a lot of competition." Other comments suggested, "There isn't any communication and cooperation among the service groups. Plus they're all fighting for the same funding." Further, people are losing housing due to small gaps in the system such as delays and lack of support for certain needs. Clawbacks in subsidies amplify difficulty finding and staying in housing.

Also observed as a contributor to the problem landscape was the "business of poverty," where corporations give to increase their profits without actually doing anything, and how the media can draw focus onto global issues, taking away attention from local issues. According to one participant, a full-time minimum wage job pays around \$1600 a month, not enough to pay for essentials and rent a home. "You can't participate in the community when you're broke and hungry."

### **Services & Infrastructure**

Services and infrastructure, or rather the lack thereof, is a contributing factor to health and housing issues. Some key issues included:

- **Transit:** Participants recalled, "There used to be bus tickets available for people to get to work, appointments etc. They don't seem to be as readily available anymore. Bus fare is expensive. It would be nice if the Ministry supplied bus passes to everyone, not just people on disability." Also remarked was the lack of routes to rural areas, and the desire for more support from BC Transit.
- **Mental Health:** Mental health was reported several times by participants as an area in need of more services and infrastructure. An individual replied, "People are not getting admitted to hospital/psych even when suicidal. You can't get psych services through the emergency ward. There are not enough psych beds available, and no in-patient mental health treatments, people get assessed and released without change." Further, long waitlists, no beds, and stigma added to these challenges. Preventative mental health care was noted as a service gap, as was mental health care and psychiatry for gender-non-conforming folk.
- **Physical Health:** Health program subsidies are often declined or cancelled, and physical fitness is often neglected.
- **Accessibility and Inclusion:** There is a need for more programs increasing accessibility. Standards for consistent colours and signage do not exist in public spaces, which is essential for communities with people with disabilities.

- **Waitlists:** Waitlists for programs, particularly housing, get in the way of people’s wellbeing. The current supply of help is not meeting demand.
- **No Support for Applications:** when filling out forms to access supports.
- **Affordable Housing and Transitional Housing:** There is a lack of affordable housing and long waitlists. As well, there is a lack of options for housing specific to ABI (acquired brain injury) or queer communities. Housing First is also missing, as are the health supports, treatment, and mental health supports that complement it. One participant commented, “my stay in the psych unit was the first time I had slept four days in one bed in so long.” The closing of BC Housing during COVID for two months also created a lack of adequate shelter and conflicts with requirements for people to self-isolate.

Additionally, there are not enough outreach workers to help people individually on a one-on-one basis. COVID has also made services more inconsistent, which makes it harder to access certain resources.

### **Behaviours & Mental Models**

Finally, behaviours and mental models, perhaps the most influential components of social systems, serve to promote health and housing problems. These negative mental models and behaviours reported by participants as are:

- **Stigma:** This is a barrier in housing as landlords don’t rent to people on income assistance, don’t rent to people with disabilities, and ask for criminal record checks, which are barriers even for people with income. Further, people don’t want to hire someone with an address at a supportive housing unit. Participants argued, “everyone deserves a second chance, or a tenth chance; we need opportunities to prove ourselves and change. Hopelessness turns into complacency.” The stigma of having people experiencing homelessness in one’s neighbourhood also leads to the ghettoization of certain populations, which reinforces the stigma.
- **Feelings of Hopelessness & Isolation:** Participants noted experiences of trauma, anxiety, feeling hopeless, suffering families, and recurring episodes of addiction or being unable to keep a home. Locations are not enough, since people experiencing homelessness often lack the references or means to stay in contact with support.
- **Prejudice and Discrimination:** People can be rejected by people based on their appearances -- a product of classism, racism, transphobia, assumptions about people with disabilities, and

the othering of people experiencing homelessness or poverty. Gender-separated shelters can be uncomfortable for transgender people, particularly when shelters ask to see identification, and if gender and identity don't match, people can't access shelter beds. People with autism are often misunderstood due to communication barriers. Racialized communities often have a harder time getting jobs or housing. Overall, discrimination ruins people's confidence, hope, and self-esteem, which can lead them to staying on social assistance.

- **Violence Towards People Experiencing Homelessness:** Participants shared stories of people with baseball bats, burning down camps, and targeting people. As well, people experiencing homelessness reported having their personal possessions being taken. Because of it being hard to carry things around, people experiencing homelessness are often afraid to go to appointments if they have to leave their things behind. This also makes it difficult to be motivated, knowing that your belongings and earnings can be taken away.
- **Lack of Acknowledgement:** of the issues that people experience in their day-to-day lives and the negative impact that their wellbeing. A lack of acknowledgement is also a root cause of lacking funding.

## *Solutions Landscape*

### **Opportunities**

Participants perceived multiple opportunities of which to take advantage. These opportunities are outlined below.

- **Growth of Internet & Databases:** Databases have the potential to improve collaboration and information-sharing. However, internet and device capability can create accessibility issues.
- **Education on Rights and Resources** to keep people aware of the processes they can follow and options they can access for disability assistance, especially regarding housing.
- **Smaller Community-Run Organizations:** Smaller organizations can be more flexible and respond to some individual needs better than large organizations. This may include churches or employment programs.
- **Advocacy for Creativity:** "There are lots of creative ideas if the community would accept them...we need advocacy for people to support these creative ideas. We could refurbish old historical buildings. We are willing to take on the work, to collectively pay the lease, we could run it ourselves. No one else wants to renovate because it is expensive, but the City could

help us make it happen. There are also old hotels, like they do in other places. There are lots of buildings for lease, but the landlords won't rent to a group of people; we don't have the credit, but we could afford it if we all pitched in."

- **Universal Basic Income & Increased Welfare Shelter Allowance:** to ensure everyone is able to afford basic necessities.
- **Food Security:** Local food banks recovering unsold food products.
- **Safe Places:** for people with disabilities, addictions, and mental health issues to improve housing security. This includes keeping people housed where they are to prevent a further burden on the homeless-serving system, and harm reduction.
- **Life Skill Classes:** education to build resilience.
- **Outreach Programs:** to help navigate finding a place and sobriety with low barriers access was cited as a solution that provides lots of value.
- **Mobilizing Collective Knowledge:** Attending focus groups, active volunteering, and using the lived experience community itself as a resource. The population of people experiencing homelessness "have lots of ideas; they have a strong community; they work together a lot already. Their involvement and helping them achieve their own goals can empower them as individuals and a community." Spaces for exchanging collective knowledge also encourage social membership, which can have an inspiring energy.
- **Wasted Resources:** Participants reflected on the wide availability of resources, but their trouble accessing them due to experiencing homelessness. Examples include, "overnight parking spaces, places to charge our phones (HelpSeeker doesn't work very well on old phones), and limited access to drinking water. Some of these things are frustrating because it feels the City is wasting resources (like sprinklers are not set up right and they water the pavement, or street lights that stay on all day), but we are denied access to these things. There could be places to get water and power. For example, we could pay a nickel or a quarter and be able to charge our phones. These resources are wasteful but not accessible."

### Reflections on Existing Solutions

Participants also discussed the strengths and shortcomings of existing solutions, ranging from institution-based programming to community-led initiatives. One participant remarked, "there are lots of gaps: if the system worked we wouldn't be homeless; that's how we would know the system is working."

- **Transitional Housing:** While there is transitional housing, there is “not enough and it isn’t always safe....we don’t all need to wait for supportive housing. Some of us would be ok with a subsidy if there was a willing landlord. Not having a house is a barrier to getting all the other things we need to get started again.”
- **Homeless Coalition:** Participants said, “[In Nanaimo,] we have the homeless coalition here, but it’s not as effective as other cities and areas. We need to look at other models and what makes them work. Having a hired facilitator or coordinator has worked other places and makes a huge difference to how much work can get done and the overall success of the coalition. The Kootenays, Comox Valley and Victoria all have facilitators. It is a model that works.”
- **VAT:** “VAT is a system of assessment, but it doesn’t seem to capture all peoples’ needs,” according to participants. “People using the system don’t understand why they have to fit the boxes, and not sure what it means for getting housing.”
- **Hidden Knowledge:** Participants noted that support workers often have resources that are unknown to the general public. Although this knowledge does exist, it should not have to rely on support workers to be shared.
- **Mental Health and Addictions Treatments:** Both in-patient and out-patient services are needed. “Having all MH and Addictions treatment as out-patient is not working for people.” Harm reduction also needs to be viewed in a way that is as unique as the communities it is intended to serve. For example, participants argued that there is a gap in understanding for what harm reduction is for LGBTQ2S+ people, saying, “Safe spaces, access to hormones, gender-affirming care is harm reduction,” since LGBTQ2S+ people experiencing homelessness can’t prioritize their health, purchasing hormones or prescriptions, or get access to gender-affirming care.
- **COVID Response Benefits:** As a part of the federal government’s COVID response, CERB payments were available to some Canadians. Participants reflected, “The extra money has been really good for some people. They paid off debts or bought things they needed.” Further, “COVID top-up payments have shown that having even \$300 more a month makes a big difference.” Having a [...] lump sum wasn’t good for everyone, though. Lots of negatives. [We] need consistency.” As well, it was noted that the “\$2000 CERB benefit shows that the government knows what the minimum need is....we should all get it. Basic income.”
- **Clustered and Segregated Housing:** Housing is sometimes based on afflictions, such as mental health or substance use. This can make people feel “warehoused.” One participant

called for “spaces for people to live that are away from their problems and not clumped together based on their problems but on solutions.” Another participant stated, “Something not working is people being lumped together in housing. Mental Health and Addictions aren’t the only issues. It’s not black and white. We need more types of housing. For example: if you live in the modular housing, the cops hassle you, cab drivers ask for money up front when you say where you are going. At first it just seemed like an experiment. The staff were ignoring drug deals in front of them. They wouldn’t intervene or solve problems between people, they were just ignoring things [...] we got blamed, and it became a place of stigma. We need more leadership and structure[...] we need housing that isn’t so stigmatized and with more options for people, not just mental health and addictions.” Another example is how elder LGBTQ2S+ folk often have to go “back in the closet” when entering long-term or retirement communities care due to fear of discrimination.

- **Farming & Food Skills:** There are two existing farmed sites (foodshare) that create community empowerment and interest. The Good Food Boxes offer affordable, fresh produce, while MyCDC supports community-led food forests. School gardens also exist to build farming and food skills, both in SDG8 schools and Haida Gwaii school activities to reconnect traditional food knowledge, local growth, harvesting, and learning.
- **Education:** As a result of education, “people have changed their opinions and there is way less stigma towards gay and transgender people now.” Participants also noted how education could reduce stigma to people experiencing homelessness, potentially by bringing “homeless community leaders” into schools.
- **Temporary Trailers:** Temporary trailers were added to move people from Tent City, but they “aren’t working because there is nowhere to go afterwards.” New housing projects are needed, and new units are coming but not enough.

## *Ways to “Bridge the Gap”*

After discussing what holds the current system in place and discussing potential solutions, participants were asked to consider ideas and strategies to “bridge the gap” between their current and preferred realities. Ideas ranged from bold, conceptual ideals to tangible, simple activities with the potential to make a large impact.

## Adjustments to Existing Services

Participants also suggested changes to existing services as these existing services can be adjusted and leveraged to create change more quickly. Some of these suggested changes are below.

- **Apply Laws and Bylaws Consistently:** People need to be treated equally under the law, especially by police. People in Nanaimo should have a chance to fix whatever is happening before being punished. Participants reported, "It is an abuse of power to hold it (homelessness) against us. There needs to be better relationships. Also, don't be inconsistent or "ok with problems".
- **Create Non Gender-Segregated Spaces:** Transgender people should not have to "out" themselves or conform to gender binaries to access services. This includes health, housing, shelters, mental health services, and other social services.
- **Increase In-Patient Mental Health Care:** Participants called for a "psych ward, somewhere that you won't be discharged until there has been progress or an actual change," and "more institutions rather than sending people back out after being seen", so that people have the level of support they need.
- **Offer Patients Choice & Autonomy:** Participants should have the right to service even if they don't want medication. Offering more choice ensures people have the help they need in the way they need it. This principle applies particularly to mental health and housing options.
- **Remove Stigma From Mental Health Care:** to improve service quality. Because users can have their services revoked if they are deemed non-compliant, they can lose access to programming. Psychiatrists listening to patients and not making assumptions reduces the stigma in care, and helps people get treatment more effectively. This also improves patient-centred care, as patients won't be "lumped into a group" if they are in need of treatment.
- **Move Money from Punishing Poverty to Prevention:** by removing bylaws, policing, and anti-homeless initiatives that contribute to stigma and the further demoralization of people experiencing poverty.
- **Design with Lived Experience:** by involving users in the design of physical spaces, including people with disabilities, to ensure their needs are met.
- **Create Opportunities to Re-Enter the Workforce:** such as education, re-training, and education on getting jobs and transitioning back into the workforce.

- **Support a Foundational Economy:** where organizations work together cohesively, not competitively, to address social issues. Most organizations, in one way or another, are social purpose organizations, and should collaborate as such.
- **Extend Shelter Hours:** so people have a place to rest during the day.

## Removing Barriers to Access

While some desired changes had to do with the services themselves, other changes involved removing barriers to accessing services in the first place.

- **Flexible options** to fit users' specific needs, so that users are not being over served or underserved. This includes flexible housing for safety, sobriety, and support while avoiding the negative impacts of being housed with other people (ex. housing mentally ill people with substance users who are actively using).
- **Reduce barriers to accessing transit** by offering more bus passes and tickets to hand out at shelters as well as getting to farther destinations (ex. Greyhound) because these are missing services. This also helps residents in rural areas and neighbouring communities (ex. Parksville) who are often forced to come to the urban areas to seek service.
- **Strengthen natural supports** by teaching people -- including children, adults, service providers, and those in emergency services -- how to be kind and recognize when someone needs help.
- **Fairly fund peer navigators & advocates** consistently and permanently for 1:1 support, including navigators for seniors, Indigenous people, and LGBTQ2S+ people. This can particularly help mitigate gaps in support between local, provincial, and federal programs. Navigators can provide emotional, practical, and financial-planning support as a credible source of information.
- **Increase safe storage** by creating places to store belongings safely, such as storage lockers in a drop-in centre or at a shelter, which can remove barriers to accessing services.
- **Reduce stigma** around homelessness to change the public image by providing the media space and channels for people to tell their stories and "improve the image."
- **Govern rental markets** to uphold standards, ensuring landlords are not stigmatizing against people on disability and income assistance, or people with pets or kids.
- **Remove identity requirements** that prevent people from accessing services or income support in a timely manner, such as requiring they have an address or phone.
- **Support ongoing treatment** for successful treatment plans by offering ongoing prescriptions for people who do not have access to a doctor or a means to be contacted regularly.

## Collaboration and Coordination of Services

- **Improve Service Transitions:** There are treatment gaps and waitlists between detox, treatment, transitional housing, and community. Better service transitions can help people from re-entering the cycle of needing help.
- **Increase Awareness of Resources:** Simple, digestible, and accessible information can make it easier for people to start finding the resources they need. These can be online and offline.
- **Establish and Promote One-stop Shops:** Spaces where people can access multiple kinds of help without having to go place-to-place, such as doctors, mental health, job readiness programs, literacy programs, housing supports, advocacy, and harm reduction. As well, these “one-stop shops” can help improve information sharing between service providers and make it easier to navigate within and between services with fewer referrals.
- **Scale Wrap-around Supportive Housing:** by having affordable housing with counselling, addiction support, Elders, and peer outreach within the housing.
- **Diversify Service Options:** to broaden the number of services available for people to choose from. Participants often feel frustrated that they don’t fit the criteria for certain services, so having diverse service options due to age, economic status, family life, or specific needs is beneficial.
- **Educate People on Power Structures** and how they maintain cycles of poverty.
- **Centre Marginalized Voices** by embracing them throughout policy and program development and reducing stigma and false narratives around topics such as disabilities, homelessness, and First Nations’ histories.
- **Simplify Consultation:** Simplifying the processes for residents, including seniors, can provide channels for seniors to provide their voices and identify issues.
- **Hold Conferences:** with the public to get a clearer understanding of how to refer people to affordable services and make processes easier.
- **Expand Peer Models of Service:** When people with lived experience can help run programs, they act as role models for the service users. This not only helps people get back to work, but have a purpose and feel included. Peer-run safe injection sites exist in Nanaimo, and have been successful. Peer advocacy has also proven successful in reducing wait times for advocacy.
- **Learn From Other Communities:** that have successful projects can provide initial direction for taking action.

- **Legal and Policy Support for Creative New Ideas:** makes it easier to navigate the policy landscape and political nature of implementing new ideas with the potential to make a large impact, such as tiny homes.
- **Repurpose Existing Spaces:** by refurbishing older buildings or allowing for group leases, so people can rent and design spaces together,
- **Consider Multiple Perspectives on Health and Housing:** by considering other components such as domestic violence, childhood trauma, and parenting, and how wellbeing is holistic.

### Basic Needs & Food Security

Basic needs were not overlooked by the participants, especially as health and housing are so closely connected to basic needs. Potential strategies to “bridge the gap” included:

- **Ensure the 4 Pillars of Food Security in Systems:** which are availability, access, utilization, and stability.
- **Focus on the Local Economy:** by sourcing more local food, including border exchanges for food services, and coordinating Island Health funding, food education, and nutritional literacy.
- **Support Innovation and Experimentation:** through making test-growing facilities widely available (ex. community gardens).
- **Utilize City Landscapes:** as an educational tool to teach people about growing their own food.
- **Providing Nutritious Food and Food Skills:** in service centres, as free food is often low-quality and difficult to access due to stigma. People also need to develop the skills to source and prepare nutritious food themselves.
- **Increase Funding to Mental Health and Addictions Treatment Options:** including safe access to drug supply, safe injection sites, and general health education.

## LGBTQ2S+ Validation Lab Notes

1. Lauren welcomes all to meeting with Territorial Acknowledgement.
2. Meeting purpose explained with a short video on Health and Housing Action Plan.
3. Discussion on Health & Housing needs, barriers, and experiences.

### Housing

Themes: Insecurity, Homelessness, Shelters, Camping, Barriers

#### Insecurity:

- Many are living in shared rental accommodations or illegal units that do not have the security of protection under the Residential Tenancy Act. This poor housing conditions and housing insecurity has negative impacts on the mental health, health, and overall well-being of residents.
- Also incidences of landlords kicking people out mid-month for no discernable reason
- Hard to prove transphobia and discrimination on the part of housing providers.

*“I’m terrified I’ll be homeless by next summer.”*

- LGBTQ2S+ people are hesitant to disclose gender identity when seeking lodgings. Gender-non-conforming folks will often dress ‘to the binary’ or change their appearance when seeking housing to reduce discrimination.
- COVID has added a layer of stress and complexity to an already difficult housing environment

#### Homelessness:

- There have been times when people are functionally homeless not because they cannot afford a room, but because discrimination and stigma against queer people, and specifically those who are visibly trans, is so bad that no one will rent to them.

*“I didn’t think Nanaimo would be like that, but it is.”*

- Every time one gets one’s hopes up, something happens. Incidences of good phone interviews and discussions with the landlord, when gender-non-conforming and visibly trans folks arrive, the housing opportunity suddenly “disappears” or “falls through” without reason.

*“Every time you get your hopes up that you got a place, it doesn’t turn out, and it’s just disheartening.”*

- Being on disability adds to the difficulty of finding housing because disability benefits are insufficient, available housing is inaccessible, and ableist stigma.

*“Under the stairs was all I could afford on my disability benefits”*

- PWD and social assistance has not been increased since 1998 (editorial note\* - there have been small increases but these are more reflective of indexing to inflation not to cost of living increases)

*“I lose sleep at night over money issues.”*

#### Shelters:

- Shelters are not usually welcoming to gender-non-conforming and trans people. Trans women are often sent to men’s shelters, and trans men are not welcome in women’s shelters unless they misgender themselves, and are not safe in men’s shelters. The LGBTQ2S+ community also experiences discrimination from religious-based service providers.

*“Shelters just aren’t safe for trans folks...”*

- Shelters need to be a low barrier, safe space for all / 8 beds in a youth safe house is insufficient (look at Covenant House model in Vancouver with beds specifically for queer/trans people)
- One participant submitted this as a model: [friends-of-ruby-lgbtq-youth-shelter](#)
- Need for 24/7 youth shelter, specifically for Indigenous youth
- Repurpose space in the City: schools, buildings, parks, etc.

#### Camping

- Need a safe and stable place for the unsheltered to camp where they won’t have to constantly relocate, can store their belongings during the day - which increases their ability to access services and work.
- Concerns about “vigilante justice”/crimes against homeless people – need safer camping situations

*“People deserve to live in nice, safe homes...”*

#### Barriers:

- People can receive hate mail just for advertising queer-friendly rental space
- Supportive housing also need to offer queer-friendly, inclusive space

- Substance use can be a barrier to accessing housing and services
- The current context is forcing people to stay in abusive or toxic relationships, or complicating their substance recovery
- Why isn't there affordable housing in the North End? A lot of retail and "working-class" jobs in the north end, but nowhere affordable to live and insufficient transit options.
- Housing across the City would enable active/healthy transportation

## Health

Themes: Intersections, Mental Health, Harm Reduction, Eldercare, Health Services

### Intersections

- Mental health and nutritional needs are often unmet due to financial stressors. People end up choosing between their health needs (e.g. hormones, prescriptions) and other necessities, between buying groceries or paying rent.
- Additional support needed for rural LGBTQ2+ people, specifically those transitioning. Cedar and Yellowpoint were mentioned.
- Public transportation not sufficient to get people to appointments, work, and elsewhere
- People end up choosing between their health needs (e.g. hormones) and other necessities

### Mental Health

- Mental health services not working; "woefully reactive...barely keeping people alive." More preventative care needed

*"My stay in the psych unit was the first time I had slept four days in one bed in so long."*

- No affordable VIHA supports available.
- No preventative mental health care available
- Extremely limited access to gender-confirming mental health care and psychiatry
- 

### Harm Reduction

- Harm reduction model not well understood and not working for everyone

- There is a need to start looking at 'harm reduction' as unique to the community it's intended to serve.
- There is a gap in understanding what harm reduction **is** for LGBTQ2+ people:

*“Safe spaces, access to hormones, gender-affirming care **is** harm reduction.”*

- Homeless LGBTQ2+ people can't prioritize their health, get around to appointments, purchase hormones or prescriptions, or access gender-affirming care.

## Eldercare

- Elder lesbians experience discrimination when entering long-term care and retirement communities. They often “go back in the closet.” More non-profit, SOGI inclusive eldercare needed.
- The ageing population in Nanaimo needs a safe health eldercare situation where sexual orientation and gender identity are accepted and celebrated (esp. those w/o children to advocate for them)

## Health Services

- One hub for all services ideal, less referrals, coordinated offering
- Current health care training insufficient – VIHA needs to hire queer/trans navigators
- Need more publicly funded health care professionals who actually understand LGBTQ2S+ issues

## Poverty

- Full-time minimum wage job pays around \$1600 a month, not enough to rent a home and pay for essentials.
- Need somewhere to “lock the door and feel safe”
- What about subsidized housing specifically for the queer/trans community?
- “Pride” sponsorship should be linked to actually providing resources for our community

*“You can't participate in the community when you're broke and hungry.”*

- LGBTQ2+ community experiences barriers to secure, meaningful employment that pays a living wage. Like housing, very hard to prove discrimination and transphobia.

- Move money from punishing poverty (bylaws, policing, anti-homeless initiatives) to prevention.
- Housing first, always.
- “What we need is a taxation revolution and universal basic income”

## Representation

- More education on the lives and lived experiences of LGBTQ2+ community is needed for those ‘in charge.’
- Hire and appoint LGBTQ2+ people to meaningful leadership positions that pay a living wage. Do not ask the community for free labour to ‘advise you.’

*“Pay for the proper representation. Our lived experience is valuable.”*

- Ensure that committees, working groups and boards that are making decisions for the LGBTQ2+ community are made up of at least 50% LGBTQ2S+ people. Do the same with regards to disabled people, First Nations, and others.
- How can we foster/encourage/incentivize the strength of our community to take a leadership role?
- Decisions are being made for instead of by the community

## Governance/General

*“There isn’t any communication and cooperation among the service groups. Plus they’re all fighting for the same funding.”*

- Too much silo’ing between various non-profits and agencies
- People are discouraged from using their voices/punished for speaking up
- Peers should be paid living wages for their work and employed as health advocates/navigators
- What about opening a branch of Vancouver’s QMunity here (or at least in Victoria?)
- Inclusion advocate at SD68 was great but role no longer exists

**REIMAGINE NANAIMO discussion with Nanaimo Brain Injury Society Clients  
(2020-Oct-21, 10:30 p.m. – Noon)**

Client Participants: Linda, Vuv, Roland, Troy,  
City Staff: Karin Kronstal, Chris Sholberg

**Introductions:**

- Karin K. facilitated the meeting. Started with SFN Territorial Acknowledgement. Discussion about each persons background – how long resident in Nanaimo.
- Question raised – what do we mean by the word reconciliation? From City perspective – collaborating with SFN on joint projects to improve cultural awareness, enhance services, and provide housing options for SFN members.
- Karin K. provided a short explanation of the Reimagine Nanaimo purposes and process including how the OCP is used by City. Also, short description of five other plans.
- Discussion occurred about emergency management in Nanaimo (e.g. in cases of pandemic or earthquake). Noted that City has emergency coordinator. Question raised about how City deals with smaller emergencies, such as building fire – how are persons rehoused or provided emergency housing in this case.
- Karin K. provided outline of the survey process we are using for Reimagine Nanaimo. Linda noted that she received one of the statistically valid surveys in the mail and will be completing it.
- Karin K. provided an overview of the Phase I Engagement Process.
- Concern raised about supportive housing provision, particularly for folks from elsewhere in Canada. Noted that we cannot control movement of people – but we try to prioritize housing provision to longer-term residents, and also by need and who people are (e.g. indigenous).
- Noted that Health and Housing Task Force looking to ensure we have an integrated Social Service delivery system in Nanaimo.
- Reviewed Key Points from Validation Lab: noted that three persons from group also participated in design lab. Other thoughts, ideas and priorities sought as part of this meeting.

**Priorities Around Diverse Housing Options:**

- Should housing be spread out through community (yes?) – Karin K. explained general objective to keep housing costs to no more than 30% of total income.

- Noted new collaboration between City and B.C. Housing on new supportive housing in Nanaimo.
- Rent control – does it happen in B.C.? Not in Nanaimo – renovictions are a problem. City tries to arrange for affordable housing through redevelopment process (e.g. rezoning). Nanaimo policy not robust in this regard – looking to improve it.
- Homelessness is also a big problem – new trend of increase senior homelessness noted. Trying to address this issue comprehensively.
- What about transportation? Noted that bus system is overseen by B.C. Transit Authority, but City is working to improve infrastructure for active transportation options – walking, biking, etc.
- Noted that Handi-dart service not so handy. Booking is week or two in advance – not convenient. Also, limited hours of operation. Usually ends at 5 or 6 p.m.

### **Poverty Reduction and Employment:**

- Need more inclusive employment opportunities. Example: Urban Cleanup Program operated by John Howard – has folks who participate in downtown needle pick up and throughout the City.
- PEER Employment and Overdose Prevention Program (PEERS) another example, and NIBS another.
- Q. Yellow boxes for safe disposal of needles – are these provided for homeless at strategic locations? – yes, including temporary and permanent locations.
- Another example would be working on a ranch – Linda noted personal experience related to her father’s ranch, where folks would work who had come out of the justice system.

### **System Navigation:**

- Q. How was experience navigating social service system in Nanaimo? One participant has had a good experience in Nanaimo – recently moved to Nanaimo and has found support to be great at Bill’s Place. Support with day-to-day stuff and medical appointments.
- Noted by participants that there are many resources in Nanaimo, and they are getting better. Participants also involved in volunteer opportunities.
- The care and knowledge is freely shared by service providers and is accessible.
- One participant has lost many family members and is no longer connected with the remainder of her family – so basically on her own.
- Participants noted that the objective to have supports in place is so that persons can be the best they can be – have the best quality of life they can.
- NIBS provides encouragement (in incremental amounts) to succeed. Always positive encouragement.
- Quarterway Housing Development (Natsummut) noted for architectural beauty and aesthetic – noted by participants that is it a great example in Nanaimo of a well designed supportive housing facility. Oliver Woods Rec. Centre also terrific. It is a well designed multi-function facility.

- Noted by Roland that Senior's Connect was a great program. What happened to the program? Karin K. provided short background on the program and noted that Federal funding was discontinued after a few years. Seniors music night noted as an enjoyable part of the Senior's Connect initiative. Another great recreation program was run by City (Tara McNeil) a few years ago – but was discontinued.
- Noted that Departure Bay Park, access to bathrooms near Kin Hut are dreadful for wheel chairs.
- Access to Departure Bay Beach is also tricky for those with mobility issues.

### **Stigma and Public Education:**

- Q. How do we reduce stigma associated with brain injury?
- Stigma can be a problem – we don't bite, were not crazy – just need a little more help. Maybe we should wear a t-shirt that says "I may have a brain injury, but I'm not stupid."
- Family support is very important when you have a brain injury.
- There needs to be more education for general public to understand what it means to have a brain injury.
- Support services are provided through medical system and are helpful. Levels of stigma vary amongst participants, but not all participants have experienced stigma.
- Having a sign, card or wristband identifying brain injury would be useful on occasion.
- Some folks don't understand what it means to have a brain injury and can make awkward comments or ask awkward questions.

### **Other Comments:**

- Road, Curb slopes and letdowns – can be difficult to navigate – identification of grade change on sidewalks often missing or not consistent (example would be on Labieux near the Coop Gas Station).
- Often road/sidewalk slopes are severe or rough surfaced – problem for folks with walkers or wheelchairs.
- City should look at checking various roads with folks who have mobility issues to see if they are disability friendly or not. Example includes Country Club Mall – on site, some accessibility issues with sidewalks.
- Public washrooms – cleanliness and accessibility can be an issue.
- All public buildings need to have an automatic door – currently hit and miss. Definitely should be required for any new buildings, if not already required under the building code.
- Multi-generational housing (youth and seniors) a good idea. This should be encouraged by the City.

Wrap up provided by Karin K. with appreciation shown to participants for their input.

Additional input (provided after the fact):

*Identify saying you. Have. Tbi emercany. Purposes  
We make one. Day. Is. For. Cancer day. Or. Children. Go mercle. Day. So  
why. Can't. We. Have. National. Communty. Day. For. Those. Suffer.  
With. Tbi. And. Do. A. Communty. Support. Active. That. Generate.  
Money. For. Cause. Tbi  
Sponsureship. Where. Some. Can. Sponsure. Someone. Tbi  
More. Info. On. Pet. Therapy. / Service. Dogs  
Affordable. Living. For. Those. With tbi  
Subized funding for. Those. Have. Live. Rest. Their. Life  
A person that. Has. Tbi. Has learn. Ways. To. Get. Through. There. Life after.  
Knowing. They. May never. Drive. Or work. Or. Full. Their. Life. Time. Hopes. . So  
there. Need. Be. Someone. That. Can. Work. Through. There. Tbi. On. Daily. Life.  
.  
I. Have. My. Family. Nbis. Doctors and. Terry. And. Sweety. Helping.  
Me. But. That. Is. Me. Maybe. Next. Person. Has. No. Support network. .  
So. Some. Like. Me. Gives. Another. Tbi person. Call. To check. In. And. Make. Sure.  
All. Is. Good. Pass along. Knowledge. I. Here. Them.  
Advance for. The. Person. With. Tbi. And. Work. With. That person. Know. What.  
They. Seeking. Lawyer. Or. Someone. Can. Deal. With. Insurances and. Such.  
A. Nanaimo brain. Injury. Program as.  
Affordable. Dentist. Or. Therapy for those. Live. On. Fixed. Income. And. Now. Tbi.*



# TILLICUM LELUM STAKEHOLDER MTG

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Tillicum Lelum
Date/Time:	▪ November 25 2020
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Inga Cooper, Executive Director of Tillicum Lelum</li> <li>▪ Karin Kronstal, Community Planning</li> <li>▪ Maddy Koch, Transportation</li> <li>▪ Jeff Speed, Recreation Coordinator (Youth focus)</li> </ul>

### General

-Tillicum Lelum undertaking a strategic review of their services currently

### Transportation

- Changes have been positive to south end bus service (e.g new stop at 10<sup>th</sup> street near their facility), challenges remain for those coming from south of Nanaimo (e.g. Cedar) as these bus routes are not as direct as they could be

- Tillicum Also provides transportation for those who are rural (5 bus/van support programs)

- Many people use the bus as primary means of transportation; transitions between buses can be a challenges

-Tillicum Lelum’s services are centralized in the South End. Facilities in this area (e.g NDSS) have been working well for programming as they are easy to get to transportation-wise. City facilities such as Oliver Woods are not accessible due to transportation challenges

-Walking outdoors helps with mental health during the pandemic

### Recreation

- Displacement from Franklyn St gym has been a real challenge; right now are in Woodlands but not ideal due to transportation, plus there are other future plans for that facility

- They use lots of Parks facilities as a result of the displacement (when they are operating as per COVID)

- Youth emergency shelter also does activities, like going to fitness facilities

- There are more challenges access services now that they don’t have the anchor like the downtown gym

- They do access NDSS center

- They have supported people to get fitness passes and it’s been a good relationship builder with the LEAP

- The pandemic has really been taking a toll on the organization and they have been having to pivot a lot
- Many of their families have been isolated and disconnected....once the pandemic is over, to get people out of isolation will be an important challenge (mental health is a critical importance)
- More walking trails and outdoor recreation options are key ...so many people are just out and about
- Face to face programming when possible is wonderful, but things can be shifted online as needed.

### Housing/Culture

- Housing has been challenging during the pandemic – it's difficult to support people during this stressful time.
- Lots of opportunity right now, things shifting
- Even with the bi-weekly hampers, we had to re-evaluate what was in them because they might now have cooking facilities.
- The needs are so varied and vast. Also ensuring staff safety and client safety.
- Cultural safety and Reconciliation is an experience not a concept- because it is a spiritual experience
- Many losses over the last few months which have not been completed because we have not been able to follow protocol and traditional ceremonies
- COVID is not allowing for the community and gatherings which support cultural wellbeing.

# **REIMAGINE NANAIMO**

## **Culture and Events Dialogues**

**Summary of Key Insights - compiled by Facilitator Sharon Karsten, PhD  
November 24, 2020**

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**The following summary provides a consolidated overview of the Culture and Events Dialogues. Meeting notes from each dialogue follow after this summary.**

## **SUMMARY OF KEY INSIGHTS**

Between October 23<sup>th</sup> and November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the Nanaimo Culture and Events team met with stakeholders from Nanaimo's Cultural Sector, including Cultural Knowledge Keepers from the Snuneymuxw First Nation, representatives of arts and cultural non-profit organizations, for-profit arts and cultural companies and individual practitioners, for a series of zoom meetings – the purpose of which was to cultivate stakeholder vision and feedback around the REIMAGINE NANAIMO planning process. The sessions were organized into five key topics: Spaces for Culture; Collaborations & Partnerships; Reconciliation and Decolonization; Our People and Sustainability. City Cultural Manager Julie Bevan and her team worked with Cultural Facilitator Sharon Karsten to host and draw insight from the sessions.

The following document serves as a summary of the key insights arising.

### **IMPACTS OF COVID**

The Reimagine Nanaimo process provided a reading on the sector's health and wellness in the midst of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Participants (organizations and individuals) provided snap-shots on how the pandemic had affected them. For stakeholders, the impact of the pandemic has been far-reaching. Large organizations expressed concern about retaining staff, maintaining financial viability and serving their publics. Small organizations expressed concern about the loss of volunteers and board members – particularly those dependent on retirees and older populations. Multiple organizations detailed ways in which they were experimenting with digital technologies in order to reach their audiences amidst social distancing limitations. This experimentation was seen as more successful in some contexts than in others. The need for digital presentation training and capacity-building within the sector was expressed across multiple sessions; many saw a role for the City in helping to increase this capacity and thereby fortify the cultural community in the midst of COVID.

### **SPACE, PEOPLE & PARTNERSHIPS**

Space scarcity was considered an issue before the onslaught of COVID, but the issue has since been exacerbated. Many highlighted the need for ecological thinking in relation to the development of the City's cultural spaces. This includes consideration of multiple different types of spaces, including both a central, multi-use arts centre that can be shared by multiple organizations, as well as cultivation of 'scrappy', small and alternative spaces, incubator spaces, commercial spaces, outdoor spaces, etc. Feasibility studies towards the development of a multi-use centre are currently underway (or being considered) by Nanaimo Art Gallery, Arts Council and local artist Dennis McMahon. The City

was imagined by many to play a leadership role in the development of such a Centre, helping to bring key stakeholders to the table, and in conducting assessments related to community needs. Some saw the City as a driving force in the development of such a Centre, while others saw agency as residing primarily within the community.

In addition to the development of a multi-use Arts Centre, stakeholders highlighted opportunities for activating underused spaces. The City was imagined by some to play a role in identifying these spaces, and in negotiating for their reformation and/or increased utilization by the arts and culture community. This includes, on one hand, making better use of spaces such as the Conference Centre or Cruise Ship Terminal, also; increasing the presentation capacity of key outdoor facilities. Space development was seen as happening through both 'strategic' development (ie: setting a vision with stakeholders and seeing it through) and 'incremental' development (ie: responding to emerging community needs and rising opportunities). While many saw a funding role for the City in supporting the emergence of new space, others saw the City as playing primarily a convening and capacity-building role.

Human resources issues also featured prominently across sessions. Inadequate succession planning was considered a key vulnerability for organizations even prior to COVID, with many organizations facing impending retirement of cultural managers. Since COVID, significant numbers of cultural managers are retiring without adequate knowledge-transition plans in-place, and there exists a dearth of trained cultural management professionals to enter into these roles. Furthermore, the COVID pandemic has enacted a particularly devastating impact on small organizations that are largely volunteer-run, and struggling to maintain their volunteer staff. Many organizations with paid staff have accessed the Government's emergency wage subsidy, but are worried about losing staff after COVID benefits dry up.

Some suggested the sector's human resources gaps might be filled, at least partially, through increased connectedness with students through Vancouver Island University. The out-migration of graduates was seen as a lost opportunity for the sector, one that could be at least partially rectified through the development of linkages between the University and the cultural sector.

Many stakeholder organizations highlighted opportunities for resource-sharing as a response to the crisis they now face. Some saw a role for the City as 'brokering' resources, such as marketing and communications resources, cultural management resources, board and organizational development resources, etc. A general consensus existed, across sessions, that deep collaboration, including knowledge - and resource-sharing between organizations was needed to both mitigate the effects of COVID, and to enable forward motion on projects of benefit to the sector at-large.

## **ETHICS AND REPRESENTATION**

Many acknowledged the sector's need to connect more deeply and authentically with BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Colour) communities. Here was acknowledged not only the need to 'engage' such communities with existing cultural programming or activities, but also to engage in processes of deep listening and relationship-building through which cultural power is shared, and the cultural needs and expressions of BIPOC communities foregrounded.

Acknowledged was the colonial premises underlying many of the current cultural facilities, and the ways in which BIPOC communities have been systemically (if not always directly or intentionally) excluded. A desire to develop deep and meaningful relationships with BIPOC communities was expressed by multiple groups. The City was seen by some to play a role in helping to create space for the development of such relationships, and in systemically encouraging these through funding criteria premised on meaningful BIPOC partnerships and collaborations.

## **RECONCILIATION AND DECOLONIZATION**

Many expressed a desire to connect meaningfully with Cultural Leaders from the Snuneymuxw First Nation, and to engage in processes of decolonization.

Teachings provided by Snuneymuxw Elders and Knowledge Keepers emphasized the need to acknowledge local histories of cultural oppression. This acknowledgment was seen as necessary in enabling the cultural sector to recognize and come to terms with the damage that has been done through colonization. Part of this process involves looking at historic symbols of colonization, such as the Bastion, and the Miners Memorial, and uncovering (and publically reckoning with) the historic injustices entwined with these symbols.

In addition to engaging in a process of historic 'truth-telling', the cultural community was encouraged by Knowledge Keepers to recognize the power of Coast Salish art in catalyzing processes of identity formation, and in developing a culture of respect and honour for Snuneymuxw values and traditions.

The City was imagined by many to play a role in continuing to cultivate conversations between Snuneymuxw Knowledge Keepers and cultural leaders. While many organizations and individuals within the sector have implemented cultural honouring practices, much work has yet to be done.

## **LEADERSHIP**

Across the sessions, stakeholder groups imagined a role for the City as providing leadership role within the sector. This involves providing **Intellectual Leadership** – enabling, for instance, the general public to engage in new ways in dialogues related to the role and potential of public art. It involves **Knowledge Leadership** – assessing the sector's knowledge needs, gaps (for instance as related to cultural management expertise) and opportunities, and creating a vision by which

to address these. It involves **Connecting Leadership** – convening dialogues that bring people and organizations together in new ways, that tap into untapped potentials and activate latent resources for the betterment of the sector at-large. And it involves **Cultural Leadership** – a willingness to model cultural safety and humility, and the pursuit of new forms of relationship with Snuneymuxw First Nation, and with BIPOC communities.

## **CONCLUSION**

The insights presented in these dialogues help frame a series of possible actions to be taken by the City, and by the cultural community at large, throughout the coming years. As the City of Nanaimo's population base grows, these sessions present a unique opportunity for reflection, and for the uncovering of new pathways towards cultural and community transformation.

## **SPACES FOR CULTURE: needs for the future**

**(Friday, October 23, and Friday, October 30, from 10:00 to 11:15 am)**

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### **SUMMARY**

This group of stakeholders brought attention to issues surrounding space scarcity. The lack of useable/affordable space for cultural initiatives was seen as an issue prior to COVID, and was seen to be exacerbated by the onslaught of the pandemic. A need was expressed by several stakeholders for a multi-use, purpose-built arts centre that would fulfill many needs within the sector – including the need for local artist exhibition and production space, professional artist space (ie: the capital project being currently developed by Nanaimo Art Gallery), rehearsal space, theatre performance space and space for cultural honouring. Additionally, proponents spoke to the need for consideration of an ecology of spaces that includes, in addition to a large multi-use centre, small ‘scrappy’ and ‘alternative’, as well as commercial spaces. In thinking about the space needs of cultural organizations, various participants drew attention to spaces that may be underutilized and/or made more accessible (ie: the Conference Centre, Cruise Ship Terminal), and outdoor spaces, such as covered areas in parks.

It was acknowledged that facility-based arts organizations have undertaken particularly significant transitions in response to COVID. These organizations have creatively adapted to the ‘new reality’ in the short term, but concerns exist around the long-term sustainability of organizations, their programs and the sector at-large – particularly if the pandemic continues to impact.

At this time, there appears to be a strong recognition of the need for partnerships and collaborations in the development of space. Some expressed a vision that the City would ‘drive’ the pursuit of a centralized multi-use arts centre; but it was also acknowledged that the cultural community itself would need to play a strong role in envisioning the space, and in coming to the table with funding. Many saw the City as playing a convening role in enabling the emergence of such partnerships. This includes convening stakeholders, researching/assessing community needs, and linking projects with funding landscapes. The City was also seen to play a role in making better use (increasing capacity) of its existing outdoor facilities.

*The more we can get out of a single facility, the more streamlined things will be for everyone. Synergy and collaborative work are the magic to make these projects go forward’ (Mike – Port Theatre).*

Furthermore, the City was seen to play a role in building the virtual presentation capacity of the sector (in the wake of the technological shifts brought about by

COVID), instigating widespread education and dialogue surrounding the role and value of art generally, and public art in particular, and developing ‘mental space’ in which citizens come to view art as an intrinsic part of the City’s identity.

### **CONTEXT (including impact of COVID – Key Insights)**

When asked to speak to the context in which current programming and facilities/spaces were operating, the following key insights were provided:

- Port Theatre has had to limit professional/touring engagements, and is focusing on local performers. The Theatre is offering select performances through online streaming. Port Theatre is presenting live performances of audiences of up to 50 – a major reduction in capacity.
- Western Edge Theatre has programmed zoom plays, as well as small (under 50) performances at Port Theatre, and is working on digital theatre initiative.
- TheatreOne is struggling with space, noting that the issues occurring prior to the pandemic have now been exacerbated. TheatreOne offers children’s theatre and mainstage programs at VIU’s Malaspina Theatre, but this space is under threat (external groups may be excluded from the Theatre in the near future). As TheatreOne is governed by equity requirements, the only other available options are the Port Theatre and Bailey Studio. Even in non-COVID times, TheatreOne is unable to present a show for more than one week because of priority requirements for VIU. The organization also faces issues surrounding accessibility.  
*Accessibility is fundamental to anything that happens. It is wonderful that the City invested in the CIBC arts building and Harbour City Theatre building, for instance, but access was not considered when that they were created (Judith)*
- Nanaimo Fringe Festival was re-imagined this year due to COVID, as an online festival. The organization has started scouting locations for next year’s festival but options are limited. The Harbour City Theatre is inflexible and cannot be reconfigured; the Port Theatre lobby is a potential, but the organization is struggling to find additional venues. A need for rehearsal space was also identified.
- Nanaimo Community Archives has placed new focus on online promotion and social media (daily photos on Facebook, YouTube videos, Instagram).
- Nanaimo Art Gallery experienced a massive halt to programming after COVID, particularly programming for children. The Gallery has instituted limits on numbers (for instance, allowing up to 12 people in Gallery at a time). The organization has had to think outside the box in connecting with its audience. Its space is quite small, and is ‘bursting at the seams’. The

organization needs a long- or short-term purpose-built facility. The leadership is open to situations that would provide space and opportunities for artists of all levels and abilities – emerging and professional, as well as workshop and learning space.

- Arts Council is moving programs online, such as a virtual fiction contest
- Hub City Walls organizers have witnessed an increase in ‘judgement-based’ comments coming from citizens since COVID, especially online, as related to the public art being produced. The artists have also been negatively impacted by the closure of public washrooms as a result of COVID. On the other hand, increased levels of support for mural art has been offered by the street-involved community, many of whom have played a role in protecting the murals from vandalism.
- Russ Morland (artist) flagged issues around a lack of available space for independent art exhibitions. While space was limited prior to COVID, the onslaught of the pandemic has exacerbated the issue:  
*Finding space is a major issue. Finding safe spaces that people feel comfortable gathering in is an issue. How do we find space that can be used safely? (Russ – Artist).*
- Sara Robichaud (artist) has had to transition post-COVID to online teaching (highlighting the fact that this delivery format takes much more time to prepare in comparison with in-person options). She identified the need for additional time to develop ideas, and space to create work. Sara also highlighted the struggles faced by commercial galleries attempting to sell work in the wake of COVID.

### **LONG-TERM NEEDS AND VISION FOR SPACE – Key Insights**

- The development of shared multi-use space initiatives within the cultural sector, including (potentially): space for local arts exhibition, professional arts exhibition (ie: Nanaimo Art Gallery), First Nations cultural honouring, outdoor theatre/busking, print shop, woodworking shop, maker space, private space, classroom, and practice and performance space... potentially on the waterfront. An example given was the Evergreen Centre in Coquitlam. Nanaimo Art Gallery, a newly re-configured Nanaimo Arts Council, Dennis McMahon (separately) have been working to develop such a centre.  
*Firstly, looking for space for artists to come together, create, make, get messy, with a community feel and spirit, to workshop and learn together. Secondly, looking for space where local artists can exhibit. When thinking of the future, need to think about it step-by-step. We need space that involves people from a wide spectrum of practices. (Becky)*

*The immediate need is for space. Visual artists have no central home or location to rent studio space, hold exhibits, sell their work, or conduct workshops. A short- to medium-term solution ... would be to turn the old library building on Fitzwilliam into a short-term space for artists. Long-term, there are plans to expand the Nanaimo Art Gallery to meet more community-based needs, the Port Theatre has recognized that their expansion would meet more community-based needs; but must those be site-specific? Could the needs be met with a new multi-use facility? If the long-range plan of 20 years is to have a centralized community arts centre to serve the needs of the community, we should start now. (Dennis)*

*The Gallery wants to expand, and move toward becoming a Class A facility... is it a wise choice to look at expanding a facility that is not purposefully designed or that might be better fulfilled with a purpose-built facility (with community arts space attached)? (Dennis)*

*In the City's OCP, Strategic Plan and Cultural Plan, the City has recognized the need for multi-use community arts space. So they do have a role – the gap in need has been identified in those plans, they are obligated to follow up on that (Dennis).*

- The convening of relationships and conversations surrounding the use of under-used spaces, including conversations around accessibility of these spaces.

*Consider using and activating unused spaces as a short-term solution. (Erin – Artist/Designer)*

- Supporting an ecology of cultural spaces, including a multi-use, centralized arts facility, but also 'scrappier' lowbrow galleries and commercial spaces.

- The development of rehearsal space

*It would be so nice to have a studio venue that had been proposed at the Port Theatre, rehearsal space too. We have rehearsed in the basement of local pubs and other buildings and can attest to the poor working conditions. (Tamara, TheatreOne)*

- Cultivating outdoor spaces, and working with arts organizations to make these spaces work. This may include acknowledging the role for 'incremental' rather than 'strategic' development:

*Nanaimo is unique, quirky. There is a conflict between beautifully designed spaces versus well-loved spaces and it is interesting to come to grips with. An example, Maffeo Sutton Park is a well-loved, really well used park, yet is put together in sort of a piecemeal way.*

*Parts are done really well, but do they fit with the overall context of the park? Maybe not. However, if the park is well-used, does that even matter? Cities are built-up over time. (Victoria)*

- The Nanaimo Art Gallery seeks a new or expanded home, a project that is underway. The current space occupied by the Gallery lacks accessibility within its offices and kitchen. The Gallery imagines a purpose-built, downtown, waterfront Gallery that is climate controlled, includes collection storage, a couple of exhibition spaces, a community space, large public programming space, shop, perhaps a creative Snuneymuxw First Nation workspace or gallery, and more. The Gallery sees the next step as developing a feasibility study and consolidating community support.
- The Port Theatre seeks an adequate ‘back of house’ space, the current space is inadequate for a theatre of this size. It also seeks a studio theatre – a performance space that can better serve the community and alleviate some of the space pressure faced by the Theatre.
- Western Edge Theatre seeks rehearsal space, which it finds difficult to acquire
- Nanaimo Community Archives seeks a climate-controlled facility
- Artists Lys and Lauren pointed to the possibility of developing a Nanaimo mural festival

## **POTENTIAL ROLES FOR THE CITY**

The City’s role was imagined as:

- Convening stakeholders and facilitating collaboration with an aim to meet multiple organizations’ needs and develop the presentation capacity of the sector.  
*I would like to continue this conversation. I am hearing so many ideas in this session that would be valuable to a continued conversation but with a particular focus. Can the City facilitate or encourage such a conversation as a starting point, or perhaps send a rep to be part of that conversation/help guide it? (Becky Thiessen – artist, planner, organizer)*
- Working with existing groups of cultural stakeholders driving project:  
*We have established organizations, so let’s not start from scratch. Let’s use our existing established organizations to leverage more support and funding from different sources. (Yvonne – Nanaimo Art Gallery)*

- Assessing the various cultural needs in the community and convening stakeholders in relation to the development of a new multi-purpose Arts Centre (or Centres).
  - Leveraging support from the community and business sector.  
*The Port Theatre was so close to getting a major naming sponsor but it did not happen. The City's firm support of the idea and engagement with potential donors and sponsors is really important.*  
(Judith - TheatreOne)
  - Supporting (financially) and committing to the development of needed space – both in the short-term and long-term.  
*The City's role is foundational; a new space will not happen without City support and commitment* (Judith – TheatreOne).  
Such support could include short-term solutions (for instance – cultural use of the Convention Centre and Cruise Ship Terminal), and long-term solutions (ie: the development of a multi-use arts centre).
  - Working with the Nanaimo Art Gallery to convene stakeholders, and providing funding in relation to the development of a new or expanded Gallery/community arts space.
  - Re-Imagining outdoor spaces (Bowen, Maffeo Sutton, Diana Krall, etc.) so as to make these more useable by the community. This act might involve leveraging the expertise of the Port Theatre in the development and management of these spaces.
  - Spurring community-wide conversation and awareness-raising (including in online arenas) surrounding the role and value of contemporary public art  
*Nanaimo is in desperate need of education on how to look at art critically and understand artist objectives... Seems that the gap is not people experiencing the artwork in-person; rather in online dialogue creating a premature opinion* (Lauren – Hub City Walls)
  - Helping to create 'mental space' for culture – generating a strong atmosphere of support for the cultural sector within the Nanaimo citizenship.
  - Providing training in digital and new media technologies as a way to increase the sector's programming and community engagement capacity, and enable it to overcome digital literacy hurdles.
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## **SUSTAINABILITY: funding, skill & resource sharing**

(Thursday, November 5, from 1:00 pm – 2.15 pm, and from 7:00 pm – 8:15 pm).

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### **SUMMARY**

Human resources concerns were front and centre for the organizations contributing to this conversation. Many groups, including CineCentral Wordstorm, Pacific Coast Stage Co, Nanaimo Arts Council, Harbour City Theatre, etc. highlighted the challenge of working predominantly with volunteer labour – a challenge exacerbated in times of COVID. Succession planning was seen as a major challenge for most organizations– including succession planning on the Board and Volunteer levels, but especially as related to the types of cultural management expertise necessary to run the ‘business’ of cultural organizations.

These issues around human resources were tied in with issues surrounding arts space. Many expressed a strong need for a centralised arts space that would bring cultural workers together on a catalytic level in sharing resources, and generating creative conversations (as well as in meeting the growing presentation needs of the sector).

The City’s role in increasing the sector’s sustainability was seen as multi-pronged. The City was envisioned as a leader - as an entity convening conversations around the future of the sector, setting direction, catalyzing knowledge, connectivity and resources, boosting the sector’s capacity (particularly in relation to gaps in business and management skills), and as providing the funding needed to both meet its vision and support organizations struggling in COVID times. Questions were asked about the Arts Council’s potential role in engaging some of this catalytic work in conjunction with the City – a relationship that could be explored.

The City was also seen to play a role in increasing the visibility of the sector broadly, including (potentially) through a centralized sharing-out of programs and activities in the sector, and championing the work of the sector.

As many of the organizations contributing to this section expressed concern for their core sustainability, especially in the wake of COVID, there is a level of urgency apparent in the need expressed for leadership within the sector, and for catalytic development of its resource-sharing and capacity-building potential.

### **CONTEXT – Key Insights**

When asked to speak to the context in which current collaborations and partnerships occurred, the following key insights were provided:

- CineCentral is a volunteer-run organization that became a non-profit in 2013. The organization's key priority in the upcoming years is to become sustainable by implementing a core staff position. Additionally, the organization has struggled to maintain its downtown space, and moving forward is in need of funding to maintain it. The studio's rent has not been covered by grants, but through 'studio partners'. In order to increase sustainability, CineCentral will be seeking new studio partners, and will also be investigating space-sharing partnerships with other groups outside the film community.
- Wordstorm, a volunteer-run organization that became a non-profit in 2009, also seeks human resources sustainability, noting the organizational challenges arising from a lack of core staff:

*This is an issue with many organizations here in Nanaimo – they are volunteer-run and therefore beholden to the goodwill of whoever happens to be volunteering at the moment. We are fortunate to have people in the community willing to do this, but it becomes problematic from a sustainability perspective. (Carla – Wordstorm).*

Wordstorm also seeks a home with greater visibility.
- Similarly, Pacific Coast Stage Co (Fringe) highlighted ongoing issues related to staffing. While a small honoraria is paid to the GM position, the hours required far exceed this budget. The organization was fortunate to expand this year and received more money than usual. A key priority moving forward is to establish year-round programming while keeping administrative expenses low.
- Nanaimo Arts Council also runs predominantly on volunteer labour, and has identified as a primary goal the hiring of a paid Executive Director.
- Harbour City Theatre has taken a hit since COVID; having to run almost entirely on volunteer labour, and is striving to continue to offer a variety of affordable space options to the community. The organization has created a streaming studio, and is trying to build up artists through this presentation format. The organization sees its role as an alliance to pay artists, and to create opportunities for artists to present their work and sustain their practices. It is now in the second year of a co-management agreement that will take it to 2029.
- Opera Nanaimo presented its first full-length opera at Malaspina Theatre last year. In future, the organization seeks to present its work in the Port Theatre, which has an orchestra pit; and to present at least one major opera production per year. To make this move, additional funding is needed. Ticket sales do not fund its productions in their entirety, and the organization has found it difficult to connect with businesses willing to

- invest in the arts. The organization finds itself needing to continuously work against the idea of opera as elitist. It has identified the need to attract more students and young people. Furthermore, the organization identified an need, in COVID times, for the implementation of year-round government contracts – the absence of which, it notes, places a generation of artists at-risk.
- Crimson Coast has been investing in the creation of digital work in times of COVID. The organization is facing challenges in generating funding for contemporary (edgy) work within Nanaimo's small city context. The hurdles have been acutely present in the realm of sponsorship/donation. Succession planning is also a key issue for the organization – including with board, staff and volunteers.
  - VIU Campus Gallery seeks funding streams to invite professional practicing artists from across the country, cover CARFAC, travel fees, per diems, workshops fees, etc. The organization seeks greater connectedness with Nanaimo Art Gallery, and improvements in its physical space (ie: finishing walls, upgrade of lighting and sound system, increased care for Gallery's collection, increased storage space). Further, the Gallery is engaged in preliminary discussions with other organizations re: activating the space during the summer months, and the development of an annual arts festival.
  - Vancouver Island Symphony highlighted its struggle to exist in the age of COVID, with its biggest short-term goal being continued existence one year from now. While many of its basic needs continue to be supported through government grants, the challenge of getting audiences together in COVID times has enacted a hit in terms of revenue:  
*Even audiences of 300 people will not support a symphony on stage. [There are] some big challenges for performing arts ahead, period; but more so for art forms like a symphony, opera, that have big costs to produce (Margot)*  
One possible strategy in moving forward sustainably is to develop a relationship between the Symphony (and perhaps other organizations) and the Port Theatre, whereby it becomes a 'resident' company of the theatre.

### **LONG-TERM NEEDS AND VISION– Key Insights**

The following long-term ideas for sectoral development were offered by the group:

- Increase sustainability within the sector by prioritizing support for organizations that need professionals and are willing to pay professionals a living wage. The stabilization of employment was seen as an innovative way to sustain the sector.

- Increase arts space and facilities – in visual arts, performing arts, rehearsal space, different sized spaces.  
*We are severely lacking, especially in comparison to cities of similar population (Aaramë – Nanaimo Art Gallery)*
- Development of strong mentorships and capacity-building within the sector, with a focus on the sharing of cultural management skills and strategy:  
*There are people with specialized skills in supporting arts organizations (accountants, lawyers, other community members) and it would be wonderful to collaboratively share those people amongst organizations; people who aren't just focused on arts, but know how to run an organization on a business level (Carol – Opera Nanaimo).*  
*There are some great tools out there now to streamline things, and also some great, experienced people. Seeing how others do things, asking “Hey have you tried this?” or “Have you tried recording your volunteer hours?”, it's simple things like that. If organizations had someone checking in giving feedback on the admin side of things about how they can boost revenues and pay people to do the work – that would be helpful. (Bryony – Pacific Coast Stage Co).*
- Development of increased connectedness. Many expressed a need to bring stakeholders together outside of regular activities to network and build connectedness within the sector, and between the sector and other sectors. At the same time, at least one individual highlighted a strong sense of connection existing within the sector currently:  
*we have that small town feel, everybody kind of knows each other and the expertise here (Aaramë – Nanaimo Art Gallery)*

## **POTENTIAL ROLES FOR THE CITY**

The City's role was imagined as multi-pronged, including:

- Convening or catalyzing formats for cultural stakeholder connection, incubation and pollination. This could involve:
  - Curating dialogues and points of connection within the sector:  
*I have been here working in the sector for over 20 years. This is the first time we have met with the City's involvement like this. We've had private Facebook meetings, as smaller groups, but nothing that is substantiated or held together. (Dean – Harbour City Theatre)*

*What about a “First Friday” or something similar, that gets artists and the sector together, just flowing, collaborating and talking. (Lynda – Crimson Coast).*

- Catalyzing creative space – including the creation of new space, and increased accessibility of existing space:

*There is no central space where groups can actively collaborate, get together on a larger scale, ask for help. If there were a cultural centre to hang out, have these conversations that would be invaluable for moving things forward. (Carla – Wordstorm)*

*All of the cities in BC with a similar size and population have cultural arts centres and Nanaimo is behind. (Carol – Opera Nanaimo)*

*Opera Nanaimo looked at renting a couple of City-run facilities (Bowen Centre or the Convention Centre) and found them to be incredibly expensive. I feel the City should provide a much more reduced rate or free for non-profit groups. (Carol – Opera Nanaimo).*

*I feel fortunate to be located in the CIBC arts centre along with a handful of other arts groups; it keeps them connected. But what about those that don't have that opportunity? (Lynda – Crimson Coast).*

- Implementing/strengthening an umbrella group (such as an Arts Council) mandated to increase connectivity within the sector was seen as one potential way in which the City could bolster the sector's 'convening' capacity:

*the Nanaimo Arts Council is looking to reform and rebuild – do they have a great connection to the City so that the City can enable the Arts Council to enable the sector? (Rebecca – Vancouver Island Symphony / Crimson Coast).*

*It would be valuable to have a bit more, like a quarterly connect, where the City (or someone else in the community) organized those pollination events. There is value in networking. It's hard for any single organization to take the lead on planning something like this, since they are all so consumed and stretched thin with their own work. Maybe an umbrella group to be a focal point for all arts organizations. (Zach – CineCentral)*

*My takeaway is that I need to try to organize a meeting of all the arts groups in the not too distant future, to trade ideas and see how they can pool resources (Sean – Community Arts Council).*

- Facilitating a digital posting / information-sharing board for groups as a way to share knowledge, resources and information. This includes sharing of management-based resources and information, as well as human resources and professional knowledge:
- Facilitating connections between the arts and business communities (including with VIU business students); enabling capacity-building surrounding business development through these connections.

One participant referred to the City's convening role as the 'lump' in an octopus, with the various stakeholder groups forming the limbs.

- Playing a leadership role - setting a direction for the sector that is inclusive and multi-modal:

*I would like for the vision to be encompassing; larger arts organizations, smaller groups, right down to grassroots projects; all demographics including Snuneymuxw and Stz'uminus; newcomers; life long Nanaimoites; young and old. Let's not leave anybody behind. Whether starting a film society, running a theatre, or a single artist with a vision. The more accommodating we can be, the better off we will be. (Aaramë – Nanaimo Art Gallery)*

- Providing context and boosting pride based on historical successes, and creating the conditions for risk-taking:

*We were named a Cultural Capital in 2008, but do you know why? And how can we continue to be a cultural capital if we don't know how we got there? (Dean – Harbour City Theatre).*

*Nanaimo doesn't always feel like a safe place to take chances, or to get out of your rut, or to meet other groups because they feel they are constantly waiting for that other hand to drop, for their funding to be pulled. (Dean – Harbour City Theatre).*

- Increasing the visibility of Nanaimo cultural organizations.

*Something the City could do might be to have some way of making the existing arts organizations known to those that*

# **OUR PEOPLE: growing and retaining talent in Nanaimo**

**(Monday, October 26, 2020 from 9:00 am to 10:15 am)**

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## **SUMMARY**

Many of the cultural organizations in attendance have been hit hard by COVID as related to their staffing and human resources. Some, like the Port Theatre, worry about their ability to retain staff once the federal wage subsidy has been concluded. Others, like L'Association Des Francophones de Nanaimo expressed concern about the impact of COVID on volunteer support networks.

Other key concerns relate to a perceived lack of mentorship opportunities in the City - for artists, professional arts managers and Board members. Also acknowledged was the issue of out-migration of VIU students. Potentials for building capacity around mentorship and knowledge transfer were discussed, including ways in which the City might help to connect artists (and cultural managers) with mentorship-based funding opportunities, and ways in which students from VIU might be better-integrated into the sector – improving the sector's ability to retain their skills and resources.

Another discussion thread centred around the challenges and opportunities surrounding the sector's engagement with BIPOC (black, Indigenous, people of colour) communities. Questions emerged around how the City's cultural organizations and practitioners could better engage with these communities. This includes an acknowledgement of the colonialist values imbricated within the majority of cultural facilities and organizations, and conversations surrounding the ways in which meaningful / deep partnerships with BIPOC communities could be encouraged through City funding mechanisms.

Yet another thread centred around the need for the cultural organizations and practitioners to develop deeper alliances and partnerships generally – towards 'deep' resource, mentorship and knowledge-sharing. It was suggested that the City might play a role in enabling organizations to come together differently – encouraging the break-down of silos and the formation of strong collaborations. The City was also seen to have a role in championing the sector broadly – and in creating a culture of support and awareness.

## **CONTEXT (including impact of COVID – Key Insights)**

When asked to speak to the context in which current human-based resources were operating, the following key insights were provided:

- Port Theatre has seen dramatic changes since COVID. To date, the Theatre has been able to retain staff (14 full-time and 90 part-time) through the Federal wage subsidy, but its continued ability to do so is challenged. The management fee provided to the Theatre by the City is critical to its survival.
- Nanaimo Historical Society is volunteer-run; has been working on a project called 'the Nanaimo Experience' – asking questions about Nanaimo's history, events and people that have influenced its development.
- Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society works with 1800+ newcomers per year, and has observed barriers as related to the ability of newcomers to connect within the City.
- L 'Association Des Francophones de Nanaimo has been hit hard by COVID, as many of its volunteers (especially seniors) have stopped participating.
- Heather Kai Smith, an Independent Artist and Educator, observes a lack of mentorship opportunities within Nanaimo, as well as the City's lack of engagement with / encouragement of the artists who live there.
- Amber Morrison, Sad Girl Review Magazine producer and Independent Artist / Programmer highlighted the absence of space to show work from emerging artists, as well as an absence of 'incubator' spaces for creatives.
- Eliza Gardiner, Vancouver Island University Theatre, identifies as a challenge the persistent out-migration of students and graduates, and has flagged an opportunity to grow the cultural sector through retention of university-produced cultural capital.
- Nanaimo Historical Society identifies the under-utilization of retirees in the cultural sector.
- Bruce, Port Theatre, observes a proliferation of colonialist values in the built facilities occupied by cultural groups.

## **POTENTIAL ROLES FOR THE CITY**

The City's role was imagined as:

- Enabling a culture of sharing and collaboration between organizations. This could involve the mandating of deep resource sharing:  
*Not-for-profits have operated in silos because that is how funding works (build your silo); but funding can change the view and start rewarding collaboration and deep resource sharing (leadership*

*role). The deep resource sharing won't happen until funders ask for it.... Deepen these relationships. Mentor, share collective knowledge. Those are things the City MAY be able to help with (Bruce – Port Theatre)*

- Fostering virtual programming knowledge and opportunities (in response to COVID)
- Reducing the cost of participation in cultural events, and in reduce other barriers such as cost for parking.
- Making an ongoing case for the role and importance of arts and culture amongst its citizenship. The City could look to the ways in which it promotes recreation as an example (ie: its messaging about the importance of being active):

*We need more unified messaging as to WHY it (Culture) matters. Then, the sector could pick up on that messaging from the City to help further the message. (Andrea – Port Theatre)*

*The City could help by emphasizing the value of not-for-profit groups. We all know the value, but how does the message get out to the community? (Bruce – Port Theatre)*

- Bridging barriers to engagement for newcomers:  
*Newcomers want to engage with arts and culture in Nanaimo but do not know where to start. The collective us is doing a poor job at engaging people... (Jennifer – Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society)*
- Mandating, through funding mechanisms, partnerships with BIPOC communities:  
*Funding structures have shifted. Other funders are focusing on partnerships with BIPOC, using language in their grant applications like “Leaders must...” or “You must partner with...”. This encourages organizational capacities to be built-up in the way they should be. (Jennifer – Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society)*
- Creating facilities that better-reflect the needs and cultures of BIPOC communities.  
*Most built facilities are colonial, euro-centric venues. When partnering with cultural groups, for instance, it can be cumbersome given the euro-centric nature of the venue. So how to redevelop facilities and/or make sure this is addressed in future? (Bruce – Port Theatre)*

- Connecting artists and mentors, facilitating partnerships and conversations. This could involve a capacity-building role as related to grants for independent artists and mentors, such as leading workshops or information sessions on the Early Career Development grants offered by BC Arts Council:

*When I graduated in 2018, I looked for a mentor. The closest she could find was in Victoria... It was a great experience but the distance and commute was draining (Amber – Independent Artist)*

*The BC Arts Council offers early career development grants; would be interesting to see ways we could set up those relationships for artists who are coming in, trying to set up connections in the community (Heather – Independent Artist)*

- Fostering ‘incubator’ spaces for artists:  
*There needs to be more low-cost, low-barrier venues for young and emerging artists to show and experiment in support and nourish creativity. (Amber – Independent Artist)*

*If we can gather "creatives" together in different spaces and in different ways, that would be very helpful. (Andrea – Port Theatre)*

- Creating bridges between retirees with knowledge/expertise (many of whom are moving to Nanaimo from other places), and the cultural sector.
- Enabling linkages between the cultural capital generated through the University (including emerging artists, cultural managers, etc.)... and the City’s arts and culture scene:

*VIU has huge human resources with students from any number of programs [including and] beyond the arts (business, English, history). All of these people are looking to participate in the sector. It is our job, collectively, to build a vibe, to show them why they should stay here in Nanaimo. Show them that there are opportunities for them to present and share their talents they have been cultivating while studying. (Eliza – Vancouver Island University Theatre).*

Such a retention initiative could involve developing opportunities for students to receive credit for their work in the cultural sector, developing co-ops and research initiatives for students in the cultural sector:

*Let us retain the people in our community; they are the ones who will make it flower in future generations (Eliza – Vancouver Island University)*

# **COLLABORATIONS, PARTNERSHIPS & BUILDING COMMUNITY**

(Thursday, October 29, 2020 from 9:00 am to 10:15 am)

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## **SUMMARY**

The groups and practitioners in this section spoke broadly to the impacts of COVID on their collaborations, partnerships and audience development activities. Many of the stakeholders' programs have been moved online, yet virtual presentation was seen to pose a hurdle for some. There may be a role for the City in helping to build capacity in the sector in relation to virtual presentation. Furthermore, the City was imagined to play a role in increasing awareness of cultural activities (potentially through the development of a centralized information hub), and in creating, broadly, a 'culture of appreciation and engagement'.

A substantial component of the session was spent discussing the relationships and partnerships at-play between cultural sector and BIPOC communities. Broad agreement emerged that deeper connections between the sector and Indigenous (and BIPOC) communities is needed and desired. Questions arose surrounding how to make these connections happen 'in a good way'; avoiding tokenism. The City was seen to play a role in convening conversations that allow for stronger relationships to be developed. The City was also seen to play a role in 'modelling' culturally safe relationships with Indigenous communities, and in 'shaping' dominant understandings of the City's identity (including of its colonialist past) through its foregrounding of particular icons, images and public art statements over others (for instance – in honouring Coast Salish art, and in carefully navigating, and helping to problematize, the image of the Bastion).

## **CONTEXT (including impact of COVID – Key Insights)**

When asked to speak to the context in which current collaborations and partnerships occurred, the following key insights were provided:

- Crimson Coast has seen changes in its audience since COVID. The organization is exploring digital programming, and struggling to gain digital presentation skills. The organization continues to use traditional marketing (print media, posters, email, social media, newsletters).
- VIRL, which includes almost 40 branches, only some of which are in Nanaimo, has struggled to engage its community given the limitations imposed by COVID. The library offers a variety of programs and products, including physical books, digital books, movies, programs, free meeting space, etc. Since COVID, the library has started creating themed 'grab

and go' bags on a number of topics, including on themes of Black Lives Matter or local Indigenous content. Many of the library's services have been moved online due to COVID. The library faces ever-changing orders and expectations due to COVID, which are at-times a challenge to meet. Additionally, the library serves the widest possible demographic, and attempts to cast as wide a net as possible in its public engagement initiatives – a quality that is both a strength and weakness. Moving forward, the organization would like to better-engage with Indigenous and teen demographics. Its Elder in Residence program, which hosted speaking engagements from First Nations leaders, has been well-attended, and may provide a starting-point for relationships. This said, audiences for this program have been largely comprised of non-Indigenous people, and work is needed to connect in deeper ways with Indigenous communities.

- CHLY continues to reach audiences using the radio station itself, and its newsletter which has about 850 subscribers. Audience demographics are surprisingly broad; the listenership is diverse. The station is interested in connecting more with VIU students and youth. As a non-profit, the organization's staff team faces capacity issues. Available grants are often program-focused, and don't allow for the needed staff time to develop community connections. The station (pending an increase in capacity) is interested in instituting an 'community event update', which would allow it to play a stronger role in amplifying events in the cultural sector. It is open to working with partners (ie: it could, for instance, host a regular 'library update'). CHLY has recently undertaken internal reflection around how to develop relationships with BIPOC communities in a respectful way that avoids tokenism. The station has applied for grant funding to assist with the development of podcast skills for recording stories of local Indigenous people.

### **LONG-TERM NEEDS AND VISION– Key Insights**

The following long-term ideas for sectoral development were offered by the group:

- The institutionalization of a convening entity to help develop relationships between the Cultural Sector and BIPOC communities.
- The catalyzation of stronger relationships with Indigenous communities (expressed by VIRL, Crimson Coast, CHLY, Common Foundry)
- Capacity building in the sector's audience development activities
- A stronger role for corporate partners in the sector

## POTENTIAL ROLES FOR THE CITY

The City's role was imagined as:

- Helping organizations develop audiences through mentorship (or connections with mentorship resources) related to funding, marketing, digital presentation and literacy.
- Developing an 'arts-consciousness' within the City through active participation in the sector by civic leaders, and the development of a 'championing' role:

*We need our leaders to be actually participating and talking about the arts, promoting them as vital. People look to their leaders as a guide (Holly, Crimson Coast).*

*The City should be a champion, an amplification voice for others, to help bring a larger audience and leverage the audiences they already have. (Cory, Common Foundry)*

- Cultivating relationships between cultural organizations and Indigenous groups. Here the City is seen as a convener and connector:  
*With the number of bands located in their service area, there has to be a better way of reaching our existing and potential Indigenous customers. Having a great relationship with the City and other partners (especially downtown) is a great first step.*

*It would be great to have an opportunity to get people in the same room, discuss these issues without having to work your way through the small talk, or try to get a phone number, or knowing if that is even appropriate to do? Facilitated meetings like this to help break down barriers and silos. (Jesse)*

Furthermore, the City (as with cultural organizations generally) was seen to play a role decolonizing public space through its capacity to decide which public icons are celebrated, and what messages within public art are foregrounded.

The City was also called upon to model the desired change:  
*I wonder about the idea of a feasting or gathering before a City Council meeting in a circle, not amphitheater style. Modeling is the most powerful facilitator (Holly)*

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# **RECONCILIATION AND DECOLONIZATION: advancing ethical change in the cultural sector**

**(Tuesday, November 3, from 1:00 pm – 2.15 pm).**

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## **SUMMARY**

This session offered a platform in which Cultural Leaders and Knowledge Keepers of the Snuneymuxw First Nation shared teachings with members of the Nanaimo Cultural Community.

The session was framed as a starting-point for a conversation about reconciliation and decolonization within the cultural sector; it was acknowledged that more learning and relationship-building is to follow.

A key teaching brought forward by all three Knowledge Keepers highlighted the need to acknowledge the ‘truth’ of the past – including the truth of colonial histories of oppression - as an important step in moving forward towards a new way of being together. Such truth-telling involves making space for Elders and Knowledge Keepers to share stories, and to speak to devastating histories of loss that accompanied colonization – loss of language, culture, material resources and identity. The act of acknowledging this loss, and these histories of oppression, was seen as a key step in moving forward.

Among other outcomes, such truth-telling holds the possibility of bringing forward, into the realm of collective consciousness, alternate histories surrounding the icons positioned at the heart of Nanaimo’s ‘public’ identity. The ‘official histories’ surrounding, for instance, the Bastion and Coal Monument, become problematized, and the role of these icons in reinforcing a colonialist agenda laid bare. Such acts of ‘re-historicization’ make room for the telling of new public histories, which to-date have been subject to systemic attempts at erasure. Such truth-telling was seen to make room, as well, for Snuneymuxw Elders and Knowledge Keepers to play a stronger role in informing and guiding the cultural sector, and for the values endemic to Coast Salish culture to be shared with, and taken up within, the cultural sector broadly.

Coupled with this focus on the acknowledgement of ‘erased’ histories were teachings rooted in the honouring and celebration of Coast Salish art. Intertwined with this act of honouring was an acknowledgement of the different role that art plays in Coast Salish vs. Western/European culture; including an understanding of art as innately tied to ceremony, ritual and identity.

## CONTEXT – Teachings

Knowledge Keepers offered teachings related to the context surrounding reconciliation and decolonization efforts. In acknowledging this context, the speakers highlighted:

- The need to acknowledge, and productively use towards transformation, histories related to local colonization. This includes:
  - Acknowledgement of histories of local oppression and colonisation  
*Since the arrival of settlers, so much of their world changed in a few short years after their arrival. Our people began to lose access to land, resources, in a continuous process (Bill White)*

*The first people who were thought to understand English did not really understand English until at least 10 years after the treaty was signed... The old people would not have understood the highly individualistic ownership perspectives that the Europeans brought with them. (Bill White)*

- Creating space for the wisdom of Elders and Knowledge Keepers, those who hold language, culture and values, to empower the sector at large, and young cultural leaders.  
*So much history needs to be brought forward, enlightened, and used by our young people. (Bill White)*

*As an artist, I have always... been inspired by the work of my great grandmother. I grew up around the stories that she published, spent a lot of time with her.... My classmates and I would read her stories in class. This provided me with a great sense of pride as a First Nations person, and the impact that it has had on my work and life is huge. I want to continue telling those stories and educating people. (Elliot White-Hill)*

- Critically considering the symbols that define Nanaimo's culture and heritage, and taking time to explore their deep-rooted connections to colonial power. This includes symbols such as the Bastion and the Coal Monument, as well as place-names.  
*It is important to look at shifting away from colonial titles and symbols that we use in our community (and towards traditional village sites, naming of leaders, etc.). One thing associated with Nanaimo is the Bastion. For me, the Bastion is a symbol of violent dominance....The times that cannons were fired, were toward us. Should we be celebrating this as a community? (Elliot White-Hill)*

*Monuments like the Coal Monument downtown should display information that identifies the villages, chiefs and people of that village, and the fact that our people refused Europeans access to the coal. (Bill White)*

*Too often since the 1849 arrival, the newcomers to this land began to change our world by giving places English names. Our village sites were reduced to Indian reserves 1 to 4. All of the land used for hunting, fishing, berry gathering, cleansing, was removed... Shortly after arrival of Europeans, our traditional names began to be removed. The first missionary Thomas Crosby came to the reserve to proselytize and he and HBC officials merely identified people as Indian Chiefs – continuity of a people being seen as less-than, making it easier to remove land and territory, to rename territory. Reconciliation needs to reverse that trend. (Bill White)*

### **MOVING FORWARD– Teachings**

The following teachings were offered by the Knowledge Keepers in conjunction with the need to progress reconciliation and decolonization agendas:

- Acknowledge historical truth; bringing to light histories of oppression and colonization.

*What we are missing here is the truth. We always miss that hurtful history. The success of colonization is that we don't speak of it – we need to speak about it. When Bill speaks to all these wonderful things we used to have before colonization, he wants to embrace the best part of who we once were. We cannot express that until we recognize the pain we've endured and its effects. The suffering, generations of addiction, loss of our homes and language, having to practice our culture without language, how that all feels. If we really sat in a room and told a truth... (Gary Manson)*

*I am all for portraying who we are, through art or other means, but if we do not portray what we went through, things won't get better. (Gary Manson)*

Responses:

*A big thanks to our elders and knowledge keepers for the courage to share that importance for truthfulness, and a representation within that truthfulness. I struggle with the Bastion as an Indigenous settler here whose grandfather was exploited by HBC. It gives me hope that the voices are*

*heard and that this can be an opportunity for those who do have places of privilege, to utilize that place to activate some action moving forward (Arlene Deptuck)*

*Until we acknowledge death, we cannot acknowledge life. Without acknowledging pain, we cannot acknowledge healing and joy. Many of us in charge of organizations are xwunitum people, and that has to change. It is time for authoritative voices to invite and make space for other voices within our organizations (Holly Bright)*

- Develop and proliferate Coast Salish art as a way to combat cultural erasure, make the sacred visible, and express and celebrate the identity of the Coast Salish people, including the identity that is nurtured by cultural practices tied to ceremony and ritual:

*There is a huge history of erasure of Salish art in the Salish territories. In the nineteenth and twentieth century, Salish art was looked down upon more than other art forms from the Pacific Northwest. People did not want to see Salish art in the public until maybe the 70s or 80s; when a few select artists really came and revitalized that art form. We are in a great amazing place now where Salish art is resurging. There is a whole generation of Salish artists doing profound work that is traditional but also modern, telling the stories and continuing these narratives. These artists need a platform, and that platform has not been there historically. (Elliot White-Hill)*

*Use art to re-contextualize space away from the colonial. Look at what percentage of public art in Nanaimo is by Coast Salish artists. Can we increase that or alter the proportion? This is something that would create a sense of connection that has not been there prior... It creates an understanding and celebrates the wealth of history and information of Snuneymuxw. We need to talk, share and celebrate that history. (Elliot White-Hill)*

- Cultivate new understandings surrounding the role of art... moving away from a European understanding of art as 'aesthetic', towards an understanding of art as deeply and intrinsically connected to cultural identity.

*You think about artistic expression about making something beautiful or expresses a feeling. Coast Salish art is so connected to their identity as a people, intrinsically tied to ceremony, ritual, the practices that make them who they are. (Elliot White-Hill)*

- Embrace cultural teachings as a core component of organisational mandates, and work to bring learners, and especially young children, into relationship with these teachings.

*I rely on Dan George's "My Heart Soars". I love that book because it is written the way the old people spoke in the 70s. My mom told me that children must know traditional values by the time they are 8 years old or else they will be unmanageable by their teenage years. The values paper identified about 12 values that are found within Coast Salish culture that would be useful when you are using looking at your prospective programs and how to strengthen its teachings – it describes how those teachings are taught for men, women, kids, about canoeing, knitting, being strong, etc. (Bill White)*

- Continue to meet, and to move forward together.  
*This conversation should not be expected to be concluded within a one hour connection (Arlene Deptuck)*

# NOTES

**SPACES FOR CULTURE: needs for the future**  
(Friday, October 23 from 10:00 to 11:15 am, held via Zoom)

## Participants

Nanaimo Art Gallery  
Western Edge Theatre  
Port Theatre  
Artist  
Artist  
Nanaimo Community Archives  
Nanaimo Arts Council

## Staff

Manager, Culture & Events  
Culture Coordinator, Culture & Events  
Special Events Coordinator, Culture & Events  
Facilitator  
Clerk, Culture & Events (recording)

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Discussion began at 10:00 am. The facilitator opened the session with a territory acknowledgement of the Snuneymuxw, Snaw-Naw-As, and Stz'uminus territories; and Comox Valley, the territory of her teachings. She gave an overview of basic zoom etiquette and led a quick round of introductions.

Manager of Culture & Events thanked everyone for their willingness to participate in today's discussion. She provided an overview of the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process, and how feedback will be used moving forward.

REIMAGINE NANAIMO is a City-wide coordinated planning process happening across all departments, to inform updates to our key documents that will guide action over the next 10 years. Documents include the Official Community Plan; Parks, Rec and Culture Plan, Active Sustainable Transportation Plan, Economic Development Strategy, and more. The City is currently in Phase 1 of 2 (idea gathering & learning). Other ways the City is seeking feedback through Phase 1 include: online surveys, one specifically related to arts and culture (deadline now extended until November 30 and registration requirement removed); a creative community contest with prizes; a mail-out of surveys to a select number of households; pop-up stations and information booths in parks and public spaces; in-person meetings on request; and classroom activities for students. Phase 2 will include developing and proposing goals and actions, with pathways to achieving those goals. All information is online at [www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca](http://www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca).

Today's session is part of how the Culture & Events team seeking input and engaging with the arts & culture community. It is an opportunity for our team to come together with you to listen, delve into some specific issues that the sector is facing, and (hopefully) figure out ways that we can support each other. The team will be listening and taking notes, which will be shared back to participants, our City colleagues and the lead project consultant, LANARC. What we learn in this session will inform next steps, drafts of plan documents, and feed in to the bigger picture.

The facilitator provided some general principles of underlying dialogue, including active listening, thoughtful engagement, cultural safety and humility, and appreciation and respect for one another. She reminded the group to be mindful in stepping outside of our agendas and into a space of collective thinking. How can we work together?

- **What are the opportunities and challenges are you currently navigating with regard to space because of COVID-19? What activities have you moved online to virtual spaces? What online programming have you attended?**
- **Do you have access to adequate space for the production or presentation of your activities or work? What are the actions the City could take to support your need for space?**
- **Are your spaces, both physical and online, accessible to members of the community who are deaf and disabled?**
- **Do you have other equity-based concerns or measures you'd like to explore? What are the barriers to addressing this?**
- **Where will your activities be located in ten years? What spaces or venues do you anticipate visiting? What cultural locations do you gather in to experience culture that are not official venues? What kinds of change would you like to see to local venues and events?**

The Port Theatre has been particularly hit – the theatre is a purpose-built facility designed to gather 800 people in close proximity. They had to shut down immediately since March. The building was not staffed for the first few months as staff worked from home and they figured out next steps. Their business is about 50% community support and 50% professional touring/commercial. The professional touring/commercial portion will be devastated for years; they are starting to see the community support come back into the theatre. In the interim, trying to offer television/internet streaming, they have purchased new cameras and streaming gear, and are offering a select amount of performances for online streaming. They can currently fit 50 audience members in the large auditorium, distanced. Their first live stream (last week) saw a 50 person live audience and 140 who streamed online. Travel is impossible right now, so they are focusing on local performers.

The Nanaimo Art Gallery has always had space challenges, even pre-COVID. It's all changed with social distancing requirements. Currently, they can have 12 people in the gallery at once. Art Lab programming space has been really limited, so programs aren't breaking even. The open family programs are seeing about 8 to 12 participants (with family pods). The teen program "Dazzle Camouflage" teen program was initially offered online but returned to the Gallery on request of participants. The Artists in the Schools program that would usually reach 10-15,000 kids has changed; schools are not as interested in participating. Using Microsoft teams. Saturday Studio was offered online from March to September again. Online participation – it is difficult to tell if people are engaging.

The Nanaimo Arts Council almost ceased in 2019, closing its gallery and office space. Currently rebuilding and not having a physical space has been somewhat of a benefit at this time (no rent to pay). They have been holding all board and AGM meetings online and are looking at setting up an online gallery. They are also looking to run a short fiction contest (online) in the spring. Online offerings – can we sustain and what can we offer? Personally, he has been enjoying some online programming, including the Western Edge plays on YouTube.

Western Edge did some zoom online plays over the summer, which made the group active during a time they wouldn't have normally been, as well as keep spirits up. As for performances at the Port Theatre, they were able to make it happen with the help from the Port Theatre staff. They had 50 people there for each performance, and found sitting in the (distanced) audience warmer than expected. They are

currently working on a digital theatre initiative, providing seed money to Nanaimo-area artists to create theatre that can be distributed digitally. Of course, they would prefer a real space and performing real live theatre, but these have been reasonable alternatives in the meantime (while still moving theatre forward). It's a creative response to what they can do. They pay for administrative box office and publicity help; they do not have full time staff or employees.

- How long can this be sustained for, this new reality? That is a huge question facing so many groups right now. So far I'm hearing that you've been managing, but it's been difficult dealing with such an uncertain future. Let's tie our responses into the second question as we move forward, to include how has COVID impacted you, and what can the City do to help?

It has been difficult for Nanaimo Community Archives staff meet with customers as they would have before COVID (one-on-one interaction, research projects over multiple days). When closed to the public, staff could not reasonably answer questions without physically being in the office, so had to prioritize requests. Once the offices reopened (appointment only) things got a bit easier. While closed, they turned focus and energy to online promotion and social media presence (daily photos on Facebook, YouTube videos, creation of an Instagram account). They like using YouTube to feature information because there is no account required to view, which appeals to those who are viewing the information. Based on data collected from views of videos, they have started shortening videos to what seems to be the average attention span. They have re-focused to think of the person who is receiving the information. There is zoom and FB post fatigue. This was a great learning opportunity to enhance 'professionalism via social media. Embrace COVID. They recently added close captioning to all of their videos to make them more accessible. It is hard to keep producing things. Could the City offer some sort of technical training for groups navigating their way online?

The art practice of two Artists has not been affected by COVID, as they work outside. They have received a lot of bookings and commissions, even moving into their 'interior' season. Besides just abiding by social distancing rules of their painting locations, they've had no concerns. It is really unfortunate the lack of public washroom facilities. This was particularly apparent when COVID hit and everyone closed their washrooms. They feel empathetic to those living on the streets that don't have access to public washrooms. This year, they've noticed citizens making judgements on public art based on comments, online dialogue, or one single photo (no actual physical interaction with the art). Making judgements before personally experiencing it. They've seen a major positivity and a great appreciation for public art from the street entrenched community, wonderful and positive, protection of the murals.

For the Nanaimo Arts Council, having a community arts centre is one of the top strategic goals for in the long-term. Yes, it's a long way off, but they plan to work on a feasibility study and capital campaign. In about 5 years, they would like to be making actual, concrete plans about such a centre. He envisions such a multi-use community centre; including gallery spaces to rent out, a print shop, a woodwork shop, maker space, classroom space, practice and performance space, all kinds of stuff. They are very interested in talking and collaborating with other groups to realize this. Working on a feasibility study.

- Do you see the City having a role in supporting this kind of dialogue / bringing people to the table? What do you imagine the City could do to bring this space into reality?

Nanaimo Arts Council feels that City already very supportive and would like to get the City's input on what they believe is necessary for that kind of space – in recent, there's been pressure for the City to magically produce a multi-use community arts space out of nothing, which isn't realistic. They hope to get some

motion on a realistic plan by figuring out how to build it and fund the operations; and hopes the City would be supportive to help and bring people together in a convening role.

The Nanaimo Art Gallery noted that the CIBC arts centre building does provide a space to a variety of organizations, but the offices and kitchen are not accessible. As a City-owned building, it has many issues like that. Moving forward, the Gallery needs a new or expanded home, and there have been many discussions about this in the past. She sees the City and Gallery working together on such a project. The next step would be a feasibility study, as they need community support. When she says expanded or purpose-built facility, she says that because there has been discussion about the current building being used OR a purpose-built gallery (climate controlled, collection storage, so much more). The Gallery would hope to work with the City on this as they would require funding from the City and other levels of government, involvement across the board. She also sees the City also playing a convening role in bringing the partners together.

As an aside from COVID, the Port Theatre was never built with an excess of 'back of house' space, so for a theatre and stage of that size, there is only room for about 50 people in the backstage area (where they might usually be able to fit 200 kids back there). How do they safely accommodate community users going forward? The plans for a studio theatre met its final death this spring – a studio theatre would have alleviated some of the space pressure, adding a small performance space that could better serve the community. The more we can get out of a single facility, the more streamlined things will be for everyone. Synergy and collaborative work is the magic to make these projects go forward.

The greatest need for Western Edge is for rehearsal space, which they find hard to come by. They hope to continue producing at Harbour City Theatre soon but just aren't sure what safety measures are being undertaken. On another note, let us speak of space in a mental regard; making 'mental space' for artists from our community in our community. The existing Cultural Plan spoke to desire to make it possible for artists to make their home here, raise their families here. Western Edge is premised on engaging artists from our own community for the most part. Haven't seen the City pursue that motion or support it. Role for City to cultivate mental space and training on new media for virtual spaces.

- Yes, a role for the City to be cultivating both mental and physical space for artists. Can we discuss some items under the topic of outdoor and/or virtual space, too?

Nanaimo Community Archives is hearing that everyone has struggled with virtual space. A really practical or perhaps doable thing the City could do? Offer some sort of training on new media for non-profits? Get some professional help with that? Most of us at home figuring it out as we go. That would be a practical way to offer concrete help.

The Port Theatre noted that In Nanaimo, we have some outdoor performance spaces (Bowen, Maffeo Sutton, Diana Krall, etc.) and the City rents them to groups that want to use them. In the City of Calgary, their Event Division manages outdoor venues and concerts all year. Leverage outdoor spaces with the Port Theatre. The Port Theatre has a ton of expertise in the theatre right now that is being hugely underutilized, and he would be interested in seeing what kind of leveraging of their expertise, could be used to support some of these other venues as they progress.

- Two artists spoke around the challenges of receptivity, finding it more difficult for residents to interact in a 'good' way with the work you are producing. Do you see any role in the education or opening up dialogue around public art pieces that the City could play?

Artists noted that the gap is not people experiencing the artwork in-person; rather an online dialogue creating a premature opinion. Where people used to engage with these pieces repeatedly, back and forth to work, on the weekend, etc. has now changed. Not sure if more online dialogue would help, may hinder things more. This year, learned that Nanaimo is in desperate need of education on how to look at art critically and understand artist objective. Everyone has varied opinions – that’s the power of art. Before COVID they did things like artist talks.

Ten years from now, she would like to see the Nanaimo Community Archives in a climate-controlled facility anywhere in Nanaimo

Ten years from now, he would like to see the Nanaimo Arts Council in a great big facility, ocean view and all sorts of space for community artists. Also can’t wait to see the Nanaimo Art Gallery expansion. Would love to see some more performance space, too.

There is a 50/50 chance Western Edge won’t be around in 10 years but will try to avoid that.

Ten years from now, he would like to see the Port Theatre expand their role in supporting more of the community users and others; we haven’t seen certain local groups in the theatre for like 10 years, and were so happy when we have them back. He wishes there was a studio expansion or something like that, that could build on to what is a really purpose-built space, and to address more the needs of the local community with smaller rehearsal spaces.

Ten years from now, Nanaimo Art Gallery would like to see a purpose-built gallery, downtown, waterfront, a couple of exhibition spaces for contemporary art, a community space, large public programming space, perhaps a creative Snuneymuxw First Nation workspace or gallery; collection storage area for an expanding collection, climate-controlled, a shop.

Ten years from now, Artists hope to be painting in mural festivals across the world. Far too early to tell if Nanaimo will have a mural festival in ten years.

- The facilitator acknowledged our many friends that are struggling right now within the arts community, may not survive, have been hard hit. These are heavy times with seeing the loss of vital cultural organizations and community members.

The facilitator thanked everyone for participating in today’s discussion, sharing their visions, comments and ideas. The Culture & Events team will follow up with everyone in attendance to receive any further feedback, provide you with a draft of the notes taken at today’s meeting, and inform you of next steps. Everyone was encouraged to visit [www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca](http://www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca); sign up to receive Love Arts Nanaimo updates at [www.nanaimo.ca/goto/loveartsnanaimo](http://www.nanaimo.ca/goto/loveartsnanaimo); and to follow the Culture & Events team on Instagram at [www.instagram.com/Culture\\_Nanaimo](http://www.instagram.com/Culture_Nanaimo).

# Additional Feedback

Received outside of the session discussion:

## Activities moved online and other online programming we've attended?

Home-based gallery owners – Our home-based gallery has stopped exhibiting during COVID. One of the owners has been showing online using Instagram and her website, including a new line of handmade rugs. Other performances we've enjoyed online include theatre and music and storytelling events. Quality varies wildly!

## Access to adequate space? Actions city could take?

Home-based gallery owners – We have creative space in our own home for visual art and a little writing office. Nanaimo badly needs an inventory of informal art and creating spaces. I was thinking perhaps it could be distributed by a lottery system. Artists requiring space would enter the lottery and, when they win, receive a number of potential dates that the space is available.

## Where in ten years?

Home-based gallery owners – No idea! Spaces and venues I anticipate visiting include NAG, galleries and studios used by working artists and community theatres. Unofficial venues visited before the pandemic included studios of potters and painters and the living rooms of musicians.

## What kinds of change would I like for local venues/events?

Home-based gallery owners – See above question but also note that outdoor spaces in Nanaimo are underused (Diana Krall Square). Perhaps it's a budget issue. In terms of performance art, including exhibitions, I've come to see cultural institutions (theatres, galleries) as a kind of technology. I've heard them termed 'social technology' and most people haven't developed skills for using this technology. Yes, they're used for entertainment but few people take the opportunity to go 'behind the curtain' and express themselves. Perhaps that's what's needed - encouragement to express. Why should the professional artists have all the fun?!

## What are the opportunities and challenges are you currently navigating with regard to space because of COVID-19?

Nanaimo Art Gallery – We were limited by our small exhibition space and programming space before COVID, but the requirements for social and physical distancing have required us to set limits to the number of people allowed in each space. Currently we permit up to 12 visitors in the Gallery at once and our teen programs have been reduced from 12 to 6 participants. We are not currently offering children's programs as the limited class sizes prevent them from breaking even. Our popular TD Artists in the Schools program in addition to in class programs usually offers teachers and their students in Gallery exhibition tours followed by a workshop in Art Lab, this is not possible due to lack of space and social distancing requirements.

### **What activities have you moved online to virtual spaces?**

Nanaimo Art Gallery – We were running Saturday Studios online from March until September, however we are not convinced these programs were reaching very many people. In the spring our teen program Code moved to online sessions, although it was challenging to keep the youth engaged remotely and we increased the number of virtual meetings and communications to keep connected. We started the summer teen program Dazzle Camouflage with the participants engaging in online sessions (from home) with professional artists in the morning and in-person for socially distanced studio sessions in the afternoon. After the first week, we responded to the youth's feedback and brought them all into the Gallery (even for online learning) so that they felt more connected. In class workshops through the TD Artists in the Schools program have been replaced by online experiences this year. During the first few months of the pandemic our Curator offered a series of online studio visits for regional artists. In partnership with Pacific Crossings we presented a series of online talks and video screenings responding to the pandemic from artist and curators in China, the Philippines and Hong Kong.

### **What online programming have you attended?**

Nanaimo Art Gallery – I have attended online workshops, webinars, performances, panel discussions....

### **Do you have access to an adequate space for the production or presentation of your activities or work?**

Nanaimo Art Gallery – In order to realize our goals for community engagement Nanaimo Art Gallery requires a larger facility. Our region needs a new, purpose-built home for Nanaimo Art Gallery with expanded exhibition and programming space. A fully equipped professional public art gallery is essential for Nanaimo's development as an island hub for culture. A new Nanaimo Art Gallery, with operating support from the City of Nanaimo, will enable the organization to create more quality opportunities for accessible, inclusive, and innovative programming for emerging and professional artists, youth, families, adults and the entire community. The renovated bank building on 150 Commercial Street houses 5 cultural organizations in sub-par office spaces with poor ventilation and lighting. The limited exhibition space and educational programming space restrict the expansion of cultural learning opportunities that the organization can provide for our community.

### **What are actions the City could take to support your need for space?**

Nanaimo Art Gallery – Long term needs include building a purpose built art gallery, including multiple exhibition spaces for the exhibition of contemporary art, a community exhibition space, a collections storage space, all climate controlled and ample space for extensive public and educational programming. Short term support would be improved ventilation and lighting in the Arts Centre.

### **Are your spaces, both physical and online, accessible to members of the community who are deaf and disabled?**

Nanaimo Art Gallery – We are developing a new website that will be accessible. The Art Centre is not accessible. Clients and staff using the office spaces and bathrooms as well as the luncheon area with mobility issues would have to enter the Art Centre via the Commercial Street entrance of the art gallery and use the elevator. The Wharf St entrance has no ramp. Anyone working in the Art Centre who uses a wheelchair would not be able to access the staff washrooms or the kitchen. There is also a Gallery office space that is not accessible.

Do you have other equity-based concerns or measures you'd like to explore? What are the barriers to addressing this? Where will your activities be located in ten years? What spaces or venues do you anticipate visiting?

Nanaimo Art Gallery – Will be located in a new, purpose-built home with expanded exhibition and programming space and a collaborative workspace for a professional team.

# NOTES

**OUR PEOPLE: growing & retaining talent in Nanaimo**  
(Monday, October 26, 2020 from 9:00 am to 10:15 am, held via Zoom)

## Participants

The Port Theatre  
The Port Theatre  
L'Association Des Francophones de Nanaimo  
Vancouver Island University Theatre  
Nanaimo Historical Society  
Artist  
Artist  
Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society

## Staff

Manager, Culture & Events  
Culture Coordinator, Culture & Events  
Special Events Coordinator, Culture & Events  
Facilitator  
Clerk, Culture & Events (recording)

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Discussion began at 9:03 am. The facilitator opened the session with a territory acknowledgement of the Snuneymuxw, Snaw-Naw-As, and Stz'uminus territories; and Comox Valley, the territory of her teachings. She gave an overview of basic zoom etiquette and led a quick round of introductions.

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colleagues and the lead project consultant, LANARC. What we learn in this session will inform next steps, drafts of plan documents, and feed in to the bigger picture.

The facilitator provided some general principles of underlying dialogue, including active listening, thoughtful engagement, cultural safety and humility, and appreciation and respect for one another. She reminded the group to be mindful in stepping outside of our agendas and into a space of collective thinking. How can we work together?

- **Who makes your organization run? Where do the resources come from for staffing? How is this changing? What supports do you need for organizational development and learning opportunities? Are these supports shared for our sector? How can the City best assist you to get those supports?**

The Port Theatre has seen a dramatic change in the way the organization runs since closing in March. Theatre is built around people and collaboration. Much has ground to a halt with COVID. It's challenging to think about how they will retain current staff (they've been fortunate to do so through the Federal wage subsidy) and that retention of staff will be an ongoing challenge (14 full-time, 90 part-time). When they opened, it was a challenge to attract theatre professionals to Nanaimo. Since opening, they have hired many people from Nanaimo (and beyond). A "distributed leadership" philosophy allows for a lot of autonomy and cross training across departments. Since COVID, they have been having daily staff meetings, more information is being shared amongst more people at the theatre.

- You've described some shifts since COVID – how do you see the City contributing, what kind of needs do you have moving forward, and how can the City fulfil those needs?
  - The Port Theatre noted that the management fee provided by the City is critical. Moving ahead, that is an interesting question. Of course, most people's reaction is "more money", but is that even possible or sustainable in the long-term? One thing that could be improved would be to share mentorships and work with other various organizations. For instance, the Port Theatre works with VIU but it should go deeper. Deepen these relationships. Mentor, share collective knowledge. Those are things the City MAY be able to help with, although not sure if it has resources to do that. Perhaps some sort of methodology might work.

The Nanaimo Historical Society has been around since 1953 and has been influential in helping to create things like the society, the Museum, a City heritage commission. They do not have paid staff, but face similar challenges, as they are a volunteer-run organization. Reading the Cultural Plan, there are many things the Society can identify with. COVID has put a lot of pressure on organizations and is possible in the future. Although they are volunteer-run, they are looking to reinvent themselves to as they move through the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The Society is currently working on a project titled "The Nanaimo Experience", asking the question (and documenting the answers) to what are the events, people, history that has influenced our growth to where we are today? Newcomers to Nanaimo are bringing new interests.

The Port Theatre says it would be helpful for the City to develop some unified goals for all of us to work toward. Even before COVID, there has always been an argument 'why is arts and culture important?' and 'why fund the arts? Now, it is more meaningful than ever to say why what we do matters. It would be helpful if the City helped. It has been well done with recreation (being active is good for you!) but what about culture? The City of North Vancouver uses their campaign to talk about being active meaning more

than just sports, and physical activeness. Meeting friends, staying social, is all part of it. There is a lot of value there. We need more unified messaging as to WHY it matters. Then, the sector could pick up on that messaging from the City to help further the message.

- Potential role of the City as an enabler of cultural engagement through messaging, but maybe other ways – partnership development, etc. How does the City work to create that culture of engagement?

Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society suggests that we need to look at our systems. What kind of barriers are those systems creating to engagement? Who are we trying to engage with? For CVIMS, partnering is key. Newcomers want to engage with arts and culture in Nanaimo but do not know where to start. The collective us is doing a poor job at engaging people. For the REIMAGINE NANAIMO engagement process, simplify the language. CVIMS works with 1800+ newcomers per year. The City needs to look really broadly at how they are engaging, on all levels. Like the Port Theatre said, the City's role is to work with partners and mentors, make those connections. Facilitate partnerships and conversations.

Artist can relate to coming here as an artist, about the access to opportunities. She is constantly comparing Nanaimo to Vancouver, looking for something exciting or different than what is happening in there. The BC Arts Council offers early career development grants; would be interesting to see ways we could set up those relationships for artists who are coming in, trying to set up connections in the community. As an educator and artist who has been here for awhile now, she is always looking and searching for opportunities to engage. Having language that is easy to access, plus engagement tools that are less opaque in terms of how you access them, or what specific part of the City website they are on.... Some ways to think about how the City could encourage artists to live there.

- Getting an image of a bridge; when you think about those early career grants, a powerful way to draw and support people who are emerging into their practice, into another realm. The City could at least play a role in raising awareness that these grants exist, connecting organizations who can help write/submit... but you also spoke to other bridging roles, take away the bureaucratic language, building easy steps for people to access talent, etc.

Artist created her publication as to attempt to highlight the work of others, offer space to emerging creatives. As a student, she found it difficult herself, having no space to show work other than the University, no way to connect with other creatives. The magazine that she created functions as a permanent archive, helping people grow their audience. It can be brutal to create things in a vacuum, no community, funding, support... very distressful. There needs to be more low-cost, low-barrier venues for young and emerging artists to show and experiment in support and nourish creativity.

- Spaces of incubation, spaces where you are incubating connections between artists, sectors, and how can the City help to create those incubator spaces so artists don't feel isolated and alone... if the City isn't creating them directly, how can the City support or nourish those spaces?

Vancouver Island University Theatre says that in regards to training, cultivating talent through university programming: VIU has huge human resources with students from any number of programs beyond the arts (business, English, history). All of these people are looking to participate in the sector. It is our job, collectively, to build a vibe, to show them why they should stay here in Nanaimo. Show them that there are opportunities for them to present and share their talents they have been cultivating while studying.

That is always the challenge. One idea could be, perhaps facilitated by the City, to build opportunity for students to gain credits or micro-credits, attracting them to stay here after they graduate. While student swaps do happen (Port Theatre), it is not as formalized as it could be. Maybe there is room for people to team up, put it down on paper, show what is possible so they avoid the default “move to Vancouver”. Let us retain the people in our community; they are the ones who will make it flower in future generations.

Artist (chat box) – Hi Everyone! Sorry, I have to go. I love the word "creative." I think one way to break down barriers is to stop thinking in specific labels... visual artist, theatre artist, singer, etc. If we can gather "creatives" together in different spaces and in different ways, that would be very helpful. Doesn't have to be the same space. We could take advantage of all the different spaces in the city... outdoor, coffee...

L'association des francophones de Nanaimo explained that a group of francophone associations gather twice per year, work together as a team to maximize what they can offer. With only one full-time employee, they rely on volunteers. Due to COVID, many volunteers (many seniors) are not comfortable participating; this makes things difficult. Besides COVID and looking forward, finding volunteers with time available can be difficult (everyone has busy lives). To find parents or younger volunteers, there's not much the City could do other than up our funding. How do we get people more involved from within the community – to show them how important arts and culture is? The cost of partaking in cultural activities can require families and individuals to be a bit more selective with what they participate in (cost a barrier to entry). She can remember many free activities when she was younger (this resonated with her).

- A shift in the culture, the culture of engagement, participation, what role can the City lay in making that shift and upping people's will and participation in general? Reducing barriers to entry, including cost of events.

The Port Theatre suggests that the City could help by emphasizing the value of not-for-profit groups. We all know the value, but how does the message get out to the community? Does the community know why the City funds not-for-profits and how that works? Another idea would be to find grant funding specifically to support mentorship. Not-for-profits have operated in silos because that is how funding works (build your silo); but funding can change the view and start rewarding collaboration and deep resource sharing (leadership role). The deep resource sharing won't happen until funders ask for it.

- Institutionalizing deep collaboration through funding mechanisms.

The next questions relate to succession planning and mentoring:

- **What are the guiding principles of your succession plans? How are you mentoring and enabling new people into your organization? How can the City support this?**
- **How are you being supported or mentored to develop your practice and contribute as a member, board member, donor, volunteer, staff, or otherwise in Nanaimo's cultural community?**

Artist noted that when she graduated in recent years, she looked for a mentor. The closest she could find was in Victoria, to meet with a mentor in a mentorship program. It was a great experience but the distance and commute was draining. While it helped her to build connections, they were limited (not Nanaimo), reinforcing the sense of alienation as an artist in her own community. An artist-run centre that provided some sort of mentorship program would be so valuable.

- And systemically building that mentorship role with some kind of centralized mechanism – would also help raise the need for mentorship – good for both the mentors and the mentees.

Nanaimo Historical Society noted that we have a ton of experts in Nanaimo on a variety of topics (theatre, film, museums, etc.); many of which are retirees. Nanaimo is unique in that many people look to retire here, so even more expertise coming into the community. There are people with time and knowledge, looking for something to do (even more so during COVID). It would be good to find a venue/mechanism to make that expertise available to others in the community that need it. Make people aware that the opportunity is here. When talking to people that have moved here, sure they move for the weather, real estate, etc. Culture may not have been in the top of their mind, but now that they are here, where to start? Perhaps there is some opportunity for a clearinghouse of sorts (connect those with knowledge/expertise, to those people looking for that knowledge).

The Port Theatre noted that the sector is on the cusp of a major transition with COVID, many across the country are talking about retirement since there is no work, the work is changing. It is an opportunity for young people. Like what Nanaimo Historical Society has said, the City's role could be facilitating those types of connections. Just having a discussion like today is a great starting point.

- How do we ensure that the transition happens in a good way? There are decades of experience. Have something in place for this transition of mentorship, knowledge, etc. and how do we address this perhaps abrupt shift? Create the conditions in which this knowledge could be shared.

Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society added that it is crucial that the value and importance of arts and culture be reflected in any Economic Development plans.

The next questions relate to planning for future (now, how you are responding, but future, how you are moving with intention):

- **What changes do you anticipate in your organization or in your practice over the next 10 years? What are the top skills you feel you or those who are at your organization need to be successful in 10 years' time?**
- **In what ways have emerging movements such as 'Me Too' and 'Black and Indigenous Lives Matter', impacted your work? How are you impacted by or addressing power imbalances in your work?**

Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society notes that funding structures have shifted. Other funders are focusing on partnerships with BIPOC, using language in their grant applications like "Leaders must..." or "You must partner with...". Encourages organizational capacities to be built-up the way they should be. The City could look at something similar by revising criteria to shift a particular grant stream toward that type of work. BC Arts Council check their language around power balances.

Artist says, in thinking about the next 10 years, traditional visual arts in exhibition spaces (physical, in-person) seem an outdated model at this point. Thinking about opportunities for screening series and online opportunities -- so how can the City encourage that while simultaneously lifting up voices in the BIPOC community? How can the broader opportunities feed into the minority voices that are not currently being heard?

The Port Theatre mentions that in the last 10 years, theatre managers have asked, “how do we transition our venues”? Most built facilities are colonial, euro-centric venues. When partnering with cultural groups, for instance, it can be cumbersome given the euro-centric nature of the venue. So how to redevelop facilities and/or make sure this is addressed in future?

- brings the idea of power imbalance into connection with capital projects in an interesting way.

Vancouver Island University Theatre sees a number of possibilities in bringing people together from a diversity of culture and backgrounds. Reminded of a wonderful project, ‘The Journey of Inclusion’, where the Multicultural Society facilitated partnerships with those who felt like outsiders (for whatever reason) with an artist, who worked on a shared project. All of the projects were created and developed in different venues (living rooms, galleries, classrooms) and came together to celebrate the connections that were made. A good team endeavor like that can build confidence, connections, and maybe enables someone to do it again, and with less facilitation.

Nanaimo Historical Society reminds us that our communities are diverse. What is culture? Where do we have intersect points within different cultures? We can have conflict or cooperation. It is an interesting role for somebody to study in the future. Many cases right now are looking too much on the conflict side and not enough on the cooperation side, as to what are our common points.

The facilitator thanked everyone for participating in today’s discussion, sharing their visions, comments and ideas. The Culture & Events team will follow up with everyone in attendance to receive any further feedback, provide you with a draft of the notes taken at today’s meeting, and inform you of next steps. Everyone was encouraged to visit [www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca](http://www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca); sign up to receive Love Arts Nanaimo updates at [www.nanaimo.ca/goto/loveartsnanaimo](http://www.nanaimo.ca/goto/loveartsnanaimo); and to follow the Culture & Events team on Instagram at [www.instagram.com/Culture\\_Nanaimo](https://www.instagram.com/Culture_Nanaimo).

# NOTES

## COLLABORATIONS, PARTNERSHIPS & BUILDING COMMUNITY

(Thursday, October 29, 2020 from 9:00 am to 10:15 am, held via Zoom)

### Participants

Crimson Coast Dance Society  
Store Owner / Graphic Designer  
Vancouver Island Regional Library  
Vancouver Island Regional Library  
CHLY Radio

### Staff

Manager, Culture & Events  
Culture Coordinator, Culture & Events  
Special Events Coordinator, Culture & Events  
Facilitator  
Director, Recreation & Culture  
Clerk, Culture & Events (recording)

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Discussion began at 9:00 am. The facilitator opened the session with a territory acknowledgement of the Snuneymuxw, Snaw-Naw-As, and Stz'uminus territories; and Comox Valley, the territory of her teachings. She gave an overview of basic zoom etiquette and led a quick round of introductions.

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The facilitator provided some general principles of underlying dialogue, including active listening, thoughtful engagement, cultural safety and humility, and appreciation and respect for one another. She reminded the group to be mindful in stepping outside of our agendas and into a space of collective thinking. How can we work together?

- **How do you market, advertise or spread the word about your events, activities and projects? Does your current strategy meet your goals?**
- **Who do you count among your audience? Do you serve multiple communities and if so, how do you define them? Geographically? (local, regional, provincial, national, international) Demographically? (age, gender, means) Culturally? (music-lovers, language-speakers, by education or association or through mutual knowledge), or in what other way?**

Crimson Coast Dance Society hires a publicist on a per-event basis as they do not have the funds to secure someone on staff. Their audience is different since COVID. She's looking for how to reflect their programming (digital) to an audience through digital means, in an organization where she is not digitally inclined. It has taken awhile to understand. Otherwise, it has been traditional marketing such as print media, posters, emails, social media, and newsletters. She is aware of the efficiency of the dollar, and how little funding there is for organizational development. Would love personalized attention through funding or mentorship around that (audience development, public engagement) from the City, or anyone really. Need to recognize what is possible, maybe she is not thinking big enough; what about a facilitated digital literacy, in (for instance) operations and marketing/media. We need our leaders to be actually participating and talking about the arts, promoting them as vital. People look to their leaders as a guide, and she would love to see City Councillors at their events.

Store owner/graphic designer feels that the City should be a champion, an amplification voice for others, to help bring a larger audience and leverage the audiences they already have. Although less-coordinated than a full on marketing campaign, those small efforts are appreciated and can go a long way for small businesses and groups.

Vancouver Island Regional Library shared that they do not have a marketing budget at the branch level, but will speak to some system-wide initiatives. In Nanaimo, VIRL has a large social media presence and a lot of advertising is word of mouth. COVID has made things even more difficult than they were before. The library faces ever-changing orders and expectations that can be a challenge to meet. They have been open to the public since July and doing work, which sometimes is not always visible to the larger population. They have branch information on their website that relies on people coming to them. If there was any way the City could help push info TO people, that would be ideal. In terms of audience, they serve the widest possible demographic from newborns to seniors. They attempt to tailor programming to all demographics and cast a wide of a net as possible, as inclusive as possible. It is a strength but also a weakness, as it can be hard to focus efforts on a single area really well (trying to appeal to wide audience) and is a balance they are trying to weigh.

They have almost 40 branches in total, with about 50 First Nations communities that are located within those service areas. Their audience is all ages, and they offer a variety of programs and products, including physical books, digital books, movies, programs and more. Much of what they offer has been moved online due to COVID. Could better engage with the Indigenous and teen population. With the number of bands located in their service area, there has to be a better way of reaching their existing and

potential Indigenous customers. Having a great relationship with the City and other partners (especially downtown) is a great first step.

CHLY Radio reaches their audience using the radio station itself. Currently, there is discussion in changing the format to balance station versus programmer content. They have a federally funded daily news update that is hosted by a former CBC host. It leaves room for public service announcements from community groups 'an event update'. He has been jotting down notes today in regards to CHLY acting as a platform. Their newsletter currently has about 850 subscribers and he wants to grow that as a tool for promoting news and goings on at the station. In terms of audience, a survey in 2019 showed that demographics were surprisingly broad – evenly split between the below 30 and under 30 crowds. A diverse listenership and following makes him happy. He would like to work at appealing a bit more to VIU students and other youth in order to move forward with different station projects. So, what can the City do? CHLY is a non-profit, so their biggest issue is capacity. Neither of the station's two positions are full time in terms of hours paid, but the work is full time. Available grants are usually fairly program-focused and that does not free up time during their workday to work with community partners. In terms of promoting events, it's been on his mind to get an 'event update' back up and running. Again, always a matter of capacity and time, and are there even events to be promoted right now? Perhaps the City coming on as a sponsor would be helpful – could air a 'community event update' (City Minute?) 5x per day each hour. They could look at working with the library to do a 'library update' or something similar – perhaps there is a partnership there.

- **How do you enable partnerships and meaningful engagement with under-served individuals and communities? What role might the City play in enabling this engagement?**

Crimson Coast Dance Society produces a variety of content that engages artists of BIPOC communities. There is so much to learn. When they bring those people to Nanaimo from across Canada to perform is when they have the best engagement with those sectors of the population. Crimson Coast does a lot of work with Indigenous youth. She has many questions around engaging Indigenous audiences and how to make that work. Relationship building is key – without that, it is tokenism.

CHLY Radio is a member of a cross-Canada campus radio association. With the MeToo and Black Lives Matter movements and all that is happening in the United States, the association went through a period of reflection in terms of better representation amongst our volunteer and staff ranks. How do we develop relationships in a culturally respectful way that avoids tokenism? CHLY and the board are working on how to move forward in the right way, recognizing there will certainly be stumbles.

For last few years at Vancouver Island Regional Library, the entire library system engaged in an Elder in Residence program. Invited leaders from various First Nations communities that they serve, to come speak at the library. Those events are always very well attended, many different 'themes' and approaches used. At the local level, they offer free meeting space to groups seeking space. The library encourages the use of their open space within the library for programming, too. Since COVID, librarians have started creating themed 'grab and go' bags on a number of topics, many including themes of Black Lives Matter or local Indigenous content. They are attempting to engage with different ideas and groups with the reading materials.

It is getting engaging an Indigenous audience that can be a challenge (had an amazing elder presentation, such engaging conversation, but 90% of the attendees are Caucasian). He may have someone who is keen on engaging with First Nations children, but it has to come from that community. He is disappointed that

Tribal Journeys was cancelled, that was going to be an exciting way to have a big presence and develop some relationships.

- Is there a role for the City in helping to pave these new relationships; or create a culture of cultural exchange?

CHLY Radio said it would be great to have an opportunity to get people in the same room, discuss these issues without having to work your way through the small talk, or try to get a phone number, or knowing if that is even appropriate to do? Facilitated meetings like this to help break down barriers and silos. He has been taking a lot of notes here today about obvious partnerships – having the same type of discussion with local First Nations would be fabulous.

Crimson Coast Dance Society points back to the idea of modelling, sitting together in a circle, equalized. She wonders about the idea of a feasting or gathering before a City Council meeting in a circle, not amphitheater style. Modelling is the most powerful facilitator.

Store owner/graphic designer explains that there is a big focus on re-contextualizing public space through public art, and the role of Indigenous art in re-contextualizing and decolonizing space. Individuals and organizations need to know that there is responsibility and capacity to make their own small changes through the symbols they choose to use. He creates logos, so making a conscious choice not to include symbols like the Bastion, for instance. Keep that in mind as it comes to you, programming and moving forward. How do you choose to represent visually? Those individual choices have a big impact on how we represent ourselves.

- Acknowledging the power that those public systems have – and recognizing the impact they can have.

Crimson Coast Dance Society (chat box) – Yes! Creating spaces - even logos, web design and wording - that is inclusive!

Earlier this year, CHLY Radio wrapped a project with VIU students called the “Student Collectives Initiative”, one of which was an Indigenous collective. They have since partnered with SD68 Learning Alternatives to have Indigenous students producing podcasts and audio. There is an opportunity to create training, create a platform for their materials, and develop that relationship as an ongoing program of the station and SD68. CHLY has applied for a Canada Council grant to assist with the development of podcast skills for recording stories of local Indigenous people – waiting to see if it is approved.

- Bringing people into production power, how people’s stories are being heard, and being held in a good way. Are there other ways the City can enable partnerships that need to happen broadly between your organization/practice and others?

Crimson Coast Dance Society suggests that, aside from non-profits working together, it would be great to have corporate partnerships, too. She would love to create a space for Indigenous people who wish to dance. Curious about how to draw out those interested in that idea, those interested anyway, to see how they could work together. For us to go reach in and say “Hey, this would be wonderful for you”, is a colonizing practice in itself. How do we draw out that interest?

CHLY Radio wonders in terms of providing a platform, what about a centralized community arts and culture index with features on each group and summaries of the programs and services they offer (as a resource to new or underserved in our community)?

- **What kinds of partnerships and outreach activities would you like to take? Do you consider partnerships and collaborations as a means of reaching new communities? How could the City best support you to take on new partnership opportunities?**
- **Continued growth is expected for Nanaimo's population. With new members in our community come new opportunities to share, change and grow audiences. How will you adapt and leverage this opportunity? What impacts do you foresee this growth having on your work?**

Vancouver Island Regional Library notes that libraries have had already had to adapt for quite some time in order to remain relevant and indispensable to everyone. It will continue to be a challenge but he feels that the library is well-situated to meet that challenge.

Crimson Coast Dance Society explains that we need to create a place for diversity, a place that people feel better when they leave our events than when they came. For Crimson to arrive at that place, they need to strengthen infrastructure and take this leap into a fully aware and functioning digital capacity.

Store owner/graphic designer suggests that demographic growth is one of the most exciting things to him about Nanaimo. With that growth, the potential for enormous contributions to arts and culture, to business. Can we shift the dialogue for newcomers used to taking things from their community to asking 'what can you contribute?'

Manager of Culture and Events shares that the discussion has her thinking about the nature of collaborations and partnerships, thinking about questions. How do we start these relationships in a good way? How do we define them in a way that determines our mutual outcomes? Is it ethical and does it acknowledge the power imbalance? How do we evaluate our collaborations and partnerships and how do we lovingly identify when that endpoint has come? How do we rethink the language that we are using? How do we shift our mindset to think about how we are recognizing the inherent power of the voices and knowledge? How are we creating new space and transforming the way we work and think to bringing in new voices and partnerships, from within our organizations and the communities that we serve?

The facilitator thanked everyone for participating in today's discussion, sharing their visions, comments and ideas. The Culture & Events team will follow up with everyone in attendance to receive any further feedback, provide you with a draft of the notes taken at today's meeting, and inform you of next steps. Everyone was encouraged to visit [www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca](http://www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca); sign up to receive Love Arts Nanaimo updates at [www.nanaimo.ca/goto/loveartsnanaimo](http://www.nanaimo.ca/goto/loveartsnanaimo); and to follow the Culture & Events team on Instagram at [www.instagram.com/Culture\\_Nanaimo](http://www.instagram.com/Culture_Nanaimo).

#### Comments captured in the chat box:

*From Crimson Coast Dance Society: CHLY, LoveArtsNanaimo Campaign, City newsletter, City Council meetings, missing those 'alternative' community papers - even if online, Island Radio, City website*

*From Store Owner: VIU Navigator, Culture Nanaimo Instagram account ([www.instagram.com/Culture\\_Nanaimo](http://www.instagram.com/Culture_Nanaimo)) as well!*

*From Crimson Coast Dance Society: CCD demographics : 30 to 60 y.o. women are highest, men in that age range. We appeal to youth on particular projects, including First Nations youth. We present Indigenous programming yet do have questions about best way and practices for engagement. We present various culturally based artists (traditional dance or contemporary) and reach those of similar culture for those shows.*

*From Crimson Coast Dance Society: VIRL, is it possible to consider not carpeting those spaces to keep them flexible for engaging through various disciplines?*

*From VIRL: No meeting room space in the Harbourfront Branch is carpeted*

G:\ParkRec\Culture and Events\REIMAGINE NANAIMO\2020 Strategic Conversations on Culture\2020 10 29 COLLABORATIONS, PARTNERSHIPS AND BUILDING COMMUNITY discussion\2020 10 29 DRAFT NOTES-COLLABS PARTNERSHIPS AND BUILDING COMM discussion.docx

# NOTES

**SPACES FOR CULTURE: needs for the future**  
(Friday, October 30 from 10:00 to 11:15 am, held via Zoom)

## Participants

Nanaimo Art Gallery  
TheatreOne  
Landscape Architect  
Pacific Coast Stage Company  
Artist  
Arts Advocate/Photographer  
Artist  
Artist/Shop Owner  
Artist

## Staff

Manager, Culture & Events  
Clerk, Culture & Events (recording)  
Culture Coordinator, Culture & Events  
Events Coordinator, Culture & Events  
Facilitator

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Discussion began at 10:02 am. The facilitator opened the session with a territory acknowledgement of the Snuneymuxw, Snaw-Naw-As, and Stz'uminus territories; and Comox Valley, the territory of her teachings. She gave an overview of basic zoom etiquette and led a quick round of introductions.

Manager of Culture & Events thanked everyone for their willingness to participate in today's discussion, offer insights & expertise. She provided an overview of the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process, and how feedback will be used moving forward.

REIMAGINE NANAIMO is a City-wide coordinated planning process happening across all departments, to inform updates to our key documents that will guide action over the next 10 years. Documents include the Official Community Plan; Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan, Active Sustainable Transportation Plan, Economic Development Strategy, and more. The City is currently in Phase 1 of 2 (idea gathering & learning). Other ways the City is seeking feedback through Phase 1 include: online surveys, one specifically related to arts and culture (deadline now extended until November 30 and registration requirement removed); a creative community contest with prizes; a mail-out of surveys to a select number of households; pop-up stations and information booths in parks and public spaces; in-person meetings on request; and classroom activities for students. Phase 2 will include developing and proposing goals and actions, with pathways to achieving those goals. All information is online at [www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca](http://www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca).

Today's session is part of how the Culture & Events team seeking input and engaging with the arts & culture community. It is an opportunity for our team to come together with you to listen, delve into some specific issues that the sector is facing, and explore ways to support each other. The team will be listening and taking notes, which will be shared back to participants, our City colleagues and the lead

project consultant, LANARC. What we learn in this session will inform next steps, drafts of plan documents, and feed in to the bigger picture.

The facilitator provided some general principles of underlying dialogue, including active listening, thoughtful engagement, cultural safety and humility, and appreciation and respect for one another. She reminded the group to be mindful in stepping outside of our agendas and into a space of collective thinking. How can we work together? Today's conversation extends beyond new, purpose-built facilities, and encompasses all types of space: established facilities, public space and parks, and virtual space.

- **What are the opportunities and challenges are you currently navigating with regard to space because of COVID-19? What activities have you moved online to virtual spaces? What online programming have you attended?**
- **Do you have access to an adequate space for the production or presentation of your activities or work? What are actions the City could take to support your need for space?**

Artist/shop owner noted that with COVID, no spaces available to do art shows, especially his style of art. Finding space is a major issue. Finding safe spaces that people feel comfortable gathering in is an issue. How do we find space that can be used safely?

TheatreOne explained that space is a huge issue and has been exacerbated by COVID. Currently have developed a full program that they hope to launch in January and deliver until June. They offer children's theatre and mainstage programs at VIU's Malaspina Theatre, but they have heard that external groups may not be permitted to use the theatre (so may end up having to cancel). They are governed by equity requirements, leaving the only other options as the Port Theatre or (potentially) the Bailey Studio. Finding a location to put on these shows is difficult. In usual times, TheatreOne is unable on a show for more than one week because of priority requirements for VIU. Availability of professional performance space is probably the most critical strategic issue for TheatreOne, even before COVID.

Artist mentions that firstly, looking for space for artists to come together, create, make, get messy, with a community feel and spirit, to workshop and learn together. Secondly, looking for space where local artists can exhibit. When thinking of the future, need to think about it step-by-step. We need space that involves people from a wide spectrum of practices.

Arts advocate/photographer looks at this issue from a perspective of immediate and long-term needs. The immediate need is for space. Visual artists have no central home or location to rent studio space, hold exhibits, sell their work, or conduct workshops. A short- to medium-term solution that he has put forward to Council would be to turn the old library building on Fitzwilliam into a short-term space for artists. Long-term, there are plans to expand the Nanaimo Art Gallery to meet more community-based needs, the Port Theatre has recognized that their expansion would meet more community-based needs; but must those be site-specific? Could the needs be met with a new multi-use facility? If the long-range plan of 20 years is to have a centralized community arts centre to serve the needs of the community, we should start now. The Gallery wants to expand, and move toward becoming a Class A facility... is it a wise choice to look at expanding a facility that is not purposefully designed or that might be better fulfilled with a purpose-built facility (with community arts space attached)?

Pacific Coast Stage Company noted that due to COVID, this year's Fringe Festival could be cancelled or reimagined. They have reimagined it and moved ahead with an online festival. All things considered, it went well. Space is a huge concern. They have started scouting locations for next year's festival but potential options are limited. The Harbour City Theatre is inflexible and cannot be reconfigured; they are

considering the Port Theatre lobby as one location; but cannot find a third venue (so, looking for an outside venue). It would be so nice to have a studio venue that had been proposed at the Port Theatre, rehearsal space too. She has rehearsed in the basement of local pubs and other buildings and can attest to the poor working conditions.

- **Artist** speaks about potential collaborations with the Gallery and community-based groups. Is there a role for the City, and what is that role? Is there a role for the City in helping facilitate some sort of collaboration that results in this shared space?

Pacific Coast Stage Company says yes, it would be a great thing to see. Example, Evergreen Centre in Coquitlam, multi-functional performance and visual arts space.

TheatreOne notes that the City's role is foundational; a new space will not happen without City support and commitment. She has considered both the convention centre and cruise ship terminal as potential spaces and wonders if they could be repurposed in the short term while a larger plan emerges? Can we use that space to support the immediate need of so many groups needing space? It costs a lot less money to restructure an existing space than it is to build new.

Nanaimo Art Gallery explains that when COVID hit, they saw a massive halt to programming, exhibitions, everything was pushed back or cancelled, including family and children programming. Like everyone else, they have had to be innovative, think outside the box in terms of how to connect with an audience. It has been limited. She echoes what others say; the current Gallery building is quite small, they are already bursting at the seams. They are limited by space in what they can offer to the community. They would be excited to have a long or short-term plan of a purpose-built facility, as Artist mentions; that could not only house the Gallery but also extend offerings and allow for more space. Provide opportunities for artists of all levels and abilities, emerging and professional, more workshop and learning spaces, exhibit space, connections with other arts groups. Asking themselves what do they already have and how it can be used differently forces them to think outside the box.

Artist has been practicing for three decades. Teaching for the paint company has been a way to fund her pursuits as an artist but it is on contract and limited (especially now). Since COVID, has transitioned to teaching online but wonders if it's worth her time given the amount of time it takes away from production (preparing an hour's worth of content for FB live took an entire week to prepare). In terms of space, she would love to have a workspace in Nanaimo. She has rented her studio in a neighbouring City for two years but the owners of the building is looking to sell – her tenancy is now month to month. The uncertainty is destabilizing and she may require a different space in the near future. She pays a low monthly rental for her 30'x30' studio, plus a bit more for an extra storage room. Something large and affordable with freedom to drip and make a mess is what she will be on the lookout for. She would like to know facts about whether there is a budget for this envisioned ideal multipurpose building or alternatively what buildings might be made available to rent to various artists / arts organizations

Artist echoes what has been said about utilizing existing unused spaces. She has not lived here long, but there are so many amazing spaces not being used (example: conference centre); and the requirement for booking spaces are so restrictive. Consider using and activating unused spaces as a short-term solution. Support a City arts centre that is an artist centre, but do not forget about a scrappier, lowbrow gallery. Her intention is to create gallery and performance space where people can show their work, host shows. With all of those events based on close interaction, they need to reassess how the space will be used. Without an in-person space, how can she foster community connection? It has been hard to connect with

people. How do spaces like hers (independent, commercial) fit into the City's plan? How can the City support smaller spaces that are not necessarily doing the 'generally accepted' forms of creativity?

Landscape architect agrees the weather is a barrier right now. Outside has huge potential. If COVID has shown us anything (and landscape architects have known this for ages), is the importance of nature and our outdoor spaces on our mental health and wellbeing. As an architect of these outdoor spaces, she has been listening to the discussion today. It would be interesting to explore with some of these art groups, how exactly to make an outdoor space to work. Everyone is saying that outdoors is 'fine' but there must be some way to make them more than that. She recalls Vancouver did a study on space availability in the rain and suggested maybe that is a place to start. It is becoming increasingly difficult to design meaningful outdoor space in private developments; given zoning pretty much every inch is taken up with building and parking; the City should lead in this regard. She tries on each development project to carve out something that creates place, not just 'leftover space'. Place making is really interesting, she will think about good models. Nanaimo is unique, quirky. There is a conflict between beautifully designed spaces versus well-loved spaces and it is interesting to come to grips with. An example, Maffeo Sutton Park is a well-loved, really well used park, yet is put together in sort of a piecemeal way. Parts are done really well, but do they fit with the overall context of the park? Maybe not. However, if the park is well-used, does that even matter? Cities are built-up over time.

Arts advocate/photographer says that his dream would be to see 1 Port Drive developed with a purpose-built centre for the arts, with a First Nations cultural centre and outdoor theatre/busking venue adjacent to it. He sees huge opportunity on the waterfront project to take into consideration the need for an art centre that would become a cultural gathering spot in Nanaimo and close to the cruise ship terminal. In the City's OCP, Strategic Plan and Cultural Plan, the City has recognized the need for multi-use community arts space. So they do have a role – the gap in need has been identified in those plans, they are obligated to follow up on that. He sees the role of City Council as being to help facilitate collaboration that results in shared space (art centre to meet the needs of the performing and visual arts); that their role is one of leadership.

TheatreOne says that cities have taken a hit with COVID, too. It's important role for the City to work with the community and business sector to leverage support. The Port Theatre was so close to getting a major naming sponsor but it did not happen. The City's firm support of the idea and engagement with potential donors and sponsors is really important.

Nanaimo Art Gallery says there is a lot of pointing at the City and asking 'what can they do to push things forward'? Across Canada, different cities receive different levels of support from their local governments. When you have an established gallery or centre, their job is to access support and funds from a provincial and federal level, but also private sponsorship. She sees the City playing a role, but not all roles. There are many things that can happen with a community's own initiative and desire to pull things together. She thinks we need to have patience, have understanding, determine what makes sense for who to do what, and determine what the City should do. We have established organizations, so let's not start from scratch. Let's use our existing established organizations to leverage more support and funding from different sources.

- Hearing a spectrum between a Class A gallery space and these more community-oriented, 'scrappy' spaces. That spectrum speaks to an ecology at play; an ecology that the City can foster.

- Are your spaces, both physical and online, accessible to members of the community who are deaf and disabled? Do you have other equity-based concerns or measures you'd like to explore? What are the barriers to addressing this?
- Where will your activities be located in ten years? What spaces or venues do you anticipate visiting? What cultural locations do you gather in to experience culture that are not official venues? What kinds of change would you like to see to local venues and events?

Pacific Coast Stage Company explains that accessibility is a barrier for audience members in the facilities that they utilize (example, washrooms are accessible only by stairs, or rehearsal spaces are a challenge). Both ASL and closed-captioning have been added to their Fringe Festival, but it was very costly. Without having received a special grant for this, it would have been the first thing cut due to cost (has been added to budget for future festivals).

TheatreOne added that accessibility is fundamental to anything that happens. It is wonderful that the City invested in the CIBC arts building and Harbour City Theatre building, for instance, but access was not considered when that they were created.

Artist would like to continue this conversation. Hearing so many ideas in this session that would be valuable to a continued conversation but with a particular focus. Can the City facilitate or encourage such a conversation as a starting point, or perhaps send a rep to be part of that conversation/help guide it?

The facilitator thanked everyone for participating in today's discussion, sharing their visions, comments and ideas. The Culture & Events team will follow up with everyone in attendance to receive any further feedback, provide you with a draft of the notes taken at today's meeting, and inform you of next steps. Everyone was encouraged to visit [www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca](http://www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca); sign up to receive Love Arts Nanaimo updates at [www.nanaimo.ca/goto/loveartsnanaimo](http://www.nanaimo.ca/goto/loveartsnanaimo); and to follow the Culture & Events team on Instagram at [www.instagram.com/Culture\\_Nanaimo](http://www.instagram.com/Culture_Nanaimo).

#### Comments captured in the chat box

- *Artist: and spaces where you can get paint on the floor and walls!*
- *TheatreOne: YES!*
- *Artist: I think a centre that is partnered with the City - but run by the community.. artist run centre. start small with an older building and grow from there rather than build a new state of the art facility. A place to get messy, make mistake and explore*
- *Artist: warehouse space*
- *Pacific Coast Stage Company: Yes! and space with regulated heat/ cooling temps, proper/ possibly including natural light, safe to rehearse in, meets professional Equity standards etc etc*
- *Artist: A friend in Vancouver started a list of covered areas in Vancouver and it revealed that there aren't many spots. Has an assessment been done of Nanaimo?*
- *Artist: in my studio in neighbouring City, each studio has access to green space ... there have got to be other spaces in Nanaimo that are unused with amazing attributes for the uses we need to fulfill in the arts in Nanaimo*
- *Pacific Coast Stage Company: accessibility to the space has also been a barrier*
- *Artist: I have many many more thoughts about a community art space if we want to create a more focussed focus group. The Nanaimo Arts Council is also interested in this conversation - which I have recently joined*
- *Pacific Coast Stage Company: Artist, thank you, Nanaimo Fringe Festival is also interested*
- *Artist: Artist, I'm interested too!*
- *Artist: Ok great! Email me!*
- *TheatreOne: As TheatreOne would be. Hopefully we could encompass all the arts, including the particular needs of companies like ours, whose professional status makes our requirements very particular.*

# NOTES

Reconciliation and decolonization; advancing ethical change in the cultural sector  
(Tuesday, November 3, 2020 from 1:00 to 2:15 pm, held via Zoom)

## Speakers

Sulalewh/Elder Gary Manson, Xulsimalt  
Sulalewh/Elder William White, Xelimulh & Kasalid  
Eliot White-Hill, Kwulasultun

## Guests

Nanaimo Museum  
Nanaimo Museum  
Crimson Coast Dance Society  
Artist  
Musician  
Artist/Indigenous language champion  
Literacy Central Vancouver Island  
Nanaimo Art Gallery  
Nanaimo Art Gallery  
Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society  
Western Edge Theatre  
Independent Curator

## Staff

Manager, Culture & Events  
Culture Coordinator, Culture & Events  
Events Coordinator, Culture & Events  
Facilitator/Listener  
Director, Recreation & Culture  
Active Transportation Project Specialist  
Parks & Open Space Planner  
Clerk, Culture & Events (recording)

## Bios - Guest Speakers

Gary Manson, Xulsimalt, was born on the mouth of the Snuneymuxw River in 1948. He now lives 100 feet from where he was born. Married to Donna Manson, they have six children and eight grandchildren. Mr. Manson is a survivor of Residential School and deeply connected to culture and land. Mr. Manson is retired from commercial fishing and works as an Elder at Vancouver Island University. Mr. Manson generously shares cultural teachings and his own story with both Indigenous and non-Indigenous learners, building new understandings rooted in respectfulness. In 2020, he and his son Adam received the Honour in Heritage Award from the City of Nanaimo for their dedicated work to champion the resurgence of Hul'q'umi'num, and for his service as a mentor, advisor and collaborator to many individuals and organizations in our region.

William White, Xelimulh & Kasalid, Snenaymuxw, has worked with traditionally trained Sulsalewh/Elders since the 1970's to explore and share knowledge about the living culture of the Coast Salish, including a cultural research project called Q'Puthet Unwinus to work with Snuneymuxw Sulsalewh. He has been involved extensively with cross cultural training initiatives, including at Simon Fraser University, the University of Victoria, St. Michaels University School in Victoria, and Health Equity Collaborative. Mr. White is a Board Member for the Ninogaad Knowledge Keepers Foundation, and recently contributed to the new book *Plants, People and Places: the Roles of Ethnobotany and Ethnoecology in Indigenous Peoples' Land Rights in Canada and Beyond*. At the invitation of Chief M. Wyse, Mr. White serves on the

Snuneymuxw Elders' Advisory Council, and is an advisor for Kwumet Lelum Children's agency, and the new Tribal School called Kwam Kwam Stuwixwulth (Strong Children) Snuneymuxw, to assist with applying traditional knowledge called sinyews, to maintain, balance, healing and belonging. Mr. White has written many articles, holds a BA in History/Anthropology, and is a respected Sulalewh and cultural leader.

Eliot White-Hill, Kwulasultun is an artist and storyteller who comes from the Snuneymuxw First Nation. He practices Coast Salish art and storytelling and is a published author. His art practice focuses on preserving and sharing Salish culture and teachings. He graduated from Vancouver Island University in 2018 with a Bachelor of the Arts degree majoring in Liberal Studies and minoring in Philosophy. He works as a Project Coordinator with Petroglyph Development Group, the economic development arm of the Snuneymuxw First Nation.

READINGS, as provided by Sulalewh William White

- William A. White, "It Would Be Good if We All Could Learn to Bend Before We Break" Xpey/Cedar as a Sacred Tool (circulated in advance)
- William A. White and Andrew Cienski, "Off to the Grocery Store' or the family works together!" (circulated in conjunction with session notes)
- William A. White and Floy Pepper, "First Nations Traditional Values" (circulated in conjunction with session notes)

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Manager of Culture & Events opened the session with an acknowledgement of the Snuneymuxw territory. She thanked everyone for their willingness to participate in today's discussion, and for having arrived ready to listen, reflect and learn. Today we have gathered to tune in to the perspective of our three respected guests; Sulalewh Gary Manson (Xulsimalt), Sulalewh Elder Bill White (Xelimulh & Kasalid), and Coast Salish artist Eliot White-Hill (Kwulasultun).

Manager of Culture & Events provided an overview of the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process, and how feedback will be used moving forward. REIMAGINE NANAIMO is a City-wide coordinated planning process happening across all departments, to inform updates to our key documents that will guide action over the next 10 years. Documents include the Official Community Plan; Parks, Rec and Culture Plan, Active Sustainable Transportation Plan, Economic Development Strategy, and more. The City is currently in Phase 1 of 2 (idea gathering & learning). Other ways the City is seeking feedback through Phase 1 include: online surveys, one specifically related to arts and culture (deadline now extended until November 30 and registration requirement removed); a creative community contest with prizes; a mail-out of surveys to a select number of households; pop-up stations and information booths in parks and public spaces; in-person meetings on request; and classroom activities for students. Phase 2 will include developing and proposing goals and actions, with pathways to achieving those goals. All information is online at [www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca](http://www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca).

#### **Sulalewh/Elder Gary Manson –**

Gary welcomed everyone in Hul'q'umi'num, introducing himself and expressing gratitude following traditional Snuneymuxw protocol.

Manager of Culture & Events thanked Gary for his welcome and the facilitator invited a roundtable of introductions of those in attendance. Before the session, an article was shared titled "*It Would Be Good If We All Could Learn To Bend Before We Break – Xpey/Cedar As a Sacred Tool*" provided by Bill. Additional

articles can be circulated to participants after today's session for reflection. The group read silently a Powerpoint presentation that included a territory acknowledgement from Chief Mike Wyse and information on Snuneymuxw culture. (see attached).

### **Sulalewh/Elder Bill White**

- So much history needs to be brought forward, enlightened, and used by our young people.
- Since the arrival of settlers, so much of their world changed in a few short years after their arrival. Our people began to lose access to land, resources, in a continuous process.
- Reminded in the past year, the teachings of their old people – they are significant. Even in the face of horrendous discrimination, they held on to their language (although dangerously weak) and culture and values; respect for one another, cooperation, helping one another, being quiet, etc.
- One of the slides said: *Around 1863 Crosby was told by an old Snenaymuxw songmaker that they had “..war songs, marriage songs, songs for feasts and public gatherings, mourning songs, canoe songs, and many others.”* It reminds him of the work of Anderson Tommy in the 70s – if it wasn't for Anderson and the Elders, they wouldn't have been able to access many songs. He remembers Anderson singing a welcome song for a young man returning to his wife's village in Departure Bay – they sang a song. Anderson was an old man, and when he retold the story from his childhood he told them his old people said, “you will hear the song echo long after we are gone”. That is likely the first time he remembered those voices echoing as a child. It was the first time I saw an elder/Sulalewh become emotional telling a story. That was significant in part because the Coast Salish were described as a more conservative people; what Anderson was talking about was linked to the 1854 speech – the ancestors are still using the land – that's important.
- He remembers passing by the coal monument and Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) Bastion downtown as a child. He stopped and read the coal monument and wondered '*what does this mean for us?*'
- He went back to school (the University of Victoria) to find what had been written about their people and references that academics may have used to reinforce their old people's voices. Today, when he thinks about the coal monument and dedication to the arrival of Europeans, there were already 4 or 5 major families already living in that area when those HBC miners arrived. At the same time, also reminded that some of those Europeans started to dig coal, prior to the signing of the Saarlequum treaty. Before the signing of the treaty, the HBC asked the chiefs three times for access to coal, each time the chiefs refused, asking '*why do you want it?*' Coal was part of their economy. HBC never responded. Monuments like the Coal Monument downtown should display information that identifies the villages, chiefs and people of that village, and the fact that our people refused Europeans access to the coal. Clearly, the people believed it was ours.
- Too often since the 1849 arrival, the newcomers to this land began to change our world by giving places English names. Our village sites were reduced to Indian reserves 1 to 4. All of the land used for hunting, fishing, berry gathering, cleansing, was removed. This doesn't bode well in terms of reminding young people about our history. Shortly after arrival of Europeans, our traditional names began to be removed. The first missionary Thomas Crosby came to the reserve to proselytize and he and HBC officials merely identified people as Indian chiefs – continuity of a people being seen as less-than, making it easier to remove land and territory, to rename territory. Reconciliation needs to reverse that trend. When Crosby was here in the 1860s, he spoke against our rites and rituals. He removed ceremonial items and took them with him when he left our territory. In the modern era, it is likely his great great grandchildren sold those items for their own profit. It is this practice which resulted in our people closing our communities to outsiders.

- Access fishing at the end of Nanaimo River which had been blocked as a result of new Europeans, so again that's something and part of our history that needs to be captured.
- The first people who were thought to understand English did not really understand English until at least 10 years after the treaty was signed (likely David Sallsalton taught English by Missionary Thomas Crosby). The old people would not have understood the highly individualistic ownership perspectives that the Europeans brought with them.
- He found an article in the archives that talked about the arrival of HBC and the setting up of forts and farms in Victoria. The settlers brought cattle. Since our ancestors had never seen cattle, they saw large fat deer with bells around their necks. They were easy to hunt – the cows didn't run away, hunters could hop a fence and feed their family. This made HBC upset and they retaliated by firing cannon(s) at the reserve.
- Every moment is a teaching moment.

Manager of Culture & Events thanked Sulalewh/Elder Bill for his comments and invited Eliot White-Hill to share some reflections, too. Eliot is an author, storyteller and artist, and was recently commissioned to create artwork for Beban Pool.

### Eliot White-Hill

- A wonderful opportunity to be here today, and in line with the REIMAGINE Nanaimo initiative. This is a great step in looking at and reimagining Nanaimo, and deciding how we want to move forward as a community.
- He spoke to the significance of Coast Salish art, the role it can play in re-contextualizing space, and how powerful a tool it can be. Some changes might be possible to make in order to make Nanaimo a place that celebrates the wealth of Snuneymuxw and its history.
- Continuing the work of making Salish art is about making the sacred visible. It's about who we are. You think about artistic expression about making something beautiful or expresses a feeling. Coast Salish art is so connected to their identity as a people, intrinsically tied to ceremony, ritual, the practices that make them who they are. So much comes from their history. It is a visual language.
- There is a huge history of erasure of Salish art in the Salish territories. In the nineteenth and twentieth century, Salish art was looked down upon more than other art forms from the Pacific Northwest. People did not want to see Salish art in the public until maybe the 70s or 80s; when a few select artists really came and revitalized that art form. We are in a great amazing place now where Salish art is resurging. There is a whole generation of Salish artists doing profound work that is traditional but also modern, telling the stories and continuing these narratives. These artists need a platform, and that platform has not been there historically.
- As an artist, he has always personally been inspired by the work of his great grandmother. He grew up around the stories that she published, spent a lot of time with her, empowering to him as an individual to see his culture represented. He and his classmates would read her stories in class. This provided him with a great sense of pride as a First Nations person, and the impact that it has had on his work and life is huge. He wants to continue telling those stories and educating people.
- In the community, in Snuneymuxw, this art can play a role for future generations of kids to grow up surrounded by Salish art. It is so important to put thought in it, how people engage in their daily life, becomes part of the context, and CHANGES the context... Use art to re-contextualize space away from the colonial. Look at what percentage of public art in Nanaimo is by Coast Salish artists. Can we increase that or alter the proportion? This is something that would create a sense of connection that has not been there prior – not just in Snuneymuxw people, but to everyone

who lives here and visits our city. It creates an understanding and celebrates the wealth of history and information of Snuneymuxw. We need to talk, share and celebrate that history.

- It is important to look at shifting away from colonial titles and symbols that we use in our community (and towards traditional village sites, naming of leaders, etc.). One thing associated with Nanaimo is the Bastion. To him, the Bastion is a symbol of violent dominance. That history is represented when we look to the Bastion. The times that cannons were fired, were toward us. Should we be celebrating this as a community? The Chase River was named as such when a Snuneymuxw and Cowichan man were accused of murder and chased up the river by the Navy (now named Chase River); they were caught and hung at Gallows Point. Is this something we need to reassess and how do we look at that differently, and the way we speak to things?

The facilitator thanked Eliot for sharing – teachings are very powerful. Moves us to collectively think about that history, to ask questions about how and what do we value as a city? How can we engage with history in a good way? She invited those in attendance to share their thoughts, responses, or to ask questions. How do we move forward, and honour the knowledge that is being offered to us today?

- At the Nanaimo Museum, they try to think about decolonizing the museum, and telling history in an honest and meaningful way, to use another lens besides colonial. She wrestles with this challenge of different modes of learning and teaching at the Museum – to tell history honestly and represent the history of the land, but some important feedback is to recognize the different ways of teaching and learning. So besides storytelling, how do we incorporate traditional ways of learning into the way we share history.
- **Sulalewh/Elder Bill** – before any cross-cultural workshop or writing, he relies on Dan George’s “My Heart Soars”. He loves that book because it is written the way the old people spoke in the 70s. His mom told him that children must know traditional values by the time they are 8 years old or else they will be unmanageable by their teenage years. The values paper identified about 12 values that are found within Coast Salish culture that would be useful when you are using looking at your prospective programs and how to strengthen its teachings – it describes how those teachings are taught for men, women, kids, about canoeing, knitting, being strong, etc.
- **Sulalewh/Elder Gary** – What we are missing here is the truth. We always miss that hurtful history. The success of colonization is that we don’t speak of it – we need to speak about it. When Bill speaks to all these wonderful things we used to have before colonization, he wants to embrace the best part of who we once were. We cannot express that until we recognize the pain we’ve endured and its effects. The suffering, generations of addiction, loss of our homes and language, having to practice our culture without language, how that all feels. If we really sat in a room and told a truth...

He thinks about his mother and “*xwunitum* terms” (*xwunitum* means white people in hul’q’umi’num), such as the word “chief”, even the name of our people. Those names were given because we were trying to interpret what *xwunitum* wrote down on a piece of paper.

Gary Manson is a residential school survivor. The sat in a healing circle for 6 years with other survivors. They would get angry, ask themselves, ‘How could we allow someone to take our children?’ There were elders in those circles that were embraced by religion. They had grandchildren come to them, wanting to know our language and culture; but they didn’t have it to give. That history needs to be portrayed. We’ve always been afraid of it – if we hide the truth, we don’t get the truth; we don’t get the opportunity to talk to our children about how they are feeling. It makes you feel irritated – I should be speaking to something

that I know, but I don't know it. We need to capture that. It's hard to follow teachings with all this pain coming through. He is proud of people like Eliot who is a role model to those behind him, we need that role model. He is proud of Sulalewh/Elder Bill, portraying pride, we need that pride. But that's not how it really is... He is all for portraying who we are, through art or other means, but if we do not portray what we went through, things won't get better.

- Artist says that for years, she has wanted to see the language of Hul'qumi'num shared. In other communities, language is much more visible. Would love if the City of Nanaimo could highlight that more visibly, to build and make the spirit more visible.
- **Sulalewh/Elder Bill** – Worked with sulalewh/elders in the 1970s who spoke the language fluently – but who were sad because they could not write it. Western academic linguists had begun teaching people how to write linguistics but that sent a message to our old people that it's not good enough to be just a fluent speaker. Be careful we don't use academic, linguistic way of writing those names – that's not how we do it amongst our people.
- Artist/Indigenous language champion gives big thanks to our elders and knowledge keepers for the courage to share that importance for truthfulness, and a representation within that truthfulness. Struggles with the Bastion as an Indigenous settler here whose grandfather was exploited by HBC. It gives her hope that the voices are heard and that this can be an opportunity for those who do have places of privilege, to utilize that place to activate some action moving forward. She echoes what Gary has shared – she feels strongly it is not the responsibility of Indigenous people to clean up this mess of hurtfulness with the erasure of voices, imagery and identity. She is confident that, once we work through whatever it is that is holding us from taking those steps forward, to participate actively in change, there will be some really cool things that come forward. Truthfulness that all people can navigate. She is confident there are ways that can happen. Thank you so much for bringing your beautiful voices forward.
- Crimson Coast Dance Society is grateful for Gary's honesty. Until we acknowledge death, we cannot acknowledge life. Without acknowledging pain, we cannot acknowledge healing and joy. Many of us in charge of organizations are *xwunitum* people, and that has to change. It is time for authoritative voices to invite and make space for other voices within our organizations. With an important awareness around tokenism, it has to be authentic, and a desire that comes from the Snuneymuxw community. She herself carries shame and feels that a lot of racism comes from shame when people aren't willing to admit they have created tremendous pain. Until we are willing to admit that and take some responsibility, there will always be something between us. Want to acknowledge the power of admitting guilt and shame. In terms of the Bastion, she wonders how we can paint or erase that building. What about projecting imagery onto it 24/7 that speaks to the other side of history?
- **Sulalewh/Elder Bill** – Would be fantastic to add three or four statues around the existing coal monument, echoing the voices of the chiefs saying 'what do you want it for?' and the chiefs refusing access because there was no response. A reflection that access to coal was part of our economy. He has seen maps that were part of a model of a longhouse where the CPR wharves were. It would be fantastic to take those renderings and create a wall next to the Bastion that identifies the villages, ownership of the land. When HBC arrived, they thought they were arriving to wilderness – they were wrong. Our chiefs understood rights, lands, resources and HBC ignored that. When Europeans arrived here, they owned nothing of their own, even where they came from. They began to take over, build fences, make maps.

- Artist/indigenous language specialist (chat box) – My apologies, I do have to return to my responsibilities. I also echo with Gary that this conversation should not be expected to be concluded within a one hour connection. Hay ce:p qa to organizers. Hay ce:p qa to respected elders and knowledge keepers Gary, Bill and Eliot.
- **Sulalewh/Elder Gary** – He lived that history as a residential school survivor. He saw the houses in his village be taken down, the people taken down, their suffering. He has sat with the elders. Maybe the truth will never be known. Even the term ‘chief’ bothers him, that we belong to somehow to that system. When we are researching history, we are taking things from the newspaper and we shouldn’t. Because we lost our oral history, we will never know what structures made up our society before the *xwunitum* arrived. The *xwunitum* created division between us – and that’s when the lateral violence began to occur. In the Europeans diaries, they couldn’t travel 5 miles without finding a settlement of some kind.
- **Eliot White-Hill/Kwulasultun** – Is so grateful for today’s discussion and to hear what the Elders have to share. It is important for him to hear this, for his art, for the way he looks at things. It has given him a lot to consider.

In closing, Manager of Culture & Events thanked our guests for attending and sharing these candid reflections and stories with us. In advance of the session, we circulated some thinking questions and participants are welcome to share their feedback on those questions by email after the session. We will provide participants with a draft of the notes taken at today’s meeting, and inform you of next steps. She appreciates your thoughtful participation and will be following up after the session to see how we can collaborate in new ways moving forward.

G:\Culture and Events\REIMAGINE NANAIMO\2020 Strategic Conversations on Culture\2020 11 03 RECONCILIATION decolonization discussion\2020 11 03 NOTES-RECONCILIATION decolonization discussion

# Additional Feedback

Received outside of the session discussion:

**What is your level of awareness about practices of transformation related to decolonization?**

Nanaimo Art Gallery – We are aware of the need for decolonization in our sector and of the structural inequalities in our practices.

**What are the actions you or your organization is undertaking in relation to Reconciliation and decolonization?**

Nanaimo Art Gallery – We are listening and learning from our Indigenous advisors, Elders and friends and participating thoughtfully in opportunities to learn from other organizations and individuals. We are trying to recognize our personal biases and the biases within our organization and our industry, so that we can rethink our operations with diversity and accessibility in mind. Nanaimo Art Gallery team has a strong knowledge of the cultural sector, and our work is embedded in the structures we want to influence. We have spent years building relationships with local Indigenous communities and in 2016, began to interrupt the colonial system when we hired an Indigenous Education Coordinator. We are learning a great deal from hul'qumi'num voices in our community and were able to facilitate greater understanding of the crucial importance of hul'qumi'num learning, and the key role of language in cultural knowledge sharing. We also developed an understanding of the great potential that our organization has to lead significant change in our community, along with a need to shift our operating model, diversify our organization, and be inclusive of Snuneymuxw laws and protocols. Fairly compensating language champions and Elders has become a cornerstone of our work, but as our programs gained popularity our internal and external demands on our Indigenous Education Coordinator moved beyond the work for which they were being fairly compensated. We underestimated the emotional impact that being the sole Indigenous voice of an organization would have on our colleague. We did not fully realize the emotional exhaustion that this cultural work would cause. To better understand how we can disrupt the system, we intend to draw on what we have learned and create a network of allies who are compensated for supporting our Indigenous team members and advising us. We endeavour to centre indigenous and Hul'q'umi'num speaking voices through language classes, an exhibition program that amplifies diverse voices, continuing to build relationships with Elders, and working to bring Coast Salish art to the fore through public projects like the SuperNatural Eagle and recent collaborations with the city like the hawthorn skatepark and the Beban Pool project.

## *Chief Mike Wyse, Snenaymuxw*

*Welcomes you to the territory of his People and Ancestors*



Before the arrival of the Nucumuxw (newcomers), 1792, British 1851 the place we now know as Sneynameuxw/Nanaimo was home to several families known as Sul-lumalcha, Whewhulla, Anwainus and Sauliquun (W. Duff, 1964:213-216)

In contrast the Snuneymuxw have been in this region for 10,000 years.

Spanish Paintings, 1792. British arrive in 1851

## *Ceremonial rites, rituals were passed down from one generation to the next*

These were associated with healing, balance and preparation for life. Early in life, children were woken early and brought to a stream where they had a bath to begin the day. Around 1863 the Wesleyan Methodist Minister Crosby learned, "Even when the ice had formed on the river, they were compelled to break the ice and plunge in." Parents then used spruce branches to 'brush' their children.

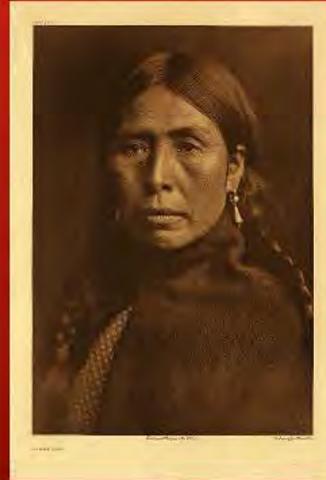
Among the Ankomemum of the Pacific Coast. Thomas Crosby 1907

Dr. Barbara Lane witnessed and learned ceremonial rites, prayer cycles, teachings, occurred usually in fours. She described these practices and said they occurred with "*..monotonous regularity.*"

Dr. Barbara Lane. "A Comparative and Analytic Study of NW Coast Religion." 1953 unpublished PhD dissertation.

*Winter Dance ceremonial activities today rely on these practices. Practices to assist with maintaining balance and healing.*

E.S. Curtis Photo Lummi Type, 1913

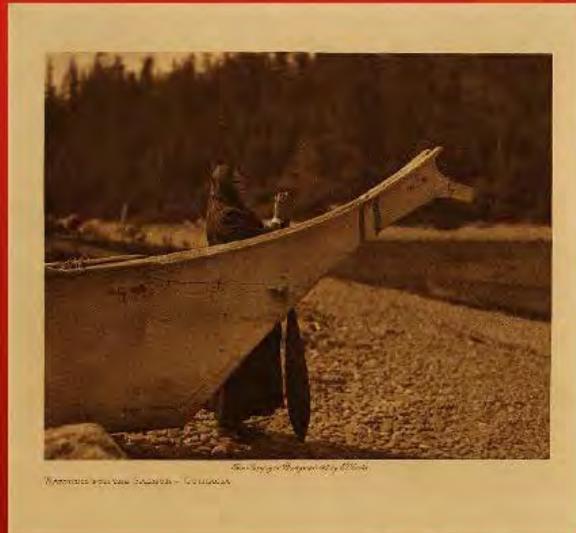


## *Songs*

**Around 1863 Crosby was told by an old Snenaymuxw songmaker that they had "war songs, marriage songs, songs for feasts and public gatherings, mourning songs, canoe songs, and many others." Today, there are also songs for healing and protection in the longhouses and Shaker Churches.**

**Notice the way I am citing information?**

**E.S. Curtis photo, "Watching the Salmon."**



# Being strong means knowing both Joy and Sorrow are sacred/Xaxa.

*“...they should the Creator said to Simon Pierre/Katzie experience both joy and sorrow –joy whenever a child was born or reached maturity, and sorrow whenever he took a soul back to Himself and caused its owner’s death. He Who Dwells Above taught them also the prayers that they should use when they buried their dead, and promised that if they obeyed His instructions, they should enjoy long lives.”*

Diamond Jenness The Faith of A Coast Salish Indian BC Provincial Museum, 1955, 1979/84

Top photo Shaker Church funeral, Washington State.



*“We have been here for 10,000 years.”  
When the Spanish, 1792 and British came to our territories, 1851 our nobles, called Siem had established homes and used resources of the lands and seas. The Snenaymuxw belong to ‘a living culture.’”  
W. White photo*



# NOTES

**SUSTAINABILITY: funding, skill & resource sharing**  
(Thursday, November 5, 2020 from 1:00 pm to 2:15 am, held via Zoom)

## Participants

Nanaimo Arts Council  
Nanaimo Arts Council/VIU Campus Gallery  
Vancouver Island Symphony  
Vancouver Island Symphony  
Opera Nanaimo  
Crimson Coast Dance Society

## Staff

Manager, Culture & Events  
Culture Coordinator, Culture & Events  
Events Coordinator, Culture & Events  
Facilitator  
Clerk, Culture & Events (recording)

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Discussion began at 1:01 pm. The facilitator opened the session with a territory acknowledgement of the Snuneymuxw, Snaw-Naw-As, and Stz'uminus territories; and Comox Valley, the territory of her teachings. She gave an overview of basic zoom etiquette and led a quick round of introductions.

Manager of Culture & Events thanked everyone for their willingness to participate in today's discussion. She provided an overview of the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process, and how feedback will be used moving forward.

REIMAGINE NANAIMO is a City-wide coordinated planning process happening across all departments, to inform updates to our key documents that will guide action over the next 10 years. Documents include the Official Community Plan; Parks, Rec and Culture Plan, Active Sustainable Transportation Plan, Economic Development Strategy, and more. The City is currently in Phase 1 of 2 (idea gathering & learning). Other ways the City is seeking feedback through Phase 1 include: online surveys, one specifically related to arts and culture (deadline now extended until November 30 and registration requirement removed); a creative community contest with prizes; a mail-out of surveys to a select number of households; pop-up stations and information booths in parks and public spaces; in-person meetings on request; and classroom activities for students. Phase 2 will include developing and proposing goals and actions, with pathways to achieving those goals. All information is online at [www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca](http://www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca).

Today's session is part of how the Culture & Events team seeking input and engaging with the arts & culture community. It is an opportunity for our team to come together with you to listen, delve into some specific issues that the sector is facing, and (hopefully) figure out ways that we can support each other. The team will be listening and taking notes, which will be shared back to participants, our City colleagues and the lead project consultant, LANARC. What we learn in this session will inform next steps, drafts of plan documents, and feed in to the bigger picture.

The facilitator provided some general principles of underlying dialogue, including active listening, thoughtful engagement, cultural safety and humility, and appreciation and respect for one another. She reminded the group to be mindful in stepping outside of our agendas and into a space of collective thinking. How can we work together?

- **What is the number one priority on your list—something that you'd like to do but can't or haven't yet, because of financial or other resource constraints?**

Opera Nanaimo has had a goal since they formed – to use the Port Theatre to produce at least one major opera production per year. She feels that goal is not unrealistic, most large cities have a symphony orchestra and opera company. Last year, they held their first full-length opera at Malaspina Theatre; both performances sold out and they received much positive feedback. However, the time must come where they can move into the Port Theatre. The Port Theatre has an orchestra pit that is not used. To do this, they need more financial support. Opera is expensive to produce and one cannot rely on ticket sales alone. It has been difficult to find businesses willing to fund and invest in the arts, but particularly in opera. This would be a benefit to the Nanaimo and surrounding communities. The City needs to get more on-side to help us support our goal, and try to get more business support, too.

Crimson Coast Dance Society echoes what Carol has said. Opera is often thought of as high-art, similar to symphony or ballet. For contemporary dance, she has to consider how to 'sell' it to a community like Nanaimo. To hear that that Opera Nanaimo sold out the Malaspina Theatre is wow. When she moved to Nanaimo, she was surprised and thrilled to hear about Crimson Coast in a city of this size, and the edgy work that they have been doing. If they were a ballet company, they would not have the same issues with funding. It's not necessarily grants, but sponsorship/donors. Their fundraising efforts have consisted of different ways of working (like Wee Tipple) to generate money from those that might not attend a performance. The fact that it is contemporary dance and not a flagship art form means they are constantly trying to find their way without sacrificing on the art itself to generate ticket sales. Another area of priority is succession (board, volunteers).

Opera Nanaimo is fighting the idea of opera being elitist. They are considering a more contemporary production in modern dress in an attempt to get a younger demographic involved. It is hard to get young people involved and she attributes that to the school system. There is no arts coordinator at SD68. Opera is for everybody – beautiful music is beautiful music. There is a problem when you look at VIU – they do not have programs that look at the broader music scene, they focus on jazz/pop/rock.

Manager of Culture & Events challenges the idea that young people are not involved in the sector. We see many youth involved in many different areas, but perhaps making different choices. Sometimes we hear something is missing, youth are not connecting or participating in the way that a group's traditional audience might participate. It is not the case of young people not being interested or actively involved in creating arts and culture in Nanaimo. We have had great conversations lately, with people communicating a true desire to be involved, looking for mentors in the community to both further develop their practice as professionals and board members.

- What role could the City play around messaging around contemporary practice? How do we get Nanaimo to understand what contemporary practice has to offer us as a community?

One important thing to VIU Gallery Campus is to find and develop the funding streams that would enable him to invite professional practicing artists from across the country, cover CARFAC, travel fees, per diems, workshop and speaking fees, etc. He wants to be more connected with the Nanaimo Art Gallery on how to support and complement each other's programming. He has had discussions with VIU upper management, who have voiced support in what is possible for the gallery. The physical space of the gallery could be improved; the walls are currently made of painted burlap and he has applied to get the walls dry walled and upgrade to LED lighting. They need a new digital HD projector with a wireless sound system. He uses his own laptop. Another consideration would be the care and storage of the gallery's collection – while their current storage space is nice, new, it is much too small.

Nanaimo Arts Council spoke in a previous session about their long-term goal (5-10 years), which is to establish a community arts centre. Their immediate priority is to hire a paid executive director to take over the day-to-day business and to allow for more governance separation between the Board and professional staff.

Vancouver Island Symphony noted that before COVID, the answer to this question would have been very different. Their biggest short-term goal is to continue to exist one year from now – they are dependent on government funding and would not have been able to continue to exist without the support of the City, BC Arts Council and Canada Council. Their needs continue to be supported but they do not anticipate being able to see crowds for over 50 people. Even audiences of 300 people will not support a symphony on stage. Some big challenges for performing arts ahead, period; but more so for art forms like a symphony, opera, that have big costs to produce. Something that would help them, and likely Opera Nanaimo, Fringe, Symphony, etc. would be if the Port Theatre could make them into residential companies (this model is seen in other cities). Maybe now is a good time to consider it. Another suggestion would be an 'arts access pass' or something similar; like a passport for our City that could be used to engage people in things they might not usually participate in. Another suggestion might be some sort of organized resource sharing when it comes to potential board members, mentorship opportunities, etc. In Nanaimo, we have many of the same people that rotate from board to board, or need mentoring.

Opera Nanaimo agrees with everything Vancouver Island Symphony has said. Despite COVID, in Europe, a lot of artists and symphonies are surviving because they are getting year-round government contracts. Her biggest fear is that we lose a whole generation of artists if performing ceases.

- Indeed, the sustainability of the sector is dependent on how we feed and cultivate our artists, particularly during these tough times. Facilitator is hearing a potential role for the City in systems of engagement, an arts pass, a shared board system – creating mechanisms in which citizens are engaging, either as participants, audience members or board members.
- **What are your primary non-financial resources (skills, tools, networks, knowledge)? What's a non-financial resource you have that you could share with others in the community? What networks are you already sharing with (local, provincial, national, international)?**

Opera Nanaimo notes that there are people with specialized skills in supporting arts organizations (accountants, lawyers, other community members) and it would be wonderful to collaboratively share those people amongst organizations; people who aren't just focused on arts, but know how to run an organization on a business level.

Crimson Coast Dance Society notes that there seems there is an apex here; whether that is the Nanaimo Arts Council or the City that needs to help bridge that with all of us. Feels fortunate to be located in the CIBC arts centre along with a handful of other arts groups; it keeps them connected. What about those that don't have that opportunity? The Arts Council in Edmonton pulled representatives from every single discipline you could imagine (including business) and it was that rep's responsibility to contact their specific communities and spread the news, whether professional or amateur. She took a board development workshop through Volunteer Nanaimo and it was so informative -- only four people attended, so we are not taking advantage of that. She has had two board members come to them based on an ad she posted at Volunteer Nanaimo. There area lot of newcomers to Nanaimo and that is starting to add some energy.

Nanaimo Arts Council says that in terms of sharing networks with other boards, that's how he would like to see a community arts centre develop; together, with other arts organizations. They could all use some of that community space and sharing would help to spread the financial burden but would also be good for community spirit. In terms of concrete resources, they have discovered a free version of the Salesforce CRM program that is available to non-profit groups (tracks donors, etc., about a free \$5,000 in-kind service per year), so they are evaluating that now.

Opera Nanaimo noted that all of the cities in BC with a similar size and population have cultural arts centres and Nanaimo is behind. She feels the priority should be less than 10 years.

- Seems like we are talking about the kind of knowledge hubs that are created when physical space is shared amongst organizations, or in close proximity. Those kind of things happen naturally when organizations are all together or in close proximity. But how can we do it when that is not the case? What role can the City play for organizations that aren't lumped together and how can those resources be shared in a powerful way?

Nanaimo Arts Council says that while recognizing that an arts centre will take place due to funding and other reasons, they have been having preliminary discussions about interim goals. Firstly, to get a governance structure stable; secondly, to develop an annual arts festival that could include all types of disciplines. The VIU Campus is not busy during the summer months and the administration has expressed a willingness to engage and animate that space – it could be a win/win situation for both the sector and VIU.

Vancouver Island Symphony said that for many years, the sector has tried to share each other's events, cross promote, etc. but there is no one single place in the City that all arts events are currently listed. That is a challenge – to her and from a tourism perspective. Maybe that is a role for the City,

Crimson Coast Dance Society is a great believer of the hub; let's move the silos into a centre hub. Just today's discussion has already helped her learn some new things, ideas are percolating. This is what they need. What about a "First Friday" or something similar, that gets artists and the sector together, just flowing, collaborating and talking.

- Again, hearing the idea about incubation spaces, incubators for collaboration and knowledge/resource sharing.

- Knowing that civic funding resources will remain stable, with modest projected growth, what do you think the City can do to help you or your organization build capacity to secure financial and other resources you need?
- Where do you see yourself in ten years? What changes do you anticipate? What models or ways of working do you think the City should be recognizing and offering service to? Do you identify anyone that is currently left out of the City's current funding model?

**Opera Nanaimo** looked at renting a couple of City-run facilities (Bowen Centre or the Convention Centre) and found them to be incredibly expensive. Feels the City should provide a much more reduced rate or free for non-profit groups. Victoria does three major opera productions per year; it is realistic for the City of Nanaimo to sponsor one major production in the Port Theatre. The City needs to help.

In 10 years, **Crimson Coast Dance Society participant** hopes to be continuing to share and learn in Nanaimo. She may venture into provincial work. For **Crimson Coast**, she'd like to see their national profile, and more international. Would like a bit more of the digital work that they've been investing in and building on.

**Vancouver Island Symphony** noted that succession is huge. Their biggest challenge is just operating at capacity, enabling artists to work. She is glad that the Nanaimo Arts Council is looking to reform and rebuild – do they have a great connection to the City so that the City can enable the Arts Council to enable the sector. The more we work together and welcome people to our work, the more we welcome people to our work, we are going to win. She sees a Nanaimo 10 years from now where we do have a hub, one hub, for everything.

A five-year vision for the VIU Campus Gallery would be to get it running as a professional gallery with actual staff. Also hoping to find other streams of funding to support a professional gallery (facility improvements and professional programming)

Culture Coordinator, Culture & Events shared something she has been considering as she is reviewing grant applications; the way in which Nanaimo groups are accessing funds outside of the community. She has a laundry list of other grants that are available for this type of work, arts council grants geared toward mentorship, grants to help groups get resources in your door, grants to help you reach your goals, early-career grants, etc. She hopes the community identifies a way to share some of that knowledge amongst themselves, through network or proximity, as a way to bring new money into Nanaimo.

- Hearing that the City can play a role in facilitating knowledge base of other grants not currently being activated.

Nanaimo Arts Council says that any community arts centre would of course be shared with other arts groups. He would like to see a major arts festival, preferably in the summer. From this meeting, his takeaway is that he needs to try to organize a meeting of all the arts groups in the not too distant future, to trade ideas and see how they can pool resources.

- **What is the role of culture in leading and shaping a broader sustainable development agenda? How does culture intersect with other 'pillars' of sustainable development, including social, ecological and economic forms of sustainable development?**

Crimson Coast Dance Society notes that collaboration will continue to build excitement, audience, and energy in Nanaimo. All artists (and those that work with them) need to be paid for their work at industry standards. Those in the sector have had to do a lot of freebies. Younger contemporaries and students must be paid.

Vancouver Island Symphony adds that we have to be part of sustainable development, but how we are part of it is perhaps different for each art form. It is also a big component of downtown revitalization, which will be needed greatly after COVID and the social issues we are seeing.

The facilitator thanked everyone for participating in today's discussion, sharing their visions, comments and ideas. The Culture & Events team will follow up with everyone in attendance to receive any further feedback, provide you with a draft of the notes taken at today's meeting, and inform you of next steps. Everyone was encouraged to visit [www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca](http://www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca); sign up to receive Love Arts Nanaimo updates at [www.nanaimo.ca/goto/loveartsnanaimo](http://www.nanaimo.ca/goto/loveartsnanaimo); and to follow the Culture & Events team on Instagram at [www.instagram.com/Culture\\_Nanaimo](https://www.instagram.com/Culture_Nanaimo).

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# NOTES

## SUSTAINABILITY: funding, skill & resource sharing

(Thursday, November 5, 2020 from 7:00 pm to 8:15 am, held via Zoom)

### Participants

Pacific Coast Stage Company  
Nanaimo Arts Council/Gallery/local poet and print maker  
Harbour City Theatre /Private theatre group  
Harbour City Theatre  
CineCentral Filmmakers Society  
Wordstorm Society of the Arts

### Staff

Manager, Culture & Events  
Clerk, Culture & Events (recording)  
Culture Coordinator, Culture & Events  
Events Coordinator, Culture & Events  
Facilitator

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Discussion began at 7:02 pm. The facilitator opened the session with a territory acknowledgement of the Snuneymuxw, Snaw-Naw-As, and Stz'uminus territories; and Comox Valley, the territory of her teachings. She gave an overview of basic zoom etiquette and led a quick round of introductions.

The facilitator provided some general principles of underlying dialogue, including active listening, thoughtful engagement, cultural safety and humility, and appreciation and respect for one another. She reminded the group to be mindful in stepping outside of our agendas and into a space of collective thinking. How can we work together?

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- **What is the number one priority on your list—something that you'd like to do but can't or haven't yet, because of financial or other resource constraints? What are your primary non-financial resources (skills, tools, networks, knowledge)? What's a non-financial resource you have that you could share with others in the community? What networks are you already sharing with (local, provincial, national, international)?**
- **Knowing that civic funding resources will remain stable, with modest projected growth, what do you think the City can do to help you or your organization build capacity to secure financial and other resources you need?**

CineCentral's number one priority is to simply become a sustainable organization. They became a non-profit in 2013 and started with nothing. He spent a lot of effort and time to get them where they are today and was fortunate enough to be able to expend that time and energy (that he knew would be required). The ultimate goal over several years has been to get the organization to a point where he can eventually step away. So what does he need to make that happen? They must be able to employ people to do what he has been doing. To become sustainable, they need to be able to pay a full-time employee in the next few years.

Wordstorm has been an incorporated non-profit society since 2009 and is entirely volunteer-run to this day. She recently took over as artistic director and has been wearing many hats and doing many levels of work. In addition, she still has to find enough time to deal with the rest of life. Would need a paid artistic director position. They have volunteers but the skills must be present to move things along. It is hard to find people with bookkeeping or grant writing skills. It is highly that they could find someone on a volunteer basis with the ability or capability of time commitment that is required. This is an issue with many organizations here in Nanaimo – they are volunteer-run and therefore beholden to the goodwill of whoever happens to be volunteering at the moment. We are fortunate to have people in the community willing to do this, but it becomes problematic from a sustainability perspective.

Nanaimo Arts Council/Art Gallery/local poet and print maker says to prioritize organizations that either need professionals or are willing to pay professionals a living wage. It's not anything unique to Nanaimo but across the arts sector. Nanaimo has an opportunity with REIMAGINE NANAIMO to be innovative with the plan we are creating, and employment is a priority. Another priority is just more arts space and arts facilities in general. We are severely lacking, especially in comparison to cities of similar population. We need more space, in visual arts, performing arts, rehearsal space, different sized spaces, so that's definitely a priority, just more arts space period.

Harbour City Theatre's main goal is to find competitive wage to pay their artists and employees again. Since COVID, everything happening at the theatre is completely volunteer. You name it and volunteers are working on it. They have taken a hit since COVID as a performing arts space. Looking to the future, they have created a streaming studio so that they can turn their focus to streaming activities from the theatre (starting INSPIRATIONS creative exploration programs in 2 weeks, 7 instructors creating a curriculum and delivering it to classes by streaming) so that's how they are trying to build up artists in the

community. They see their role as an alliance to pay artists, to create the opportunity for artists to come and use the space so that they can make money and put food on their table.

Pacific Coast Stage company noted that she was given a small honorarium when she took the GM position, but nothing compared to the hours required. This year, they were fortunate to expand and receive a lot more money than usual. Their priority is to establish year-round programming that still keeps administrative expenses pretty low. Through her work, she has noticed in the community; the value of mentorships – especially something intergenerational. There are some great tools out there now to streamline things, and also some great, experienced people. Seeing how others do things, asking “Hey have you tried this?” or “Have you tried recording your volunteer hours?”, it’s simple things like that. If organizations had someone checking in giving feedback on the admin side of things about how they can boost revenues and pay people to do the work – that would be helpful.

- You bring up the knowledge and resources needed to reach some basic core milestones (a core staff member, a facility, etc.).

Harbour City Theatre is a space that has had to change in order for the community to access it. Those of us that have been volunteering have been doing so for a long time. Of course, wage is an issue for everyone.

- If we think about these core milestones, we hear many people identifying a need for funding for staff, or a need to fund space. So if we think about the community resources needed to make these milestones happen, what currently exists? Besides funding, what resources could be activated now, what are things we might not be tapping into?

CineCentral is a full-time job. He highlighted the importance of recognizing and avoiding burnout as a sign and symptom that too much work is placed on a single person. They have a studio space downtown and have been debating whether or not to keep it since June. The consensus from their membership was (as a value to the film community) to keep the space. Now they need to figure out funding in order to keep it. The studio rent has never been covered by grants, but rather ‘studio partners’. They currently have no studio partners so will be looking for new partners in the community. Will also be looking at other groups outside of the film community to see if there are any other groups interested in sharing the space.

- Is there a role for the City? Or do you find these things already happening organically in the sector?

CineCentral says that just having opportunities like this discussion is valuable. We get opportunities like this during City planning phases, but not much outside of that. It would be valuable to have a bit more, like a quarterly connect, where the City (or someone else in the community) organized those pollination events. There is value in networking. It’s hard for any single organization to take the lead on planning something like this, since they are all so consumed and stretched thin with their own work. Maybe an umbrella group to be a focal point for all arts organizations.

- Hearing about cross-pollination, incubation, how can those things be done in a good way and/or are they already being done? The importance of ongoing cross-pollination and engagement becoming a regular practice (by either the City of community at large).

Wordstorm added that having space does not necessarily translate into community visibility. Wordstorm has a space, yet constantly coming to her saying they didn’t know they were here. They don’t have a huge

advertising budget, so how do they direct people to their website? Something the City could do might be to have some way of making the existing arts organizations known to those that live and visit here. Nanaimo has a cultural wealth.

Nanaimo Arts Council/Gallery/local poet and print maker says that she has been in the Nanaimo arts community for about a decade and feels the sector does a good job of knowing who's who, what each person has to offer. She feels really in tune now with the capacity of the various facilities around Nanaimo, and can easily refer people to rental opportunities, professional development opportunities, key people for projects, etc. Overall, her experience in this arts community is that, we have that small town feel, everybody kind of knows each other and the expertise there. She thinks that works in our favor. Being that everyone is stretched for both space and employment, they rely heavily on the individual abilities of each person in the arts community.

- Hearing two different things, which can both be correct at the same time. First, it's hard for groups to think collaboratively when they are struggling to stay alive. Secondly, you feel aware and in-tune with what is going on. So many of the other groups that we've talked to in this process have identified this specific discussion as their first opportunity to connect with others. So yes, there is that knowledge but, are there key areas that could be expanded or developed?

Pacific Coast Stage Company says this discussion is great. Cross-sector collaboration is really important – when they are trying to reach those new audiences is when they have the most success, looking outside the arts sector. She likes this opportunity to meet everyone, hear what people are doing. Feels out of the loop when they don't have an office space or that shared space to naturally bump in to someone and strike up small talk. The City could facilitate some sort of posting board for groups (digital solution?) to put calls like "I need space" or "Can someone review this?", that kind of thing. Or a reading circle. Any sort of 'bringing together' to cultivate and incubate new possibilities. It shows us that we are all facing the same or similar challenges.

Harbour City Theatre says this is the first time we have met with the City's involvement like this. We've had private Facebook meetings, as smaller groups, but nothing that is substantiated or held together.

For Private theatre group, they lasted the entire existence without a grant from the City or anyone (in partnership with local business). You name it, they've found a way to do it – a necessity in Nanaimo. That is the part of this that needs to be clear – it has been the necessity in Nanaimo, we have no other choice, we have to think outside the box since the box is barely open – we have to work around the box to get things done. He has been clear that he believes the City should be, not just in this type of role (which is fantastic), but leadership; leading us towards a general direction is really important. We were named a Cultural Capital in 2008, but do you know why? And how can we continue to be a cultural capital if we don't know how we got there? Because they've done this so many times before, he wonders if this will change? He believes it will, but believes we are still fighting a really old concept about what culture is, and whether it is important in Nanaimo. It's barely changing now, looking at our elected officials.... But certainly before this Council, we all know the issues we had.

Harbour City Theatre feels that Nanaimo doesn't always feel like a safe place to take chances, or to get out of your rut, or to meet other groups because they feel they are constantly waiting for that other hand to drop, for their funding to be pulled. The City should rethink what culture means to Nanaimo. The ten-year lease of space was a big jump forward in supporting them, allowing them to keep the space and help with grants.

Pacific Coast Stage Company feels that the time is really now. Higher governments are noticing underfunded cities like ours. If the City was able to support us so that we could leverage those higher levels of funding while the need is being recognized (now!).

CinCentral explains it can be difficult trying to get the particular talent or skill-based professionals that they need as non-profits. A non-profit technically is a business; but usually run by artists. Many of us start as artists, and have to learn the business side of it. He's been trying to get more of a connection between the arts and business communities; but more importantly, VIU. Connect with business students who are looking for opportunities. He has been trying for years to crack VIU, attending business events, attending digital media year-end showcases – it was only about 5 years in that he was finally invited to come speak to a class. So he feels that is a bubble that can be hard to get into. Maybe the City could foster some connection there.

- Hearing, how do we build capacity around VIU, and how do we build the connection with the cultural sector in general, and what role does the City and community have in helping to enhance the business capacity of the cultural sector (example, through VIU,) but other ways like training opportunity, cross-pollination of professionals or business skills. Many different ways that capacity building can happen.

Pacific Coast Stage Company participant added that last year, VIU had an initiative that she was involved with through another organization where VIU was going to assign students to partner non-profit and community groups. So, she pitched to the project and was going to be assigned a student – not sure what happened to that. It's about retaining people – we should connect with those students now so they are invested in our community. There was a push from VIU, maybe it just needs to be nurtured.

- **Where do you see yourself in ten years? What changes do you anticipate? What models or ways of working do you think the City should be recognizing and offering service to? Do you identify anyone that is currently left out of the City's current funding model?**
- **What is the role of culture in leading and shaping a broader sustainable development agenda? How does culture intersect with other 'pillars' of sustainable development, including social, ecological and economic forms of sustainable development?**

Nanaimo Arts Council/Gallery/local poet and print maker thinks that with REIMAGINE NANAIMO, the City has an opportunity to create a vision for the next 10 years. She would love for that vision to be all encompassing; larger arts organizations, smaller groups, right down to grassroots projects; all demographics including Snuneymuxw and Stz'uminus; newcomers; livelong Nanaimoites; young and old. Let's not leave anybody behind. Whether starting a film society, running a theatre, or a single artist with a vision. The more accommodating we can be, the better off we will be.

- Speaks back and reinforces theme of City taking a leadership role, bringing people together, recognizing the ecology at play.

Harbour City Theatre says that as a performing arts venue, they need to keep up with current tech and offer an affordable space to our community. They need to continue a variety of options as a hybrid theatre and streaming studio, and enjoy beginning second year of their co-management agreement that takes them to 2029. Also, have to be conscious in the consistency that we will ride through the next 10 years with political changes.

Wordstorm Society says that they've never had a home in one single place on a consistent basis. Ten years from now they would like some sort of home with greater visibility. On the idea of cross-pollination, one reason the community is so silo'd is because they are keeping their own piece going, but also because there is no central space where groups can actively collaborate, get together on a larger scale, ask for help. If there were a cultural centre to hang out, have these conversations that would be invaluable for moving things forward. Is there a printed publication that could be produced so people could pick it up and see what is happening?

Pacific Coast Stage Company will be trying to aim for year-round programming; exploring ideas of more ensemble-type leadership, where we play to each other's strengths. They did a strategic plan recently and the facilitator talked about an octopus – a lump with legs. Maybe the City could be the lump.

CineCentral has a five-year strategic plan on their website if anyone is interested. Has anyone seen the new SPCA facility? If they can get a space for dogs/cats/horses, then so can arts and culture! Should we have a discussion with SPCA to see how they made their facility possible? Another question about space is about who will ultimately run it? An existing organization? The City? A completely new organization that needs to be created? This question must be asked.

The facilitator thanked everyone for participating in today's discussion, sharing their visions, comments and ideas. The Culture & Events team will follow up with everyone in attendance to receive any further feedback, provide you with a draft of the notes taken at today's meeting, and inform you of next steps. Everyone was encouraged to visit [www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca](http://www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca); sign up to receive Love Arts Nanaimo updates at [www.nanaimo.ca/goto/loveartsnanaimo](http://www.nanaimo.ca/goto/loveartsnanaimo); and to follow the Culture & Events team on Instagram at [www.instagram.com/Culture\\_Nanaimo](http://www.instagram.com/Culture_Nanaimo).



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ NANAIMO MOUNTAIN BIKE CLUB (NMBC)
Date/Time:	▪ 23 / 11 / 2020 ▪ 7:00 pm
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Nanaimo Mountain Bike Club (one participant) ▪ Active Transportation Project Specialist, CoN ▪ Manager, Transportation, CoN

### *Introductions.*

What is ReImagine Nanaimo and the process? PowerPoint presentation shared.

### *Listening to You:*

#### **1. What is your Club’s vision for biking and trail building in Nanaimo?**

- 500 members strong (five years ago it was 100 members).
- 50 people built trails and are certified by IMBA.
- Moving away from a club to an advocacy group.
- Want to have some paid positions including an executive director and trail supervisor.
- North Shore has \$1,000,000 operating budget and has less trails than Nanaimo. Cumberland Bike Club also receives funding from the Village of Cumberland.
- Interested in pursuing options for funding models with RDN, City of Nanaimo and hospitality industry. 50% of current membership fees go to liability insurance for the Club.
- In 2015, set a vision to connect Ladysmith to Lantzville by trail. Most trails now exist but not all are sanctioned with land use agreements.
- Recognise that many trails have been built by rogue builders. The club would like to bring in all trails on the outer connection areas into club maintenance and insurance. That will be over 421 km of single track trails. Green, Blue and Black levels.
- Very excited to have a BC Youth Worker Grant. Hiring nine youth to maintain trails Dec 1, 2020 to April, 2021. Supervisors will also be paid. Going through all the interviews this week to hire. 99% of the trail work right now is maintenance, not building.
- Beginning an economic stimulus study with VIU on the impacts of mountain biking within Nanaimo.

- Strava and trail forks data shows usage. Much is from visitors. South Benson trails are the biggest draw for tourists.
- Trails are currently on City, RDN, Mosaic, Crown and DND lands.

## **2. What is working well with Nanaimo’s mountain bike trail system and active transportation system?**

- Even during Covid, the trails were all open because there are so many access points around the City to the system.
- There is a variety of all levels of trail and lots of diversity. Varied terrain.

## **3. What opportunities do you see to make the systems better?**

- Funding model with multiple partners to officially have NMBC look after the region’s trails. Market trails as a tourist destination and feature for sports tourism.
- Need better signage with rules of use and wayfinding—possible partnering with the City.
- Discussed opening up additional access points at College Heights/Morel, but that was not favoured as one would have to cross DND lands to access the existing network and that will not work. Witchcraft, Nanaimo Lakes Road, Westwood Lake and Doumont Road are the main access points.
- Create more adaptive trails at Westwood Lake, Colliery Dam, GNWD and Fine China.
- Create more skills areas and beginner trails.
- Communicate more with the running groups re. Rules of the trails.
- New trails the NMBC builds will be to create connections that are still needed or increase diversity (novel trails).
- NMBC is not interested in trails in Linley Valley except for the purpose of active transportation. They do not see trails in that area and want to focus on the park for nature purposes.

## **4. What gaps and challenges do you see?**

- Need to update trail agreements with the City of Nanaimo. Dumont agreement with Mosaic is the best. Trails maintained to Whistler standards. Agreement should outline scope of the NMBC roles and City roles, process for new trails (standards and permissions), inspection expectations, compensation, and signage.
- Conflicts with modos. Especially at Westwood lake. Modos need a place to play to but have no official locations. Conflicts are dangerous and the trail erosion increases.

- Rogue builders. Club trying to draw them in and hold sustainable trail building courses at least once a year so that everyone knows how to build trails well.
- DND lands. Currently can't market South Benson trails because no agreements are in place.
- Signage—yielding rules to different modes not always followed (bikes, hikers, runners, ATV's). IMBA has a sign. But often slower should yield. Or downhill should yield.
- Shenanigans needs a sign to say no foot traffic. It is a purpose built mountain bike trail.
- Overuse/conflicts at Westwood Lake/Arbot Road.

## **5. And how can the City help?**

- Funding model with multiple partners to officially have NMBC look after the region's trails. Market trails as a tourist destination and feature for sports tourism. Help NMBC bring these trails up to standard and maintain.
- Need better signage with rules of use and wayfinding—possible partnering with city
- Grandfather in existing trails and sign/map at Westwood. Land exchange with mosaic?
- Help block modos (Arbot area, Westwood and East Wellington Hydro Plant) and give them a safe place to play.
- Additional parking at Westwood.
- Create more beginner green trails and more skills areas. Have a coach and first aid attendant at the existing parks at Beban. Teach kids how to ride correctly—especially at three drops. Like lifeguards at swim areas.
- Create adaptive trails at Westwood, Colliery (easy does it), Greater Nanaimo Water District.

## **6. What priorities should the City focus on in the next ten years?**

- Support NMBC as an economic driver.
- Creative more adaptive trails.
- Create more skills areas and beginner trails.
- Program and teach kids proper skills at skills parks.
- Help to have more parking at access points.
- Better signage.
- Better agreements.
- More bike lanes and trail connections to destinations.
- Safer E&N Trail intersections.
- Advocate for bike storage at destinations/hubs.

## **7. What would make more people choose walking, wheeling and cycling instead of driving?**

- Discussion about e-bikes and how they make active transportation accessible to all. Even electric mountain bikes now which help less fit riders get out.
- Discussion about the mobility hubs/malls having bike valet and storage even for a fee for secured storage. VIU has new storage with fob and barbed wire.
- More soft trails to connect to destinations (rather than on street routes) for big tires and smooth rides.
- Make bike lanes more cohesive.
- E&N Trail intersections can be very dangerous. Should have crossing lights.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Cycling Groups – YOUTH AND BEGINNER BIKING
Date/Time:	▪ 07 / 12 / 2020 ▪ 12:30 pm
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Parks Planner, PRC
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Parks Planner, PRC ▪ Beyond Biking (one participant)

### *Listening to you:*

#### **1. What is working well for your organization and your stewardship projects?**

- NMBC - wrangling all the rogue trails into the NMBC umbrella for maintenance.
- There is a huge increase in rogue building since Covid.
- Beyond Biking has agreement with the NMBC and insurance - and they give back to the trail system as well as using them for business.
- New riders are in new demographics:
  - Ladies rides—27-45 years old
  - 35-60 lessons
  - Lots of retirees new to the sport
  - Lots of Families trying to ride
- Lots of people want to get out of cars and into biking for recreation and for active transportation.

#### **2. What opportunities do you see for better resourcing, partnering, and networking?**

- Create places to teach kids and beginners.
- Need to create specific green trails - ideally looped.
  - Options to get off onto easier trails if it's over their heads (like Legalize, it has 4 exits) are good to also build in.
  - More green style single tracks - short sections in the area of legalize with no technical features will minimize erosion.

- Need progressions park - like at Whistler, or revisions to the Beban Skills Park
  - New skills park - NMBC was not involved. It's a good facility for more advanced riders but not safe for beginners.
  - Need to install a new beginner - like six-inch drops - like the original plans.
  - From a teaching perspective - doesn't work. It's too big. Nothing to start on - only a two foot jump. Can not start a class there. No progression jumps.
- Locations to focus new amenities for beginners
  - Beban - add beginner progressions into Beban Bike Park. And single track green trails at the Participark.
  - Colliery - add transitional skills park and trail system - green trails already at GNWD.
  - Westwood - add transitional skills park and introduce new green trails.
  - Harewood - they already did a plan. Grass overgrown. Beginners' area adjacent to the youth park.
  - Divers Lake is good, but no trail network next to jumps.

### ***3. What gaps and challenges do you see?***

- No places to learn as a beginner - bike parks are intermediate to advanced levels.
- Not good beginner trails - Nanoose is the closest for beginner loops.
  - Westwood is now a hard blue because of lack of maintenance and erosion.
  - Doumont is the same.
  - Even though they were built as greens - they have eroded and evolved.
- Signs need to be updated as the trails evolve.
- Most rogue builders create black diamond trails.
- Trail forks ratings don't mean much right now as things are changing so quickly – riders update info on apps – submit trail reports.
- Doumont trails – far out and not on transit. And so busy.
- Maintenance agreements at Westwood and GNWD and maintenance issues with the Club.
- They have had such a hard time teaching on City property after several attempts that they now teach at their own property. But no group lessons this year.
- City staff consulted with Beyond Biking, but built something very different and built a jump park.
- No beginner line at the jump park? Or was it built this year?

#### **4. Youth Clubs for Biking.**

- Kids need lots of adults to help to keep kids behaving.
- Best to also have a controlled space with fence or no public while teaching kids.
- Should always have certified instructors.
- Arrowsmith Bike Shop - opened up several youth biking options
  - Ladies' ride and shredders rider.
  - 50 - 70 youth out on all rides in summer 2020.
  - Under 12 (average 7 - 9 years old).
  - Free cost for group ride.
  - Arrowsmith has trained most staff to teach for next year.
- Airhouse, Apex, Thrills & Skills, and several unknown companies. Many don't give back to the trail community for their use and do not have agreements or certifications
- Several businesses in town teach lessons but have no agreements with the NMBC and do not give back.
  - Unknown insurance.
  - Unknown licenses for shuttling kids to locations.
  - Certified instructors?
- Jumping taught by some businesses with no governing body or checks and balances.
  - High risk.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## KEY THEMES AND HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Challenges
- ▶ Opportunities
- ▶ Priorities
- ▶ Food Forest
- ▶ Community Gardens

## Meeting Details

Stakeholder Group or meeting title	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Local Food Production in Parks – Beaufort Park Food Forest</li> </ul>
Date/Time:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 21/11/2020</li> <li>▪ 10:00 am</li> </ul>
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Parks Planner, PRC</li> <li>▪ Environmental Planner, PRC</li> <li>▪ Recreation Programmer, PRC</li> <li>▪ Urban Forestry Coordinator, CofN</li> <li>▪ Beaufort Food Forest (one participant)</li> <li>▪ City Counsellor</li> <li>▪ Community Advocate, Princess-Columbia Street Food Forest</li> <li>▪ Herbalist, Wellington Action Committee Member</li> <li>▪ Beaufort Food Forest (one participant)</li> <li>▪ NOCA (one participant)</li> </ul>

## ***Introductions:***

This meeting is held separately from Food Share and the Nanaimo Community Gardens. Want to announce irrigation is coming to Beaufort Park Food Forest.

Parks Planner for the City of Nanaimo, thanked everyone for participating in today’s stakeholder engagement session. Listening to concerns and issues is the main focus of today’s session. She gave a review of the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process, including an outline of each Phase, timelines and how feedback would be used moving forward.

Information regarding the ReImagine Nanaimo process including background, questionnaires, video chats about different issues, and the state of Nanaimo can be accessed at [getinvolvednanaimo.ca](http://getinvolvednanaimo.ca). Stakeholders were encouraged to share this website with family and friends.

## **1. What are the key challenges / opportunities and priorities you want to see?**

### Beaufort Food Forest:

- Core volunteers do most of the work in the food forest.
  - The Beaufort Park Food Forest volunteers try and work through consensus.
  - Very informal organization.
  - Volunteer numbers fluctuate with core group doing most of the work.
- Goals for Spring '21 is watering and pruning.
  - The volunteers have gaps in technical knowledge and do need help with training on permaculture techniques.
- The food forest is becoming a destination. P
  - People are coming to visit and do stop by to talk to the volunteers.
  - There are also informal gatherings here now.
  - It would be nice to repair and expand the signs and labels we have for the plants and trees to help inform volunteers and visitors.
- As a way to maintain a connection to visitors to the food forest, it would be nice to have a bulletin board or chalk board where people could leave questions and contact info for potential volunteers.
- It would be good to have training courses or park programming that the volunteers could take on gardening, pruning, permaculture.

### Group Discussion:

- Concerns with potential toxicity of soil where food production is occurring.
  - We need better knowledge to know where and where not to plant.
  - Soil testing for community gardens would be a good addition.
  - Also need direction on what to do to mitigate any soil contamination in order to continue to work with existing garden sites that maybe contaminated.
  - The right plant in the right place can help mitigate soil.
- We need to be creative when thinking of ways to fund the maintenance and support to community food gardens (Birthday Party tree plant).
  - Important to “connect the dots” and work together.
  - Another source of funding could be from dedication tree programs.
- Hire street youth to more engaged in beautification projects.
  - Hire them to plant and care for food gardens around then City.
- Need to build and support the volunteer base in the City.
  - Through Facebook, Instagram, etc. More communication and promotion of these programs should be made.
- The City is currently stockpiling leaves and ground wood in Beaufort Park to make into Mulch for next year.
  - Would like to see mulch provided to other community gardens in the City.

- Neighbourhood compost piles could also be promoted as an alternative to dumping in Parks.
- These community garden projects can be a bridge to building connections between residents in neighbourhoods throughout the City.
- An online map of where the current food forest and community gardens are would be helpful for people looking to where to find accessible food.
- We should have more edible landscapes in our City (along trails, streets, parks).
- Promoting a responsible practice for harvesting and sharing food should be promoted.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Food Production – FOOD SECURITY IDEAS
Date/Time:	▪ 12 / 09 / 2020
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Parks Planner, PRC
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Parks Planner, PRC</li> <li>▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC (in part)</li> <li>▪ Nanaimo Community Gardens (NCG) and Beban Learning Gardens (BLG) (one participant)</li> <li>▪ Nanaimo Community Gardens and Beban Learning Gardens (one participant)</li> </ul>

### *Introductions.*

Nanaimo Community gardens has two sites — one is on private land and one is at Beban Park.

- Tour of the Beban Learning garden facilities. Opened in 2017. 10-year Use Agreement at Beban Park.
- Greenhouse was in the realm of \$110,000 to build with partial funding from City Partners in Parks program, and partial funding from Co-op.
- The second location on Pine Street is privately run.

The Nanaimo Community Gardens Society (NCGS) recognizes that a sustainable food system is the foundation of a healthy community.

### **Our Mission:**

To work with people to grow more food in the region because growing food locally is vital to a healthy community and environment. Our programs and services get individuals and families active in growing, sharing, buying and eating local foods.

### **Our Vision:**

We envision our community abundant in food, and our culture and economy respectful of our dependence on the earth’s resources for survival.

### **We Value:**

- Broad community access to locally-grown, nutritious foods.
- Community food self-reliance and the preservation of biodiversity in our food plants.
- Growing, celebrating and sharing food together.

- The sharing of knowledge, skills and resources which help people develop food self-sufficiency.
- Creating inclusive gardens that provide opportunities for maintaining health and healing.
- The preservation of agricultural lands and the livelihoods of all people involved in getting food from seeds to our plates.
- The conservation of land, water, air, soils, and ecosystems.

### *Listening to You:*

#### **1. What is working well?**

- This Beban site is so public and it's nice to have so many people wandering by and connecting with the group and learning about what they are doing.
- In four years, accomplished a lot with inside and outside beds.
- Lots of help from the City at BLG in terms of funds, land, water, management of sprinklers but we had the advantage of already being an entity with members and framework.
- Huge compost area.
- Pollinator garden is central feature.
- Herb garden.
- Drip irrigation at all beds.
- Seedling starts have been amazing this year.
- All starts are edible. They sell many with proceeds going to the society. Others are given to schools for gardens.
- Seed sharing has been successful.
- With Covid, have had to drop volunteer numbers. Eight or so on site at once.
- Enjoying all the learning that can happen between groups. City partners with many learning programs at Beban Learning gardens and at Pine Street location—pruning, composting, bee pollination, growing etc. Led by Roots and Shoots and Connie Kuramoto.
- Extra food is shared among members and given to the social housing on Labieux and Uplands Roads
- Good relationships with adjacent VIEX BUGS garden members. Many members buy seedlings from them.
- Over all good relationship with Foodshare and other agencies in town. Seedlings go to their school programs too.
- Most volunteers have homes and yards for potential gardens (not apartment dwellers).
- They do not rent boxes. All food goes to the collective.

- Appreciated City support to get the infrastructure in, and the 10- year agreement. Shorter would be hard.

## **2. What opportunities do you see to grow more, and where?**

- School sites—all school sites could have productive areas as well as closed schools.
- Neighbourhoods could take the gardens over in the summer and after hours.
- Create more community gardens, big or small, and encourage residents to participate in growing their own food at the community garden or at their home.
- Encourage and create a partnership/stewardship with the Block Watch owners in each community to create their own community garden by using the unused land or space, not necessarily a big one or big space.
- Creating or assigning some public space such as at the corner of a street or road, or along them where it is not suitable to build. Empty spaces could be used to be mini community garden or growing spaces.
- I think we at BLG are fortunate to have the Beban location available for our community garden:
  - For education purposes (many face-to-face courses on vegetable growing when that was still possible were held at Beban).
  - Providing day-to-day practical training for new and on-going volunteers (in conjunction with members of the Vancouver Island Master Gardeners Association).
  - For direct growing of food (vegetables and berries for our members and for the Food Bank and the Labieux Homeless Shelter).
  - By producing vegetable starts we assist in having Nanaimoites grow some of their own food.
  - Some of our members also work in other community gardens so their knowledge and the starter plants BLG produces are a valuable start to producing more food locally.
- One of the advantages of the Beban site vs the former site at the Waste Treatment Plant on Hammond Bay is the proximity to the Farmers' Market and the space at our location for selling our starter plants directly (P & B: do we need to leave this out?). This proximity allows customers to come to both sites and pick up vegetable starts in the same trip.
- Re: growing food in publicly owned land:
  - The one idea that came to mind was having the City Council give a bonus to the owners, with a reduced municipal tax rate on land/property which has been turned into gardens and food-growing land.
  - Could be an incentive to some, and result in more local food production.

### **3. What opportunities do you see for better resourcing, partnering, and networking?**

- City could market the garden and all the items they showcase more.
- Would like to see the City focussing on larger scale food security issues and potential for larger operations (incentives etc.).
- More networking between groups for collaboration and communication—even once a year.
- Improve the directory of community gardens (currently City and NCGS have one).
- At our present location as well as the NGSC Pine Street facility, there is room to grow much more than we currently produce.
  - In non-Covid times we can also handle more volunteers and possibly have more than one work session/week. However the key volunteers are fully occupied with the BLG project as it stands.
  - Further outreach and more work sessions would require a paid position. While we have in the past had a paid coordinator, the limited funds available did not make this an attractive position. Hence it is difficult to recruit suitable candidates.

### **4. What gaps and challenges do you see?**

- Drainage is a problem at the Beban site. So is wind.
- Greenhouse can be very hot in the summer.
  - Unbearable even with fans.
- Volunteer coordination is a lot of work.
  - Would like to pay a greenhouse coordinator.
- The Society could grow with interest among other volunteers however, they need capacity to coordinate and manage volunteers as well.
- Volunteers are aging (70ish) and need succession planning.
- Request for more Saturday events so that those who work can also join in.
- City water is seasonal and is turned off in the winter, however, they store water for winter season use in the greenhouse.
- Critters at the greenhouse/learning gardens site.
  - Mitigating rabbits, squirrels, birds and rats in many creative ways.
- Vandalism and constant struggle with people breaking into to facilities.
- Drug paraphernalia on site.
- Human feces on site.
- Break-ins are a challenge for us.
- No matter how much food can be grown by citizens at home or in community gardens, it won't come close to being enough.

- We need to make sure there is good land and encouragement provided to small-scale growers in and around the City and the means to sell it.
- So farmers' markets need to be supported.
- The three main issues for us are:
  - Frequent break-ins with loss of tools and damage to our structures.
  - Use of our shelters (tool & storage areas) by homeless sleepers. If they were just sleeping there... but we have to deal with the human waste, needles, etc.
  - Lack of secure funding to continue with ongoing projects as well as starting new projects.

## **5. What areas/priorities should the City focus on in the next ten years?**

- Assist in construction of outdoor cover and learning area.
  - Quotes have come in very high.
  - Now using Home Depot 10 by 10 shelters.
  - Facilities has offered to help.
  - Potential grant from City too.
- Facilitate networking between various producing groups
- Help to facilitate more food security in private land, on City owned ALR and properties, and with school district and big land owners
- Small community gardens could be located on school grounds.
- Should encourage formation of at least one in every neighbourhood...maybe a start-up amount through PIP.
- If the City is concerned about food security then financial support for projects such BLG and additional space for additional community gardens is required.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Food Production in Public Places – FOODSHARE
Date/Time:	▪ 12 / 10 / 2020
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Parks Planner, PRC</li> <li>▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC</li> <li>▪ Social Planner, CofN</li> <li>▪ Executive Director, Foodshare</li> <li>▪ Secretary, Foodshare</li> <li>▪ Outreach and Healthy Food Skills Co-ordinator, Foodshare</li> <li>▪ Board Member, Foodshare</li> </ul>

### *Introduction:*

Parks Planner provided general overview of REIMAGINE NANAIMO, including summary of existing initiatives. General agreement that food production on public land has taken on greater prominence in recent years.

### **Listening to You.**

#### **1. What is working well to facilitate the growth of local food on publicly owned land? At 933 Park and other locations.**

- Partnership to purchase Five Acre farm as well as East Wellington Consultation / Agricultural Assessment seen as positive experiences over the past couple years.
- Strong partnership with City and feel like things are going in a good direction.
- Social prescriptions - good food box with island health
- Use of the Kline Farm and potential expansion there in operations. Just put in fridges for cold storage.

#### **2. What opportunities do you see to grow more and where? East Wellington? Other locations?**

- Could there be a discounted rate for lower-scale agricultural production?
- A longer-term lease for the Park Avenue Farm would help us with decisions around investing in that land (gates, water lines etc.)
- What funding is there to support these initiatives? (Staff - Partners in Parks have been supporting various initiatives for community gardens. But with specific parks plans like

Five Acres and East Wellington, when it goes to Council there would be an implementation budget that would be earmarked in the capital plan for that infrastructure.)

- Staff - Potential for Five Acres Farm plan to be explored in the spring, there needs to be further analysis on land use opportunities to ensure that the housing is appropriately placed.
- Green Plan has done some preliminary analysis on the Five Acre Farm.
- What about an agricultural assessment of the whole City to see what lands might be supportive of agriculture, including park land? We need to know what the potential is to know where we can be successful/making progress.
- Staff - We need more information about the soil as well.
- Surrey has done this type of work on every plot every two acres (KPU). Doing deep analysis for East Wellington Park cost \$18K – but we could look at using student at VIU who are doing GIS studies. MABRI

### ***3. What opportunities do you see for better resourcing, partnering, and networking?***

- What about providing access to water for school gardens in the summer (when taps are generally turned off).
- More partnership between school and City to facilitate access to water for gardens.
- Lots of partnership opportunities between VIU, local volunteers, City and schools – especially for agricultural assessments and mapping.
- Foodshare looking at potential to purchase 47 acre Klein Farm which would really add to agricultural assets – will approach City when time is right.
- Habitat for salmon spawning needs to be cultivated in partnership with First Nations
- What would it mean to do seafood harvest in a way that is restorative?
- Lots of opportunities for public education re: individual food production, community gardens, etc. There were some lost opportunities due to COVID
- Seedy Sunday – date may be moved and could include more of that public education component.
- Staff - Could be part of “recreation prescription” – Actually, Foodshare is already part of “Social Prescription” program with the hospital!
  - Foodshare interested in farming East Wellington and Klein Farms in collaboration with VIU, both properties have great potential.
- Importance of school gardens.
- What about giving a break on the water cost for agricultural uses/non-profits?
- Having a food lands lens on all planning.
- More food literacy in the community.
- Food lens on procurement policies.

- Having developer incentives and CAC toward productive spaces in private developments.
- City subsidizing activities like they do arenas and pools.
- Edible landscapes for everyone and clear communication about where and how to access (mushrooms etc.).

#### **4. *What gaps and challenges do you see?***

- Inserting more policy supporting food production into OCP, PRC Master Plan, climate strategy, economic development strategy, water services strategy and other plans would be helpful (eve Lawson report)
- The approval process for developing things like new greenhouses has been a barrier at the Park Ave Farm.
- Longer-term lease for Park Ave Farm would help facilitate planning
- Maintenance of things like food forests is always a challenge—agreements need to be clear
- Cost of city water. Consider an agricultural rate
- Access to water
- The Good Food Box is not always reaching the people who need it the most – could the City help with connecting Foodshare with low income individuals and families?
- Dogs having access to ALR land—not supportive
- Food processing and other regional issues related to food

#### **5. *What Areas/Priorities Should the City Focus on in the Next Ten Years?***

- Identifying opportunities for increased food production through a comprehensive agricultural assessment.
- Food value policies. Food access is just as important to recreational access.
- Food skill development could be more of an emphasis in the City’s activity guide.
- It would be really helpful to have one point person at the City who has food security as a key part of their role so they can focus on fostering all these great opportunities (agricultural and food literacy files need staff capacity!)
- Let’s put agriculture and food production at the same level as support and recreational opportunities, and could help to alleviate social problems by providing positive outlets for youth, employment, improved nutrition, etc.
- Some key economic opportunities include SPIN agricultural, urban farming – it could be a great incubator for young farmers!
- Developer Community Contribution options should include food forests and community gardens to help Neighbourhood Associations see that the interest is in overall community well-being.



- Secure agricultural land use as a priority through policy in OCP & PRC Master Plan as well as climate change strategy.
- Overall food system assessment would be highly valuable, esp. as related to food processing. Could be at the RDN scale.
- Additional staff members focussed on food as part of their portfolio. Or the entire portfolio.

Extra info from Kamloops Food Policy Council

[http://ckfoodpolicy.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/MunicipalTable\\_Dec20.pdf](http://ckfoodpolicy.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/MunicipalTable_Dec20.pdf)



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Health/Wellness – LONG LAKE PHYSIO
Date/Time:	▪ 12 / 07 / 2020
Name of Note taker:	▪ Manager of Recreation, PRC
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Long Lake Physio (one participant)

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Facilities and Amenities

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Nanaimo has numerous recreational parks pocketed throughout our city.
- Sway-a-lana is our outdoor gathering space.
  - Central.
  - Accessible.
  - Enjoyed by all demographics/cultures within our City.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing?

- Is the distribution of these parks representative of population distribution?
- Can we do a better job of highlighting and sharing our neighbourhood gems (like promoting the Seabold stairs on Instagram)?
- Connecting the waterfront path to Departure Bay would be momentous.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the NOW to the WOW?

- Think bigger, build it and the people will come.
  - Westwood Lake has outgrown its parking lot.
  - In 10 years can we have community rail system, hop on hop off connecting our north and south ends?
- Please consider improving the amphitheatre at Swy-a-Lana to better exhibit the performers and enhance viewing.



## **2. Programs and Services**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation programs and services in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- I appreciate that municipal gyms have difficulty competing with the large national chain gyms.
  - The weight room at the NAC and Beban are less intimidating and have fewer barriers for seniors and those new to the fitness world.
  - Please don't underestimate their value.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Outdoor Fitness – MODEL AIRS
Date/Time:	▪
Name of Note taker:	▪ Parks Planner, PRC
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Parks Planner, PRC ▪ Model Airs Club (one participant)

## Discussion Questions

### **1. What is working well?**

- The two pilots' sites are working well this year (Third Street and Elaine Hamilton Park).
- New signage is helping.

### **2. What are the challenges?**

- Rules from feds change regularly re: flyers.
- Must recertify fields with MAAC (Model Aeronautics Association of Canada) annually. Going through that now.
- Covid has put a damper on the Club. Less active flying and less participation from members.
- Many people still fly without going through the Club, on unsanctioned fields, with no permissions or MAAC insurance. Liability for the City.
- Went to pick up washroom/storage keys. Only got one not the requested three and it was a communication challenge between four people for the user. Difficult to access.
- Need more promotion of the pilot sites from the City of Nanaimo.
- Social media etc.

### **3. What are your priorities/goals?**

- Would like to have the two current fields made permanent.
- Would like another site (like East Wellington Park) that is expansive and away from aircraft (floatplanes, helicopters and airport) to fly all devices (drones, small flyers and large gas engine planes).
- Would like more members to join as promotion is increased and more people are flying and as City bylaws are updated/enforced.
- Would like comfort amenities added (bench/picnic tables) at hubs at each site for flyers, as well as consistent access to storage/washrooms.
- Would like to be involved in more proactive communications in the community and sharing programs with youth/school for flying.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Outdoor Sports - NANAIMO DISC GOLF CLUB
Date/Time:	▪ 25 / 11 / 2020
Name of Facilitator:	▪ Parks Planner, PRC
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Parks Planner, PRC</li> <li>▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC</li> <li>▪ NDGC Treasurer</li> <li>▪ NDGC Members (two participants)</li> </ul>

### ***Introduction:***

The Nanaimo Disc Golf Club was formed over 10 years ago and recently became a not-for-profit society.

Nanaimo Disc Golf Club (NDGC) has seven board members, over 60 members, and over 700 Facebook members.

### ***Discussion:***

The mission of the NDGC is to:

- Promote the development of disc golf and other disc activities through organization, cooperation, and competition.
- Be responsible for all course-related matters, such as future planning, course improvement, course design, basket placement, and local tournaments in the Nanaimo Regional District.
- Serve as a working partner with the City of Nanaimo on all disc golf course related issues and activities.
- Organize and coordinate the efforts of member volunteers to increase the quality and quantity of disc activities in Nanaimo.
- Provide information on disc golf and other disc-related activities.
- Educate its members and the community on the benefits and joy of “disc play”.
- Emphasize safety by encouraging all players to ensure, as is best possible, that other park users are clear of potential disc flight paths before throwing.



The NDGC host several family events throughout the year that include:

- Weekly events such as Monday Blues, Handicap League, Sunday Doubles, Ladies Night, Glow-in-the-dark League.
- Education, school programs, youth clinics, novice clinics (NDGC provides the necessary equipment).
- Park clean-up and maintenance.
- Course installation work parties.
- Tournaments.
- AGM Bag Tag Finals.

Discs are cheap and courses are open most of the time. So, very accessible sport to all ages.

### *Discussion Questions:*

#### **1. What is working well for your organization and with the Bowen Park course?**

- Bowen Park is a beautiful course and we know we are fortunate to be able to play there.
- The City of Nanaimo does a great job ensuring the park is well taken care of.
- We have had positive experiences dealing with the city in obtaining park permits, hut rentals, and course revisions.
- The partnership between NDGC and the City of Nanaimo worked out well when purchasing the nine new Innova Baskets that were installed in 2017.
- The City has been quick to react when danger trees and homeless encampments are identified.
- The course is known as one of the best public courses on Vancouver Island.

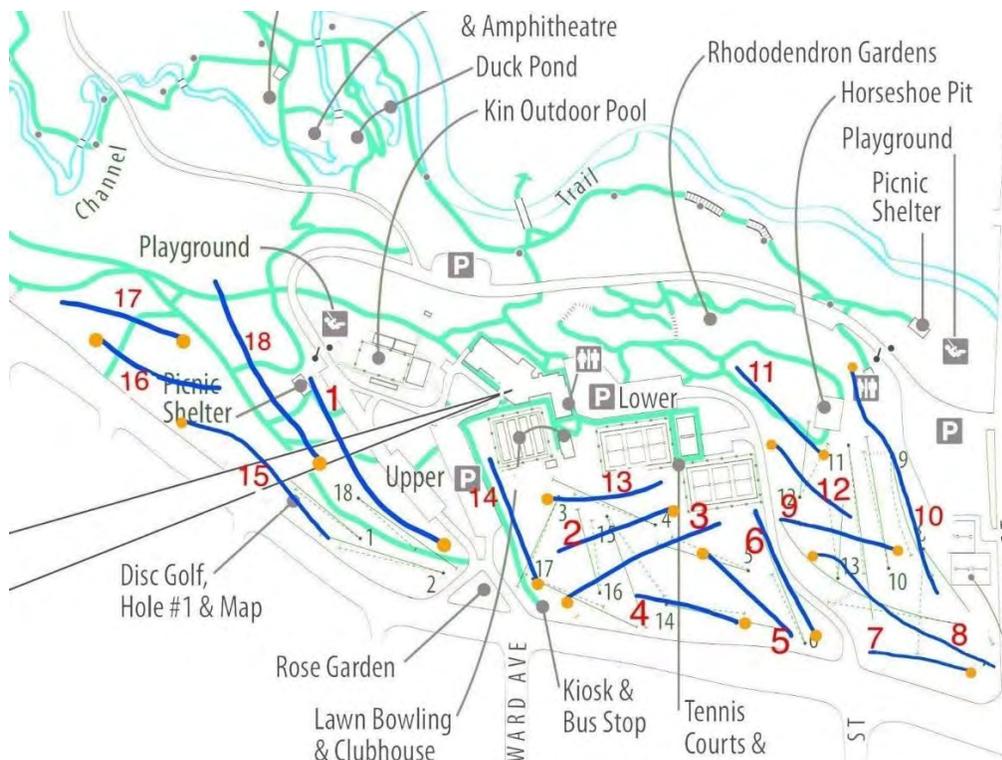
#### **2. What opportunities are there to help your organization or to improve the existing course?**

- As a disc golf community, we feel that Bowen Park would benefit from a course redesign for the following reasons:
  - A course redesign would improve the safety for disc golfers and others using the park.
  - Currently, there are holes that throw near or over Bowen Road, the volleyball courts, and other holes.
  - With a course redesign we can reduce the risk of others getting injured by an errant throw.
  - Utilizing the forested area behind current holes 1 and 18 would reduce the threat of a wildfire.

- Removing the ladder fuels on the larger trees would decrease the chances of a crown fire, also modifying the surface fuels would also decrease surface fire rates of spread.
- Bowen Park has seen an increase of homeless people using the park. In areas that are not being utilized these individuals are having fires, leaving large amounts of garbage and needles, and on occasion have threatened park users.
- It would allow the Nanaimo Disc Golf Club to host large scale disc golf events.
- The current par of 54 and the overall course length eliminates us from hosting A-tier professional level events.
- Being able to host these events would create a positive economic impact for local businesses and support other initiatives to create a vibrant local economy through tourism.
- New course requires some additional land area at Bowen Park. Possible to integrate with upcoming sewer project work.

### Course Designer/Professional Player

Chris Hartman of Innova Disc Golf is a professional course designer and has offered his service to help implement this project. The map below shows his redesign of the course. He recently designed a world class course, working closely with the City of Langley to install Raptors Knoll Disc Golf Course. <https://www.rkdiscgolfpark.com/>



### **3. *Would you like to see additional facilities in the future?***

- Nanaimo would greatly benefit from adding more courses around Nanaimo. In the short term, we would like to see a short and technical course added.
  - The NDGC currently has 18 unused baskets that are available to install at another public course.
  - A few clubs from around the province have worked with their local communities to install courses following Fire Smart principles including thinning and pruning of trees, removing ground fuels, and placing educational signs around the park.
  - The work is completed by volunteers so there would be minimal cost to the city and we are also protecting the community. Maine Island is a perfect example of this.
  - A long term goal for the NDGC and the City of Nanaimo would be to build a course like Raptors Knoll in Langley, which offers a well-designed challenge for players of all abilities (Greenfield site—approximately \$300,000).
- Bowen course needs to be brought to modern standards.
  - This will enhance safety and also address advances in new discs.
- Sites discussed include Beaufort Park (precedent to help with safety issues), GNWD, Linley Valley, RDN landfill, Third Street, Colliery Dam. Need to be low conflict areas.
- Need three national level sites within close proximity for nationals.
  - Need some parking.
- Most golfers stick to local sites and then destination travel.
- New course can be archived for under \$30,000.
- New sites also take the pressure off Bowen.

### **4. *Are there any trends in your sport that we should know about?***

- Disc golf has not just grown here in Nanaimo, but internationally.
  - According to the Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA), disc golf is the fastest growing sport in the world.
  - In the last few years in Nanaimo we have nearly doubled our Facebook members and NDGC membership.
  - Our last two hosted PDGA tournaments have sold out 72 spots in less than 10 minutes.
  - Bowen Park has had a huge influx of new players since the start of the Covid Pandemic.
  - Disc manufacturers and distributors are having a difficult time keeping up with the recent demand.
- Discs have changed (better, go further) so Bowen course needs upgrades to follow suit.
- With Covid there are waiting times at tees.
- Parks are busier in general (more conflicts).
- Club insurance has problems with safety issues at Bowen now for events.
- New course at Pryde Vista Golf Course.



- Course being developed on Crown land in Doumont gravel pit.
- Some rough course elements off Jameson
- Opportunities to develop sites in conjunction with fire smart projects and also access fire smart funding.

## **5. *What gaps and challenges do you see?***

Getting access to more land for additional courses. The relationship has been great with the City for the most part, but it can improve.

- Need three courses in close proximity to have national tournaments.
- Setting a few dates a year where we meet with City staff and discuss what changes or maintenance projects need to be completed would benefit the park.
  - A couple examples are, one: we have requested by email to get wood chips for Bowen this spring so we can spread in wet areas to limit the amount of compaction and provide park users with dry areas to play from. We have not received any response from the City.
- Second example is the Club purchased additional basket holders when we bought the new baskets in 2017 and they still have not been installed.
  - Having the ability to move baskets is important for compaction and changing the layout for player enjoyment.
  - We would also greatly appreciate it if we could be included when the City is planting or removing trees from the park, both have major implications on the disc golf course.
  - We have Danger Tree Assessors, Foresters, Tree Planters and Fallers that are part of the club and would provide valuable input.
- City could help promote and get the word out about events, coaching, free discs, etc. via social media and the activity guide.
- Discussed the key at the Bowen front desk to add info to the Bowen bulletin board.

## **6. *What priorities should the City focus on in the next few years?***

The appeal of disc golf to people from all walks of life cannot be overestimated. The improvements to the Bowen course and the introduction of additional courses on available land will provide the people of Nanaimo easy access to outdoor recreation at a low cost to the City.

- Ultimately, public courses at Bowen and Doumont in central Nanaimo, additional courses in the south (Extension area), and the north (Nanose Bay) would make Nanaimo a disc golf destination for players from near and far.
- Upgrades to the Bowen course (redesign) - shooting for 2021
- At least three courses in the Nanaimo region so that they can host national tournaments
- New courses—possible sites include Beaufort Park, Linley Valley, GNWD, Colliery as well as some in the RDN (Doumont, Kipp Road, Nanose, landfill closure etc.). Rule of thumb



is one acre of land per hole. Lotus Pinnatus and Third Street were also mentioned as potential sites.

- Courses can be integrated on sites trying to achieve fire smart goals, but need to be relatively user conflict free (especially bikes)
- Youth program starting in January with PRC
- Cross promotion with City re coaching, free discs, events, etiquette etc.
- Develop Use Agreement to clarify roles.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Parks – NANAIMO DIVE ASSOCIATION
Date/Time:	▪ 14 / 12 / 2020
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Parks Planner, PRC
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Parks Planner, PRC ▪ Nanaimo Dive Association (one participant)

### *Introduction:*

Introduction to ReImagine process.

## Discussion Questions

### **1. What is working well to facilitate Scuba?**

- Love using Neck Point Park - book for the Club every New Years'.
  - At least three dive shops use Neck Point as a teaching location.
  - At least five good dives for various difficulty levels at Neck Point Park (Finn Beach, Neck - 70 feet drop to mud bottom).
  - Access to dive sites at the neck of Neck Point is difficult (gate and still carry gear from accessible parking area).
- Some people also enter the water at Kin Beach - Departure Bay, and do shore dive in the Departure Bay harbour - but diversity is less there compared to Neck Point.
  - However, Departure Bay has old bottles and other cool finds.
  - Also can access the area around Jesse Island with good dives.

### **2. What opportunities do you see for improvements?**

- Parks in other municipalities are putting in amenities for divers.
  - Whyte Cliff Park in West Vancouver is a good example with toilets/change area.
  - It also has a ramp for divers with disabilities.
- Nanoose Parks (Blueback Drive Community Park) have small toilets, change area surround and signage for divers.
- Change areas, toilets, places to sit and warm up, special info signage for divers etc.

### **3. What gaps and challenges do you see?**

- Increase in disturbance/degradation at dive sites.
- Could have more educational signage to inform people about the underwater wonders and preserving it (leave no trace, only bubbles etc.).
- Access into sites - Dive gear is heavy.

### **4. What areas/priorities should the city focus on in the next ten years?**

- City could focus on the awesome dives at Neck Point as a tourism focus for sports tourism.
  - More accessible than the wreck dives which require boats to access.
- Need a change room at Neck Point to facilitate dive use.
  - We talked about the new washroom being constructed and potential addition of change option.
- Would be great if access could be improved at Neck Point - cart system to carry gear, easier gate access to secondary accessible parking etc.





Precedent Images (blueback community park amenities--rdn)



Precedent image of Whytcliff change area.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Parks – DOGS IN PARKS / DOG OFF-LEASH AREAS
Date/Time:	▪ 10 / 12 / 2020 ▪ By Email
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Parks Planner, PRC
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Parks Planner, PRC ▪ Nanaimo Animal Control Services, Pound and Adoption Co-ordinator (one participant)

### *Introduction:*

Introduction to ReImagine process.

### *General Information:*

- Animal Control now focusses on the top 20 parks. They used to get out of the vehicle and walk parks. Now they drive by small neighbourhood parks.
- There seems to be an overall upward trend of licensed dogs with populations in the City. A consultant recently conducted a study on animal control issues and found “The number of dog licences sold in the City has fluctuated somewhat over the past four years, from a low of 6,830 to a high of 8,960.”
- In parks, the ACOs use an educational approach, and issue either verbal or written warnings for first time violations. Whenever anyone is stopped with an off-leash dog or a dog in a prohibited place, the ACOs check for any history of parks violations. If there's none, the person will generally get a warning. If the person has been warned before, they will generally receive a Bylaw offence notice.

## Discussion Questions

### 1. What is working well, or not well, with dogs in parks?

#### On-Leash Only Areas – Hot Spots:

- **East Wellington Park:**
  - This park is a hot spot for off-leash dogs.

- Since the City undertook the review of this park and floated the idea of including an off-leash area, some people have become much more argumentative about enforcement here.
- They express that if an off-leash area is being considered for the future, they are entitled to ignore the current leash requirements.
- I do agree that this would be an appropriate location for an off-leash area if the City wishes to add one, however, at least some fencing will be required to protect the livestock residing on a couple of farms to the west of the park.
- We do occasionally have to respond to dogs running at large who have taken off on their owners from East Wellington Park and gone onto the farmer's properties.
- We have also had two incidents this year involving people's off-leash dogs becoming stuck in a creek that is in this park.
- **Pipers Lagoon:**
  - We receive many general leash complaints about Pipers Lagoon in the summer months.
  - Almost every complainant mentions lack of signage.
  - Specifically, they allege that the "No Dogs On The Beach" sign is only visible from one entry point to the beach.
- **Neck Point Park:**
  - Another spot with many off-leash complaints in the summer months.
- **Colliery Dam:**
  - Another hot spot for off-leash dogs all year round – this one is probably most significant for winter months as I feel that more locals use this park year round whereas the summer visitors account for some issues at Pipers and Neck Point.
  - People would really like to see more patrols here.
- **Westwood Lake Park:**
  - In the summer this park is attended to frequently in good weather due to numerous complaints about dogs on the beaches.
  - Dogs on the beaches is a more common issue than general no leash along the trail.
- **Linley Valley:**
  - We are receiving increasing numbers of no leash complaints about Linley Valley, presumably as the population grows in this area.
  - It is difficult to carry out enforcement here due to the numerous entry points and lovely long walking trails.
  - With more new construction in the area, I believe this park will continue to require increased attention.
- **Beban, Bowen, and May Bennett Parks:**
  - Areas where we do not receive many complaints from the public, but ACOs find them to be somewhat busy and good places for licence checks.
  - The compliance levels here in terms of leashes is moderate, but at May Bennett we do enforce the "no dogs on the sports fields" frequently.

- Patrols here are usually proactive.
- **Maffeo Sutton Park:**
  - Always busy, with lots of dogs, which makes it a great spot for licence checks.
  - We very rarely receive complaints about Maffeo Sutton.
  - We find the leash compliance rate here is very good, likely because it is such a busy urban area.
  - Patrols here are usually proactive.

#### **Existing Off-Leash Areas:**

- Animal Control doesn't attend the off-leash areas very often.
- Only for complaints of vicious dogs and prohibited breeds that don't have exemptions.

## **2. What opportunities do you see for Dog Off-Leash Parks?**

- Newcastle neighbourhood area – St. George has encampments now and it is hard for locals to use.
- Landfill closure – in Cedar in stages.
- South Nanaimo waterfront lands.
- Along the Waterfront Walkway.
- In the downtown core.
- Beach Estates Park.
- Departure Bay Beach – Battersea.
- East Wellington.
- Parkway Trail - in a section.
- Jack Point.
- Brannen Boat Launch in winter.
- Chase River.
- Consider Linley Valley.

## **3. What Gaps and Challenges do you see?**

- One significant issue in all the parks in general is that many dog owners are well aware that enforcement only occurs from 9:00 to 5:00, and does not occur on Sundays.
- People break the rules when they know they will not get caught.



**4. What areas/priorities should the city focus on in the next ten years?**

- Consider adding fencing at existing off-leash area at Pioneer Park.
- Having more off-leash facilities.
- Continuing more marketing of existing off-leash areas.
- Continue to have a variety of off-leash areas across the City of Nanaimo.
- Consider more signage and proactive education about the environmental and health impacts of dogs and respect of others (dog ambassador program again).

**5. Patrol Records**

- Carly provided Patrol records for 2019 and 2020.

<i>Timeframe</i>	<i>Patrols</i>	<i>Dogs encountered</i>	<i>Verbal warnings</i>	<i>Written warnings</i>	<i>Bylaw offence notice</i>	<i>License purchased through officer</i>
2019 (12 months)	2679	2887	281	205	76	67
2020 (Jan - Sept)	2101	2491	300	180	27	59



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Outdoor Recreation – MID ISLAND CLIMBERS
Date/Time:	▪ 12 / 04 / 2020
Note taker:	▪ Parks Planner, PRC
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Parks Planner, PRC ▪ Mid Island Climbers (one participant)

### *Introduction:*

- Created a new association 6 weeks ago to help collaborate with governments on climbing in parks.
- Guide book—Nanaimo Craggs.
- Climbers use the Yosemite decimal system—5.6-5.12.
- Climbers typically have a “leave no trace” ethic. Don’t like removing sensitive vegetation or leaving steel markers in pristine locations.
- Have been told by SAVE Linley Valley West folks not to create new routes in Linley Valley Park.
- Recently worked with RDN Parks for Nanaimo River climbing and Mount Benson Regional Park (Elaine McColloch).
- Good policies for climbing in Mount Benson Regional Park Plan and Smokey Bluffs Regional Park in Squamish (good guidelines for urban climbing and route development).
- BC Parks also has policies for climbing like Muren Park in Squamish and Skaha in Penticton.
- Bad policy examples in Crest Creek Craggs in Campbell River.
- No international standards for climbing route development (like IMBA).
- Lots of cross over between mountain bikers and rock climbers.
- Climbing is now in the Olympics.
- Lots of new climbers since Covid.
- Best to learn indoors at Romper Room. Romper Room occasionally has classes to help transition beginners to outside and Club could partner more with those.
- Best to expose kids at a young age. Many schools have indoor walls (like Stelley’s in Saanich).

## Discussion Questions

### **1. What opportunities do you see from Mid Island Climber's perspective that the City should be pursuing?**

- Interested in collaborating with the city—especially in Linley Valley Park.
- Linley Valley Park is the main climbing area within Nanaimo Parks.
- Other locations in Nanaimo are Nanaimo River (RDN and forest land), Lantzville Foothills, and Mount Benson Regional Park.

#### **Rutherford Ridge—49.221473 -124.005811**

- In Linley Valley Park.
- Park off Cougar Trail Road end (room for about four cars).
- Below the towers. Short walk in from parking location.
- Gorge extends about 400m—both in park and possibly along private property.
- Middle of the road for difficult (5.8-5.11).
  - No beginner routes.
  - Only novice-more advanced.
- Two other spots in Linley Valley Park are getting grown over now with moss and ferns.
  - Steel pins are still there.
  - Unsure if they should remove the vegetation and re-establish. Or if they should remove the steel pins.
  - They are less used because access is more limited.

#### **The Hood 49.223372 -124.000966**

- Crest wall.
- Off Linley valley drive?

#### **Loggers Lane—49.222136 -123.994312**

- Accessed off Tanya drive –600m walk
- Just outside Westwood Lake property. (Maybe DND)

#### **Westwood Ridges—49.155858 -124.013770**

- Also overgrown

#### **Outdoor infrastructure**

- Kent will check out the wall at Harewood Centennial Park.
- Interested in discussing more outdoor infrastructure in parks for beginners. Like new outdoor walls at Oliver Woods Park etc.

- Created a new association six weeks ago to help collaborate with governments on climbing in parks.
- Guide book—Nanaimo Crag.
- Climbers use the Yosemite decimal system—5.6-5.12.
- Climbers typically have a “leave no trace” ethic. Don’t like removing sensitive vegetation or leaving steel markers in pristine locations.
- Bad policy examples in Crest Creek Crag in Campbell River.

**2. *What challenges do you see from Mid Island Climber’s perspective that the City needs to address?***

- Have been told by SAVE Linley Valley West folks not to create new routes in Linley valley Park.
- No international standards for climbing route development (like IMBA).

**3. *What should the priorities be?***

- Mapping the existing locations.
- Collaborating on outdoor climbing locations in Linley Valley.
- Incorporating climbing policies into the Linley Valley Park Master Plan.







# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Outdoor Fitness – NANAIMO SKATEBOARD ASSOCIATION
Date/Time:	▪ 19 / 11 / 2020 ▪ 1:00 pm
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Parks Planner, PRC
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Parks Planner, PRC ▪ Active Transportation Project Specialist, PRC ▪ Nanaimo Skateboard Association (NSA) (one participant)

### *Introduction:*

Introductions done by Kirsty, who introduced the ReImagine project, and presented the overview and PowerPoint.

## Discussion Questions

### **1. What challenges do you see from Nanaimo Skateboard Association’s perspective that the City needs to address?**

- Bylaw 5000
  - Skateboarding is illegal in Nanaimo
  - History of tickets
  - When it rains, skaters are kicked out of covered areas like empty parkades.
- Harewood Youth Park is a success for intergenerational space.
  - However, so many tots there.
  - There is no skills park for young riders to learn and no lessons.
  - Lessons are a common request from parents and PRC.
- Skatepark never replaced on the waterfront from Maffeo-Sutton Square Redevelopment.
- Skateboard Association began in 2001. Ebbed and flowed over the years.
  - Jordan is the key person now. Jordan helped with Harewood Youth Park for free, as a skateboard expert, several times per week.
  - Compensation considerations for time/expertise.
  - NSA has also been asked to teach for PRC but needs \_\_\_\_\_ and capacity.
  - Average age of skaters is approximately 31 (not kids).

## **2. What opportunities do you see from Nanaimo Skateboard Association's perspective that the City should be pursuing?**

- Two types of skating – street and park.

Although new skate parks are great, skaters only need simple materials.

- Planters
- Build in curbs along trails/parking areas
- Simple skateable features integrated into public spaces
- Double purpose features

NSA will send examples of public space that's skateable from around the world.

- Easy to integrate metal into public art to make skateable.

Active transportation:

- Consistent surface (no concrete expansion joints)
- \_\_\_\_\_ bike lanes
- Ride on sidewalks
- VIU/Old City/downtown focus
- Victoria is a great example of integrated routes.
  - Skateboards have been added to the bike lane signs.
  - Width of bike lanes is a consideration.
  - Challenges include bikes being faster than boards, leaves and rocks on path.
- Train tracks are not skateable.
- Add rails/curbs into E & N Trail for skating.
- Skaters liked older recycled plastic long stops.
- Skaters mostly bike/drive to facilities/areas to skate now.
- Potential integration with micromobility hub.
  - People are more likely to use skateboards as a form of transportation in higher density neighbourhoods.
- Stewart Avenue is the area perceived as being the most widely used.

## **3. What should the priorities be?**

- Build learning facility for small kids similar to mountain bike skills park.
  - Use of small kids at existing parks is unsafe.
- Programs to teach kids as well as facilities.
- Establish indoor skate facility.
- NSA would love to have indoor program/space like Courtenay. (The LINC Youth Centre).



- NSA is trying to start indoor skate rights at Beban Centennial Building.
- 28 attendees the first night with no advertising.
- Establish public art features that are skateable. NSA to send examples.
- Lights at Harewood Youth Park.
  - It's so busy and need for more use.
  - Conduit is there already. Have volunteers to help out with install.
- Long term, would also like a cover at Harewood Youth Park.
- Need compensation for volunteers/teachers on future projects.
- Skateboarding transportation safety and convenience issues: hills; rocks, leaves, pebbles, sand, railway tracks, sidewalk score lines, cobblestones.

#### **FOLLOW-UP**

- ▶ Development on Nicol Street details
- ▶ Locate old skate elements from Maffeo
- ▶ Demographic info share



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Parks/Transportation – TRAILS AND ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION
Date/Time:	▪ 2/ 12 / 2020, 7:00 pm
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Parks Planner, PRC
<b>Participating Groups / Individuals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Active Transportation Project Specialist, PRC</li> <li>▪ Parks Planner, PRC</li> <li>▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC</li> <li>▪ Manager, Parks Operations, PRC</li> <li>▪ Slowpokes Member</li> <li>▪ Lead of Walking Groups for Nanaimo Family Life</li> <li>▪ MVA, Triathlon and GIS</li> <li>▪ Kids Cycling Courses on Road</li> <li>▪ Active Commuter and Park Advocate</li> <li>▪ Active Commuter and Outdoor Enthusiast</li> <li>▪ Urban Planner Graduate, wrote thesis on e-bikes and Cycle Advocate, Bike Mechanic</li> <li>▪ Friends of Rails to Trails</li> <li>▪ Slowpokes and Rider</li> <li>▪ Tourism and Active Cyclist</li> <li>▪ Road Cyclist, Commuter, Mountain Biker</li> </ul>

### *Introduction:*

Welcome and What is Reimagine Nanaimo and the process? Powerpoint presentation.

### *Listening to you:*

#### **1. What is working well with the City’s trail and active transportation system?**

- Trails - growing number of trails.
- Commitment by volunteers and trail building, NMBC.
- Strong volunteer base.
- New stairs at Blueback are great.
- Partnerships with community groups and PRC.
- E & N trail - safe and n/s collector.
  - Good width for now.
  - Backbone of the system.

- Piecemeal development - new sections of new bike lanes, sidewalks and trail are done right even if they are not complete.
- Parkway Trail rehab is helping - safer asphalt where completed.
- HF walkway has many great features including beauty and lighting. Great route for walking and other modes.
- Noticeable progress over time (last 30 years) in trails and bike lane systems.
- Boundary bike route is really great.
- Biking in the community is growing - Growth in cycling and e-bikes.
- More lanes also help to educate drivers about multi-use on roads.
- Mountain bike trails system is fantastic - within and outside Nanaimo limits.
- Diversity of features and types of trails.
- Downtown is quite walkable.
- Snow plowing E and N Trail and other major routes helps so much. Please maintain this service.

## ***2. What opportunities do you see for improvements?***

- Access to beauty and natural features in Nanaimo from trails and public waterfront.
- Link more with destinations and lens of a tourist.
- Narrow roads for cars and give more space to bikes and pedestrians where possible.
- Safe routes to school and teaching kids to walk/cycle safely at a young age.
- Stewart cycle lanes and waterfront walkway extension are number 1 for tourism. Link from ferries to downtown on foot/cycle is very important - especially Departure Bay to downtown.
- Multi-modal routes can have conflicts.
  - E and N Trail is not wide enough to accommodate all speeds and uses.
  - Need parallel routes or expansion.
  - Bend Oregon example.
- With new subdivisions, continue to think of bike use i.e.) Fleming Place has a poor road design that precludes bikes.
- So many more people getting into e-bikes and biking in general. New market and user group.
- Create more separated bike lane.
- More lighting on main routes to increase use, safety and comfort.
- Council should consider creating an active transportation committee. The committee could commit to measurable goals and monitor progress in getting more people out of cars.
- Connect more with the RDN, CRD, Lantzville and cohesively plan for residents and tourism.
- Look at the province's active transportation study. E and N Trail mentioned there to convert from rail to rec.

- PIMA County in Arizona has free bike safety course info. i.e. have a bell and use it!
- Get more bike safety into schools and teach kids to be bikers for life.
- Create trails on unused corridors like Arbutus Corridor in Vancouver. Like on E and N Trail corridor
- Bike co-op for kids so that vulnerable kids can access bikes.

### **3. *What gaps and challenges do you see? What's not working well?***

- Lack of connections to the E and N Trail and other infrastructure.
- Piecemeal development is hard for tourism driver and also to change behaviors.
- Educate drivers on safety for bikes on the road.
- Conflicts between walkers and bike users as well as e bikes/heavy scooters on many routes.
- Need more racks and end of trail/trip facilities.
- E and N Trail needs lights
- Third Street area trails need lights to facilitate commuting to VIU.
- Landscaping challenges where roots are coming through i.e.) Galaxy Motors, Bluebird Hotel. Also discussion about not using herbicides to control volunteer vegetation on trail edges.
- Buttertubs does not allow bikes but is a great commuter route.
- Create corridors that connect to key destinations rather than drive to trailhead to walk/run/cycle.
- Better link transit to active transportation routes for usability and tourism.
- Signage, mapping and amenities.
- Wayfinding Signage on the waterfront walkway is lacking—especially where it goes onto Stewart Avenue in places, and to the ferry.
- DND, Mosaic Lands are so desirable but not within the City domain.
- Crosswalk at Townsite/Stewart very dangerous.
  - Four lanes of traffic and fast drivers.
  - Safety issues deter walkers.
- Distinguish between e-bikes and large scooters in rules (scooters are very heavy and scary if colliding with).
- Maintenance on the stoplight sensors i.e.) Prideaux/Comox.
  - When there is a problem with a sensor, what's the procedure to report issues?
- Roundabouts can make cycle right-of-way clear if designed properly. However, Rutherford roundabout is unclear for cycling.
- Walk and bike routes to schools are often disconnected so kids get driven instead of using active transportation.
- Improved connections to Commercial Centers and then having safe storage for all sizes of bikes.

- Connection streets between cul de sacs where there are no connections. Expropriate etc. to connect with trails.
- Encourage safe routes for family riding (like Galloping Goose). Waterfront walkway and E and N Trail are the primary family friendly routes here.
- Parkway Trail was poorly planned (grade, roots, improper base under asphalt). Riding now adds so much time for commuting.
- Wayfinding. How do you get to E and N Trail from Parksville? E and N wayfinding signage needs work on both ends.
- Why no bike lanes in the new Westwood/Jinglepot intersection?
- Time it takes to continue trails, like Madsen Road. Silly to dead-end with no signs in the interim.
- Money often goes into parking lots rather than building better trails and connectors. Would be better to re-prioritize funding i.e.) Mount Benson trailhead.
- Sidewalks and trails don't always connect. I.e.) Buttertubs trail system to Rotary Fieldhouse on Third Street do not connect by sidewalk. Third Street sidewalk is on the other side of the road.
- Snow clearing - piles are thrown onto sidewalks and it's impossible to use active transportation.
- Owners should have to maintain hedges and brush into sidewalk clearance/width.
- Etiquette - cyclists should let walkers know they are coming (bells etc.).
- Conflicts in narrow space with multiple users.
- Electronic crossing signals are better than hard push ones.
- More secured bike parking is needed (like bike racks like VIU and Nanaimo Aquatic Centre).
- Bike and trail system connection out to Duke Point Ferry.
  - Safe route from City system to the Duke Point highway.
  - Safe, well-marked cycle connections into town from both ferry terminals is very important for tourism.
- Bowen Road is unsafe for kids getting to Quarterway School. Kids would like to ride from Hawthorne area if there was a better route.
  - Safer routes would help encourage more kids to commute and get out of the car.
- Park and rides and/or partnerships for park and rides would help to encourage more biking. Need to be more than three-hour parking spots.
- Parking for bike valets.
- Aulds/Rutherford Mall/Old Highway to Parkway—lack of connected routes and sidewalks.
- Many shared cycling signs have worn off and have not been repainted or maintained.
- Some sections of the Parkway are still very dangerous (near Chase River) need maintenance and new asphalt/root mitigation.
- Multi-modal routes (like Hammond Bay) have blind corners and cyclists could hit pedestrians so easily. Water curbs don't allow cyclists to move quickly onto a safe space.

- Signage to key features from trails (like Colliery Dam waterfall adjacent to the Parkway Trail).
- More safe routes to school are needed to encourage more kids/families to get out of cars at an early age.
- Stevie Smith Bike Park—need more emphasis on safety at Stevie Smith and Skills Park (first aid attendant and coaching).
- Join E and N Trail to waterfront trail and continue E and N Trail to Woodgrove.
- More education for the general population about initiatives, driver etiquette, bike lane etiquette, who yields etc.
- Would be nice to link Colliery Dam to the former GNWD lands through a formal trail.

**4. What is your biggest priority for the trail and active transportation system? What one thing would make the biggest impact?**

- Where volume dictates, widen trails and separate user types where there is conflict.
- E and N Trail extension.
- More connectivity and signage.
- Communication between users and City staff and various municipalities/governments in the region.
- Snow clearing for pedestrians.
- Clear seawall connection to the Departure Bay Ferry Terminal to get tourists downtown.
- Finish the walkway from downtown to the ferry.
- Safe bike lockup at destinations.
- Rail trail from Comox to Victoria.
- Who are the users that need the most help - vulnerable and those who don't have a car? The active transportation system serves them and they need to be considered.
- Teach kids to safely move from sidewalk to street and facilitate them to walking/riding to school.
- Land use - denser developments at key locations.
- Safety audit of major corridors and look for quick fixes i.e. Hammond Bay Road at Cottle Creek on narrow bridge.

Follow-up info that was shared:

- The City's "Report a Problem or Concern" tool:  
<https://www.nanaimo.ca/transportation-mobility/report-a-problem-or-concern>
- [Light up the Night Holiday Bike Ride](#) coming Dec 12
- Projects in progress:
  - [Metral Drive Complete Street Project](#)
  - [Stewart Ave Complete Street Corridor](#)
  - [Georgia Greenway Phase 2](#)



- [Front Street Transportation Improvements Project](#)
- [Bowen Park – Trailway and Utility Upgrades](#)
- [Waterfront Walkway](#)
- In collaboration with the School District and other local agencies, the City of Nanaimo is in the final stages of developing an “Active School Travel Guide” focussed on empowering more school children to use active transportation to get to school. Stay tuned ☺
- The Parks, Recreation and Culture [Activity Guide](#) often includes cycling safety and maintenance lessons.
- Updates to the Parks Recreation and Culture Master Plan will include many new trail initiatives for walking and cycling, identify new land acquisition for future projects and gap connections, and continue ongoing rehab work to the Parkway Trail (which was never designed for commuting). Among many initiatives will be an active transportation corridor along the Millstone River.
- City has partnered with several agencies to draft a sport tourism strategy. The strategy does focus on biking.
- Bikes are allowed on the special wider sidewalks along Third Street and Mostar (red stamped concrete) to connect to Parkway and E and N Trails.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Seniors Stakeholders – NANAIMO FOODSHARE
Date/Time:	▪ 24 / 11 / 2020
Name of Note taker:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC ▪ Nanaimo Foodshare

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Facilities and Amenities

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for senior’s populations, you, or your user groups?

- Having a gathering place specific to seniors is great for the community.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make seniors recreation in Nanaimo amazing?

- Facilities in South Nanaimo for people in Cassidy, Cedar, etc. to facilitate people in those areas especially for those seniors who cannot get to Bowen or facilities in North Nanaimo.
- Facility that has food court, food services for seniors.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the NOW to the WOW?

- Have recreation services integrate with other health services.
- Having food resource services for those who cannot cook for themselves, education on nutrition.
- Having a place to eat/cook together.

## **2. Programs and Services**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation programs and services in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for senior's populations, you, or your user groups?

- Drop in social event for seniors in Bowen Park (Lobby social group).

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve seniors, you or your user groups?

- Opportunity for seniors to get mental health, doctors services in recreation facilities.
- More social drop-in programs for seniors who wish to have social interaction.
- Having indigenous culture included into programs, (weaving, food).
- Facilitating people who are hearing impaired. (large events that have noise reducing earphones available).

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking seniors recreation programs and services from the NOW to the WOW?

- Provide better nutritional options for seniors when taking part in food-based programs other than cakes, cookies etc.
- Having Foodshare, Nanaimo Family Life, age friendly etc., in the building during programs to provide support to seniors who may need it.

## **3. Current Trends and Issues**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting the senior population, you or your user groups?

- Social isolation within the seniors population especially those without internet access.
- Lack of access to nutritional foods, due to lack of funds, transportation.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and issues should we be prepared to respond to, that could make seniors recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

- We are trending towards more internet based programs and marketing. Do not exclude seniors who do not have internet access.
- Peer support services for seniors looking for social interaction, watching for health issues.



- Better sidewalks, walking access for seniors who live in the community without updated sidewalks.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for addressing current trends and issues within senior's recreation services that would take us from the NOW to the WOW?

- Block parties for seniors to meet members of their community.
- Having the ability for seniors to pass on their knowledge to others.
- Having food services that include diversity in cultures.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Specialized Recreation – NANAIMO CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTRE and ADAPT ISLAND</li> </ul>
Date/Time:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 23 / 11 / 2020, 1:30 PM</li> <li>▪ BY ZOOM</li> </ul>
Name of Notetaker:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC</li> </ul>
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC (two participants)</li> <li>▪ Parks Planner, PRC</li> <li>▪ NCDC Executive Director</li> <li>▪ NCDC Board Member</li> <li>▪ NCDC Board Member</li> <li>▪ NCDC Board and Kinesiology</li> <li>▪ President Adapt Island and Family Resource Navigator, NCDC</li> <li>▪ Adapt Island Member</li> </ul>

## Introductions:

What is Reimagine Nanaimo and the process? Powerpoint presentation.

### *Introduction to Adapt Island:*

#### **Mission Statement:**

Focus on inclusion in sports and accessibility in the community, mainly for kids.

## Discussion Questions

### **1. Opportunities**

- Started when new physio in town and wanted to use the outdoors for therapy, but didn't feel she could.
- Want to inspire organizational change.
- Promote universal design.
- Focus on exclusion, segregation, integration or inclusion.
- Promote structural changes for building design.
- Adaptions or universal/barrier free design (no barriers, info exchange).

- Seven principles of universal design (equitable use, flexible uses, simple and intuitive, perceptible info, tolerance for error, low physical effort and space for each use).
- Have a database of accessibility locations/issues all around the City. Need to promote it and extrapolate.
- Enjoyed sledge hockey through PRC. Enjoyed that the whole family could play together. No barriers.
- Would like PRC to reserve some prime time spots for special populations.
- Would like PRC to promote things like free aid in current mainstream programs.
- Would like more adaptive programs in PRC.
- Simple things like shovel hc spots and ramps first. Don't pile snow in hc. Put in all contracts.
- Don't have city vehicles park on sidewalks
- What gaps and challenges do you see?
- Due to Covid, people have more empathy for isolated populations.
- Have more buttons for doors and make sure existing ones work at all times.
- Include more cues for site issues.
- Explore Rick Hansen resources for organizations.
- Look at the awesome accessibility improvements at VIU campus. Help everyone get around.

## **2. What areas/priorities should the City focus on in the next ten years?**

- Use lens of inclusivity and barrier free design in all new projects. Helps everyone (not just special populations i.e. injured, seniors, strollers). Get Rick Hansen certification for facilitates.
- Have inclusivity as goal or policy in all documents including contracts with snow clearing.
- Respect disabilities with parking, garbage bin collection, and snow clearing.
- Train city staff with Rick Hansen courses.
- Priorities NCDC sees for the City of Nanaimo include: partnerships, public space, accessibility, health, programming, facilities etc.).
- Streets:
  - Explore intersection crossing notifications with satellite controls (like Vancouver) and multiple auditory/light cues.
  - Look at curb design and ramps to all crosswalks.
  - More sidewalks on one side of the street.
- Parks and Facilities:
  - Audit existing facilities and promote info on accessibility. Link database with app info and marking info for PRC and transportation.

- Add qr codes with info to key locations (pilots). People to update / add.
- Have info accessible - like key available to second parking lot at neck point for accessible access.
- Change washroom door swing.
- Have one trail at least that is accessible where possible in a park.
- Accessible beaches:
  - Looked at example of a Seatrack at Valentine Beach Club in Italy. Westwood Lake or Swy-a-Lana Lagoon.
- Programming:
  - Would like PRC to reserve some prime time spots for special populations.
  - Would like PRC to promote things like free aid in current mainstream programs.
  - Would like more adaptive programs in PRC.
- Check-in about Phase 1 and 2 of the accessible playground at Maffeo-Sutton Park and other project ideas.
  - Overall very successful.
  - Kids can play tougher.
  - Additional rubber to key destinations wanted (like zipline and swings).
  - Wood fibre raking regularly would help. Divots and unevenness hard with chairs.
  - Phase 2 – NCDC will check with staff and Island Children’s Health Foundation.
  - Check out video of Adapt Island member’s son by YPN.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Specialized Fitness – SPINAL CORD INJURY BC</li> </ul>
Date/Time:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 08 / 12 / 2020</li> <li>▪ 9:00 am</li> <li>▪ BY PHONE</li> </ul>
Name of Notetaker:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Parks Planner, PRC</li> </ul>
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Parks Planner, PRC</li> <li>▪ Spinal Cord Injury BC (one participant)</li> </ul>

### *Introduction:*

- Participant rides a hand powered cross country bike.
- She lives near Kinnette Evergreen Park on 9<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Her favourite trail is the Parkway Trail.

### *Listening to you:*

#### **1. What is working well for you?**

- She loves the parkway trail.
  - She loves the beauty on it, the challenge of the ups and downs, and how it connects to so many places.
- She loves that she can get into the water at Westwood Lake on the ramp and railing with ease.

#### **2. What is not working well for you?**

- On the Parkway Trail - She will forward several bollards and locations where she is limited by the bollard design in her movement.
  - Needs an apron around or different bollard design. Especially the t-shaped gates are a problem.
- She had to be rescued from a hole last week on the Parkway Trail.
  - A developer had impacted the parkway trail and had no signage up re the safety.
- Not a lot of info to people up front about accessible options, keys etc.
- Not all features are inclusive and accessible
  - Washrooms at Westwood.
  - She didn't know she could get into a second parking lot at Neck Point.

- Keys are barriers and getting a key before attending a park from another location is not realistic.

### **3. What opportunities do you see for better resourcing, partnering, and networking?**

- Modifications are for everyone in the park and trail system - strollers etc.
  - Not just people with physical disabilities.
  - Age friendly community and inclusive.
- Trend in e-bikes for people with physical disabilities too.
  - More people will want to access the parkway trail once they get e-bikes.
- *Information:*
  - Supportive of more accessibility info up front at trailheads and integrated into a park app.
  - Don't want accessibility info as standalone info, but integrated with amenity info.
  - Info could mark, for instance, which sections of the parkway trail are accessible to people with physical limitations, which sections of Westwood etc.
- *Audits:*
  - Access BC and Island Adapt both do accessibility audits.
  - Access BC is currently working with Tourism Nanaimo to identify accessible excursions and park and trail locations. Starting in January.
  - Access BC and Kootenay Adaptive have done many park audits including a series of provincial parks including Cultus Lake.
  - She is happy to review any new designs with accessibility lens (and Adapt Island).
  - Like new Westwood Lake plans.
- *Trail Wish List:*
  - Would love bollard modification along the parkway trail and as part of design standards
  - Stevie Smith Bike Park and Mountain Bike Skills Park - need easier routes for use by hand bikes. Nakusp area on Slocan Lake has a really good park for physical limitations - Mount Abriel.
  - Would love to have an alternative created around the Westwood Hill.
  - Would love to use a beginner single track trail at Westwood.
  - Would love to access the hydro lines from Morell. But the hydro/Morrell gate is an impediment.

- *Amenity Modification:*
  - Loves that she can get into the water at Westwood Lake using the ramp and railing.
  - Would love the washrooms to be accessible too.
  - Accessibility needs to not just focus on the trails, but parking, bathrooms, picnic areas etc.
  
- *Beaches:*
  - Beach chair would be fine, but not the best solution. It did not go well in Parksville.
  - Check further with Island Adapt.
  - Built options are always better in her mind.
  - You can leave your chair in a stable location with brakes.
  - Look to Vancouver for Mobi Mat info. They have at least four seasonal Mobi Mats in use.
  
- *Keys and Locks:*
  - Would love to see more info and alternatives to keys for park access. I.e.) use satellite or text to access accessible parking at Neck Point and Divers.
  - Vancouver has a text system to access accessibility washrooms. Code works for 24-hours. Use is monitored and if abused your number is limited.
  - Cell phone is less of a barrier than cash deposit and picking up a key at a centre.

#### **4. What areas/priorities should the City focus on in the next ten years?**

- Changing bollard designs that limit access.
- Working in collaboration to provide accessibility info easily and options.
- Use holistic inclusive lens on all projects.
- Limit barriers (keys, locks etc.).



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Sports – NANAIMO CRICKET CLUB
Date/Time:	▪ 04/ 12 / 2020
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Parks Planner, PRC
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Parks Planner, PRC ▪ Nanaimo Cricket Club (one participant)

### *Introduction:*

- Cricket is an extremely popular game around the world, especially in most Commonwealth Countries, which is growing quickly in Nanaimo due to the number of international students and other immigrants playing every year.
- Officially registered as Nanaimo District Cricket Club in 2017, but we have been playing cricket in Nanaimo for the last six to seven years.
- Began with five players, and have grown to more than 50.
- Currently practice in Shawnigan Lake and Qualicum Beach.
- During long weekends in summer, also host and play teams coming from different cities (Campbell River, Richmond, Alberta and even from Portland (USA)). All those games are played in Shawnigan Lake because that is the closest pitch, they can be to a main ferry terminal or to the airport. Would love to have access to area in Nanaimo.
- About 10 years ago there used to be a Cricket ground at Beban where Nanaimo United FC plays, but it's not there anymore. It will be awesome if we can bring that Cricket Pitch back

## Discussion Questions

### **1. What do you see as gaps and what is not working well?**

- Currently lacking a pitch in Nanaimo.
- It is not possible for everyone to make some time out to travel to Qualicum Beach and Shawnigan and it gets expensive with high gas prices before (Covid-19).
- Also, for the past three years, been playing cricket in the VDCA league (Victoria District Cricket Association) representing team Nanaimo.

## ***2. What would be your priority for the next 10 years?***

- Would love to have a cricket pitch in Nanaimo.
- Would like to bring all the teams from the VDCA league and from other cities to play and stay in Nanaimo.
- Good for Nanaimo Tourism because they will be spending money in local retail markets, on local food, hotels, and on transportation.
- Also good to showcase to youngsters.
- Hope to have a women's team in the future.

### **Additional info on the Nanaimo Cricket Club:**

NDCC Link

[https://www.facebook.com/NDCCsince2017/?view\\_public\\_for=1494221640697441](https://www.facebook.com/NDCCsince2017/?view_public_for=1494221640697441)

VDCA Link

<https://www.vdca.ca/>

NDCC match small recording

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h1hUU4-hPuU>

Shawnigan Lake ground Drone Video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lhgAHVd75Ks&list=RDh1hUU4-hPuU&index=28>

Qualicum Ground Drone Video

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2f7Kzxi\\_hj8&list=RDh1hUU4-hPuU&index=6](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2f7Kzxi_hj8&list=RDh1hUU4-hPuU&index=6)



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sports – BADMINTON AND PICKLEBALL COMMITTEE</li> </ul>
Date/Time:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 12 / 08 / 2020</li> <li>▪ Zoom and in person</li> </ul>
Name of Note taker:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Manager of Recreation, PRC</li> <li>▪ Parks Planner, PRC</li> </ul>
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Manager of Recreation, PRC</li> <li>▪ Parks Planner, PRC</li> <li>▪ Nanaimo Pickleball Club, Secretary and one member</li> <li>▪ Nanaimo Badminton Clubs and Oddfellows Badminton (three participants)</li> </ul>

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Facilities and Amenities

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Outdoor Pickleball – some members like, some don't.
- Only Beaufort is booked by the league and it is used regularly.
- But still a lot of people using the other various outdoor courts in nice weather.
- Would like to see pioneer repurposed for pickleball. Not related to league but we discussed how community requests are still coming in from outside the club ie) protection Island.
- No access to Franklyn Gym anymore. Puts more pressure on Oliver Woods
  - Some players are commuting to Coombs.
  - Badminton can be played in warehouses.
- Badminton is huge for Asian population which is growing.
- Harewood outdoor covered space is usable for pickleball but they have never tried to book it yet.
- Clear Shortage of indoor facility for their sports
  - Always contending for gym time
  - Inadequate facility to accommodate capacity
- Tennis Community has no indoor facility due to their facility closing down
- 500 members in all three sports – badminton, pickleball, tennis

- Does not include drop in/unaffiliated players.

Currently host Regional or local tournaments only

- Not Provincial or Olympics or International
- Judges, seating too small, no spectators area
- Stadiums better for those
- Membership has plateaued because they can't accept more people because they can't play – not enough time
  - They have 300 people now, cannot expand

Currently badminton has major issues with Oliver Woods lights.

Translucent panels over light? Oliver Woods? Would take the glare out.

- Can they request other side lights instead of three?
  - Badminton needs right lights and air circulation. Doesn't need to be extravagant or expensive.
  - Redesign posts to be better.
- Mutli-use lines etc. at Oliver Woods are difficult. Purpose built facility is preferred.

**HOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing?

- They want and need to build a dedicated court facility. A fieldhouse model and preferably at Beban Park
  - Move existing public drop-ins and clubs over to new facility. Off load those sports from Oliver Woods Community Centre.
  - More floor hockey, basketball, etc. use will become available at Oliver Woods.
- Richmond has over 120 badminton courts within 20 minute drive—many are in old warehouses, etc.
  - They need a box, not expensive architect designed facility with landscaping, need simple. However, discussed how DPs require other elements like landscaping and not just a box.
- Badminton and Pickleball Vision (see supplemental materials for designs) of the fieldhouse at Beban
  - Sports share same dimensional court space
  - Want to see seniors maintain healthy lifestyle and important for mental wellbeing
  - Point of view – it's better to meet it than to treat it.
  - They want input into lines and type of floor, court layouts, etc.
- Would prefer fieldhouse in middle of Nanaimo instead of south Nanaimo Recreation Centre
  - Examples:
    - Saanich doing one now (Cascadia architects)

- Edmonton facility has 17 indoor pickleball courts. A link will be sent to PRC staff.
- Cordova Bay
- Feel they can raise money to bring to the table. Polled badminton and pickleball community
  - They think \$109,000 to \$200,000 contribution could be possible
  - They will find cost estimates for the Saanich facility. They have taken out at 4 million loan.
  - Discussed the need for Development permit approvals even in Nanaimo
- New facility can have appropriate noise attenuation, lines, lighting, and temperature control.
  - \*New facility needs eight courts for larger tournaments –
  - But five courts would suit local use and/or could use tennis areas too
  - Also, for larger tournaments, they could float between Beban and Oliver Woods.

## **2. Programs and Services**

Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve you or your user groups?

- Would like to undertake player development with younger age and even high schools
- Used to be a Learn to play pickleball course through PRC but currently not offered. Club can't expand at present with more players.
- Oddfellows can't accept novice, intermediate players only advanced and competitive players due to current constraints with court space.
  - Would love to have new player's development sessions and develop sport over time. But need more facilities.

## **3. Current Trends and Issues**

Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- Strong trend of growth in pickleball
- Various communities creating municipal pickleball/badminton facilities
- Badminton cannot play outside or covered space
- Pickleball can play outside but with a heavier ball (slightly different game than indoor pickleball—like beach Volleyball). Outdoor play is more accessible to anyone of any age and anytime. No need to be in league



- Keep people healthy and active by playing sports—be proactive
- Purpose built court sport facility is preferred in central Nanaimo (not south) similar to other municipalities



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Stakeholder Group or meeting title	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Environmental - NANAIMO AREA LAND TRUST (NALT)</li> </ul>
Date/Time:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 25/10/2020</li> <li>▪ 10:00 am</li> <li>▪ Harewood Centennial Field</li> </ul>
Notetaker:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Parks Planner, PRC</li> </ul>
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Environmental Planner, PRC</li> <li>▪ Parks Planner, PRC</li> <li>▪ Active Transportation Co-ordinator, CofN</li> <li>▪ NALT Board Member</li> <li>▪ NALT Finance Committee</li> <li>▪ NALT Board, Biologist</li> <li>▪ NALT Executive Director</li> <li>▪ NALT Co-Chair, Co-Founder</li> </ul>

### *Introduction:*

Environmental Planner for the City of Nanaimo, thanked everyone for participating in today’s stakeholder engagement session. Listening to concerns and issues is the main focus of today’s session.

Acknowledgement was made that NALT has been in existence for 25 years.

A ReImagine Powerpoint was presented.

## Discussion Questions

### ***1. What do we find important in the community, a sense of place: Physical building, park, valley, trail....an emotional response, a connection or sense of community that you like to go to...***

- Still small.
- Easy to navigate.
- Central.
- Views.
- Cosy access to Waterfront.
- Cycling is difficult.
- Bike lanes too short, lead to nowhere.
- Waterfront walkway extension to Departure Bay is a priority.
- Greenspaces are parks and private – all borrowed.
- Greenspaces and connected landscapes.

- Deforestation for developers:
  - Neck Point
  - Linley Valley Park
  - Westwood Lake Area to Mt. Benson.
  - Bowen Park.
  - Top Bridge Park – Regional District.
  - Colliery Dam.
  - Newcastle Island.

## ***2. What challenges do you see from NALT’s perspective that the City needs to address?***

- Development is a driver of the City.
- Developers should not be more important than environment.
- All riparian area reductions are granted.
- OCP is only aspiration and not reflected in development applications.
- Transportation link.
- Balance having more space available and not overusing it.
- Development approval process does not seem to take into account the climate change emergency.
- OCP – Good policies but only aspirational, not actionable.
- Development process doesn’t always follow vision of OCP.
- Climate emergency not reflected in development processes.
- Riparian setbacks need review not just for fish, but for climate and biodiversity and flood/drought, etc.
- Disconnect between what we say and what we want.
- Beban Woods – Planta Road area – all trees removed despite marketing.
- Wally Creek – pave multi-use trail to close to creek.
- Cottle Creek – Riparian variances are too lax.
- Mouth of Cottle Creek granted a major variance. City didn’t want to sterilize property values.

## ***3. What opportunities do you see from NALT’s perspective that the City should be pursuing?***

- Need review of development approval process through lens of the climate change emergency.
- Riparian area development.
- Preserve greenspaces that aren’t parks.

- Revise awareness about short trips.
- Change mindset to work for short distances, leave earlier, etc.
- More Mt. Benson and Linley Valley type parks.
- Need specific bylaws and processes to meet OCP aspirations.
- Development Permit Areas (DPA's)
  - Most City is DPA9 with few restrictions.
  - Natural vegetation on private property is an asset to Nanaimo and is a major opportunity.
  - We don't need to replace vegetation, just save existing within a bylaw.
  - Helps to achieve Urban Forestry Strategy and climate emergency goal.
  - Opportunity to use private forests to meet goals.
- Beck Creek/Sandstone – 30m setback with variances.
- Weave in active transportation corridors.
- Beck Creek is an eco-asset.
- Departure Creek – restored with volunteers.
- Nanaimo doesn't have all creeks piped and that is an asset/opportunity.
- Creeks are corridors for biodiversity and active transportation.
- NALT protects where we live.
- Next time is not good enough!
- Riparian areas also offer values:
  - Not just fish.
  - Extreme weather mitigation.
  - Biodiversity.
- Variances offer opportunities for restoration on riparian areas as well:
  - Variance is one tool at developers' cost.
  - Plant after or encroach?
  - Quality vs. quantity.
  - Are tools in place sufficient?
- Cost benefit analysis of riparian areas and assets, and restoration opportunities.
- ESA's and setback areas need to be connected.
- Biodiversity strategies to enhance and improve.
- Strong links between aspiration in OCP and targets/actions on the ground.
- Climate emergency is an opportunity for action.
- Riparian Values:
  - Opportunity to deal with climate events.
  - Absorb floodwaters.
  - 7.4 in OCT – act on it.
  - National assets.
  - Integrate natural and engineered systems.
  - Livability/quality of life.
  - Natural landscapes.
  - Well-being.

- Psychological.
- Property values.
- E & N Trail to Courtenay and Port Alberni.
- Benefit of covenant on lands – Cottle Creek/Linley Valley.
- Even public ones – Mt. Benson, West Marsh ducks.

#### **4. *What should the priorities be?***

- Climate emergency is recognized by City Council and aggressive targets for climate enhancement and action.
- Integrated plans to achieve 2050 targets.
- Drought.
- Air quality.
- Floods.
- Sea level rise.
- Fire risk.
- Homeless risk.
- Seniors' risk.
- Volunteers – give back.
- New park acquisitions.
- Active Transportation Plan.
- Target by 2041 to double walking trips and quadruple cycling trips.
- Short trips by cycle/walking as most vehicle trips are 4 km or less.
- Waterfront walkway extension to Departure Bay.
- Watercourse protection/setback areas.
- Greenspace.
- Grow habitat on every lot/roof.
- Aggressively maintain trees.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Stewardship and Partners in Parks</li> </ul>
Date/Time:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 25 / 11 / 2020</li> <li>▪ 7:00 pm</li> </ul>
Name of Notetaker:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Parks Planner, PRC</li> </ul>
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Environmental Planner, PRC</li> <li>▪ Recreation Co-Ordinator, PRC</li> <li>▪ Parks Planner, PRC</li> <li>▪ Teacher NDSS, Westcoast Wilderness Studies</li> <li>▪ Teacher NDSS, Geography and Outdoor Education</li> <li>▪ Stephenson Point PIP Invasive Removal</li> <li>▪ Departure Creek Streamkeepers</li> <li>▪ Walley Departure Creek Streamkeepers (two participants)</li> <li>▪ Environmental Educator (Stream Monitoring)</li> <li>▪ VIU Parks Canada Club</li> <li>▪ Oliver Woods, Cleanup/Sam’s Club</li> </ul>

### *Introduction:*

What is Reimagine Nanaimo and the process? Quick Powerpoint presentation.

### *Listening to you:*

#### **1. What is working well for your organization and your stewardship projects?**

- Free the trees campaign - 15 trees freed in Stephenson Point.
- Communication with staff, Parks, Horticulture, Bylaw, Animal Control.
- Animal Control helped patrol Planta Park in wildflower season to minimize trampling.
- Support from the City to remove waste after volunteer work, provide tools, and provide bins.
- Keeping work parties to one hour.
- Helping with signage.
- Support from City for equipment and human resources.
- Supporting grant applications (i.e. PSF).
- RDN lending library for tools and equipment.

## ***2. What opportunities do you see for better resourcing, partnering, and networking?***

- More help with signage and communication.
- Illegal dumping info, education, brochure.
- Bulletin boards.
- Partnering for grants/funds.
- Formal partnership between The City and School District to achieve district wide stewardship goals.
- PIP helps to build community, sense of place and pride.
- See the City as a playground and learning opportunity.
- Students love land-based learning. Ideally they would see results by being involved from grades 9 - 12 in ongoing projects. Project participation builds young stewards.
- Students even benefit from proposal writing for projects.
- Map project sites.
- Monitor successes.
- Capacity! We have good intentions and networking skills, but developing our capacity to make good decisions for restoration projects has taken time.
- Planning! It feels like we are being reactive to development in wetlands and riparian areas. Environmental stewardship would be more effective if City planners would uphold regulations instead of approving variances.

## ***3. What gaps and challenges do you see?***

- Entrenched illegal dumping behaviors. Even signs ripped down in some locations.
- More water monitoring needed.
- Develop a mentorship program with the School District at all levels of education and VIU.
- School year doesn't always correlate with City projects. Try to match projects with semesters.
- Consider adopt a park or other projects over time.
- Community driven projects are not coordinated and piecemeal and rely on volunteer leaders with expertise. Need guidance and structure.
- Too much ground water being piped and not recharging back into open streams and ground.
- Mark egress and restored areas with additional signage.
- Timeframes for projects often take too long.
- Covid and work parties - lots on hold.
- Lack of continuity for some clubs/organizations year to year.
- More patrols for illegal dumping—walk interface sites once a year.

#### ***4. What areas/priorities should the City focus on in the next ten years?***

- Develop a mentorship program with School District at all levels of education and VIU.
- Promote lawn alternatives.
- Train Parks Ops and Maintenance to not cut sensitive habitats and riparian areas.
- Pass cat bylaw.
- Stop illegal dumping—explain why and have teeth in rules.
- More public education—signage, Bulletin column, communications, social media, info campaigns.
- City should strategically lead stewardship initiatives and not rely on community to spearhead. Efforts should not be piecemeal but should be organized.
- More direction from staff on projects—especially at school level.
- Establish a network of communication between groups—like green team network.
- Develop map of project sites.
- Develop more indicators and monitoring
- Daylight more creeks and get more natural ground water recharge.
- Continue to have some park areas that are not accessible and nature is first.
- Promote the public to see value of private natural land as well as park/public land.
- Education (especially around illegal dumping and yard waste!).
- Protect migratory corridors (ex. mammals, amphibians), wetlands, and ensure parks and green spaces are connected (not islands).
- Increase complexity of urban green spaces (ex. small neighborhood parks that are only grass).



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Stewardship and Partners in Parks
Date/Time:	▪ / 11 / 2020, ▪ ZOOM
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Parks Planner, PRC
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recreation Co-Ordinator, PRC</li> <li>▪ Parks Planner, PRC</li> <li>▪ Environmental Educator (Stream Monitoring) (two participants)</li> <li>▪ Volunteer in Parks</li> <li>▪ Oliver Woods Steward</li> <li>▪ Green Party Campaign, Park Volunteer</li> <li>▪ VIU Parks Canada Volunteer</li> <li>▪ Colliery Dam Preservation Society (one participant)</li> <li>▪ VIU Parks Canada Club (one participant)</li> </ul>

### *Introduction:*

What is Reimagine Nanaimo and the process? Powerpoint presentation.

Background information was presented on the Harewood Centennial Park improvements including greenway, planting and Earth Day events (Goats in Park), etc.  
Tree Relay – Nanaimo planted 250 trees in November, 2020.

### *Listening to you:*

#### **1. What is working well for your organization and your stewardship projects?**

- Outdoor work parties have positive mental health impacts.
- Lots of success in work parties.
- Temporary signage at work parties is helping to get word out farther/educate.
- New biking routes/trails – especially off-road and separated.
- Restoration along the Chase River.
- New plants are getting established and growing well.
- Waterways are publicly accessible and not private only.
- Parks in all neighborhoods to enhance quality of life.
- Farmers’ markets are awesome. Everyone eats.

## ***2. What opportunities do you see for better resourcing, partnering, and networking?***

- Get more schools involved (Chase River or Colliery).
- To improve habitat in local parks with easy modification of the stock birdhouses into original ones. See at farmers' markets.
- Opportunity for membership with school district and students.
- Better networking and sharing with VIU, NALT and volunteers.
- Great outdoor parks for outdoor learning.
- Dogs in neighbourhood with planning meetings in Oliver Woods/Insight.
- More food production in park spaces.
- Covid is a good opportunity for schools and scouts and organizations to work more outside. Adopt a park etc.
- Lots of land to connect with mentally in Nanaimo.
- Need to allow more participants in land with residents. PIP helps.
- Look back at original layout in Nanaimo of public squares and try to animate spaces.
- More greenways and public trails/active transportation on waterways, long-term.
- Work more with retired biologists on talks, education, research and infrastructure.
- Work on private property like Caillet Campground to improve tributaries to Millstream River.
- Neighbourhood managed urban forests and help from staff for multiple values (including cutting trees if wanted).
- Work with scout groups on projects.
- Increase food production on public land.
- Improve wetlands for many values including food production.
- Use private land for food production like Salvation Army property on 8<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Have better relationship with SFN to co-manage parks and tell stories. More joint harvesting/management of camps, meadows, fish, foraging etc. And more First Nations traditional use interpretation.
- Link neighbourhood and local volunteers with local schools.
- Provide access to hinterlands of Nanaimo using riverways and other public lands i.e. Millstone Greenway.
- Buy property on Catstream (home burned down) Chase River.
- Biotar – create if on neighbourhood level. Don't drive if across four.
- Use more lawn space on public/private land for food production.
- Encourage local bee production. Use seniors' centres or schools to help make Mason Bee houses.
- Have large scale green pickups twice a year like Qualicum Beach.

### ***3. What gaps and challenges do you see?***

- Find some walkability – limited and unsafe (downtown).
- Need more accessibility by bike, train, transit as it adds to socialization.
- Bears?
- Work with 50+ neighbourhood to clean up.
- Need to educate people in community and not divide community.
- Homeless encampments in riparian areas and environmentally sensitive areas.
- RAR requirements limit trail development in narrow riparian setback areas. Need to have exceptions to create trails/greenways along corridor.
- Increase relationships with schools, kids and land.
- Need to have better public plazas and open squares in private high density developments i.e. Woodgrove Mall redevelopment like Uptown Centre in Victoria.
- Be allowed to have sanctioned fires in Nature programs/parks. Very hard to get permits but needed.
- Lots of new residents moving here and need to educate them on stewardship values.

### ***4. What areas/priorities should the City focus on in the next ten years?***

- Look at mapping exercise and implementation of planting on private property and not just City land (alder planting, gardens).
- Educate public about environmental issues.
- Keep areas as natural as possible.
- Foster environmental education.
- Connect people with stewardship networks.
- Stormwater management planning and flood mitigation City-wide. Need this in current development sites to mitigate clearcuts.
- More covered spaces for gathering and local concerts. At local neighbourhood and city-wide scales.
- Mall redevelopment as sites of innovation and future public space.
- Compost at neighbourhood/local level and not only City-wide.
- Explore compost as a municipal revenue source.
- Stop driving green waste across town and waste fossil fuels.
- Local composting.
- More lighting on trails to improve.
- Park spaces are Nanaimo's meeting grounds – especially in Covid times.
- More community notice boards.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Education – NANAIMO SCIENCE</li> </ul>
Date/Time:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 11 / 27 / 2020</li> <li>▪ BY ZOOM</li> </ul>
Name of Note taker:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC</li> </ul>
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Parks Planner, PRC</li> <li>▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC</li> <li>▪ Nanaimo Science, Executive Director</li> </ul>

### ***Nanaimo Science Mission Statement:***

- Provide science education in the community
- Build science center long term in Nanaimo.

## Discussion Questions

### **1. What is working well?**

- Matching education trends with programming – wandering school outside. Move locations each week.
- More homeschooling than ever this year.
- Use Departure Bay beach (bivalves), Nanaimo hatchery (salmon), Bowen Park (water quality), Morell (fungi), Foodshare (ag), Wildlife Recovery (owls), NALT (tree planting in Walley Creek).
- Have been successful in receiving community grants to cover basic needs. But money is always a limiting factor.
- PRC has such amazing parks and programs to integrate.
- Current license is for 36 months up without parents staying.

### **2. What are the challenges?**

- Currently lost School District space (Mount Benson School) due to Covid so now renting Beban Park Social Centre.
- Seeing identity outside of School District and maybe stronger relationship with the City. Home school learners are a main focus.

- Hard to follow the rules with Parks and Recreation, and pack in and out everywhere. Maybe other locations with PRC.
- Space is primary concern right now. Needs to have access to outdoor space and secure storage.

### **3. Opportunities for partnering and networking.**

- Rivers Day event helped to connect with Linda and the wandering school. Was such a great idea.
- Need to have a networking group for environmental non-profits, as well as restoration/volunteers. Feeling silo'd.
- Need to have more direction on next steps for the purpose-built science centre from the City.
- Have talked with the purpose-built aquarium folks about possible synergies, but have not got a lot of interest back.
- Could explore varied programming partnership programs.
- Opportunity to work out details differently for summer programs in parks. Issues with permits. No keys given.
- Also opportunity to expand summer in parks programs with PRC.
- Cross promotions for the group with PRC for events in parks/playground programs etc.
- Flexible expertise to focus on various topics as directed by City /School District if need be in future partnerships.
- If City had a natural area strategy and agreement with school board, they would be happy to partner to help achieve big picture restoration/stewardship goals.

### **4. What are your priorities/goals?**

- Communication with other groups (in and out). Partner with City and School District to achieve goals and policies.
- Establishing a network of environmental non-profit groups in the region for collaborative opportunities.
- Space is primary concern right now. Needs to have access to outdoor space and secure storage.
- Needs to have more direction on next steps for the purpose-built science centre from the City.
- Have talked with the purpose-built aquarium folks about possible synergies, but have not got a lot of interest back.
- Could increase partnerships to provide further information/education about the environment and climate change impacts.



- Continue to promote our amazing parks and programs—even in combo with all the issues of homelessness and drugs in the community.
- Continue to look at what families need.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Outdoor Sports – FISHING GROUPS
Date/Time:	▪ 02 / 12 / 2020
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Parks Planner, PRC</li> <li>▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC</li> <li>▪ Island Water fly fishers, President</li> <li>▪ Fresh Water Fish Society, Outreach Coordinator; Fraser Valley Hatcheries; Learn to Fish Society (one participant)</li> <li>▪ Manager of Sport Fish and Development with Freshwater Fish Society; Fraser Valley Hatcheries</li> <li>▪ Fishing for Fun in Nanaimo (one participant)</li> </ul>

### *Introduction:*

Island Water Fly Fishers, currently has 46 members who are mostly seniors. Most members access river in mosaic lands outside city limits as there are currently less fish in Nanaimo Rivers.

- The group meets once a month and likes to help with stewardship projects and teach while doing so.
- Teach in the schools about restoration projects and fly fishing.
- Monitor water (Millstone River).
- Lake Fertilizer projects.
- In the spring, put seine nets Departure Creek.

Freshwater Fish Society stocks local lakes in Nanaimo. Fishing license fees go to stocking programs in BC.

Fishing for Fun in Nanaimo gives free gear to get families outside fishing. Over 2800 members have given out 800 rods in Nanaimo alone. More given away in Ladysmith and Duncan area.

## Discussion Questions

### 1. What is working well?

- Support for fishing programs from the City.
- Programs full and popular in Nanaimo—Learn to Fish since 2006.
- Nanaimo locations scored well in an accessibility audit of 200 lakes/piers in BC. Divers Lake, Long Lake all accessible in Nanaimo.
- Consistent staff and support in the community. Adaptable staff.

- Since Covid, even with no tourist licenses (down 94%), FFSBC was able to almost break even with more local licenses (up 16 percent) and more in younger demographics. Normally average license holder is 50-years old, with a lot more women fishing this year.
- Fishing can be done in groups or distanced and has been strong.
- Giving away gear in Nanaimo and Duncan with lots of support and community uptake.
- Networking with various groups around BC and Canada for connections/ideas.
- Getting people out into sports looking for fishing squirrel.

## **2. What can be improved?**

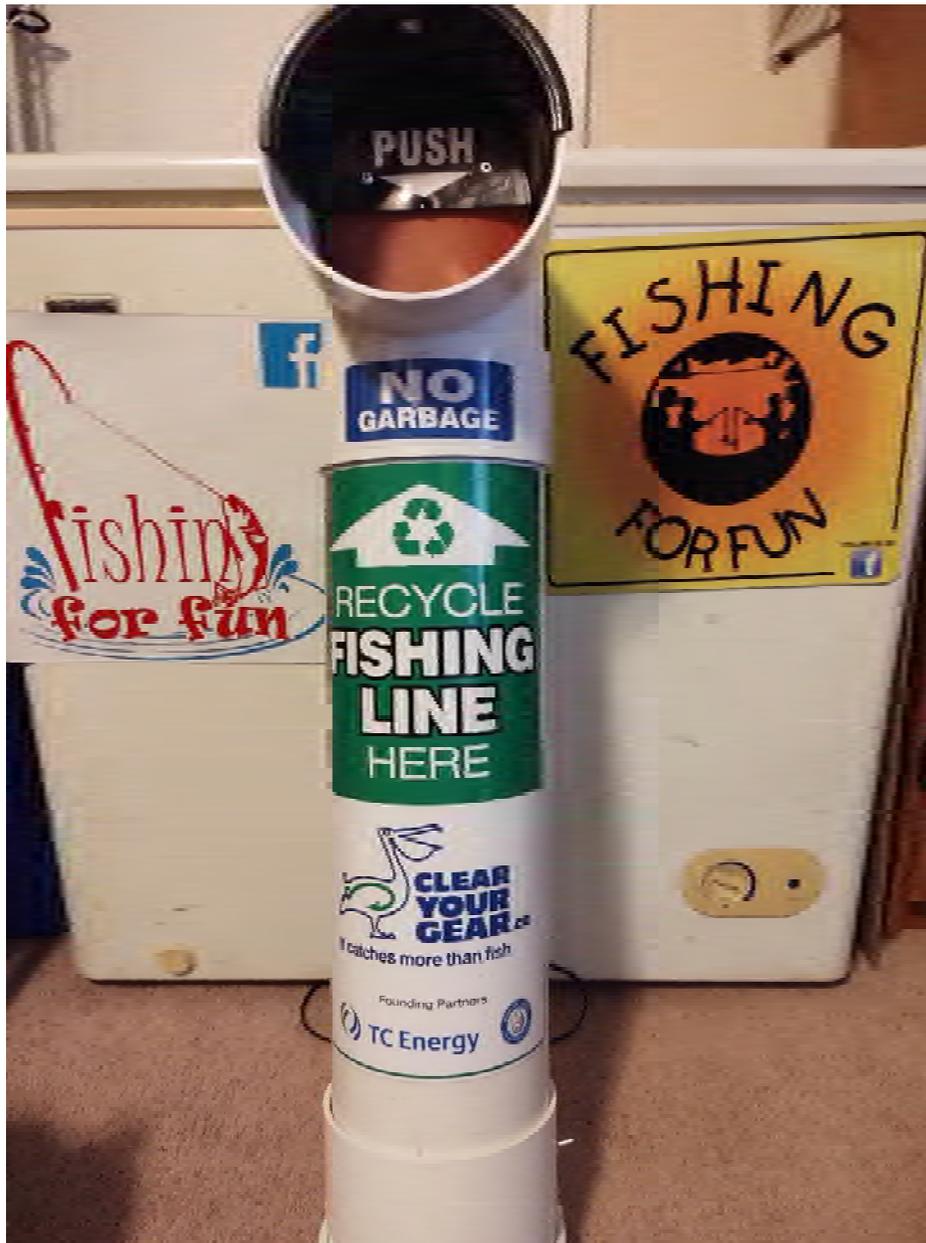
- Regionally assigning groups to specific creeks for monitoring and projects i.e. Millstone Creek, Departure Creek etc.
- Switching events to alternative dates. Ongoing application for a free license application for Mothers' Day, and provincial request for sanctioned province-wide through Angling Advisory Team. Could also be family day weekend or March 22, Water Day? Fathers' Day is usually too hot and the fish are not biting.
- Having more local family programs in the winter when the lakes are more heavily stocked.
- Better collaboration with the province for stewardship programs with recreational fisheries outcome (lakes or rivers).
- River stewardship projects also have grant available for—trout stewardship— October.
- Youth in fishing—some duplication of programs. Network more and discuss overlaps like rod loan program and giveaways.
- More communication and collaboration—Zoom connection once or twice a year—hear about opportunities before the fact not after.
- With Covid – difficulties in maintaining connections and ongoing program teaching and stewardship programs.
- Water monitoring has been difficult during Covid—Millstone River monitoring by IWFF with water smart.
- Accessibility for fishermen (on mosaic lands).
- Have more fish in City Rivers for easier access.
- Work with commercial fishermen to not just have recreational follow windows.
- FWSBC and Fishing for Fun can help to audit locations.

### **3. Priorities:**

- Colliery has good shore access for fisher access, but too much conflict with swimming. Work to have a dock there and look at conflict mitigation during events. Or GNWD.
- Divers Lake does not have great shore fishing. Work to increase fishing opportunities for events through floating dock designs (like Peachland Pier).
- Westwood Lake. Consider a second dock location. Better signage (way finding and rules). Fisher people get priority over swimmers.
- Having more locations for fishing access on all freshwater locations.
- Improve existing Loudon dock. Too shallow.
- Install a second dock at Loudon Park (off Wills Road).
- Consider other locations for docks.
- Better promotion of fishing locations—apps and City promotional materials.
- Take advantage of FWSBC funding for stewardship ambassador to help promote licenses, values, conservation and cleanup.
- Install recycle containers/tubes for fishing line. Clean out and keep. Mail to Berkeley California via Cabellas for recycling.
- Include fishing info in calendar for stewardship. Did you know?
- Video and promote fish releases (truck) and small fry releases (community).

## Peachland Pier Precedent







## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Aquatics – AQUATICS USERS
Date/Time:	▪ 26 / 11 / 2020, 7:00 pm ▪ BY ZOOM
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Support Services Staff
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Aquatics Supervisor ▪ Aquatics Co-ordinator ▪ Nanaimo White Rapids ▪ Nanaimo Diamonds (3 participants) ▪ Sink or Swim Scuba ▪ Nanaimo Ebttides Master

### **Introduction:**

Recognition of being on traditional territory of the Aboriginal Peoples.

Thank you for coming to the online meeting tonight, it is an exciting opportunity for the City. We recognize that it is very important to include our stakeholders, and reach out for their feedback.

Facilitator presented the slideshow - Reimagine Nanaimo: Our City, Our Voices.

## Discussion Questions

### **1. Facilities, Amenities and Infrastructure**

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructures in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for your user group?

- I really like that we have a 50 meter pool in Nanaimo.
- I like that we have Beban as our home pool for our club. We like having the smaller pool that isn't disrupting other user groups, and it is better for music.
  - I also like having an outdoor pool as another option.
- Swimming for fitness and therapy for all users in town is great. I wish there was more access to all the pools.
- I grew up in Nanaimo, and I swam with the White Rapids Swim Club as a child. So I feel that our whole club feels very fortunate to have these facilities. We love having the outdoor pool. To see the sun rising while swimming is amazing. I have some disabilities so being able to swim is such an asset.
  - If you look at how much we've grown obviously we need more pools and pool space.
- I am involved with many user groups who use the NAC, so I don't use Beban pool as much. I really enjoy NAC. It is great pool that has so many things that

other pools just don't have. It has an element of fun, a shallow warm pool, waterslides, a 50 meter pool and having the multiple changing areas is good. I appreciate that there is a male, female, and universal change room option.

- I think you guys run a very smooth facility. Compared to White Rock I'd say that Nanaimo has it very good. Having NAC for 100,000 people is great.
- I've been using the facilities for a number of years, and I enjoy both Beban and NAC. We've had to adapt to using NAC, although we missed Beban. We only returned to the pool about a month ago, and it's been good. All the staff is very helpful to support us while getting our training done. So thank you.
- I know the Ebbtides Masters group got moved to the middle of the pool and that is creating shoulder issues. When you are gathering and taking your gear over the bulkhead, especially for older swimmers, it can be challenging. As a point of reference, I had to mention it.
- Training at Beban is good for scuba diving groups.
  - The ledge in the deep end for older swimmers is easier.
- I think we are doing better for our population size with pool space than ice space. I used to have children in hockey, I don't anymore, but I remember those 5 am practices to get ice time. It wasn't easy.
  - From a green field stand point, we seem to have a lot of fields to use. That is one of the things that drew me to Nanaimo.
  - For anyone who doesn't know, we are on the verge of losing a major tennis club in Nanaimo. It is an asset to have a covered racquet sports area in town.
- I remember swimming at the Beban Pool with the Riptides Swim Club, so changing to the Aquatic Centre was very dramatic. We got an office, which was very nice.
  - Considering other facilities, in the north end we really only have Oliver Woods Community Centre. So it seems like there is something lacking on that side of town, especially for our senior population.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing?

- In order for VIU to participate in sports, they need another gymnasium. Kamloops has a smaller version, and something similar would help push in the right direction. A spectator viewable gymnasium, and an indoor track for a variety of sports would help draw people to Nanaimo. A collaboration with VIU, or even something in the private sector should be considered.
- I think one of the main things the White Rapids Swim Club would like to see is an upgrade to the outdoor Kin Pool. The facilities there do not meet the requirements of special needs individuals, or people who do not identify in a particular gender. We need to create more of a wish list, such as storage, first

aid, and office space. The aging facility is starting to show. Making it more accessible, and for the change rooms to have an inclusive option, is a priority of our swim club.

- Funding to upgrade the facilities could be provided through the Kraft Heinz Foundation, or other possible funding grants.
- Swimmer retention for our club is a challenge. Putting in a basketball court on the lower grass area at Bowen would be great so that pre-teens and teens could use it between swim sessions.
- The Nanaimo Diamonds is a small club, but we don't necessarily want to be a small club. We lose a lot of swimmers around the age of 13.
  - We are currently using boxes to store our equipment. So our "Wow" would be to have better storage.
  - Would we be able to use a little office space out of Beban for storage?
- One of the biggest reasons we have not hosted a provincial meet is that our facility couldn't host a meet of that level. The space isn't large enough at Beban Pool.
- At the Aquatic Centre the spectator seating is good, but we would like more. Are we able to host parking lot meets and open up the doors and walls to accommodate more fans? They do that at other events such as the Junior Nationals. Dream big!
- The temperature of the pool at NAC went up now so that's a bonus for my students. For all user groups the pool is important to us. I'd like to use the facilities more often but due to the current events we are restricted. We will be getting back to normal hopefully soon.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

- To partner with the Kraft Heinz Project, VIU, local businesses, and others that could help to get us to our goal. This could make our dreams accessible and feasible.
- Ebttides Masters Swimming makes money, and we have donated to various clubs. We like to help the community. The events we host bring people to town, and they bring money into the community. Masters is a group that is willing to help all the clubs in Nanaimo.
- I think that it makes a lot of sense to try to keep our membership fees low enough to remain manageable for families. They are reasonable at the moment, and we would like to keep it that way. Finding the fundraising dollars outside of our memberships is appreciated. If the City works with various other

user groups, maybe someone could create a list and look into funding options and grants.

- We could create a database promoting sport tourism and the goal for a capital project.
- Even a small club, like the Nanaimo Diamonds, when given a goal it is amazing how much we can generate. But it cannot come from memberships fees.
- ViaSport Retention Project could bring in as much as \$7000 in funding.
  - Possibly other grants available also.
- Sink or Swim Scuba has 30 or 40 sets of Aquasphere swim goggles that I would like to donate as a fundraiser.
- Looking through women in coaching grants, I get flooded with lots of info in that department. So I wanted to share that, more possible grant opportunities there.
- A lot of different sports brands have reached out as far as helping fundraise, so if we create a list for the database there are many more to include.
- Brainstorming with stakeholders is a helpful and beneficial way to come up with ideas. Working together and networking is very useful.
  - Set up multi-group fundraisers to help reduce fees for rental gaps.
- Strength in numbers, working together.
- Spectator seating could be improved.
- In the last couple years my kids have entered into more competitive swimming, and we've been to Kamloops a lot. The facility there is impressive, and is high-level competition style. People travel from all around for it, and the amount of money that brings in is incredible. Hotels, restaurants, and more all benefit from it. In Nanaimo we are very limited because the facilities are not adequate enough. The higher level meets we just cannot host due to that fact.
- Like the movie Field of Dreams: If you build it they will come.
- It would save our team from travelling to Victoria to the Commonwealth pool and with all the changes being presented to them, they will not be able to host as many events as before.
- Once our scheduling runs better it'll be different, but right now we are only running one course over two weeks which means it cuts off doing other courses that we'd like to run. So more pool time would be great.

## 2. Programs and Services

**NOW:** Thinking about RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- It's a tough one to say right now..... prior to Covid..
- We found with Covid that our new late morning session we've been given for the Masters we actually really like, so we might like to keep that slot permanently. I think the 8-9 am slot is a hit. We lost a Saturday but gained something different.
- I think the City's Recreation Department offers a wide variety of programming such as camps, art classes, parks programs, and various other courses. One of the things I was excited to see was the Junior Lifeguarding Club and lifeguard camps. I would like to see more of that.
- Can I ask why we don't have any diving programming? Not scuba diving, but actual diving programs?
  - To offer that calibre diving/trampoline program we need great instructors. If you know of someone in the community that could run such a program, please let us know. It comes down to coaching.
  - Eight years ago there was no appetite for such a program. That may now have changed.
  - We have run programs in the past such as beginner diving.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve you or your user group?

- Water polo has been missing in Nanaimo. White Rapids Swim Club is trying to get a program back up and running. One night a week to start, and it would be focussed on youth.
- Due to pool closures we moved some of our programs up to Westwood Lake, and although we were hesitant at first, they were very successful programs.
  - Seeing as NDSS high school has many academy programs, is it possible to do a swim academy in collaboration with the school? It could have access to coaching and training on site.
- Coach training could be provided through PacificSport.
- Westwood Lake could be used so much more than it is for our swim clubs. I am looking at running an event at the lake. It is safe, controlled, and could really do well I believe.

- A barrier to make us not able to use Westwood Lake was we need an open water certified lifeguard. If I made a wish list we could set it up to have an open water certified guard for these events.
  - Long Lake is another option for swim clubs and diving, also Departure Bay beach and Brannen Lake. More programs could take place at those bodies of water as well.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

- Keep our ears open for a water polo coach.
  - Canadian Swim Coach Association.
- Often programs that are coached need insurance. How do we get the insurance that can be quite costly?
- Nanaimo Diamonds has all 8 lanes rented, and we will only have 14 swimmers for those lanes. It is almost painful for my eyes in the ginormous pool to have all that open space. Of course during Covid we would never bring that up, although pool usage is such a high demand. We could maximize space in the pool to share usage.
  - Hearing the music above and below the water is very important to our swimmers. Built in underwater speakers would be amazing.

### 3. Current Trends and Issues

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- Our aging population is an ongoing trend. The Ebbtides Masters group is growing and we are getting a lot more people all the time. There is a demand for accessing lifts.
- The facility, and the governing body, are all looking to ensure that we are being inclusive with genders in the clubs. It is starting to impact us. I mentioned the change rooms but also for people who have severe mobility issues in terms of our management to provide services to the general public. We need to manage that in the best way possible.
- Commitment issues from members can be a concern, especially during Covid.
- The female retention research project is underway, and the question is what is making girls leave the sport of synchronized swimming? The answer is technology and biology.

- One of the things is the constant screaming and noise level. The communication between the coach and the athletes is so necessary, and some are sensitive to the loud sounds. Better audibility in the facility would help.
- Menstruation always comes up as a reason to leave your aquatic sport for women and girls. So anything to support swimmers in that way is helpful. If it keeps people in their sport then it is worth looking into. Bathing suits designed to swim in is key.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and/or issues should we be prepared to respond to that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

**HOW:** What ideas do you have addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

- Swimmer retention is a challenge. Employment is commonly a reason that youth leave the club, so if the City of Nanaimo offered a program that is aquatic related that supports teens and links to their sport it would help keep them around longer.
  - Aquatics Leaders in Training is something to promote more.
- You can currently join the LIT program and take the Aquatics option.
- We do like to hire within our club and offering a program to keep youth and teens in the facility is great. Volunteering is something to consider.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Community Recreation – KRIS KRINGLE CRAFT FAIR
Date/Time:	▪ 24/11/2020 ▪ 5:30 pm ▪ VIA ZOOM
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Support Services Staff
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Director, PRC ▪ Kris Kringle Craft Fair (1 participant)

### *Introduction:*

Facilitator welcomed the participant to the session, and thanked them for coming. The input of our stakeholders is invaluable, and it is an exciting opportunity for the City.

## Discussion Questions

<p><b>1. Facilities, Amenities and Infrastructure</b></p> <p><b>NOW:</b> Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructures in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for your user group?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ I like Beban Park Social Centre for its easy access. The accessibility for not only the vendors, but the people coming to the event is important. The large parking lot is nice. When you have vendors moving their equipment in you don't want stairs or any difficulties, which is really not desirable. That is why the downtown Conference Centre wasn't a viable option.</li> <li>▪ To run a large event primarily the priority is easy access. I remember when Beban wasn't quite so accessible. The updates at Beban have been well utilized.</li> <li>▪ I also use the outside areas at Beban for our fair. The challenge for me is the cost of using the whole facility. It would be nice if the outdoor sections could be included in the rental fee as it doesn't require much more from the facility to keep it included in the cost of the contract. I have my own people for setup so for the City it does not require much extra work at all. It could be seen as a benefit to the community, not as a \$2000 - \$3000 cost.</li> </ul>
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**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing?

- Any time you are dealing with vendors who pull out all the stops, I think you need to look at each client and from the City stand point you could say, “How can I make it easier and ease the burden”. Each client could be bringing benefit to the community.
- Lower rental costs. If rental fees were lower it wouldn’t stretch me so much.
- I don’t see anything that needs obvious change. The staff have been great to work with. Everything runs fairly smoothly actually, considering the immensity of the event.
  - I also have my own great staffing, who help move things along.
- More space, a larger building would be nice. You can see that I use the outside too so we need a lot of space for our fair.
- If you could make sure that the wind doesn’t come up during my event that would be nice. I learned why it’s called the “Breeze way”. I don’t know if it’s because of the design but it’s very breezy through there. A wind block feature would be nice.
- We’ve learned how to use the outdoor areas during Covid. It’s a beautiful space so why would you not want to use it.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

- I’ve rented in two different buildings and I’m very impressed with Beban.
  - The only thing would be if I didn’t have a surcharge and not have to pay extra to use the outside that would be nice. Charging per item outdoors seems unnecessary.
- I considered using the ice arena at Beban for our craft fair as additional space, but the challenge was the vendors freeze up as well (get cold).
- Beban is still amazing considering it was built 40 years ago.
- Bowen is beautiful but the sad part is the front of the building doesn’t showcase the facility. People don’t walk around the front of the building.
- I looked at Oliver Woods facility and found the parking lot was not user friendly.
- Westwood Lake is somewhere I have used for recreation for 20 plus years. From a personal stand point it is somewhere I enjoy doing my walks.
  - As long as the walkways and trails are well maintained there are many nice places to walk in Nanaimo.

## 2. Programs and Services

**NOW:** Thinking about RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- I’m very busy, so I’m not in a position where I can go swimming and enjoy recreational activities regularly. Planning for the craft fair is a year long commitment, so come January I’m right back into Kris Kringle mode. It’s full time; it’s never not Christmas.
- I used to belong to the Beban pottery group, before it moved to Bowen. I used to really enjoy that.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve you or your user group?

- My head is always into the Kringle, so it’s is hard for me to answer that.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

## 3. Current Trends and Issues

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- Recreation is creating experiences. Our events create connections and heart memories – so much more than a craft fair.
- I think the Kris Kringle market is good for people’s health and wellness. I recall one particular lady told me she had a wonderful horse and carriage ride at our craft market because she got to share it with her daughter and granddaughter. It was a special moment for her that made for a wonderful memory together.
  - Also something as simple as decorating a cookie could be very special to someone, and it could bring back memories and create new ones. It builds family connections, and brings people together. Kris Kringle isn’t just a craft show, it’s an experience that has an impact. Making heart connections.
- The Kris Kringle Craft Fair contributes to a healthy community. Being around the happy, healthy environment makes people feel good.

- Well I think the jury is out on how to bring balance to peoples lives during Covid. Futuristically it is hard to know how to proceed with the down side of the anxiety fallout of Covid.
  - Outside activities are a good option.
  - Nature walks, climbing, being physical active, and doing activities involving families.
  - Pause, and reassess.
  - Zoom calls for therapy.
- People go to churches for a place of counsel. I don't know how that can be replaced in winter time when outside alternatives aren't possible. How 5 year olds and how 80 year olds are dealing with this is hard to tell.
- Collectively working through this together is something we say, but I think people are actually feeling quite alone. People need some outside connection. I'm sure there are other ideas, but I'm just a Kringle.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and/or issues should we be prepared to respond to that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

- A “wow” can just be in the moment for someone. We can blink and miss a miracle, because we are so busy. A “wow” is a heart connection, otherwise it's not a “wow”.
- I sent a customer my Kringle cookie recipe. It really embodies what we are dealing with now. That's the heart connection. Each vibration affects others. When I can get that “wow” to happen, that 80 year old can feel like a kid again.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

- Kringle is nothing without the facility, staff, and the people. It will take a bit to get the community back after Covid, but it will come full circle.
- From my perspective Beban Park is awesome to hold my event. I do not see moving it any time soon. Other than being charged \$100 for each booth that I have outside, I am quite happy with it.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Dry Floor – ARENAS (DRY) FLOOR USERS
Date/Time:	▪ 30 / 11 / 2020 ▪ 6:30 pm
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Arenas Allocations Clerk
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Arenas Manager ▪ Recreation Coordinator - Arenas ▪ Sr A, Jr A and Jr Tier 1 ▪ Nanaimo Minor Hockey Association ▪ Junior B Timbermen - Pacific Northwest Lacrosse Board ▪ Nanaimo District Lacrosse Association – <i>unable to attend meeting, sent in responses post-meeting.</i>

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Facilities, Amenities and Infrastructure

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructures in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for your user group?

#### Timbermen - Sr A, Jr A and Jr Tier 1

- Communication works very well and the bookings with the staff at the facilities
- Season runs from April/May to August so it doesn't collide with Hockey
- Good relationship with the City

#### Nanaimo Minor Hockey Association

- Pretty happy with the field they use for field lacrosse

#### Junior B Timbermen

- Enjoying the new outdoor box – not perfect because of the weather (still blows in from the sides of the box)

#### Nanaimo District Lacrosse Association

- NDLA has appreciated being able to use the outdoor covered box, run tryouts prior to ice removal and be prepared for the season start regardless of weather. The facility is very good being located in the "hub" for families and athletes - having the new Tim Hortons, the skatepark and playground give families a draw to be outdoors and active while their kids are at lacrosse.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing?

**Timbermen- Sr A, Jr A and Jr Tier 1**

- Indoor Lacrosse/Soccer Field like the one in Victoria (five million dollar investment)
  - Pacific FC
  - Multi-use facilities
- Big upgrade needed for Beban Park Facility
- NIC seats 500 and is enough for this team – change rooms are a little bit too small
- Senior club plays out of Frank Crane and it's outdated
  - New score board and a big screen
  - Change rooms
  - Liquor license changed so that they get some profits off what they bring in

**Nanaimo Minor Hockey Association**

- Hooks in the dressing rooms for the younger kids for their hockey sticks
- A shelf for helmets in the dressing rooms
- Another covered sports court somewhere else in the City or next to the existing court
- Frank Crane is supposed to be our “showcase” for our big teams but it is dated
- Would like to see a multi-use facility with multiple rinks, a restaurant, huge multi-purpose building, maybe by the equestrian area where all of the offices for the teams, minor hockey etc. could be

**Junior B Timberman**

- We need a new, larger facility
- Adding blinders on the street side of the covered sports court so that the sun doesn't blind the players
- Adding a shelf in the in the dressing rooms like we had in the Civic Arena
- The hockey season seems to be getting longer and longer and the lacrosse season is getting shorter – same complaint across the island from Victoria to Campbell River
- New score boards – lights are sometimes burnt out and you can't tell what the numbers are
- Sometimes the microphone isn't working

**Nanaimo District Lacrosse Association**

- The outdoor covered court (specifically) needs regular daily maintenance. Due to the access by Nanaimo's homeless population we are often presented with

challenges prior to use - profanity, human waste, drug paraphernalia and garbage

- The covered court also has some challenges due to environment and design. At dusk the sun combined with the pale floors makes vision a real struggle. Pollen lays on the surface making it very slippery. Equally, the score clock and time clock are often glitchy which makes using the facility for games (as intended) a risk

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

**Timbermen- Sr A, Jr A and Jr Tier 1**

- Would like to see the sport user groups get together to meet about this to come up with ideas because the demographic of the City of Nanaimo is changing and there are more users – to present what kind of buildings and multi-use facilities we would like to see
- Look at where the City has moved and grown since the VIEX grounds have been in their location – now everything has been built around them – should they be moved?

**Nanaimo Minor Hockey Association**

- The one thing they heard moving to Nanaimo was that “the City isn’t going anywhere”
- Would like to know how to participate and be involved in helping recognize the potential of Nanaimo
- Felt that from what they had heard about the referendum for 1 Port drive was that it wasn’t the right plan for this City – not that the City didn’t need another facility or a larger facility and the location wasn’t a good fit. They want something that everyone could use – not something that was just for showcasing one event

**Junior B Timberman**

- The City planners need a bit of a push – not sure what the hold back is

**Nanaimo District Lacrosse Association**

- The Harewood area has the potential to be the center of all things lacrosse year round! Field programs can benefit from the opportunity to practice under cover in inclement weather as well as being in close proximity to NDSS turf field. Our box lacrosse utilizes the covered and uncovered facility as well as the NIC. With the improvements to University Village this area has a lot to offer lacrosse fans and players!

- Sadly, this is often overlooked due to the vandalism, traveling homeless and damage from squatters. The facility in question needs more regular and thorough maintenance, sanitation and security!
- A retractable sun shade would be extremely beneficially as would, potentially, more seating.

## **2. Programs and Services**

**NOW:** Thinking about RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

### **Timbermen- Sr A, Jr A and Jr Tier 1**

- Great experiences with the allocation group, very helpful and the maintenance guys are great
- Doesn't make sense to add more drop in because there aren't enough facilities as is

### **Nanaimo Minor Hockey Association**

- Need to offer more in regards to the times that programs are running as parents who are 35-50 and are both working can find it hard to arrange drop off – maybe add them in to a daycare or after school program (they do offer them on the weekends)

### **Junior B Timberman**

- Good experience with allocations. Patient with changes and short notice

### **Nanaimo District Lacrosse Association**

- Having early access to facilities so our association can be prepared for an April start despite the date of ice removal

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve you or your user group?

### **Nanaimo Minor Hockey Association**

- The times of our programs – unable to access a lot of our programs because of the times of day they are booked – the programs are great but the range of times is difficult and we don't have the facilities to increase the amount of offerings

### **Junior B Timberman**

- We don't have the facilities but if we had more floor spaces we could accommodate a larger variety of options
- Adding bus stops to improve accessibility, locations to gather

**Nanaimo District Lacrosse Association**

- We need another covered court
- Each year NDLA has concerns about getting the hours we need to operate and run our season smoothly for our athletes. We are aware that other groups also seek access to the facility which can sometimes cause one or the other to miss out
- In current times, sports groups are looking to more and more outdoor facilities due to the restraints the pandemic has created. This facility meets more of the criteria necessary for safely having sport options
- Outside of the pandemic barriers, NDLA has still been historically unsuccessful in booking all the dates/times needed to operate smoothly. We are aware we are not the only user group and feel confident a second facility could/would be utilized and beneficial to many

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

**Nanaimo Minor Hockey Association**

- Just do it – extend the hours – Summer camps from 7:30am-5:30pm to accommodate working families

**Nanaimo District Lacrosse Association**

- We need to advocate for a second covered sports court

**3. Current Trends and Issues**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

**Timbermen- Sr A, Jr A and Jr Tier 1**

- Academies, private lessons, and clinics

**Nanaimo Minor Hockey Association**

- More demand for additional programming, more ice, more space
- Would like to see the City setting aside entire weekends for Lacrosse or Hockey to bring in pros, amp up, clinics, private lessons etc.

**Nanaimo District Lacrosse Association**

- Lacrosse is impacted by facility availability and the standard of maintenance
- Often coaches have to arrive early and use leaf blowers to remove pollen and debris, brooms to sweep up and gloves to dispose of waste
- Volunteers have had to usher homeless and youth out of and away from the facilities (both covered and uncovered)

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and/or issues should we be prepared to respond to that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

**Timbermen- Sr A, Jr A and Jr Tier 1**

- Every facility for children in the City is free, that way they can try every event or show up to skate or swim and be able to access the facility - remove the barrier

**Nanaimo Minor Hockey Association**

- Bring the figure heads from different organizations to find out how to get more participants

**Junior B Timberman**

- Believe in the players on your team and encourage them

**Nanaimo District Lacrosse Association**

- Lacrosse is a growing sport! Our numbers rise every year as the sport gains momentum. The season is short and packed full of practices, training and games
- We are growing the game and will need to have facilities to accommodate the growth

**HOW:** What ideas do you have addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

**Nanaimo District Lacrosse Association**

- We need to work with the City to create another facility



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ PRESCHOOL / FAMILY STAKEHOLDERS</li> </ul>
Date/Time:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 11/25/2020</li> <li>▪ 10:00 AM</li> <li>▪ BY ZOOM</li> </ul>
Name of Notetaker:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Support Services Clerk</li> </ul>
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Manager, Recreation Services, PRC</li> <li>▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC</li> <li>▪ PacificCARE Family Enrichment Society</li> <li>▪ Tillicum Lelum</li> </ul>

## Discussion Questions

<h3>1. Facilities and Amenities</h3>
<p><b>NOW:</b> Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Multiple programs for preschool aged programs.</li> <li>▪ More green space means more outside time. Parks are great for that.</li> <li>▪ Family oriented parks and outdoor spaces with seats, benches or picnic tables where parents can supervise, are great. Having a place for parents to watch kids is very important.</li> <li>▪ Playgrounds with space for summer camp leaders to set up and put campers’ personal items.</li> <li>▪ Playground schedules are really good. There are opportunities throughout the day.</li> <li>▪ Respects how important it is for seating and areas for parents to attend with children.</li> </ul>
<p><b>WOW:</b> Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ More infant focussed programs with qualified instructors. PacificCARE’s ELF (Early Learning Framework) program helps parents to understand that natural play is a great learning tool.</li> <li>▪ More drop-in for early years.</li> <li>▪ Accessibility – suggestion for public transport, possibly a shuttle service. Some families cannot participate due to transportation issues.</li> </ul>



- Woodgrove’s owner is focussing on family orientation at the mall. PacificCARE would like to run drop-ins at Woodgrove. Could PRC partner with them in doing this? PacificCARE could run the program as their staff are ECE’s.
- Upgrading pool at Beban. Parents like because not crowded, but not as much for younger kids compared to NAC.
- Need more basketball courts for youth. Downtown crowded.
- Would basketball hoops in the outdoor court be beneficial?
- Hoops in the outdoor covered space would be a really big draw. Covered areas are great if a gym isn’t open. Youth can play there during winter.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

- Partner with Early Years, use recreational space, equipment, where we can work together. It should be a covered space or building with access.
- Nanaimo needs licensed facilities with running water and washrooms, and are required to allow for three square feet per child for licensing guidelines.
- Bathrooms for kids, ASC programs and parent to use. At parks lack of washrooms are an issue.
- Covered space and picnic benches for parents.

## 2. Programs and Services

**NOW:** Thinking about RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Good variety – dance, art, cooking, physical activity.
- Funding for parents if they are low income. LEAP helps.
- Variety of activities and flexibility. Schedules.
- Movie nights at the pool.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve you or your user group?

- Diversity, inclusion....intergenerational programming (early years and seniors working together).
- High school students and seniors, at one point, worked together. Nothing currently, but would love to explore early years and seniors together.
- Working collaboratively as a unit rather than silos. Instead of groups holding the same programs a month apart, develop partnerships and work together.



- Affordability, besides the LEAP program. Families have three or four children so costs add up. Families cannot afford to send all of their children to summer camps.
- Maybe grants are available that parents aren't aware of.
- Possibly a family rate for families attending multiple programs.
- Movie nights at pool are great, but a little crowded. Maybe more frequent or different times, or nights, or two separate nights.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

- Making grants or funding sources more attainable to other organizations. Share links to social media so parents have access to affordable options. This may make families more aware of grants etc. enabling them to get more involved.
- Partnering and sharing costs of some programs with other groups.
- Possibly online programming.
- PacificCARE has the ability to sponsor events, and may be able to help Tillicum Lelum with that.
- Pleasantly surprised with the programs available. Is there a platform to reach outside of our normal groups? Collaboration with the city would help to cross-promote.
- No activity guide because of COVID for Fall. PRC has learned how much people depend on it. Getting the word out about programs is much easier with the AG. People like the ability to be able to see what's offered. Social media, Instagram, Facebook, are different methods.

### 3. Current Trends and Issues

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- Education – families are high risk and don't have financial means or planning ability. Coordination of activities is difficult. Shuttle (transportation) would be great. Education and access are problems.
- All families are not tech savvy. Maybe a parents group or chat group could be set up while kids are participating in programs.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and/or issues should we be prepared to respond to that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

- Two programs running concurrently so that children and their parents could attend different programs at the same time, would be awesome. Tillicum has 5 vans so shuttling good. Could partner with PacificCARE on that.
- Social media classes for parents/family.

- When new registration software was implemented at PRC, computers were set up in facility lobbies to show seniors how to register online. It was well received, but possibly assistance should run beyond that. The Communications team ran that initiative, possibly it should be looked at for other populations.
- Parksville ran free, basic computer sessions, for anyone interested.

*HOW:* What ideas do you have addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

- Offering licenced ASC, childcare, there is a demand. Is it possible?
- Are there any online programs?
- Story basket.
- PRC has gone down that road with ZOOM and partnering with other organization that do programs online. If staying home but want to participate in program, there is a need to offer sessions online.
- Taking in-person workshops and offering virtually. Very well received.

**OTHER GENERAL DISCUSSION**

All great. Unstructured opportunities. Having a safe space and facilitator can run – goes back to bathrooms, accessibility to make inclusive.

Reconciliation – care providers are tentative dealing with reconciliation as they don’t want to offend anyone because of a lack of knowledge.

Likes drop-in and unstructured programs. Likes playground programs. They were missed this summer, had to be scaled back due to COVID.

Concerned how playgrounds impacted families.

Good opportunity for families to chat and share.

Reconciliation – having difficulty with ECE. Could be connection with Tillicum, maybe staff could work with Tillicum.

Child care process – wrapping up regional study on childcare capacity in Nanaimo. We have challenges meeting capacity. Infant/Toddler, ASC greatest needs. Not meeting targets for every 33/100 kids for Quebec, we are closer to 12/100.

Final report should be sent to council in new year. One of the focuses is making sure vulnerable groups are a part of the process. PacificCare and Tillicum Lelum have been great part of the process. We are all on the same page.

Great to hear ideas and suggestions from other organizations.

Outdoor areas and covered spaces is something the City is working towards.

# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ TILLICUM LELUM
Date/Time:	▪ 24 / 11 / 2020 ▪ 2:30 pm
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Recreation Co-Ordinator
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Recreation Co-Ordinator, PRC ▪ Active Transportation Project Specialist, CofN ▪ City Planner, CofN ▪ Tillicum Lelum ▪

### *Introduction:*

Introductions were carried out and ReImagine Nanaimo Powerpoint was presented.

## 1. Recreation

- Displacement from Franklyn Street Gym has been a real challenge; now using Woodlands but not ideal due to transportation, plus there are other future plans for that facility.
- Use lots of Parks facilities as a result of the displacement (when they are operating as per COVID).
- Youth Emergency Shelter also does activities, such as going to fitness facilities.
- There are more challenges with access services now that they don't have an anchor like the downtown gym. They do access NDSS center.
- They have supported people to get fitness passes and it's been a good relationship builder with the LEAP program.
- The pandemic has really been taking a toll on the organization and they have been having to pivot a lot.
- Many of their families have been isolated and disconnected....once the pandemic is over, to get people out of isolation will be an important challenge (mental health is of critical importance).
- More walking trails and outdoor recreation options are key ...so many people are just out and about.
- Face to face programming when possible is wonderful, but things can be shifted online as needed.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Family – SCHOOL DISTRICT 68
Date/Time:	▪ 02 / 12 / 2020, 12:09 PM ▪ BY EMAIL
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC ▪ Community School Co-ordinator, SD68

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Facilities, Amenities and Infrastructure

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructures in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for your user group?

- We have a good amount of Facilities and Amenities.
- We have great pools and rinks, tennis courts, frisbee golf circuit.
- Swimming spots at Colliery Dam and Long Lake provide excellent free swimming options.
- The supervised beach at Westwood is an excellent resource.
- The network of mountain biking trails is excellent and seems accessible to youth.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing?

- More bike lanes and paths allowing safe cycling routes to schools for families and children.
- Free bus passes for teens.
- Much more access for the public to the excellent outdoor Bowen Kin Pool.
- More outdoor events that involve all of the community that don't focus on events like the bathtub races.
- More cultural events or family events.
- Given our population, another Community Centre would be appropriate. This centre could also house and forward cross partnership opportunities. For example, Nanaimo Science & Sustainability Society could offer free or subsidized outdoor science programming, Pacific Sport could offer off-site biking programs, various drama societies could offer outdoor plays.
- Years ago there was a drama society that put together classic children's stories such as 'Hansel and Gretel' outside in parks and forested areas. They were extremely successful with all ages!



**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

- Please see above re: active transportation/busing.
- Use more outdoor venues.
- Again see above re: an additional facility.

## 2. Programs and Services

**NOW:** Thinking about RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- There seems to be a good variety of programs for families, including the Parks and Rec programs.
- The LEAP program is important for financial accessibility.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve you or your user group?

- Having the programs accessible is very important, so utilizing school spaces more would be helpful for those programs that can 'travel'. (Of course that is not possible during COVID).
- More family activities through Parks and Rec (such as family hockey night or crafts night etc.) would be good.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

- Have more programming outdoors and at school sites.
- Again, expand on what is currently offered.

### 3. Current Trends and Issues

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

(The following is under the assumption that we are not talking about the current COVID situation we find ourselves in).

- Transportation to facilities can be difficult depending on where the potential participant lives in.
- Affordability of programs, especially for large families and New Canadians, and difficult access to peak times and pools and arenas.
- The majority of the programs run really well.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and/or issues should we be prepared to respond to that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

- It is difficult to keep on top of what is current.
- Perhaps an informal Needs Assessment could be distributed through the schools in September and various other stakeholders like the Immigrant Society, etc.
- Programming should try to compensate for the overabundance of screen time that kids have.
- There is a trend for less engaged parents who are experiencing increased stress and anxiety, the loss of parenting skills, and of course the mental health fallout from COVID with the resultant need to respond quickly to healing activities.
- It behooves Nanaimo to have staff who are trained appropriately in how to manage group behaviour.
- As experiential learning is such a large part of the educational curriculum, it again would be important to access and utilize as much as our wonderful outdoors as possible.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

- Means assessment across many different user groups such as the school district.
- Stay curious and resourceful with the ability to respond to immerging needs.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Health/Wellness – ISLAND HEALTH
Date/Time:	▪ 27 / 11 / 2020 ▪ BY PHONE
Name of Note taker:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC ▪ Island Health ('IH')

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Facilities and Amenities

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Good access for clientele who are primarily 70+.
- Parking and access is great.
- Recreation Guide is great. Likes the paper version, although some of the seniors they work with have good computer skills.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing?

- Be mindful of wheelchair access during snow, ramps tend not to be cleared properly.
- Create walkway from Departure Bay to the Ferries area. Pretty good, though.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the NOW to the WOW?

- N/A



## **2. Programs and Services**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation programs and services in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Working with Parks and Recreation setting up and running seminars/courses is quite an easy process.
- Create a larger budget for specialty courses and funds to pay health speakers as IH has small funds for this.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve you or your user groups?

- Wellness series is great to offer – check our similar program at Commonwealth Centre in Saanich – activity program for respite for adult day program and use of the pool.
- IH is working on a Dementia Action Plan which would be good to partner with.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the NOW to the WOW?

## **3. Current Trends and Issues**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- Healthy Aging, Staying Active, Socialization

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and issues should we be prepared to respond to, that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

- Further ways to increase social contact for those isolated especially during and post-Covid.
- Incorporating more socialization into programs, e.g. the last class.
- IH is going to have primary focus around strengthening primary health care.



**HOW:** What ideas do you have for addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the NOW to the WOW?

- Creating some sort of respite care for people in the future in recreation.
- Any type of senior accessible programs.
- Many seniors are staying in their, or their family's homes longer, so respite for those family members via recreation will become essential.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Health/Wellness
Date/Time:	▪ 01 / 12/ 2020 ▪ BY EMAIL
Name of Facilitator:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Alzheimer Society of BC – Minds in Motion Partnership Program

### **1. Facilities and Amenities**

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- The room size and custodian set-up is great, as well as the use of the kitchen and small storage cupboards we have there.
- I like the easy access and parking to the room on the corner of the building. Good windows and light.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing?

- Compost and recycling access on-site and dishwasher, as we think of the future and Covid cleaning precautions, or using more recyclable cups for the coffee time.
- Some of the balls we use go flat often and could be upgraded.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the NOW to the WOW?

- See above

### **2. Programs and Services**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation programs and services in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- The shared fitness and ASBC partnership



**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve you or your user groups?

- I think that adding another group in the Nanaimo area would be great – we had waitlists for the two groups prior. Consistent fitness instructors as we recently have had a change from long standing fitness teachers and are missing the consistency.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the NOW to the WOW?

- The expansion to other groups - could be at another location - as well to reach north and south Nanaimo regions.

### **3. Current Trends and Issues**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- COVID – Senior Safety.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and issues should we be prepared to respond to, that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

- More first aid trained staff to respond to emergencies in areas other than the pool.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the NOW to the WOW?

- See above.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Arena (ice) Stakeholder Meeting
Date/Time:	▪ 24 / 11 / 2020 ▪ 7:00 pm
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Allocation Clerk
Email Address of Notetaker:	
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Salish Storm Hockey - Kw'umut Lelum (two attendees) ▪ Islanders Female Hockey Association ▪ North Island Silvertips Hockey Program ▪ Nanaimo Skating Club ▪ Nanaimo Clippers Hockey ▪ Nanaimo Buccaneers Jr. B Hockey (two attendees)

## *Introduction:*

## Discussion Questions

### **1. Facilities, Amenities and Infrastructure**

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructures in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for your user group?

#### **Kw'umut Lelum**

- Building partnerships
- Getting kids on the ice – hoping for January (goal)
- Boots to Blades support with the City of Nanaimo
- Stick and pucks for the future for Salish Storm and Kw'umut Lelum
- Bauer donated equipment for 2021
- Adding activities for kids in care or from the reserve (vulnerable/high risk children). Get ice time for those children

#### **Islanders Female Hockey Association**

- Communication for booking is working well and has gotten better and clearer

#### **North Island Silvertips Hockey Program**

- Availability and communication has been great
- Arena staff have gone above and beyond to have conversations and be flexible to work together

**Nanaimo Skating Club**

- It's great to have the kids back on the ice

**Nanaimo Clippers Hockey**

- Great staff, great quality of ice at FCA/CMA

**Nanaimo Buccaneers Jr. B Hockey**

- Nice dressing rooms and facility at NIC 1

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing?

**Kw'umut Lelum**

- Ice time for their programs weekly and monthly drop-ins
- Strengthening the partnership with the City of Nanaimo and Nanaimo Minor Hockey Association
- Working with VIU Mariners, Buccaneers, Clippers, etc. and build relationships

**Islanders Female Hockey Association**

- More ice would be a good thing so they could add and expand players in order to avoid playing so late to expand their program
- Having a restaurant to build comradery
- Building relationships with the other user groups
- More user group meetings so that they can make connections.

**North Island Silvertips Hockey Program**

- More ice
- Being able to be based out of one rink
- Storage space or a dressing room so that they could have a home base.

**Nanaimo Skating Club**

- More ICE.

**Nanaimo Clippers Hockey**

- Food quality in the concession, good pricing, better variety
- Lights/sound
- Maybe bringing in a large championship down the road?

**Nanaimo Buccaneers Jr. B Hockey**

- Ice times and more ice
- NIC 1 needing a media booth, food experience, fan experience and what they can offer to the fans (they have a new mascot).



- Improving the camera system or multiple camera system to improve the at home experience
- A Larger facility 5000+ seating

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

**Kw’umut Lelum**

- Not for profit – anything that exists, they’ll take anything because they’re just starting from scratch so they’ll take whatever is available

**Islanders Female Hockey Association**

- Where the funding could come from – create a business case, and are willing to help

**North Island Silvertips Hockey Program**

- Bring their families
- Community involvement, with a restaurant people are more likely to watch and support all levels

**Nanaimo Clippers Hockey**

- Offering to help all of the user groups in the meeting

**Nanaimo Buccaneers Jr. B Hockey**

- In order to make things happen you will need to partner with a larger company who will help support/fund
- Putting the infrastructure in before we outgrow the space – before we grow to a population of 130k or 140k
- Creating a separate dry floor space to avoid tying up ice arenas (a dry floor without the underlying ice building component would be significantly less expensive).

**2. Programs and Services**

**NOW:** Thinking about RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

**Kw’umut Lelum**

- Partnership with City of Nanaimo as well as Parks and Recreation.

**Islanders Female Hockey Association**

- Lots of adult hockey programs for women who are just starting out to get on the ice.

- Opportunity to have something like this (user group meeting) and the once a year meeting to meet the other user groups so that when users outgrow a group they would know where they might be able to continue their passion for sport.

#### **North Island Silvertips Hockey Program**

- The ice available to minor hockey for development and the ice available for skill development for hockey for house or rep 1
- Skating program – school skating lessons through the schools
- Introducing hockey to as many kids as possible

#### **Nanaimo Skating Club**

- It works well to run the three programs the skating club is currently offering.

#### **Nanaimo Clippers Hockey**

- Clippers need to be more involved in programming and supporting hockey in Nanaimo.

#### **Nanaimo Buccaneers Jr. B Hockey**

- The goal is to provide a place for as many as possible of the Nanaimo/Central island kids to play at the Buccaneer level and to do that we need the minor hockey, the Heath Dennison Power Skating, RecSkate to get the kids trained to that level

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve you or your user group?

#### **Kw'umut Lelum**

- Keeping the relationship close with Nanaimo Minor Hockey
- Keeping the tie with VIU Mariners
- Eventually expanding out to the nine other first nations groups on the island that they work with.

#### **Islanders Female Hockey Association**

- Building the relationships with the other user groups so that they can feed into each other
- More programs for 9/10/11 year old group.

#### **North Island Silvertips Hockey Program**

- Grass roots – growing the game and introducing the game of hockey to young kids and giving the opportunity to young kids (giving equipment to young kids).



**Nanaimo Skating Club**

- Trying to expand the skating club programming.

**Nanaimo Clippers Hockey**

- Happy to help facilitate.

**Nanaimo Buccaneers Jr. B Hockey**

- Showing the diversity of the programming
- More goal tending programs
- Mentorship for coaches.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

**Kw’umut Lelum**

- Need funds coming in – community gatherings/BBQs/Bottle drives for things like equipment and transportation

**3. Current Trends and Issues**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

**Kw’umut Lelum**

- High risk youth – suicide, street entrenchment, homelessness
- Trying to put in preventative measures, also mental health issues

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and/or issues should we be prepared to respond to that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

**Islanders Female Hockey Association**

- Youth programs, in the north end as there isn’t very much offered by Parks and Rec or transportation to get youth to the Parks and Rec programming



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Ice Users Stakeholder Meeting
Date/Time:	▪ 16 / 11 / 2020 ▪ 7:00 pm
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Support Services Clerk
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Manager of Recreation, Arenas, PRC ▪ Vancouver Island University Mariners Hockey Team ▪ Snipers Hockey ▪ Co-ed Summer Hockey

### *Introduction:*

Thank you for coming tonight, it is an exciting opportunity for the City. We recognize that it is very important to include our Stakeholders.

Recognition of being on traditional territory of the Aboriginal Peoples.

## Discussion Questions

<p><b>1. Facilities, Amenities and Infrastructure</b></p> <p><b>NOW:</b> Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructures in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for your user group?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I agree we need more ice in comparison to other cities in the province, we are so far behind. We need bigger and more. I have gone to many other towns and cities such as tournament cities, and if we want to be a leader we need two more sheets of ice. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ I don't know who you use as designers for facilities but they could be more functional. There should have been six more dressing rooms at NIC. I don't think this facility has done its justice.</li> <li>○ When I have gone to tournaments often they give you a package. If we could do something where the City has a package such as Nanaimo City pins, we could be promoting the City more through Parks and Rec.</li> <li>○ One of the biggest problems I've had was there was no cooperation. We have had to go and beg for things. Why wouldn't there be something from hospitality Nanaimo to encourage folks to come. People will come in and spend money. Small things like that would help us improve.</li> <li>○ Nanaimo is not known as a hockey town but it has hockey people in it.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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- Nanaimo is very cheap for ice, by comparison. We are fortunate for that.
- I think adding another rink or two rinks makes it more attractive for families to move to Nanaimo. I would host Minor Hockey if we had more ice. I was disappointed that we don't have home tournaments.
  - Nanaimo is not the best place for hotels. If there was a hotel near by it would be packed, like a hockey town or hockey city. It just makes sense. When people come here they end up staying in Parksville. So I think that money would be better spent in Nanaimo.
  - I think in terms of long term growth if there was more ice there would be more kids playing hockey. I want to train the kids but sometimes I have to turn people away. I'm thankful for the ice times I'm getting but it would be better to have way more. I think a full ice rink with a hotel near by with one or two smaller rinks too. For kids to drop-in and play shinny that is less structured and being free. A small training rink would be an option.
  - For facilities I'm used to what I'm used to. We are sub par and not known as a hockey town, even though it is a hockey country perhaps we are missing out a bit on the hockey aspect.
  - Costs could be a little bit better. It's fairly costly, although some areas might be more, or the demand might not be quite as high in smaller towns, and I know you want to cover costs but it was a big jump when the price went up. I didn't raise my prices a ton to cover that but it affects some families. I don't think there's enough people playing hockey compared to our population.
  - Programs like mine and others are helping kids, but I need more ice. To satisfy the needs of the community kids I just can't satisfy them all. I feel bad to say no to my friends.
  - What I do like about the facilities is that the rink guys are some of the best around, no question.
  - The ice sometimes is torn up from other users but otherwise very good. The ice condition could be better at times.
- I appreciate the land acknowledgement.
  - The prices going up is a delicate balance.
  - From a facilities perspective the change rooms are good. Our program is now at 50/50 ratio of male to female out of 150 players, and the dressing rooms house everyone.
  - The staff are excellent.
  - The facility design could have more revenue generating outlets such as a bar and grill.
  - The facility is a safe space for all user groups.
  - It is interesting to hear that families of all types can use these facilities.
  - I can only see the demographic growing over time.
  - As for infrastructure the programs have been really good. A lot of the ladies who are learning hockey later in life can benefit from these programs.

- I love being in the trails with my doggies. My heart breaks for Benson Creek Falls and the development there, and Nymph Falls and the split trails. To make it more user friendly for all groups is “boots only” trails and “bikes only” trails.
- Packages could be a passport and treasure hunt for kids and families to engage all of our community businesses. It could include local tourist attractions and activities.
- This is beautiful city but I don’t love seeing all the development.
- Ferry parking and poor infrastructure is an issue. We could look at making more adequate parking in Departure Bay and Brechin Hill area. It could result in less crime too.
- Some things Nanaimo does well is letting everybody have a chance to have ice time. Full diversity offered through Parks and Recreation is great.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing?

- It’s tough to put a facility in without a team to fill it. The event centre that was rejected would have brought a lot of life to the downtown core, and could have helped clean up Nanaimo. We only have the Port Theatre for concerts but we do not have anything for American Ninja Warrior type stuff.
  - The one place I like in Westshore is a bar near the rink where the parents can watch the game from the bar, and there are training areas for the kids, and a kids menu. Next door is a dry floor facility with an acrylic floor and a weight room, plus a centre park. We could have a dry floor section like North Shore Winter Club with a restaurant for the kids. Hockey players could warm up and shoot pucks. It could include golf, soccer, and other sports.
- An indoor multiplex with a batting cage and climbing wall would be good.
  - The growth of E-sports has exploded. Even American colleges are offering E-sports scholarships.
  - Sometimes kids have to be pulled off their devices to play sports so it could help with generation bridging.
- The multiplex idea that was offered to Nanaimo was good but poorly presented. We don’t have any venues. If it is endorsed by the people, they will come. I think a multiplex near the department of defense would be a good location.
- Having our own facility with a multiplex a hotel nearby would stop people from going to Canucks games.
- The idea of a multiplex was great but the politics of it wasn’t. It needs to be fully inclusive.
- Kamloops and Cranbrook have nice multiplexes we could look to for inspiration.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

- Having good transit shuttles to pick people up is important. Good shuttle structure around events is needed.
- Building three sheets of ice in one complex.

## 2. Programs and Services

**NOW:** Thinking about RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- It took many years for summer hockey to exist. But people and users groups need to follow through and use the space if they book it. A method of tracking to ensure people use it if booked is necessary. Booking but not using creates the “vs” mentality.
- The addition of the outdoor lacrosse box was huge. It’s been way better.
- The system that was in place was if you wanted more ice time you needed to complain about it. If you know there is a need for more ice let’s make it happen. As ice users we do not talk to other user groups, but we all need it. The City might be waking up and realizing it. I hope that the end result is that.
- I know process and protocols are important but maybe it all could be friendlier if the process was more fluid. The poor Allocations clerk gets abuse from everybody.
- We need money transparency. I don’t know how much money the junior teams are bringing in. I’m guessing that my team brings in as much as them. I would like the money to stay here, and be invested. I don’t want to compete against these other guys in terms of advertising, and everything could be dispensed differently. Why one group would have it I don’t know. Frank Crane is a walking billboard. My tax dollars are going in to support a walking billboard.
- How much of the Buccaneers’ money they make from advertising goes back into the facility?
  - I don’t have the opportunity to bring sponsors in.
- If the City of Nanaimo was to come on board and support users groups instead of only supporting the two main teams. Facility advertising and revenue sources.
- Pay to play teams that are trying to make money is irritating.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve you or your user group?

- I find Nanaimo is really simple to deal with when booking. To give credit to Nanaimo whether it’s ice or swimming booking has been awesome. I have to say it’s a good



model from managers, to staff, to social media. Nanaimo offers affordable programs with decent times that are welcoming.

- For my three kids who participated in a lot of Parks and Rec programs I thought it was great. Staff training was very good quality, and everyone was good to deal with.
  - I found that maybe there wasn't as many hockey players years ago but I think that is better today.
  - More unstructured programming could be good.
  - It seems like the dog population is going up so dog parks are needed.
- My experience from dealing with all staff has been great for years. Accolades to the staff.
  - One thing that was a huge success was Sledge Hockey. We could probably access old previously used equipment from Saanich which would be a good opportunity for Nanaimo.
- Sledge Hockey partnerships would have to be advertised a lot.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

- Rebuild Bowen Park to be more community friendly. The aging population could use some more space to play.

### 3. Current Trends and Issues

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- Female hockey is trending a lot. Even in my program the demand for female hockey is expanding hugely.
  - Competitive hockey is trending upwards. Younger and more competitive hockey is growing. I think the caliber has increased also.
  - Social Media and coaches need to be high quality.
- In our City programs 70+ hockey and Women's 55+ hockey masters have grown so much. The active aging population is going to skyrocket. Charge those who can afford it and keep all those families.
- Family divisions would be a great idea.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and/or issues should we be prepared to respond to that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

- E-sports are big dollars, and can we be a training facility for sports where people can train year round, or in the shoulder season. Create a training facility and it would bring in the money.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

- Strong Nation - Snuneymuxw Strong. There are not enough First Nations kids in hockey and we should address that. More First Nations involvement. Could be Native basketball and soccer.
- When the Salish Storm ball hockey community came on board we went to the lacrosse box to recruit kids and that helped. Need support and making room. Numbers make a team.
- International students and physical literacy are things to consider.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Multicultural
Date/Time:	▪ November 26, 2020, 3:45pm ▪ BY PHONE
Name of Note taker:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC ▪ Chinese Cultural Society

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Facilities and Amenities

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- They enjoy the locations and variety of parks we have to offer.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing?

- Update and improve our parks, noticed some areas are out of date and needing some repairs in the north end of Nanaimo.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the NOW to the WOW?

- Would like to see Chinese decorations for their Chinese new year and do more relevant things for Chinese culture.

### 2. Programs and Services

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation programs and services in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Enjoys swimming and skating.



**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve you or your user groups?

- Would like to see some of our current program offerings in Mandarin as many people in their society do not speak English.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the NOW to the WOW?

- Contact the Chinese Cultural Society to find mandarin speaking instructors.
- Would like to see Chinese decorations for their Chinese New Year and do more relevant things for Chinese culture.

### **3. Current Trends and Issues**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- Would like to keep up multicultural promotions.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and issues should we be prepared to respond to, that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

- More exposure and cross-promotion through multicultural societies.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the NOW to the WOW?

- Working with Co-ordinators for cross- promotion.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Multicultural – NEWCOMERS 21 <sup>st</sup> CENTURY ALUMNI
Date/Time:	▪ November 24, 2020 2:00 pm ▪ BY PHONE
Name of Note taker:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC ▪ Newcomers 21st Century Alumni

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Facilities and Amenities

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Really likes Beban Park Social Center with rooms available
- Aquatic Center is beautiful

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing?

- Would like more large spaces to book events
- Build up the waterfront more
- Build more infrastructure to bring in more tourism
- Additional parking - build parkades
- Increase more lighting at all the parks

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the NOW to the WOW?

- Build more parking for events and waterfront
- Better road access to Beban and Bowen.



## **2. Programs and Services**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation programs and services in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Loves swimming and aquafit classes.
- Skating lessons
- Dancing classes
- Dog shows
- Events
- Maffeo Sutton Park
- Loves the Activity Guide
- Loves the Night Market

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve you or your user groups?

- Would like to see more dance festivals
- Light-Up like Ladysmith but in Nanaimo
- Drone fireworks/light display
- Would like to see a week long Winter Wonderland event in Maffeo Sutton Park
- More farmers markets and night markets

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the NOW to the WOW?

- Would like to see some of the recreation subsidized
- Make use of volunteer seniors to help with more of our events and programs

## **3. Current Trends and Issues**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and issues should we be prepared to respond to, that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

- Drone fireworks/light display
- Would like to see more murals in the city
- Would like to see art celebrations



**HOW:** What ideas do you have for addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the NOW to the WOW?

- Please promote more on the news

## **OTHER GENERAL DISCUSSION**

- ▶ Any other input or information provided

### **Reimagine Nanaimo – Suggestion List**

1. Tree and shrub maintenance: trees and shrubs should be cut back from intersection corners, areas overhanging hydro and telephone wires etc.  
Also, tree and shrub planting should be done less and any new plantings be kept farther back from roads/Island Highway so as to not impede drivers' views.  
In addition, homeowners should be able to take down any trees at risk of falling on structures, without penalties. Developers should not be allowed to take down whole forested areas as has often been permitted in a variety of areas in the city. It's ridiculous to plant trees in newer areas after having just pulled out a section of existing trees.
2. Public Parking on Streets: throughout the city this has become a nightmare requiring stronger more specific bylaws and some real enforcement. Homeowners have almost no rights at all re vehicles monopolising street space constantly in front of homes where those vehicle owners don't reside.  
Handling the unauthorised suites issue might help resolve the parking problems as well. Parking only on one side of the street may be an option which could work well in some areas.
3. In addition, some public parking lot designs at malls and commercial developments are the most complicated, poorly designed ever, with the Costco parking lot being one exception. We've never seen anything like this in other areas of the country. City Hall managers need to demand better when plans for new developments are submitted by the developers.
4. City Street Lighting: upgrading needed re halogen lights and more lighting is needed on some major streets, (i.e. Hammond Bay Road, the Island Hwy). Also, burned out lights need to be replaced sooner. All of this relates directly to pedestrian and driver safety. In addition, Christmas lights and/or other types of pole decorations at certain times of the year would beautify our community further.

5. Street Signage and Sidewalks: this is lacking. Many streets that are especially long lack enough signs to help long time and newcomer residents and visitors in our city and there are not enough proper sidewalks available for pedestrian use and protection, especially where schools are located. Some sidewalks are like bike paths which begin and end in the middle of blocks.
6. Bike Paths to Nowhere: not an essential expense at this time (nor is tree and shrub planting). Also some bike paths seem to begin and end illogically, essentially leading to nowhere in particular and may be of little help to cyclists and a thorn in the side of motorists.
7. Snow removal and collections: snow removal done consistently at night might be a better way to deal with this issue, especially if parking problems are taken care of. If people don't get their vehicles off the street for snow removal and collections, tickets need to happen. Try replacing lost revenue by enforcing bylaws.
8. Burning Bylaws: need to be clear and enforced. Residents need to help with this by reporting any unauthorised burning of materials within the city limits. It's a real concern for those with respiratory problems, especially during this pandemic.
9. Camping in Parks: this should not be allowed. The City needs to designate other specific areas which are more appropriate rather than allowing our parks to be damaged and befouled by inappropriate camping practices. Also, no panhandling in parking lots (i.e. Superstore, malls etc.) or on the waterfront area. This is detrimental to the well-being of residents and also damages our city image to visitors to our community.  
In conclusion, it is the opinion of many that our bylaws need to be enforced and enforced consistently, otherwise having bylaws at all becomes pointless.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Reimagine – Seniors Stakeholders
Date/Time:	▪ 26 / 11 / 2020 ▪ BY PHONE
Name of Note taker:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC ▪ Nanaimo Lawn Bowlers Association

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Facilities and Amenities

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Good variety of facilities to keep seniors active and healthy.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing?

- Expanded clubhouse at Bowen Park, bigger space, better kitchen area.
- Can be used for more programs if it was expanded.
- Facilities with larger kitchens to use for private events and programs.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the NOW to the WOW?

- Expansion on kitchen space within facilities.
- Added green for lawn bowlers to expand memberships.

### 2. Programs and Services

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation programs and services in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Provides a sense of community, so many programs that happen for the seniors, variety of programs that can accommodate many different interests.



**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve you or your user groups?

- Cooking classes for seniors
- Info sessions such as elder abuse, creating wills, computer use etc.
- More volunteer opportunities for seniors.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the NOW to the WOW?

### **3. Current Trends and Issues**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- Population growth.
- More seniors retiring in Nanaimo.
- More seniors looking for recreation services.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and issues should we be prepared to respond to, that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

- Aware of the population growth.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the NOW to the WOW?

- Prepare to expand services and facilities to accommodate.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recreation – RECREATION STAFF</li> </ul>
Date/Time:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 11 / 04 / 2020</li> <li>▪ 1:00 pm</li> </ul>
Name of Notetaker:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Support Services Clerk</li> </ul>
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recreation Managers (5)</li> <li>▪ Recreation Co-ordinators (12)</li> </ul>

### ***Introduction:***

The Re-imagine Nanaimo Process will incorporate six current City of Nanaimo plans: the Official City Plan, Parks, Recreation & Culture Plan Update, Active Transportation Plan, Climate Action Plan, Economic Development Plan and Water Supply Strategic.

## Discussion Questions

### **1. Facilities, Amenities and Infrastructure**

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructures in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for your user group?

- 90% of PRC facilities are accessible to most people. For the most part, you can physically get to places you need to.
- All age groups are represented, from infants to 100 years of age.
- Looking forward to different partnerships - Serauxmen Stadium is a good example.
- Facilities are very well maintained and clean. Storage is lacking in some facilities. Parking can be an issue (around Third Street), especially for bigger events at facilities.
- Family friendly facilities.
- Facility locations are geographically diverse.
- Good variety of different facilities. Arenas, pools, gyms etc.
- Harewood Outdoor Court is great. Maffeo Sutton Park accessibility and upgrades to playground are incredible.
- Good and comprehensive policy and good cooperation between user groups. Accommodating all groups well. Not a lot of competing interests that go with the running of the facilities.
- Good variety of facilities with indoor/outdoor options. Pools/arenas.

- Seniors haven't traditionally done outside programs, but during COVID, outdoor spaces were utilized for exercise/yoga type programs. There was a conflict using tennis courts for outdoor fitness space.
- Access to showers is imperative. Roadway or access points or active transit for facilities is important.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing?

- More programmable outdoor spaces are needed that have a water and power supply.
- More parking, more storage.
- For the size of our community, there is no youth space.
- Multi-use trails connecting facilities are important.
- Outdoor programmable facilities/structures – with necessities: water, power, washrooms.
- A Community Rec Centre in the South End is needed.
- The Community Rec Centre in the South End was the only thing not completed from the Master Plan.
- Install wheelchair accessible picnic tables in appropriate areas.
- Are people responding to more unstructured activities?
- People aren't receptive, but once they try it, they like it.
- Adding areas of co-management and co-managed facilities would be beneficial. This would help enable partners and future partners to do what they do best.
- The previous Beban Master Plan focussed on getting different users to the facility, both inside and out, as well as crossover users.
- Indoor/outdoor spaces for unstructured family use (aside from playgrounds). We don't allow people to partake in social gatherings other than in lobbies.
- There are no facilities capable of hosting major events. There is a lack of spectator seating areas, or gathering areas to house swimmers that aren't participating. These facilities would need more space and be able to have accessible technology.
- Accessibility - Washrooms do not all meet accessible standards. Westwood has a ramp to the water, but you need to get over the sand to reach the ramp.
- Indoor/outdoor facilities are needed that can be utilized for both formal and informal gatherings.
- All spaces need access to technology.
- There is a lot of park space around facilities, but spaces are not necessarily linked to each other. Spaces need to be more linked with walkways, trails, etc.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

- Co-management of facilities is a great opportunity.
- There will be a number of federal funding opportunities forthcoming due to COVID. Possibly one or two watchdogs could be appointed to track these financial opportunities.
- There needs to be an increase in parking for outdoor spaces.
- Additional public washrooms are needed as well as upgrades being done to the existing ones.

- Signs are a bit of an eyesore – new signage is needed.
- Conduct a feasibility study on Parks inventory and enter results on a spreadsheet.
- More collaboration between Parks, Facilities, Planning and IT on the initial planning of projects. How do we roll this out? How can we implement this?

## **2. Programs and Services**

**NOW:** Thinking about RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Having a coordinator on-site is beneficial to instructors.
- Instructor dedication is huge.
- We offer diverse programs to individual groups.
- One-stop shop for registering, purchasing passes, extra-curricular activities.
- Consistent theme with our programs – instructors, professionals, consistent quality programs.
- We can market information for outside groups if customers need info.
- We offer affordable and accessible programs.
- Programs and services connect community and create community wellness.
- Some services are vital to our participants.
- Credible starter location.
- Programs are safe and there is a lot of trust in the community. Commitment to training staff is important.
- We offer over 400 programs.
- Creating community leaders: LIT, QUEST.
- Adam is a liaison between seniors and other organizations.
- A ton of programs to choose from, a lot of opportunity.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve you or your user group?

- We could increase partnerships, especially for vulnerable populations.
- We need to look through the lens of people with physical/mental/financial barriers.
- Even though we offer affordable programs, drop-in fees are too much for some people.
- Link activities so people can put kids in programs and then go for a swim, walk, or a different program.
- Childminding, weights, play area.
- Using COVID momentum to explore different ways to offer services. Painting in the park with resident artists.
- What more can we do to become a leader... “Wow, look what they’re doing”.
- How do we link more with elders in the community? How do we promote to elders?

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

- Utilize outdoor structures.

- More communication with other communities.
- Team needs to keep educated. Disc golf fastest growing sport in Canada. Find trends and try things out.
- Utilize outdoor parks.
- Do citizens know what outdoor facilities are available?
- Accessibility and Inclusivity Committee – do audit of our facilities, have community members participate.
- LEAP program review in works.
- Bang The Table software being used for ReImagine Worksite. Supervisors and can help co-ordinators with a program to hear what residents need and want.
- Opportunity for Impact Assessments. Applied to United Way for a project that measures health hub or seniors programs for impact on community. What changed for participants? What are they doing differently? We can take that information and turn it into qualitative information when asking groups for money. If the application is accepted, will test the program, and will and bring back information to the Co-ordinator team (after ReImagine).
- Groups meeting because of COVID are amazing and sharing information – very helpful to have those conversations.
- Focus with community organizations.
- Rick Hanson Foundation has a program for this.
- Need more communication with other communities.
- Financial barriers – partner with more service groups outside of aquatics and arenas.
- Partner with someone we can direct people to.
- Community study with what people want. Are we providing for them, what are we missing? Maybe target individual areas.
- Perfect Mind – could use more for evaluation purposes.
- Evaluate programs and services.

### **3. Current Trends and Issues**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- Adult Onset Disease – Diabetes for example.
- Access to technology for seniors. A lot missed out on fall program opportunities. How do they register without a computer? Used to use VI Library computer.
- Technology immigrant - put it in perspective.
- Maybe cohort programming.
- Pre-COVID people were less interested in registering for long periods of time. More interested in drop-in than long periods of registration.
- Class size is much smaller due to financial impacts.
- How do we do things we have always done with regard to sustainability without offending public? How do we deal with changes around sustainability?

- Outdoor learning spaces for school and our groups. Zoom programs for people who can't get here.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and/or issues should we be prepared to respond to that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

- Cultural education.
- COVID related trend – smaller group activities. Do thing as a participant, people doing own group activities and have learned to do things on their own.
- Embracing technology – e-sports, computer camps – is that recreation?

**HOW:** What ideas do you have addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

- Seminars on how to use different programs. Designated computer lab in facilities.
- Staff training, more departmental with PRC, to learn protocols and procedures around cultural awareness.
- Most videos were done by council members.
- Great way to raise our profile with council.
- Facebook posts comments
- Customer testimonials on Facebook/Instagram.
- Humans of New York – picture or series on persons who lives in New York. Could make it specific to Nanaimo.
- Panorama has huge screen that does this with staff/participants.....
- Speaker series on \_\_\_\_\_
- Likes big screen idea. Put videos on loop – what is council up to? What's happening in Nanaimo?
- Storytelling is the best way of sharing information
- Transportation – Handidart isn't accessible for everyone.
- Any vans? No, they were all sold.
- We could take summer camp kids on buses.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recreation – VIU RECREATION DEPARTMENT</li> </ul>
Date/Time:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 11/27/2020</li> <li>▪ BY ZOOM</li> </ul>
Name of Note taker:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recreation Co-ordinator</li> </ul>
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC</li> <li>▪ VIU (2 participants)</li> </ul>

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Facilities and Amenities

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for youth populations? What is working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Dispersed appropriately throughout the city.
- Connection with NDSS.
- New facilities such as the Covered Sports Court.
- Facilities are well used but showing age.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing for the current youth population as well as the future youth population?

- More accessibility in parks.
- More invitation to use facilities, i.e. having soccer goals out instead of chained to fence.
- Multi use facilities such as facilities that have health services, sport, community gardens, and learning options.
- More Splash Pads and water parks.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the NOW to the WOW?

- Creating indoor/outdoor facilities.
- Decision makers accepting a wellness based economy.



- Recreation and wellness need to be valued beyond dollar figured.

## **2. Programs and Services**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation programs and services in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for youth populations? What is working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Playground program is outstanding.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve the youth of Nanaimo?

- More collaboration with community groups to offer unique programming.
- Hit the young adult population with more program options (18-30).
- More summer camps.
- Larger variety of summer camp options.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the NOW to the WOW?

- Create more event opportunities for young adults to participate in.
- Figuring out a way to hit the young adult population.

## **3. Current Trends and Issues**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting youth populations? What current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- Mental Health awareness with all populations.
- Aging population, how do we keep them active?
- Missed generation of young adults in recreation, why do we not offer programming?
- Covid-19.
- Increase in individual sport such as mountain biking and golf.



**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and issues regarding the youth population should we be prepared to respond to, that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

- E-Sports programming.
- Virtual Recreation offering.
- Investment in more cycling tracks.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the NOW to the WOW?

- More health care options present in a join use facility.
- Programming and marketing for individual activities such as hiking trails.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Specialized Recreation – INCLUSION GROUP
Date/Time:	▪ 30 / 11 / 2020 ▪ BY PHONE
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC ▪ Parent of Child with Diverse Abilities

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Facilities, Amenities and Infrastructure

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructures in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for your user group?

- Foundation welcome and safe.
- Meets basic needs.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing?

- All recreation facilities:
  - Bathrooms not gender identify
  - No large change tables
- Airport has inclusive bathroom.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

- Ensure Capital Planning.
- Do stakeholder meetings.



## 2. Programs and Services

**NOW:** Thinking about RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Variety provided in programs, adults/children.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve you or your user group?

- Tried programs for children with diverse needs.
- Opportunities/integration/inclusion – with other children.  
Squamish – great volunteer program.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

- Create more inclusive opportunity.
- Fenced playgrounds.

## 3. Current Trends and Issues

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- Break for parent.
- Opportunity for inclusive programs.
- Exhausting, don't know, parent/caregiver full on participating.
- They want a break from having to join in the program with their child.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and/or issues should we be prepared to respond to that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

- Squamish volunteers. Good program to look at.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?



## **OTHER GENERAL DISCUSSION**

- ▶ Page dedicated in Activity Guide to resource out who to talk to about swimming etc. for children with diverse abilities.
- ▶ Where to go.
- ▶ Activity Guide.
- ▶ Low cost option.
- ▶ Non-Covid.
- ▶ New Years. Overwhelmed. Large events need a Quiet Room – Over-stimulized.
- ▶ CDC Xmas Party (Quiet Room) safe place. Colouring, music, 1 staff person.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Phone Conversation Sports / Special Needs
Date/Time:	▪ November 27, 2020 at 2:00pm
Name of Note taker:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC ▪ Bonaventure Support Services Ltd.

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Facilities and Amenities

**\*This is from the user group perspective of Lacrosse and Special Needs Programs**

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Depends on which hat he is wearing!
- Is currently out of Lacrosse, but for many years he was President of Lacrosse and assisted with the NDSS program
- Lacrosse:
  - Nanaimo is a hockey town, but the goal was that the sport was treated fairly and with as much time that was fair. He doesn't feel that this has fully been achieved, but we're getting there.
  - The box is fantastic. Would be great to close in, but it's great nonetheless.
  - Similarly sized sport organizations have indoor locations all year round, which is great for them but something he'd like to see Lacrosse get also.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing?

- Adding a dedicated change room facility at Barsby would be fantastic. To have four teams there would be ideal. That way games could be run there, rather than just practice.
- Covering the Lacrosse boxes.
- Closed in boxes would be great.
- Aquatics:
  - Another outdoor pool would be great. Perhaps a north end pool would be beneficial near north Jingle Pot Rd.
  - Reopen Beban Pool as soon as possible: understands that the demand just isn't there at the moment as a result of COVID



**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the NOW to the WOW?

- We need people participating, and making it easier to participate.
- More funding into youth sports.
- Grants and partnerships.
- Parks & Rec programs for Lacrosse would be a great way to get more attention to the sport.
- Cost doesn't seem to be an issue but something to explore.

## **2. Programs and Services**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation programs and services in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Special needs programs are working extremely well.
- The programming that the City offers is really good. No large concerns,
- Adult ice hockey does well for subsidies.
- The City has always been receptive to input, and the group is appreciative.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve you or your user groups?

- Part of the issue is that people just aren't participating (in both lacrosse and special needs). Parks & Rec offers a good amount yet people just aren't attending. So to get more traction on these programs.
- More daytime programs for lacrosse and special needs.
- Youth and child subsidies should be looked at, as there are gaps there that need to be taken care of

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the NOW to the WOW?

- Speak directly with participants to find out what days and times work well for them. This would go a long way, as it is felt most of those in the disability groups don't get many people asking them directly.
- Reach out to those who don't always get their voices heard.



### **3. Current Trends and Issues**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- No-brainer: COVID!
- Cost is a big factor and issue for those in the special needs programs
- LEAP program has its benefits and pitfalls

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and issues should we be prepared to respond to, that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

- LEAP program is a great program but perhaps needs to be tweaked
- More adult teams

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the NOW to the WOW?

- Having a City liaison whose role is to strictly speak with stakeholders in town on a regular basis to allow ongoing discussion, allowing for constant communication and transparency in hopes of continuously establishing efficient programs



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Sports – DAN MARSHALL FLOOR HOCKEY GROUP
Date/Time:	▪ 23 / 11 / 2020 ▪ 2:00-2:23pm ▪ BY PHONE
Name of Note taker:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC ▪ Coordinator, Dan Marshall Floor Hockey Group

## Discussion Questions

<p><b><u>1. Facilities, Amenities and Infrastructure</u></b></p>
<p><b>NOW:</b> Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructures in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for your user group?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Growing up in Coquitlam, there weren't too many options for hockey. It was apparently on his arrival that Oliver Woods Community Centre was ideal for floor hockey.</li> <li>▪ The upstairs viewing area is adequate for spectators.</li> <li>▪ Departure Bay Centennial is a fantastic area for the group (ball hockey).</li> </ul>
<p><b>WOW:</b> Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ More netting at Departure Bay Centennial Park so pucks don't go into neighbours' yards and driveways.</li> <li>▪ More of a dedicated area for change rooms at Oliver Woods. To have two would be ideal.</li> </ul>
<p><b>HOW:</b> What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the <b>NOW</b> to the <b>WOW</b>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Oftentimes the lobby area is empty at the time of their user group's session, so to have a change area near there. Or potentially a room nearby to dedicate as an added change room.</li> </ul>

## **2. Programs and Services**

**NOW:** Thinking about RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Drop-in hockey on Friday nights was a bit too much of a controlled space with a culture that wasn't reflective of the group.
- Wheelchair basketball program is so amazing.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve you or your user group?

- As a lifelong ball hockey fan, to keep registered and drop-in sport programs is crucial. These options should remain in the guide for all to enjoy. Both private and public programs help one another.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

- Strong user groups and committed players.
- More leaders in the community to take on the responsibility to allow these gym programs to keep running.
- City of Nanaimo should actively seek leaders in the community to run fair and inclusive programs.

## **3. Current Trends and Issues**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- COVID is the big issue and factor at the moment.
- Current trend is that the middle-aged demographic seems to be the main players, with very little intake of younger players.



**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and/or issues should we be prepared to respond to that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

- Would like to see younger adults (18-30) jump on board to lead and spearhead the next wave of floor hockey enthusiasts.
- League play opportunities. How, where?

**HOW:** What ideas do you have addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the **NOW** to the **WOW**?

- Marketing to the younger crowds.
- Utilize social media sites.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Specialized Recreation – Island Swish</li> </ul>
Date/Time:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 02 / 12 / 2020, 2:00 pm</li> <li>▪ BY PHONE</li> </ul>
Name of Notetaker:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recreation Co-ordinator</li> </ul>
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC</li> <li>▪ Island Swish</li> </ul>

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Facilities and Amenities

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- The set-up is great: entrance, great hoops that can be raised and lowered, and serves larger groups.
- When VIU closes for exams, it’s been great for the Mariners to continue to practice.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing?

- Lack of availability. Block booking is desired but only provided little pieces. This is difficult when booking K-12 age groups.
- 20% of programs are booked at OWCC, yet they would book closer to 90% if given the option. Booking quarterly isn’t ideal for them.
- To have another facility similar to OWCC would be fantastic, as basketball is growing in popularity. Many participants are from the north end, so a sportsplex somewhere there would great.



**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the NOW to the WOW?

- An arrangement to set up blocked time for the entire year instead of quarterly would be key. He knows it's a difficult task but that is what would benefit his groups the most.
- The quarterly booking system (winter, spring, summer, fall) needs to be rejigged, as it doesn't benefit their group and puts demand and pressure on finding suitable locations.

## **2. Programs and Services**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation programs and services in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- For the Island Swish group, their flexibility has been key in their success i.e. not able to find bookings at OWCC so having to be patient and flexible.
- Great connections and relationships with booking – Danielle is so great to work with.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve you or your user groups?

- Island Swish is really just hoping to expand their own services, not so much delving into the services offered through City of Nanaimo Parks & Recreation. Although there is great correlation and partnerships, but Matt is more focused on expanding his own group and becoming a resource for youth of all ages and genders.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the NOW to the WOW?

- N/A

## **3. Current Trends and Issues**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- COVID is a large impact, mainly in facility bookings and in lack of participation.



- Facility availability, or lack thereof, has been the biggest hurdle, mainly because so many locations have closed as a result of COVID.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and issues should we be prepared to respond to, that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

- Booking far in advance needs to be a new trend, rather than quarter to quarter.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the NOW to the WOW?

- Working with other groups to find suitable space and training.
- Advertising through the City of Nanaimo.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Sports – MARINERS VOLLEYBALL CLUB
Date/Time:	▪ 12 / 04 / 2020, 11:00 am ▪ BY PHONE
Name of Note taker:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC ▪ Mariner Volleyball Club

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Facilities and Amenities

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- OWCC when time slots are available.
- Sand Volleyball Courts - sand is in great shape.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing?

- More indoor gym sports spaces, amazing how few options there are for the size of Nanaimo.
- More gym opportunities for user groups.
- OWCC not set up well for Volleyball, gym spaces are not configured for volleyball.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the NOW to the WOW?

- Work with Provincial Sport groups to make facilities accessible for large tournaments.
- Work with local clubs and organizations in the design process of facilities.
- Add spaces for spectators such as bleachers.
- Work on updating equipment in facilities such as volleyball posts.



## **2. Programs and Services**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation programs and services in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Booking agents are great.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve you or your user groups?

- More court space for volleyball bookings.
- Work with user groups on allocation process.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the NOW to the WOW?

- Shift user group access time around, i.e. adult floor hockey should have a later slot than nine-year old volleyball.

## **3. Current Trends and Issues**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- Lack of facility access for gym sports youth programs.
- Population growth has led to a lack of programmable space with recreation.
- Increase popularity in gym sports.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and issues should we be prepared to respond to, that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

- Build new facilities with indoor sports access such as gymnasiums.
- Partner with user groups to develop more functional spaces.
- Increase availability for youth sports that are not hockey and soccer.



**HOW:** What ideas do you have for addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the NOW to the WOW?

- Build new facilities that are not ice rinks and fields.
- Partner with schools and organizations to create community recreation hubs.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Sports – NANAIMO JUDO CLUB
Date/Time:	▪ November 27, 2020 at 11:00am ▪ BY PHONE
Name of Note taker:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC ▪ Nanaimo Judo Club

**\*This is from the user group perspective of being located at the Nanaimo Judo Club at Sid Clark Gyro Park**

## Discussion Questions

### **1. Facilities and Amenities**

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Working really well; happy with relationship with City of Nanaimo. Been in this facility for over 50 years and are very happy with the cost of rent over the years.
- During pandemic days, it has been reasonably successful and manageable.
- Partnerships with Nanaimo maintenance crews has been positive.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing?

- They understand it is a heritage building, but it is worthwhile to consider upgrades. The building is aging and may become unsuitable in the near future.
- Bigger building: change rooms, showers, extend into back alley, make it generally more appealing. This could be a great opportunity for expansion and could clean up the general area



**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the NOW to the WOW?

- Fundraise and find suitable partners.
- Research Grants – there may be some great opportunities out there to help with this, even just piece by piece over the years.

## **2. Programs and Services**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation programs and services in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Good partnership with Pacific Sport that has proven to be successful throughout the years.
- City of Nanaimo has done a fabulous job at maintaining the area.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve you or your user groups?

- Try to expand Judo cross-training with the City of Nanaimo: join Judo and get X amount off at the NAC or NIC, etc.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the NOW to the WOW?

- Set up meetings with Managers to discuss partnerships.

## **3. Current Trends and Issues**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- No-brainer: the pandemic has affected the Club a fair amount. Down 50% since winter 2020.
- Drug use and vandalism around the building is common. Not necessarily a trend but it is impacting their group. That said, they are happy with the City crew who are quick to act and clean up the area daily.
- Satisfied with the options that Nanaimo has in terms of recreation and leisure. This is already a Wow for the group!



**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and issues should we be prepared to respond to, that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

- Nothing to add at this time.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the NOW to the WOW?

- Nothing to add at this time.

### **OTHER GENERAL DISCUSSION**

If the ReImagine team decides to pursue some of the suggested 'wows', will they reach out to the Nanaimo Judo Club to request their input? The Club would be happy to take part!



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Sports / Special Needs
Date/Time:	▪ 01 / 12 / 2020, 11:00 am ▪ BY PHONE
Name of Note taker:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC ▪ Odd Fellows Badminton (1)

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Facilities and Amenities

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Oliver Woods is working fairly well for the group. Great facility for the group – meets all the needs.
- Really happy working with Danielle Tyre to set up time.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing?

- Used to be able to set up their own nets, but as a result of COVID they are no longer allowed to set up the nets. The staff don't set up the nets properly, unfortunately. It is off by an inch or so which greatly affects their play.
- Lighting is critical for badminton, and the lighting in Oliver Woods is not ideal for this sport. Recently the lights at OWCC were changed and they aren't working well for this group, as it affects their eyesight and subsequently their play.
  - The lights seem to have three 'banks' or settings. Preferably it would be just set to one bank so that it isn't so bright.
- Benches don't allow for enough space for 25 people. More seating would be ideal.
- New facility for indoor racquet sports (pickleball and badminton). These two sports work well together – similar floor lining and lighting. Tennis might be workable but does require different needs so they should probably be kept as separate facilities.
  - Bowen Park area would be a great location.
  - Make this a high-end facility so that large-scale tournaments can be held there.



- Another Oliver Woods in town would be fantastic.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the NOW to the WOW?

- Do a walkthrough with City of Nanaimo staff to ensure that they are setting up the nets properly.
- Analyse the lighting to see what is necessary and safe for play.
- Perhaps set lights at one per bank. If too low of intensity for other sports, can it not just be turned up higher when they play?
- The top half of the curtain divider is perforated; you can see light from the other court and that affects eyesight. It would be of great benefit if this was not perforated so that players were not affected.
  - Odd Fellows is willing to discuss pitching in to cover the cost of this project should the City be interested. The group would find this extremely beneficial and they would be happy!
- Adding more benches or some chairs would be great. A good space is against the red wall.

## **2. Programs and Services**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation programs and services in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Constantly amazed at how much the City of Nanaimo offers in the Activity Guide. It is great to see.
- Not much free skating (drop-in skating) during the day. Would be great to see some more options.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve you or your user groups?

- Adding drop-in skating during work hours.
- Continue with registering for drop-in badminton online as it takes away from people lining up in the lobby, which was a huge deterrent.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the NOW to the WOW?



- Continue relationship with Recreation staff and supporting what they offer.

### **3. Current Trends and Issues**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- COVID has had a huge impact.
- Pickleball has really taken off and he foresees this continuing. This may result in higher demand for space.
- Badminton has a large contingency of Asians and he foresees more and more people from that area of the world moving here, so we must adapt and welcome.
- Climate change is impacting Vancouver Island and will continue to do so.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and issues should we be prepared to respond to, that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

- Researching solar panels to assist in energy usage.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the NOW to the WOW?

- Meeting with General Managers and possibly the Board to discuss how to get to the WOW.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Floor Users
Date/Time:	▪ 11 / 30 / 2020 – 2:35 PM ▪ By E-MAIL,
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Support Services Clerk
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Manager of Recreation Services ▪ Roadrunners’ Ball Hockey Team (1)

### *Introduction:*

- Group focused on promoting clean and sportsmanlike adult ball hockey.
- There are very few options to participate in this.
- Only option is drop in hockey at Oliver Woods on Friday nights.
- People have stopped attending that program due to unregulated play.
- This led to development of our group and main not for profit tournament.
- Before the pandemic, there was real buy in from participants on clean and sportsmanlike play.
- Group had discussions about expanding into a not for profit league and a not for profit ladder system.
- Nanaimo's current infrastructure doesn't support that, and it also no longer supports our main tournament either.

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Facilities, Amenities and Infrastructure

- Drainage issue at Departure Bay multi-sport court.
- Adjacent tennis courts could also be changed back to a 2 tennis court/2 pickle ball court orientation, from the current 1 tennis court/3 pickle ball court orientation.
- Covered box at Harewood could be left open again for recreational use.
- Departure Bay Centennial Park had one tennis court removed and two permanent pickleball courts put in its place, so we can no longer use that facility. In the approx. 20 years I have used the park, I have only seen one person playing pickle ball, and that is when I tried it myself. Tennis players are now playing on the pickle ball court, as the tennis court was already in use.
- Outdoor options are very limited.

- Multisport court at Departure Bay Centennial Park has become less usable in the last couple of years (when there is a heavy rain it becomes flooded with mud/dirt making it very slippery).
- School surfaces are too small for adult ball hockey.
- Lacrosse boxes are usually taken for lacrosse.
- Covered box now locked full time, one less option available for recreational use.
- During the winter there are fewer options.
- Oliver Woods is a great facility, but it is in very high demand.
- High schools are in very high demand, and as a rental group the school can (and does) cancel your booking any time that the school needs the gym.
  - The multisport court at Departure Bay has been used for hockey, basketball, soccer, lacrosse, kids learning to ride bikes, etc.
- More of those needed in Nanaimo's communities.
- More gymnasium facilities like Oliver Woods would also be fantastic, as they really seem to serve a wide range of user groups.

## **2. Programs and Services**

- Drop-in hockey at Oliver Woods has the potential to be a positive asset to the ball hockey community, though it needs much more stringent regulations.

## **3. Long-Term**

- Long Term Dreams - the 60' x 120' multisport court model seems to be a good one.



**STAKEHOLDER MEETING – SPORTS FIELDS USER GROUPS**

**Meeting Details**

Meeting Title:	▪ Sports Fields User Groups – Parks, Recreation and Culture
Date/Time:	▪ 17 / 11 / 2020 ▪ 5:30pm ▪ BY ZOOM
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Allocations Clerk
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ General Manager, PRC ▪ Manager of Recreation Services, PRC ▪ Parks and Open Space Planner, PRC ▪ Nanaimo Minor Baseball Association ▪ Merriman Soccer Academy and Pacific Coast League ▪ Nanaimo Raiders Field Lacrosse ▪ Southside Minor Football Association ▪ John Barsby Secondary School Football ▪ Vancouver Island Raiders Football

**1. Introduction**

- Staff provided the introduction to the meeting. Discussion topics include:
  - REIMAGINE Nanaimo discussion
  - Development of a medium-sized stadium at NDSS Community Field, Serauxmen Stadium and Rotary Bowl
  - Development in partnership with School District #68 for artificial turf fields at Harewood Centennial Park
- Introduction of meeting attendees representatives from sports including baseball, soccer, various levels of football, and field lacrosse.

**2. Facilities, Amenities and Infrastructure:**

**NOW** – Thinking about the current sports facilities, amenities and infrastructures in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for your user group?

- Best kept sports fields in the province
- Great to have NDSS Community Field as it adds another field for our soccer group.
  - Having the other amenities at NDSS will be great.
  - Great to have three artificial turf fields.
  - Have you looked at a partnership for developing an indoor facility for soccer, field lacrosse, and other sports?

- Having something like Pacific FC in Langford (Westhill Stadium) or the one in Vancouver. Has a good artificial turf area and basketball and futsal.
- We are swapping fields for our football team from Caledonia Park to NDSS Community Field so will affect how the logistics are done for our group.
- Great job with the artificial turf fields
  - Continuing to expand is absolutely critical.
  - This is a busy town athletically.
  - The covered space at Harewood Centennial Park – would love to see some portable artificial turf to bring in there for other sports.
  - Having more amenities around NDSS would be great
  - Having the ability to do ticketed events at NDSS would be good.
  - Having the stands at NDSS has been really good.
  - Covered stands are really helpful when there isn't great weather or too much sun.
- The two artificial turf fields at Beban and at NDSS have worked out very well for hosting High School football regular season games and playoff games.
  - Artificial turf is now a requirement for hosting playoff games so we have been very fortunate to have these facilities

**WOW** – Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities, or infrastructure could make sports in Nanaimo amazing?

- Keep washrooms easily accessible and open for all bookings and maintained at all times.
- Addition of amenities like concessions and change rooms.
- Work on facilities around the field, expand change rooms
- Build an indoor facility for soccer and other sports
- Many sports organizations rely on concession and apparel sales to generate revenue for their operations (uniforms and equipment). It would be great to have concession facilities onsite (as at Caledonia Park) at all of our artificial turf fields.
  - Change rooms and washrooms onsite are very important.
  - The facility at Merle Logan is designed so there is a viewing / filming / PA platform on the roof. This is superb concept and would be terrific to have something similar at other sites.
  - Access to utilities like electrical, water and PA

### 3. Current Trends and Issues

**NOW** – Thinking about sports in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- COVID19 has had a huge impact on our teams this year.
- If we have to continue to socially distance we will need more room for practices.
- Making sure amenities are maintained and ready for user groups

- Only football team in this league that does not have a home stadium. The stadium development would really help us in hosting events.
- We are outgrowing Comox sports field as our practice space so would be nice to move practices to NDSS Community Field.

#### **4. Stadium Development at NDSS Community Field**

- Could we build an elevated tower for a press box with a PA system to broadcast games?
  - Will it be like the Bear Creek facility?
  - Could we build a space for high performance training facility on the grounds or a physio space?
- It is a good location due to its proximity to the highway and easy for people from other towns to navigate to.
- How does it work out right now with all the different sports? Will you have more competition for groups wanting to use it?
- Yes, there will be conflicts so we will need more fields
- Are you going to be able to fit everything in at this location? It seems like a tight space.
  - 3 to 5,000 is a great size for this community
  - It will be the high demand field
- Getting our football games on artificial turf will be a big deal for us. We have issues with the natural turf in October.
  - Everything is ready there for Canadian Football field sizing.
  - It will give us a place to call home
  - We use Comox Field for practices but we are outgrowing it
  - It will allow us to have a large group size
  - If we also have to social distance, we will definitely need more room
- Having the ability to have night games, to draw crowds in, would be great.
  - Engage the community
  - Events for the community to attend
  - Proximity to the university
- What about the grass size inside the track area at Rotary Bowl? Is it the right space for a field? Not quite big enough for Canadian football.
- The Track Club needs natural turf and can't hold events on artificial turf.
- The seating is so far away from the field with the track in front of the stands that it doesn't really work for watching events on the field.
- The Westhill Stadium is a good example.
- A mid-sized stadium, 3 to 5,000 covered seating with a raised PA booth / speakers and press boxes would also be terrific at the NDSS site.
  - Very importantly, having each site's PA / press booth wired to allow broadcasting of games via the internet would be superb for our various sporting events to be broadcasted to large audiences.
  - This also would go a long ways towards being able to host major championship and playoff events.

- Having the fencing to allow for a gate at the NDSS location is BIG! Something similar at the Harewood project would also help.

## 5. Development of Artificial Turf Fields at Harewood Centennial Park

- What about working with the school board in having another Field Lacrosse academy?
- Barsby would definitely be interested in a field lacrosse program.
- Will this project only happen based on the grant application? It will move the project forward faster but we will work with the school board regardless.
- Will it have lights and stands?
- Sherry Fields is definitely high use so it would be nice to see the development in Harewood.
- We would definitely like to see the construction of the artificial turf surfaces and lighting that are proposed for the Sherry Fields in Harewood.
  - A scoreboard and a two storey PA booth / speakers are a critical part of the project.
  - Storage sheds for equipment would also be very important there.

## 6. Additional Discussion

- Important to fill in the online survey and can be sent out to others.
- Alumni would definitely want to have input into the development of the amenities.



**STAKEHOLDER MEETING – SPORTS FIELDS USER GROUPS**

**Meeting Details**

Meeting Title:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sports Fields User Groups – Parks, Recreation and Culture</li> </ul>
Date/Time:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 18 / 11 / 2020</li> <li>▪ 7:15pm</li> <li>▪ BY ZOOM</li> </ul>
Name of Notetaker:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Secretary, Parks</li> </ul>
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ General Manager, PRC</li> <li>▪ Manager of Recreation Services, PRC</li> <li>▪ Parks and Open Space Planner</li> <li>▪ Nanaimo Track &amp; Field Club, President</li> <li>▪ Nanaimo Track &amp; Field Club, Manager</li> <li>▪ Nanaimo Track &amp; Field Club, Board Member</li> <li>▪ VIU Athletics Department, Interim Director of Athletics and Recreation</li> <li>▪ McGirr Sports Society, Treasurer / Accountant</li> </ul>

**1. Introduction**

- Staff provided the introduction to the meeting. Discussion topics include:
  - Development of a medium-sized stadium at NDSS Community Field, Serausmen Stadium and Rotary Bowl
  - Development in partnership with School District #68 for artificial turf fields at Harewood Centennial Park
  - REIMAGINE Nanaimo discussion
- Discussion around current pandemic conditions and how it affects play and programming.
- Introduction of meeting attendees including operators of Rotary Bowl, operator of McGirr Sports Complex and representative from Vancouver Island University Athletics & Recreation Department.

**2. Stadium Development at NDSS Community Field**

- Working on development of a medium-sized stadium at NDSS Community Field.
- McLeod Field in Langley was provided as a stadium example for stadium / track facility
- Track use needs to keep natural turf available for track events
  - Great to see the concept for additional amenities at the site
  - Will you consult with stakeholders on design? Yes.
- Is security fencing for the whole complex being considered? Would be helpful to curb issues with vandalism.
- We are limited what we can do on the site currently due to vandalism.

- Would be nice to plan for lighting at McGirr Sports Complex through a grant process.
- University of Alberta stadium was offered as a good example to look to.
- It is a great location for Vancouver Island University as it feels like a home facility due to its proximity.
  - When we hosted Soccer Nationals at Beban Artificial Turf Fields, it was a process as the infrastructure was not there.
  - We had to bring in power, trailers for change rooms, etc.
  - Having the infrastructure in place would really benefit us and we could host those bigger events.
- Will we have the infrastructure to stream or webcast events? That would be important to us.
- Would like to see a medium-sized stadium built at NDSS field
  - Include all amenities outlined in the report including some private boxes
  - 3000 seats minimum with the ability to expand to 12,000 with portable seating for big events.

### 3. Development of Artificial Turf Fields at Harewood Centennial Park

- Harewood Centennial Park is a great park and has been great for the neighbourhood.
- Access to additional turf fields will be great.
- We could use at least one more artificial turf field in the city
- VIU soccer would be supportive of the development of artificial turf at Sherry Fields.

### 4. Facilities, Amenities and Infrastructure:

**NOW** – Thinking about the current sports facilities, amenities and infrastructures in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for your user group?

- The NDSS Community Field has been great, using it through the winter time and using the lighting.
  - Proximity to the Nanaimo Aquatic Centre is great
  - Lots of the parks are utilized by our group for endurance training
- In discussing artificial turf fields, we host Ladies Fastball, the largest slo-pitch league, seniors ball and then tournaments from April to October. Three quarters of them don't want artificial turf fields.
- Will there be artificial at Serausmen Stadium?
  - Yes, the group there desires it so it is identified in the development plan.
- Typically, there is not a lot of demand for artificial turf in baseball
- Rotary Bowl – there is a lack of public washrooms at the facilities in that area, especially during the COVID shutdown of the aquatic centre and ice centre.

- It was nice to have the washrooms in the north grandstand open for the public use but understand it couldn't be maintained because of vandalism.
- At McGirr, we are still using cinder on the tracks. What is in use at Rotary Bowl and Serauxmen?
  - Rotary is rubberized track
  - Serauxmen is the grey material, not the cinder.
  - The City was going to change one of the fields at McGirr from cinder to the grey material.
- Having access to the NDSS field for VIU home PacWest soccer games as well as training slots at the field.
  - Close access to the Rotary Bowl for team activities.
  - Both facilities are conveniently located right beside the VIU campus.

**WOW** – Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities, or infrastructure could make sports in Nanaimo amazing?

- Proposal for NDSS site is good but they are currently missing the common infrastructure
  - The ticketing, the change rooms / washrooms, the food trucks, the big entranceway.
  - All the common amenities so that you can host high profile events.
- For hosting large events with the right set up.
  - Media booth or a raised area for broadcasting.
  - Soccer Nationals in Coquitlam at Pinetree (*Percy Perry Stadium*) they had a great entry set up.
  - Concrete tables that marked the entryway.
  - They had power access in the right place.
  - The logistical features are important.
- A medium-sized stadium built at NDSS field
  - Upgrade some existing facilities and fields.
  - Nanaimo should have more fields with adequate floodlights for both youth and adult use on a year-round basis, this would be amazing.
  - One more artificial turf field in the city would alleviate the booking pressure on the three existing artificial turf pitches.
  - Upgrade the Rotary Bowl facility, rehabilitate the grass field inside the track, making it accessible for both NDSS high school, the community and also VIU athletic teams and classes.
  - Add floodlights to the Rotary Bowl for the grass pitch and track and field events and year-round training. Then all three facilities would have floodlights.
  - Upgrade the Caledonia Park field – rehabilitate the grass pitch and add floodlights to the facility to help increase use and provide another quality facility with lights in the city.

## 5. Current Trends and Issues

**NOW** – Thinking about sports in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- Use of the track has increased dramatically since March (COVID).
  - Seeing all day use and even after dark
  - Every bit of space is being used by people of all ages.
  - Boot camps in the grandstands
- Do we need to formalize the use and provide public drop-in times?
- We definitely need more signage as the Track Etiquette is not happening.
- Would be nice to connect a recreation coordinator with the staff at Rotary Bowl to develop a sign or using a park ambassador.
- We have been more flexible compared to the past where we used to close the track during practice times. Because of such high use, we are not closing it off.
- Walking the Parkway Trail, there are motorcycles / dirt bikes using the trail even though they are not allowed.
- The high school has been using the track more as an area for cohorts and there is an increase in garbage on the site.
- Question from Rotary Bowl operators – for university use at the track, is there something we could do to have the university use it more? Should we be adding anything?
- Currently the university uses it for training for fitness by the teams, including the grandstand stairs and the track.
  - Could be utilized by the Kinesiology program for a track and field course
  - The location for the university is great
  - Student population also uses it for fitness classes
- The Track Club uses the stairs at the university for training.
- VIU does not have an outdoor athletic field or stadium of any type for training and competition on campus. This is a major problem and one that seems to have no easy solution.
  - VIU should partner with the City on these projects, especially NDSS stadium and Rotary Bowl.
  - Not having our own facility as an institution is difficult, we are not able to train when we want to all the time, or have first priority at the facility.
  - Late training times – 8:30pm on weeknights is the only option for an adult team. This is not preferable and is an issue.
  - There are not enough quality grass and turf fields in the city with quality surfaces that have floodlights and can be used 12 months of the year even during the wet periods in winter.

**WOW** – Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and issues should we be prepared to respond to, that could make sports use in Nanaimo amazing?

- Hopefully with more improved facilities, Nanaimo can provide more access to facilities for more user groups both youth and adults.

- The City could host more major events including high school, university, community athletics, outdoor shows, etc.
- Nanaimo has a new baseball team to play at Serauxman Stadium, hopefully VIU will endeavour to apply to be accepted into Canada West / U Sports in the near future and be playing at the top tier of university sport in Canada.
- A stadium and updated Rotary Bowl would be fantastic for soccer and track programs.
- A stadium could also possibly attract a franchise in the new BC League One semi-professional soccer league when it begins (both men's and women's) which will be a second division on the men's side. This would be a tier below the Canadian Premier League (CPL) which has now completed two seasons.

**HOW** – What ideas do you have for addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the NOW to the WOW?

- Consult all stakeholders from youth to adult to post-secondary, include senior amateur teams and organizations.
  - Determine specific needs to the groups and how they can support any of the projects either financially or in other aspects.
  - Enquire into all municipal, provincial and federal grants that may be possible for such projects.
  - Explore the possibility of Nanaimo hosting the BC Summer Games, Canada Games or any other large events which could help be a catalyst to get things started.

## 6. Additional Discussion

- Living in the Westwood Lake neighbourhood, everyone is curious what will happen now that the caretaker house has been pulled down.
- At Westwood, it would be great to be able to run directly off the dam connecting the trail straight back rather than running into the parking lot.
- A partnership project between VIU and the City for a new gym would be great.
- Would be great to have a facility like Canada Games facility in Kamloops with an indoor track and meeting rooms and its versatility is quite impressive.
- The university definitely needs a new gym and training centre.



**STAKEHOLDER MEETING – SPORTS FIELDS USER GROUPS**

**Meeting Details**

Meeting Title:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sports Fields User Groups – Parks, Recreation &amp; Culture</li> </ul>
Date/Time:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 26 / 11 / 2020</li> <li>▪ 4:30pm</li> <li>▪ BY ZOOM</li> </ul>
Name of Notetaker:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Secretary, Parks</li> </ul>
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ General Manager, PRC</li> <li>▪ Manager of Recreation Services, PRC</li> <li>▪ 7-Aside Soccer</li> <li>▪ Women’s Field Hockey</li> <li>▪ Nanaimo Sports and Social Club</li> <li>▪ Nanaimo Ultimate</li> <li>▪ Nanaimo United Football Club (President)</li> </ul>

**1. Introduction**

- Staff provided the introduction to the meeting. Discussion topics include:
  - REIMAGINE Nanaimo discussion
  - Development of a medium-sized stadium at NDSS Community Field, Serausmen Stadium and Rotary Bowl
  - Development in partnership with School District #68 for artificial turf fields at Harewood Centennial Park
- Introductions: Two members of Nanaimo Sports and Social Club, Field Hockey (men’s and women’s), 7-Aside Soccer, Nanaimo Ultimate Frisbee, Nanaimo United Football Club (soccer).

**2. Facilities, Amenities and Infrastructure:**

**NOW** – Thinking about the current sports facilities, amenities and infrastructures in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for your user group?

- General access – there is enough field space for our soccer group for both natural and artificial turf and the condition is good.
  - The interface with the City has been good and growing to a functional relationship.
  - The distribution of fields around the City is good and there are fields in each section of the City which works well for our programming.

- For adult programming looking to rent – working with the City and Gail for bookings - communications is top-notch and very friendly and accommodating when it can be.
- Ultimate can usually book the fields we need with no problem.
  - The new booking system (PerfectMind) had some hiccups.
  - We play year-round. Grass in the summer time and artificial in the winter.
  - Having an artificial turf at Sherry Fields would be great, especially in the winter time.
- The bookings have improved over the last year and getting the dates early has been really helpful.
  - The set up with the two artificial fields side by side is really great and NDSS has been good also.
  - We now run our spring program (soccer) entirely on artificial turf.
  - Sometimes coordination is hard. More facilities for the fall/winter would really help.
- Year-round bookings vs. spring / summer and fall / winter bookings – twice a year does seem to work.
- Field Hockey – we are a small group and access is a bit difficult and the cost is high for us for the one hour a week we need.
  - It is hard to get access to fields on weekdays as a small group.
  - The only artificial field that has field hockey lines on it is Second Artificial and we have storage there.
  - If we want to host a tournament (opportunity every 10 years) we need two fields but only one has our lines so we end up taping on our lines.
  - Would nice to see a gap between groups' bookings as we are sometimes delayed onto the field by 30 to 40 minutes and then a group after us is waiting for us.
  - We've had problems not getting lights on as well.
  - We would love to do a weekday night but can't get the time. But overall happy.
  - Groups need to not switch fields at Beban because it messes up group's that need the lines and elements of the one field.

**WOW** – Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities, or infrastructure could make sports in Nanaimo amazing?

- Have we ever considered a water system to cool the artificials off in the summer time? So far, our summer bookings have not that been busy but we could talk about it and consider it.
- Availability can be hard for our medium size group.
  - One issue is in the summer, adults can't rent till after 8:30pm, even when they are available.

- We could book a program of 4 or 5 hours but we could be given the boot for a youth group wants the field.
- A drop-dead date where we could book would be good with a guarantee we wouldn't be bumped.
- We would like to book a 10 week session but not if we are going to get the boot.
- The intention of the policy is first come, first served with priority to youth. They shouldn't be able to disrupt your booking. If it was a tournament, we could shift things but not for just a youth practice.
- Indoor gym facilities – there's really limited options. We can only get about one hour. We would like another Oliver Woods with additional gymnasium space.
- We have a lot of pressure to have more gym space but it doesn't have priority as of yet.
- Our lit natural turf fields are available more now as games are played on the artificial turf.
- We usually rent September through June and we rent about 16 hours of indoor gym time from the School District at various facilities.
  - Would be nice to have a City-owned indoor gymnasium available for rental (Oliver Woods is too booked up).
- We use the elementary school gyms for some sports but they are too small for some sports (basketball) but getting into the high school gyms is almost impossible so we could also use more gymnasium space.
- Does the covered space at Harewood Centennial work at all for your groups? Sports and Social has not used it. Ultimate hasn't yet.
- We could still add basketball hoops and lines so take a look and let us know if it works for your programming.
- The idea of an indoor fieldhouse (large indoor facility for sports) for soccer is where we are looking towards in the future.
  - Would be nice to use for multi-sport, like soccer, volleyball and basketball.
  - As a club, one of our challenges is our size (big group, 2,000 members).
  - We like the idea of multi-purpose.
  - A multi-sport hub with connections to sports fields is the ideal for us.
  - Certainty in bookings is very important as our programs have grown so much and it is really hard to lose a field at some point, especially on Saturdays.
- We are doing the fees and charges review. On our sports fields we bring back about 10% of the cost of operations. We are thinking of doing one fee for the artificial turf.
- We aren't unhappy with the fees. If every single one of our fields became artificial turf and indoor as well, we need to be conscious to keep it affordable for our families. Natural turf is suitable quite often for the program we are running.
- I do agree on the booking with adults and getting dates confirmed.
  - A fieldhouse example, Tyndall Park in Saanich, it is small but really nice fields with change rooms and a beer garden area.

- We just don't have a facility like that yet.
- We haven't attempted a beer garden yet but if we could have that combo with soccer fields, it would be awesome.
- We do support artificial turf at Sherry Fields because it could bring a lot of the programs back to the south end of town and bring sport and activity back to a lower income area. It is an underutilized area versus what it used to be like
- Especially in these winter months, a field house would be amazing for programming with an upper level viewing area.
  - Not sure if Nanaimo is there yet but would be great to see.
  - If everything is happening at the same place, really brings it to the next level.
- In terms of a fieldhouse, an indoor space, how small would work for ultimate and field hockey? Does futsal size work? Ultimate is played on a full size soccer field but when we switch to indoors, we modify the game to 4 or 5 against each other rather than the seven, so yes, smaller could work.
- For field hockey, we take a break in December and January because of the weather. We have used the fieldhouse in Oak Bay and it has worked for us. Would we get the priority though as we are a small group?
- What other amenities would you like to see in a fieldhouse?
- A social area would be great
- A bit of a social space – Pacific FC one or the Nanoose one are good examples. If there was a community one, you could see it very busy. Hang out and play a sport.
- We want to offer recreational sports for adults and then have the social component. People are meeting at places either before or after and keeping it all in the same place would be great
- It would allow us for a really good flow, four change rooms, two that are on and two that are cueing up. Rally area is big enough so the transitions can happen smoothly.
- We have been talking about a fieldhouse for a number of years. The Beban Master Plan brings it up. It is the location for it.

### 3. Current Trends and Issues

NOW – Thinking about sports in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- COVID restrictions and costs.



**4. Stadium Development at NDSS Community Field**

- The idea with the stadium is to focus on one location

**5. Development of Artificial Turf Fields at Harewood Centennial Park**

- Will there be a ball diamond that is also artificial turf? Yes, just a different colour of turf
- Could we also have lighting towards the other direction on the natural turf (John Barsby Secondary field), that could be a nice warm up area for the artificial turf and a space for teams waiting to get on the artificial.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Youth – BIG BROTHERS and BIG SISTERS
Date/Time:	▪ 11/25/2020 ▪ BY PHONE
Name of Note taker:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC ▪ Big Brothers and Big Sisters

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Facilities and Amenities

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for youth populations? What is working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Locations, all areas are utilized with a facility.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing for the current youth population as well as the future youth population?

- More policing or security guards at facilities.
- More facilities within schools.
- Facilities are often one dimensional and therefore typecast by the youth. For example Oliver Woods and Bowen are for seniors only.
- Give Beban Park a face lift, facility has grown old and tired.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the NOW to the WOW?

- Create joint use facilities such as a facility linked to a school with health options and partnership options.
- Program all demographic activities at all facilities. I.e. youth programs at Bowen.

## **2. Programs and Services**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation programs and services in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for youth populations? What is working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Variety of program offerings.
- Providing choice for youth.
- Some free programming.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve the youth of Nanaimo?

- Partnership with more community groups for programming.
- Partnership with more community events such as Youthpalooza.
- More grant access to community group programming.
- More low cost programs.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the NOW to the WOW?

- Continue to grow relationships with community groups and organizations.
- Continue to try new program offerings.

## **3. Current Trends and Issues**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting youth populations? What current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- Ongoing and ever shifting trends with youth - how do we keep up?
- Mental Health.
- Drugs and addiction.
- Youth in isolation.



**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and issues regarding the youth population should we be prepared to respond to, that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

- Mental Health Leadership programs facilitated by youth.
- More drugs and alcohol awareness.
- Behavioural support while in facilities.
- Access to low cost/free transportation.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the NOW to the WOW?

- Subsidized transit program for youth.
- Access to more free recreation programming.
- Drug and Alcohol staff liaison.



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Youth – BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB CENTRAL VANCOUVER ISLAND
Date/Time:	▪ 11/25/2020 ▪ BY PHONE
Name of Note taker:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC ▪ Youth Programmer, Boys and Girls Club of Central Vancouver Island

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Facilities and Amenities

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for youth populations? What is working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Diverse facility options with lots of potential uses.
- Geographically convenient if you live near centres/facilities.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing for the current youth population as well as the future youth population?

- South Nanaimo Recreation Centre similar to Oliver Woods Community Centre.
- Youth orientated space with a gym, and a couple rooms.
- More options closer to bus routes.
- North End facility is senior orientated, not many options for youth in the North End.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the NOW to the WOW?

- Take the Community Centre blueprint and add another one or two throughout the City (i.e. South end.)
- More accessible facilities.

## **2. Programs and Services**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation programs and services in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for youth populations? What is working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Relatively affordable programming.
- Diverse recreation options.
- Some free options.
- Youth Staff.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve the youth of Nanaimo?

- More opportunities for those who do not want to play competitive sports.
- Low cost arts and drama programming
- Lower athletic barrier for programs. I.e., beginner programs for those who have not grown up playing sports.
- More low cost and free youth programming.
- E-Sports programming.
- Virtual options.
- More Youth Lounge.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the NOW to the WOW?

- Keep trying new ideas.
- More youth involvement in planning process.

## **3. Current Trends and Issues**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting youth populations? What current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- Mental Health is huge with the youth population right now.
- Covid-19.
- Heightened emotions within youth.
- Youth who are in lockdown, having no access to programs.
- Substance abuse.
- Isolation from friends and families.



**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and issues regarding the youth population should we be prepared to respond to, that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

- Partnering with organizations to provide substance abuse support.
- Post Covid-19 programs with focus on mental health.
- Food insecurity programs.
- Diverse options to help battle these trends to provide an out for youth.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the NOW to the WOW?

- Accessibility - low cost programs.
- Food security distribution from our facilities.
- Bring activities to the youth. I.e., programs in schools.

#### **OTHER GENERAL DISCUSSION**

- ▶ Any other input or information provided



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Youth – NANAIMO YOUTH SERVICES ASSOCIATION
Date/Time:	▪ 11/27/2020 ▪ BY PHONE
Name of Note taker:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ Recreation Co-ordinator, PRC ▪ Tom Esakin- Nanaimo Youth Services Association

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Facilities and Amenities

**NOW:** Thinking about the current recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure in Nanaimo, what is currently working well for youth populations? What is working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Oliver Woods Community Centre is a well designed facility that has potential.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what changes to facilities, amenities or infrastructure could make recreation in Nanaimo amazing for the current youth population as well as the future youth population?

- Develop centres into wellness centres.
- Create parks and green spaces that are quality, model after Vancouver.
- Use higher quality materials in parks and facilities.
- Update architecture as it looks dated.
- Make facilities more welcoming for youth and their workers.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation facilities, amenities and infrastructure from the NOW to the WOW?

- Wellness Centre approach.
- More medical, counselling and urgent care options instead of traditional recreation offerings (ice, pool).
- Model facilities and parks after larger cities such as Victoria and Vancouver.



## **2. Programs and Services**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation programs and services in Nanaimo today, what is currently working well for youth populations? What is working well for you and/or your user groups?

- Nothing. Youth do not use facilities as too many barriers.

**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what programs and services could be expanded upon, modified or added to better serve the youth of Nanaimo?

- Basic Life Skills Courses.
- Gaming and virtual programming.
- Social Media awareness programming.
- Friendlier and more welcoming staff.
- Housing and financial assistance programs.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for taking recreation programs and services from the NOW to the WOW?

- Adapt Wellness Centre Approach and forbid traditional centre.
- Partner with outside establishments.
- Contract programs such as Youth Leadership to outside organizations.

## **3. Current Trends and Issues**

**NOW:** Thinking about recreation in Nanaimo, what current trends and/or issues are impacting youth populations? What current trends and/or issues are impacting you and/or your user groups?

- Social Media having negative effects on Mental Health.
- Youth Depression.
- Drugs and Addiction.
- Anxiety.



**WOW:** Thinking about Nanaimo in the future, what trends and issues regarding the youth population should we be prepared to respond to, that could make recreation services in Nanaimo amazing?

- Systematic approach to recreation. More programs that do more than just have youth play sports.
- More intentional programs addressing youth poverty.
- More emphasis on life skill programming.

**HOW:** What ideas do you have for addressing current trends and issues that would take us from the NOW to the WOW?

- Transformational and value based learning.
- P & R contract outside organizations to do programs such as life skills and leadership programs.



## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Parks – NATURE NANAIMO
Date/Time:	▪ 19 / 11 / 2020 ▪ 7:00 pm
Facilitator:	▪ Environmental Planner
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Parks and Open Space Planner
Participating Groups / Individuals:	City of Nanaimo: ▪ Environmental Planner ▪ Urban Forestry Co-Ordinator ▪ Parks and Open Space Planner Nature Nanaimo: ▪ 23 participants
	▪

### ***Introduction:***

Mission Statement of Nature Nanaimo:

***To foster an interest, appreciation and enjoyment of natural spaces and to promote the conservation of healthy, natural ecosystems in the Nanaimo region.***

Introductions done by Facilitator

Nature Nanaimo has 156 members, 99 of whom are active (pre-Covid) 96 active members (post-Covid), 57 new members this year.

Planner introduced the ReImagine project, and presented the overview and PowerPoint, including:

- ReImagine Nanaimo
- Climate action and environmental responsibility
- Emissions
- Climate adaptation and change
- Stewardship and volunteerism resurgence
- Planting trees in parks to sequester carbon
- 70% of parks are natural parks PRC-1
- Trail degradation and overuse recently
- Nature Nanaimo is a partner with \_\_\_\_\_
- Buttertubs Marsh management
- How we move today chart.
  - Metrics for BHB measurement at municipal scale are provincial/public sources.
  - Fuel and energy consumption data.

- Discussion about climate change impacts from making concrete. 8% of world Co2 emissions are from concrete making.

## Discussion Questions

### 1. What challenges do you see from Nature Nanaimo's perspective, that the City needs to address?

- Low linear city, with hills and low density, are a barrier for active transportation.
- ATV use/dirt bikes in Lotus Pinnatus Park. Need to protect rare plants. Loss of species and diversity that comes with climate change. City should monitor and protect biodiversity.
- Increased dog walking and dogs off-leash is hurting the ecosystems. Dog owners letting dogs and people on sensitive areas targets for pervious covers.
- Private developments are removing so many treed areas.
- Increased park use can hurt ecosystems that should be preserved in parks.
- Aesthetic vs. natural values. Natural is beautiful event if it is not manicured.
- Rising number of freighters off Protection Island via Port Authority.
- Geese management and population control...geese live 20 years.
- New LED lights have drawbacks on environment and neighbourhood lighting should be dimmed or lowered as compared to intersections.

### 2. What opportunities do you see from nature Nanaimo's perspective, that the City should be pursuing?

- Parks and green Nanaimo contribute to the sense of place.
- Free transit consideration – universal or otherwise, and consider levies to pay for infrastructure.
- Planting for pollinators as much as possible.
- Densification of the City.
- Look at alternative power sources for grid on the City.
- Consideration of mini busses and creative transit.
- Protect rail corridors as wildlife corridors/greenways.
- More invasive species management and comprehensive biodiversity plans for the City.
- Building community through additional volunteer planting initiatives.
- Development of a biodiversity study for the city to identify damage, restoration and protection sites and strategies.
- Parks downtown need more greenspace.
- Create indicators and targets for biodiversity similar to urban forest targets.

- Look for alternatives to pavement for increased penetration – especially for parking lots. Innovative ideas to accommodate more flows for a more resilient community. Emergency overflow paths and storm detention areas.
- Protect wildlife corridors between parks and natural areas.
- Have a staff specialist on wildlife management.
- Expand tree voucher program for lawn conversion with pollinators, shrubs, etc.
- Legislation to save trees on private property.
- Have more information on the City website on how to switch to heat pumps, how to install pollinator gardens, benefit from rebates etc.
- City could acquire marsh at the end of Fielding Road as it is for sale.
- City could acquire more land behind Westwood Lake for park and biodiversity.
- Lotus Pinnatus Park/ATV's/dirt bike conflict. Sign to preserve flowers from moss layer impacts.
- Opportunity to measure more biodiversity and ecofriendly indicators. Opportunity to try and change behaviours through feel-good measurements and wake-up measurements.
- Opportunity to include more biodiversity values in land planning.
- Consider marine parks to protect sensitive marine habitats such as Neck Point.
- Consider creative “no dogs” parks where ecosystem is priority over dogs and recreation. See how ecosystems recover with no dogs.
- Balance biodiversity and increased use in parks.
- Increase the native plant recovery program.
- Market Nanaimo as a green city. Green vision i.e. no plastic bags, lots of parks and trees etc. Everyone buys in and bylaws are in place to support.

### 3. What should the priorities be?

- Have how-to info on the City website/YouTube.
- Saving existing tree cover before it's gone.
- Saving rail corridors for wildlife.
- Educating the public on \_\_\_\_\_
- City forming new aesthetics/values with education.
- Managing parks for all values. They are a major reason why people move to Nanaimo for quality of life. Value wildlife and diversity with recreation.
- Add more native interpretive signage re habitat values and community of living things around us to educate.
- Having clear indicators that the public can see behavioral change/impacts or leach thereof. Indicators such as CRD or Progress Nanaimo. Build in feel-good tallies – number of pollinators/number of trees planted/emission numbers. Feel good moments and incentives to change behaviors.
- Biodiversity and reducing carbon footprint.
- Building infrastructure to encourage walking and cycling.



- Maintain healthy biodiversity in the City.
- Vision for Nanaimo as a green community through all aspects of community. Use as a key marketing tool and strategic vision for the City.



# NANAIMO PROFESSIONALS BIOLOGISTS/ARBORISTS

## KEY THEMES AND HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Challenges
- ▶ Opportunities
- ▶ Process Review
- ▶ Bylaw Review

## Meeting Details

Stakeholder Group or meeting title	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ PROFESSIONAL BIOLOGISTS AND ARBORISTS</li> </ul>
Date/Time:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Zoom</li> <li>▪ 23/11/2020</li> <li>▪ 3:00 pm</li> </ul>
Staff in attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Environmental Planner</li> <li>▪ Urban Forestry Coordinator</li> <li>▪ Environmental Protection Officer</li> </ul>
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ EDI Environmental</li> <li>▪ Aquaparian Environmental</li> <li>▪ EcoFish Research</li> <li>▪ Davey Tree</li> </ul>

### Introductions:

All participants gave a self-introduction, which included their position on the NALT Board and their stake in the group.

Environmental Planner for the City of Nanaimo, thanked everyone for participating in today’s stakeholder engagement session. Listening to concerns and issues is the main focus of today’s session. He gave a review of the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process, including an outline of each Phase, timelines and how feedback would be used moving forward.

Information regarding the ReImagine Nanaimo process including background, questionnaires, video chats about different issues, and the state of Nanaimo can be accessed at [getinvolvednanaimo.ca](http://getinvolvednanaimo.ca). Stakeholders were encouraged to share this website with family and friends.

The Climate Action Plan was developed in 2012 and will be updated. A Climate Resiliency Strategy was approved in the summer of 2020, focussing on climate change and how the City can lower emissions so that we are in line with other communities.

A Water Supply Strategic Plan was created in the summer of 2020 setting long-term directions. How can we conserve water, what are the needs with Nanaimo's growing demands? The expectation is that Nanaimo will need a new dam in the future - what are the positive/negative impacts on the Nanaimo water shed? How will this impact the Nanaimo River, the water it provides to Nanaimo, and the fish that reside there?

Environmental Priorities – The City has joined many other communities in dealing with the current climate emergency, setting aggressive reduction targets. The Climate Action Plan being updated will set out how these targets can be achieved. With all City plans being integrated, targets will be easier to achieve. Vehicles, and homes using primarily oil heat, emit harmful emissions. Longer term, Provincial and Federal requirements will help reach targets but current construction is the biggest challenge to lower emissions. Retrofitting opportunities are available with new construction requirements. The City sees itself having the most influence in lowering city wide emissions through efficiency rebates, better education for homeowners, and switching from oil to natural gas to less carbon intensive heating systems.

More intense rain events are causing localized flooding. Dealing with local as well as continental wide fire smoke demonstrates our need to prepare for the impact these events have on our community. Hotter, dryer summers and poorer air quality all year, have a negative impact on our vulnerable populations, elders and homeless. How do we prepare for this?

What do you see as **challenges** when working with current policies and processes with the city?

- City should provide better guidance on what to expect in meeting levels of restoration and implementing the 'no net loss' principle as part of a variance application for the City.
- Regarding climate action. Biologist work primarily in adaptation. As in how do we design green spaces or reduce the pressures on green spaces through adaptation. The heavier lift and the more important issue is addressing what is the mitigation needed to lower emissions city-wide. Ultimately, the answer is electrify everything. Transit needs to be more convenient. Smaller electric transit vehicles should be considered.
- Increased use of parks and natural areas: need to avoid degradation of sensitive areas not well protected by vegetation (terrestrial herbaceous, coastal bluff) – sometimes it is severe due to trampling (Neck Point Park is one example).

- Increased motorized vehicle use in some areas - significant damage to ecosystems and trails.
- Need more and more funding for maintenance of trails and other public amenities and for restoration/enhancement as pressures increase.
- With more tourism and more use of natural areas in the City, how will the City ensure some tourism dollars go to addressing these impacts?
- Some park infrastructure observed appears to not be well-designed to a proper/typical standard (erosion sediment control, drainage control, stream crossings). Incorporate climate change/resilience (properly constructed with extra capacity as needed to address storms/floods).
- Trees in the City are under pressure to be cut down. Many clients are often trying to find ways to remove trees. As a business, would like to transition to ways to treat tree health issues instead if simply always cutting them down.
- Loopholes in bylaw are being exploited. Tree under the minimum DBH trees requirements are being removed as fast as they can.
- People new to the island see large trees as a threat to their home. Not as an asset.
- More education and awareness about trees needs to be done to help lower concern.
- Need to stop undersized trees being cut down which will impact our heritage / significant trees in the future.
- The creation of tree preservation zones may make sense in some areas of the City that have been built up more (downtown?) as a way to try and protect the remaining trees in these locations.
- One arborist may say no to a request to remove a tree and later drive by and see its been cut down by someone else. No consistent approach my local tree companies.

What do you see as **opportunities** when working with current policies and processes with the city?

- I think there's an opportunity for the City's internal/capital projects to more closely follow the same guidelines that developers have to follow when it comes to environmentally sensitive areas.
- Opportunity: Tree bylaw should take into account GHG emission values in calculating compensation to fund further restoration / enhancement projects.
- Opportunity to use pristine grubbed topsoil/organics from development sites in Nanaimo to restore city lands (Parks etc). Tough to see quality soil/organics be spoiled and not used for restoration of important areas. Could maintain an inventory of areas needing restoration so it would be easier to make arrangements for developers to haul and dump quality soil/organics for restoration purposes (much more effective than simply planting an area that has no quality soil/organics).
- In addition to preventing tree removal: tree permit fees could be increased in accordance with ecosystem service and carbon emission values and to include a way to fund tree planting and ecosystem enhancement in the city (not just planting). Ecologically important to retain/replace/plant trees but also benefits City's GHG reduction targets.

- Monitor and fine contractors for improper management of construction sites (recent house construction in new subdivisions filled with debris, garbage and eroding soil - is very common). Garbage observed blowing into adjacent natural areas.
- Approve electric skateboard/scooters for use in City and encourage province to change legislation (currently illegal to operate these motorized methods of transportation except on private property).
- No natural gas lines to new subdivisions. Discourage installation of new natural gas furnaces/appliances.
- Work with RDN and private forest lands as needed for tree planting and enhancement areas if City does not have enough for carbon offsetting.
- Provide a property tax rebate to residents who purchase offsets.
  - Add offset options to City services (residents purchase, get tax rebate)
  - Partner with local businesses to provide discounts to residents who purchase offsets
- City should push opportunity for residents to plant more trees on provide land beyond tree voucher program.
- Any tree regardless of species less than 30"DBH change in bylaw. From an environmental perspective, a good move. From a business perspective, it would cut into our margin as an arborist. Still 'wild west' out here, especially outside the City in the RDN. Over longer-term. Better to expand the level of service by raising awareness of the value of trees in the community and then addressing tree maintenance issues without going straight to cutting down the tree first off.
- Education and training for local tree service companies a good idea. There is no 'red seal' certification required here. ISA is there but its not consistently applied.
- 60-70% of business is tree removals. Business does not vote for more regulation. But it's a good idea to discuss any bylaw update ahead of time with them.
- Liability is often used as an excuse. But reasonable risk needs to be balanced in this discussion.
- Opportunity to provide more specific guidance for consultants trying to meet 'no net loss' requirements. How do we define 'net gain' if that's what is expected. Will be challenging.
- Habitat measurement "white paper" to measure success – One approach could be for 20 assuming 20 years for riparian restorations to mature then need two times the loss to compensate.
- Small community restoration projects fund could be valuable to access.
- Regarding GHG Mitigation - Banning Natural Gas into new subdivisions is the ultimate action that needs to happen to meet the GHG targets. That and increasing home retrofit rebates.
- EV stations at Parks and trailheads could be a good way to create opportunity for visitors to see another side to Nanaimo than malls and commercial centers. There are other things to do than shop.

- Many parks are suffering from invasive species influx. More needs to be done to restore and turn this around. Usually around the edge where dumping occurs. An example of how Ecosystem function helps protect large intact natural areas. Seen progress but hopes more can be done. More active control of invasive. Identifying populations are and have restoration plans in place for gradual removal.
- Protecting and enhancing the estuaries eelgrass populations (Nanaimo and Millstone) is key to address climate as well protect biodiversity locally.
- Surprised can still go to a store and buy ivy.
- An effort to define and protect wildlife corridors throughout the City is important. Development pressure is going to increase so need to have amore comprehensive biodiversity strategy that defines and provides direction on protecting key wildlife corridors in the City.
- Protecting the waterfront and providing easy public access is important. Views capes are hugely important to residents.
- Education and engagement to take ownership and build a sense of stewardship. Use the SEEK app and collect different plant species in the community; iTREE also provides the public with more resources to understand the value and important of trees in the City,
- Protecting soils and reusing soils is important. Don't lose local topsoil, try and reuse it to protect the fungi. And soil biome.
- Developments are scraping and selling topsoil to pay for the 'show home' and invasive often invade the site after.

## PRIORITIES

- Maintaining what we have and not replacing what we are losing. (Higher level of protection)
- Forest and ecosystem needs to be prioritized. Not just saving the individual tree.
- Bigger bang is in GHG mitigation. Get people out of there single occupany vehicle and provide incentives to get people choosing electric over gas.
- Switching people away from oil burning heating systems in existing buildings as a priority.
- Provide more opportunities for habitat restoration. Use more of the bonding funds for tree. Fund for stream wetland restoration / community habitat restoration should be pursued. Compensation opportunities.
- Plug up loopholes in existing bylaw (Tree) and create restoration / enhancement funding that could also be used by developers to ease burden and delay. We don't want to be building the 'slums' of the future – that there is a mix of green and natural beauty throughout the City.



# NANAIMO CLIMATE SUMMIT

## KEY THEMES AND HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Challenges
- ▶ Opportunities
- ▶ Project Ideas
- ▶ Mitigation
- ▶ Adaptation

## Meeting Details

Stakeholder Group or meeting title	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ NANAIMO CLIMATE HUB</li> </ul>
Date/Time:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Zoom</li> <li>▪ 21/11/2020</li> <li>▪ 4:00 pm</li> </ul>
Staff in attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Environmental Planner</li> <li>▪ Councillor</li> <li>▪ Councillor</li> </ul>
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <a href="#">Citizens Climate Lobby</a>, <a href="#">Nanaimo Chapter Nature Nanaimo</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Transition Nanaimo</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">BC Climate Alliance</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">VIU Eco Club</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Mid Vancouver Island Electric Vehicle Association</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Mid-Island-Nanaimo Chapter of the Council of Canadians</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Yellow Point Ecological Society</a></li> <li>▪ </li> </ul>

ReImagine Nanaimo Questionnaires - Closing Nov. 30th, 2020

<https://www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca/reimagine-nanaimo>

Below are some ideas for survey comments, of changes we might like to see in Nanaimo. Many of the suggestions below came from the Nov 21 Climate Action Hub launch event participants.

Any of the ideas below could be entered into the [Ideas Questionnaire](#) or the [How We Adapt & Stay Green questionnaire](#).

## Transportation

(Could enter these ideas into the [How we move questionnaire](#))

### Walking and Cycling

- More separated bike lanes and walking paths
- Give students secure storage for their boards and bikes at school
- Safe and secured bike/e-bike storage areas at major commercial hubs
- Financial incentives for e-bikes
- More bike racks.
- Keeping bike lanes clean when you clear the roads
- More public toilets in strategic places for walkers/cyclists to access
- Create pedestrian/cyclist-only streets downtown
- more neighbourhood planning to prioritize walkable communities
- City and the school district to form a joint committee to work on active transportation
- instal more crosswalks; more flashing light signals at crosswalks

### Transit

- free transit for everyone, or for young people and those living in poverty
- All new buses should be electric starting now; plan for transition to all-electric buses
- Electric rail, Commuter trains on E&N
- Mini Buses that access neighbourhoods that are not being serviced with large buses. More frequent energy efficient transit.
- Covered bus stops with lights
- transit website improvements to make easier to understand schedules
- More electric vehicle charging infrastructure
  
- Electric vehicle parking discounts
- Facilitate carsharing expansion by cooperating with Modo. City staff to use MODO cars during day. Cars for citizens evening & weekends.
- Zero-emission ferries to Newcastle and Protection islands

## Economy

(Could enter these into the [How we work questionnaire](#))

- Develop a zero-waste [circular economy](#)
- Develop a [doughnut economy](#) rather than aiming for exponential growth, which is incompatible with life on a planet with finite resources

- Create grants to enable organizations and libraries to establish Repair Cafés and [Libraries of Things](#), enabling people to share and repair basic domestic items instead of purchasing and owning them.
- Programs at VIU to train Solar Installers and Home and Business Energy Efficiency Contractors
- Create low-barrier income opportunities for people with unstable housing (ex: paying cash daily to for harvesting/distributing fruit grown on city-owned land)

## Land Use and Food

- Protect more natural spaces, especially key areas of biodiversity and habitat
- Invest in Beban Park as an Agriculture Hub
- Develop a citizen-led farm at East Wellington Park
- Turn the Boxwood Connector project into the development of a park rather than a turn lane for vehicles.
- Many community gardens for growing vegetables and flowers
- Promote edible Landscapes and Food Forests
- Designated spaces in each neighbourhood (aside from basic parks) for community engagement and self-organizing (ie urban farms, tool co-ops, greenhouse space, space for community-level events, etc)
- Incentives for any City owned land to be used for growing food, rather than left empty. A chance for youth and low income folk to grow food.
- Learning and demonstration school farms in SD68
- More support for school food gardens
- Teach food/agriculture literacy in schools
- Incentives or requirements for regenerative agriculture to increase local food production and increase carbon sequestration,
- A Food CO-OP could buy food from farmers, do minimal processing, take orders, and deliver groceries the way school buses deliver kids
- Incentives or regulations for grocery stores to carry a minimum percentage of local produce, eliminate unnecessary plastic packaging
- Incentives for developers who keep the natural Ecosystems and trees
- City sponsored tours of Farms and Food Forests, Community Gardens to get the public to see possibilities

## Buildings

- Require all new buildings to be net-zero ready by 2023, More rigorous (much quicker) implementation of BC Step Code
- Increase financial incentives for energy efficiency retrofits, e.g., better financial incentives for removal of home oil heating systems (to switch to heat pumps)
- have the city "fund" the installation of heat pumps - people repay over time via their property tax
- Update bylaws regarding where heat pumps can be placed on properties



- Ban natural gas in new buildings
- Phase out wood stoves
- Increase the density of housing and allow for alternative types of housing such as microhousing; dense residential and industrial zoning
- Low cost rent or ability to buy buildings/warehouses for year-round more frequent markets for local produce and products
- Help promote the CleanBc retrofit program through a climate leader neighbourhood network

### **Other**

Address the climate crisis in a way that also improves housing inequity, overdose epidemic, systemic racism in our institutions, and work for reconciliation.

Create a formal Nanaimo/RDN citizen advisory committee for dealing with the climate emergency.

# NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ What Moves You? Transportation Accessibility for People who are Blind and Partially Sighted</li> </ul>
Date/Time:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 01 /12 / 2020</li> <li>▪ 4-5:30 pm</li> </ul>
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 9 Participants</li> <li>▪ 3 members of the blind/ partially sighted community</li> <li>▪ 4 City staff – Transportation, Planning, and Recreation</li> <li>▪ 2 RDN staff – Transit</li> </ul>

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Question 1 – What are the biggest challenges with accessibility in Nanaimo for people who are blind or partially sighted?

- Lack of audible pedestrian signals, lack of poles with beeps that guide you to the pole. Old technology
- Street clutter
- Inconsistent sidewalks
- Lack of or inconsistent tactile warnings for blind pedestrians- none downtown
- Nanaimo downtown worse than Manhattan for a blind person- fast close traffic, difficult crossings, poor way finding, lack of tactile warnings.
- Bastion/Commercial- stop signs instead of lights a step backwards
- Activation buttons outside line of travel can create difficulty as they force a person outside their line of travel
- Straight line of travel is what keeps us safe. Don't want to be forced to meander.
- Angled crossings challenging.
- Existing chirps too high pitched. Can't be used for echo location.
- Why don't people use the bus more? Lack of times and options; not able to make connections. Busses too infrequent.
- Audible stop announcements on buses are impossible to hear. Drivers unable to turn them up. Consider automated ambient noise adjustment. Don't test without ambient noise.

- Be careful if using paint as a means of directing traffic- blind person won't know if it is there or not
- Remember a blind person is not going to find an indicator unless they have physical or auditory way to find.
- Don't put tactile strips on the curb only.
- Rounded corners problematic for the blind. Hard to square off to orientate and create uncertainty, hesitation and reluctance to leave home
- Electric vehicles quieter, harder to listen for
- Driveway dips, can knock people off balance and can change your line of travel
- Barbara Question: what to do about roundabouts?
  - Avoid them whenever we can
  - Cars don't stop, no straight lines
  - Way finding and an audible crossing point might help.
  - Albert has a document created for roundabouts to be accessible for the blind- will share with Maddy

**2. Question 2 – What are the biggest opportunities to improve accessibility in Nanaimo for people who are blind or partially sighted?**

- Suggestion- have a group of Councillors and Staff walk with blind and partially sighted folks/ those in wheelchairs (ie: wheel walkabout in Parksville and Qualicum)
- Universal design
- Electronic line in every intersection that guides crossing for the blind and supports a users "smart cane"- beeps to encourage a straight line.
- Consider smart cities, use of automated cars
- Don't create new barriers in new construction- make it right the first time so we don't need to go back and fix it.
- Caution on over use of technology
- Focus on the built environment rather than technology, to make it more universally inclusive.
- Shore lining edges, think about line of travel
- Personal gadgets issued to those that need them to activate crossing signals
- Study Melbourne, Aus for best practices
- Contrasting colours help those who are partially sighted

- There are many kinds of vision loss and many kinds of disabilities. Think universally, for example flat curbs great for wheelchairs not great for the blind.
- Put in tactile wayfinding strips at corners when doing improvements.
- When changing lights or upgrading intersections, put in the new audible clues. Re-use older audible signals at intersections that don't have them. Something is better than nothing
- Changing intersection from lights with audibles to stop signs or 'scramble stops' problematic for the blind.
- Loves continuous curb. Minimize driveway let downs. Barbara- in new residential neighbourhoods no let downs for driveways- sidewalk will be continuous but raised. Example Bowen Road between Labieux and Kenworth- both sides
- Challenge- bike and electric vehicle can't easily be heard. Having buses enter into a bike lane dangerous
- Floating bus stops a hazard
- Consider enforcement for bike riders that don't stop behind a bus with flashing lights
- Consider best practices around the world for bus stops.
- Consider calming strategies for bikes- not a good idea to allow them around the bus when stopped.
- All cyclists should have bells and be encouraged to use them
- Reduce the street clutter in the downtown core
- Align transit schedules.
- Consider public restrooms along transit system

**3. Question 3 – There are many ways Nanaimo could be more accessible. What do you think would have the farthest reaching impact?**

- Wayfinding.
- Use tactile strips along the entire sidewalk where the bus stop is.
- Consider using different patterns
- Modern push button poles have tones that help find the poles. Low tones preferred, create less ambient noise
- Look at modern technology and standards for universal design

## OTHER GENERAL DISCUSSION

- ▶ Comment on pervasive use of the word 'accessible' - term is getting watered down overall, e.g when used to describe "accessibility" of transit for sighted/ able bodied people. Blind and partially sighted group has a very different idea of what is accessible. Need to talk about universality and universal design.
- ▶ Community amenities need to be accessible to everyone. Transit system needs to support full participation.
- ▶ Handydart is a challenge – need call in 2 weeks ahead. Have to call in immediately, because it can fill up in the first few minutes they are open. Have to be very on the ball to use
- ▶ You can book a Handydart for a doctor or dentist apt. Requires lots of pre-planning
- ▶ Getting from Cinnabar to Brickyard, Woodgrove – Handydart won't go that far. Not sure how to change this – Maybe by changing the depot location?
- ▶ Have to use city bus to get from Cinnabar to Brickyard/ Woodgrove
- ▶ Blind bus riders will ask bus drivers to stop at their destination bus stop. Sometimes they don't stop which can lead to getting lost/ disoriented
- ▶ Availability of washrooms while using the bus, and being able to find them in unfamiliar locations
- ▶ Ask directions from bus drivers to get to destinations. Sometimes their directions are bad and lead to getting lost. Story about getting lost on the way home and eventually a stranger offered a ride.
- ▶ "Be my eyes" is a free service for blind people. You can call a volunteer to help with any number of things, including using GPS to help people when they get lost. They can also make sure your outfit matches, help with cooking etc.
- ▶ Idea: using vehicles that can carry passengers on the existing train tracks
- ▶ Why are there so many buses carrying just a few people? Can buses be smaller?
- ▶ In future, blind people can use self-driving cars
- ▶ Hills are a challenge in Nanaimo
- ▶ In some areas you can follow curb, but then it stops. Have to cross the street.
- ▶ Four way intersections. Theoretically should be easy to go in a straight line because these are square, but it is so easy to become disoriented.
- ▶ E.g. Ended up taking a diagonal path at an intersection on Terminal Ave, and ended up in the middle of the intersection. All drivers stopped, and someone got out of their car to help
- ▶ Obstructions into sidewalk (posts, poles, grass, branches) are an issue. Bradley Street is the worst street to walk in Nanaimo for this reason

- ▶ No street is perfect in Nanaimo – they almost all seem to have gaps/ issues at some point along the way. Meredith has a few benefits, including a wide sidewalk with painted white line. You can feel the grass to know where the edge of the pavement is, and stick to the side.
- ▶ Vancouver is easy to get around because it is a square grid.
- ▶ Victoria not good because of old, windy roads
- ▶ The wide cracks and raised edges of concrete cause our canes to stick and jam, thereby sticking us in the belly with the top end of the mobility device. I've even gone so far as to break a cane once when walking fairly quickly and encountering a sidewalk crack that froze the cane tip. I had to call a Taxi to get me home that day because I don't carry a spare cane when out and about. I don't know what the City's policy is regarding the grinding of raised edges in order to prevent slips, trips and falls, however it would allow smoother access to Nanaimo's sidewalks if a more rigorous regiment of grinding down or filling in of those types of cracks and raised edges that catch our mobility canes was undertaken

## NOTES

### Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ What Moves You? Discussion for people who use mobility devices
Date/Time:	▪ 26 / Nov / 2020 ▪ 4-5:30 pm
Participating Groups / Individuals:	13 participants 6 representing people who use mobility devices 5 City staff – Transportation, parks, planning 2 RDN staff – Transit

## Discussion Questions

### 1. What do you see as being the biggest challenges with Nanaimo's transportation system for people who use wheelchairs and other mobility devices?

- Handydart – window of time where you cannot get a Handydart. Heavy program usage at certain times. Prevents ability to get to class, and other places in the city.
- Local and regional connections aren't always possible- Allow Ladysmith- Nanaimo connection (mentioned a few times). Buses don't always connect- ie: can't get to BC Ferries on time. Timing and frequency of connections doesn't always work
- Consider purpose of travel. Ie: university class schedule. Schedule timing has to line up to be able to access education
- Need to book Handydart far in advance. Sometimes up to 2 weeks in advance. Doesn't allow last minute or emergency trips. Not convenient for busy people. Eg without a car, can't go to church, can't go to work in the North end.
- Difficult to get around without a vehicle. Some legs of the journey are not accessible.
- Challenge of where bus stops are located – many places can't be wheeled to from bus stops. E.g. Challenging getting up hills, unsafe going down.
- City buses work well when they get you to your destination. Bus drivers are great.
- Some push bottoms to cross street are too high up (Turner and Uplands. Bastion bridge- near New York Pizza). Forces people to cross the road without a light at times
- A lot of families struggle with the Handydart scheduling. Difficult for families with kids.
- Money goes with the bigger voices- doesn't always represent the total population. Need to focus on an inclusive environment that works for everyone. E.g lowering buttons would allow more people to use, without impacting anyone else's ability to use
- Don't just integrate or adapt, focus on inclusion. Universal structural change. No matter what your ability is, you should be able to participate.
- Example visualization – 3 people watching a ball game over a fence, one tall, one medium, one short. The shorter people are standing on boxes to see over the fence. True inclusion would be to remove the fence and replace with chain link so that all can see without needing special adaptations
- You're not going to be able to please everyone, but the goal is to come as close as you can
- Problems with Handydart not only in Nanaimo.

- People in the community choosing not to be active- because they can't access transportation. Difficulties getting to work on time with bus schedule
- Bus stop at Aquatic Centre goes everywhere – try to plan programs in that area so people can come from all over
- Getting places can require using Handydart then linking to other bus, and a lot of waiting in between. Onerous, makes many people choose not to use. Making the links work is especially challenging
- Transit more difficult in south end
- Some bus drivers don't like strapping people in- other very positive comments about the drivers.
- Importance of transit for socialization. Some people take bus as a social outlet. Bus drivers can become like family. Good for mental health of the community.
- Problem with events that have multiple wheelchair users- not enough space on transit to accommodate. Accessible taxis aren't always available either. System has gotten better over the past 10 years to respond to these challenges.
- A past issue that used to happen was a bus going by a destination but there is no official bus stop there.
- Bus to/from Duncan to Nanaimo and Parksville – would be really nice if there was a bus link
- Question: is there a new weight limit for handy darts??? Erica from RDN: There has always been an upper weight limit. New lift buses- upper limit is 1,000 pounds. Anyone worried about this limit can contact RDN
- City works team has been very responsive. Appreciate quick response
- Complaints about wheelchair parking for vehicles- would be great if there were wheel chair only spaces (E.g Aquatic Centre has van only parking). Accessible spaces used by seniors, others with accessibility issues using them. Wheelchair users require wider spots than other accessible spaces. Wheelchair only spaces don't necessarily need to be right by the door.
- "Visible housing"
- New developments with terrible accessible parking spaces, need to consider design and layout. Eg Standard width parking with a wheelchair painted on it, ramp in front of parking space makes you have to park 3 feet back and hope that no one parks beside you so you can wheel around the side. Many places have designated "accessible parking" but it is not truly accessible. Works for people who need to be near the door, but not for wheelchairs.

- Nanaimo should adopt CSA standards with 2m access aisle or 5m shared aisle. Make sure people don't park in a way that makes the parking spaces inaccessible. Challenge of adapting parking in established areas
- RDN working on an inter-regional transit project to look at transit to Duncan
- Expense of taxis and availability of Handydart can force people to continue driving longer than they would otherwise choose to. Handydart drivers tend to be very kind
- Transit timing can force people to have to wait in sketchy areas in the dark – deters people from using bus
- Story: Across from Rutherford Mall – got off bus, bus drove away, went to one end of the sidewalk and snow was piled at the crossing. Went to the other end of the sidewalk and snow was piled there too. Ended up needing to wait for the next bus to come.
- City bylaws state that property owners and business owners are responsible for snow removal in front of their properties. Based on the story above, this isn't working as well as hoped.

**2. One of our key goals for REIMAGINE NANAIMO is to look at how we can get more people to choose walking, wheeling, cycling and transit. What are your ideas for how we could make these options more accessible and convenient for people who use wheelchairs and other mobility devices?**

- Being able to get everything you need within a reasonable/ wheelable distance.
- Hills make it difficult to get to services.
- Distance to services affects ability to walk/ wheel instead of driving/ taking transit
- Planning for more density with accessible services. Because things are so spread out, there are more logistical challenges to planning trips

**Parks and Recreation Discussion**

- Participants are welcomed/ encouraged to provide comments on experiences with Parks and Recreation.
- primer" ideas for REIMAGINE NANAIMO, and a few updates: Improving communication on accessibility options in parks (e.g. locations of accessible parking, access options, accessible fishing piers); New playground at Maffeo first of many projects involving experts on accessibility being part of the design process; Accessible

beaches; Requiring snow clearing to avoid key areas for wheelchair access; integrating accessibility as a key aspect of all projects.

- Bollards can cause trouble – especially Parkway trail neighbourhood access points
- Parks accessibility information being readily available will help. Eg to know if accessible washrooms are available
- Park keys can be rented out for a deposit – not well known
- Parks and Recreation staff are super helpful with booking etc.
- Westwood lake accessible boat launch is excellent, but washrooms at park are not accessible so people need to leave the park to use washroom
- A new parking lot is being designed for Westwood lake, and accessible washroom may be possible as part of that. Collaboration on accessibility features would be welcome
- RDN carrying out a transit redevelopment strategy coming out in January. Over the next three years will be expanding transit. Will be reviewing entire system. A key part will be putting more hours towards Handydart. Will be expanding Taxi Savers program. When accessible programs are happening, access to accessible transit can be very challenging and take years to get into because demand is high with other participants.
- RDN working on interregional transit – Duncan – Comox – next will be looking at Port Alberni
- Good transit and good active transportation go hand in hand.
- RDN invites participants to be in touch with comments and questions

### General Comments

- Follow up item: connections to ferry
- Story about getting home to Nanaimo from Victoria – basically, the Greyhound that was supposed to be accessible wasn't. There are no good options to get from Nanaimo to Victoria.
- Certain medical services aren't available in Nanaimo. If you don't have a car, you may not be able to access these services in other communities

- Bus shelters – Difficult to use a walker and an umbrella at the same time. Important to have cover from the rain. Seating would be good too. It’s “murder” to sit on a walker.
- City looks after “Pattison” bus shelters. RDN looks after the shelters at bus exchanges. These will be looked at as part of the transit redevelopment strategy. Input welcome!
- Nanaimo has a bit of an advantage as we have all “low floor” buses – many other communities in Canada still have high floor buses



# NOTE

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Hub City Cycles Cooperative
Date/Time:	▪ 27 / 11 / 2020 ▪ 3:00 pm
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Active Transportation Planner
Email Address of Notetaker:	▪ Active Transportation Planner
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ 4 participants ▪ 1 City staff – Transportation ▪ 3 Hub City representatives

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Question 1 – can you tell me a little about Hub City?

- Hub City is a Not for Profit coop, that also operates as a business. They sell/ rent bikes, offer bike repairs, and provide equipment for DIY bike repairs. They encourage people to learn more about bikes and bike repair
- Bike repair stations can be used by members, and members can earn time on the repair racks and used bike parts by volunteering at the shop
- Scrap metal and rubber is recycled
- Used to offer bike repair lessons at schools (e.g. Barsby Bike Club), but have been focussed on other initiatives lately. Plan to offer this again in the future

### 2. Question 2 – what ideas do you have for the future of cycling in Nanaimo

- Ebikes are becoming very popular, especially among older people
- Ebike rentals at Hub City and VIU could fill an important niche. Hub City has offered ebike rentals in the past, and plan to do this again
- Ebikes rentals would allow people to use these weekly, or as needed to run errands, without the expense of buying an ebike or worrying about storage

### 3. Question 3 – Does Hub City have a lot of members/ clients who depend on cycling as their primary form of transportation?

- In winter, people who use cycling as their main mode of transportation are Hub City's "bread and butter"
- Some people cycle to Hub City from as far away as Ladysmith, as it is the closest bike shop and offers a unique service
- Clients also come from Ucluelet and other farther away communities

### 4. Question 4 – What are the key gaps in Nanaimo's cycling network?

- Bowen Road. Off Bowen Bikeway sounds like a good option to address this
- Links to/from E&N trail and downtown – south Nanaimo. It isn't intuitive or easy to explain how to link to the E&N trail from downtown. A challenge, especially for tourists
- Continue E&N trail in the south end. Implement the E&N costing study
- Links from E&N to Bowen Road are not obvious (Boundary Ave). It is ok getting from the E&N to places, but can be hard to find your way back to the trail
- Wayfinding signage would help in the meantime before we are able to extend the E&N and fill out our network more completely

- Need a direct and accessible route to South Wellington

**5. Question 5 – We have heard other stakeholders mention the importance of bike storage areas. Do you have thoughts on this?**

- Secure bike storage facilities throughout the city would be great. Could also consider these for Mtn biking entry points.
- VIU rents their bike lockers. These are containers that you cannot see into

**6. Question 6 – Do you have comments on the integration of cycling with other transportation modes in Nanaimo?**

- Using bike with transit can be a challenge. During the morning rush when people are commuting to work, you have to arrive early to get bike on the bus. Honour system of first come first served, but this can be awkward. Often the bike rack fills up and occasionally a third person with a bike will show up, and be unable to ride the bus due to lack of bike rack space
- Demand for bike rack space on buses fluctuates with time of day and season

**OTHER GENERAL DISCUSSION**

- ▶ Victoria is a great place to cycle because you can depend on streets to have bike lanes. You don't have to plan your route as carefully ahead of time, you can just go and assume there will be facilities for you
- ▶ Even though legally bikes can share the road with cars, and this is taught to drivers and cyclists, there is still a lot of aggression towards cyclists in Nanaimo.
- ▶ Car culture in Nanaimo – drivers are aggressive towards assertive cyclists who “take the lane”. Saskatoon is redneck, but Nanaimo's drivers are even worse
- ▶ For a culture of more respect for cyclists, we need more cyclists on the road. To get more cyclists on the road, we need better facilities. “If you build it they will come”



# NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Modo Car Share
Date/Time:	▪ 17 / 11 / 2020 ▪ 1:00 pm
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Active Transportation Planner
Email Address of Notetaker:	▪ Active Transportation Planner
Participating Groups / Individuals:	▪ 3 participants ▪ 2 City staff (Transportation) ▪ 1 representative of Modo Car Share

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Question 1 – Please tell us a little about Modo

- First carshare was formed in 1997. A few others were formed over the years, and eventually amalgamated into Modo. There are still 2 independent car shares in the Kootenays
- Currently Modo has 700 cars (but some are out of service due to Covid)
- Modo is a round trip car share, Evo is a one way. Both have their merits, and complement each other. One way trips tend to create more active transportation trips
- Modo membership is comprised of individuals and businesses
- 22 municipalities have Modo, with Victoria seeing the most growth lately
- A key goal of Modo for the coming years is to move towards 0 emissions. They have a number of EVs in their fleet and are looking to expand, and also looking at hydrogen fuel cell options
- Carshare EVs require access to charging station – a key point of partnership with municipalities and developers
- One car share can replace the need for 8-12 single vehicles
- The carshare coop allows more people to choose car-free lifestyle

### 2. Question 2 – How is Modo going in Nanaimo?

- Nanaimo's Modo use is largely Vancouverites who choose to use Modo rather than pay \$200 to bring their car to the island
- The carshare system is more sustainable if local people and local businesses are the heaviest users
- Many Nanaimo Modo users are between 25-35 years old

### 3. Question 3 – How can municipalities support carshare programs?

- Some municipalities take out Modo memberships to supplement their corporate fleet
- Munis do not always use the system enough to make it worthwhile, but it “looks good” to use Modo and there is a minimum revenue agreement so Modo doesn't lose any money.
- One of the best opportunities to add new Modo cars is through redevelopment. I.e) parking variances can be supported if Modo stall provided; developers can buy a Modo vehicle in lieu of providing the entire parking stall requirements. Modo is often not consulted early enough in the development process to make this happen.
- Ways munis can support Carshare: through parking bylaw requirements; helping to make the Modo parking spots more visible; offering affordable rates for Modo parking spaces; advocating for carshare; looking at providing EV charging in the longer term; encouraging a variety of modes to make the overall transportation system work more efficiently

**4. Question 4 – How does carshare link with other transportation modes, such as active transportation?**

- Even though Modo uses cars, they are focussed on dis-incentivising car use, and encouraging a car-free lifestyle
- Ways to dis-incentivise car use/ encourage other transportation choices: repurposing street space (e.g. as seen during covid); creating “super blocks”; closing more car space for public space; make alternative transportation more convenient than driving; densify land use to support walkable neighbourhoods
- While EVs are zero emission, they do not solve all of the issues with car culture. For example, they still cause congestion and require valuable land space to be used up.
- Cargo bikes are not common in Canada yet, but fill a transportation need
- The more diverse a community’s transportation options, the better
- When people make such a large investment in a personal vehicle, they want to use it and are less likely to use other transportation options
- Municipalities can hold transportation challenges to get more people to try out new forms of transportation. Prizes and incentives can be offered.
- Car shares do not make sense for all neighbourhoods – must be part of a diverse transportation network

**5. Question 5 – Does Modo have an experience/ knowledge in bike/ micro mobility share programs?**

- In Vancouver, Modo is working with Translink to provide a program where people can get one card that gives access to Modo, Evo, Translink, and bike share. Looking at something similar for Nanaimo would require buy in from BC Transit.
- Modo has supported bike shares with “adjacency services” (?correct term?) such as sharing booking software, and facilitating integration with transit
- Example of a Van Pool – where a group of coworkers take a Modo van to work, park it so it can be used by others during the day, and then take it home again at the end of the day.
- Bike/ Micro mobility has been “fragile” – many programs have not lasted long.

**OTHER GENERAL DISCUSSION**

- ▶ People tend to change their transportation habits along with other larger life changes (such as moving to a new city, getting a different job, etc) That is a good time to “catch” them
- ▶ Modo is interested in partnering with larger employers in Nanaimo such as NRGH, VIU, etc. as that is where the carshare could be most successful. These partnership opportunities can be really helped by leveraging the City’s existing relationships with these organizations.



- ▶ There are currently no vans in Nanaimo’s fleet but these can be really valuable. Modo does have 2 wheelchair accessible vans in Vancouver and one in Victoria. It is easier to add these types of vehicles to the fleet in collaboration with a community organization/ the City.
- ▶ Modo has the potential to provide 0 emission transportation for people who would otherwise not be able to afford an electric car
- ▶ Modo has learned to grow with communities – i.e. don’t spread fleet across a city. Concentrate them in denser areas and grow/ expand along with the community.
- ▶ Modo’s 4 strategic priorities are: Affordability; Convenience; Sustainability; Inclusion



# REIMAGINE NANAIMO NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Reimagine Conversation Trails and Active Transportation
Date/Time:	▪ 2/ 12 / 2020, ▪ ZOOM ▪ 7pm
Name of Notetaker:	▪ Parks Planner
Email Address of Notetaker:	▪ Parks Planner
<b>Participating Groups / Individuals:</b>	▪ 15 Active Transportation advocates ▪ 4 City staff – Parks, Recreation, and Transportation

### *Introduction:*

Welcome and What is Reimagine Nanaimo and the process? Powerpoint presentation.

### *Listening to you:*

#### **1. What is working well with the City’s trail and active transportation system?**

- Trails—growing number of trails
- Commitment by volunteers and trail building, NMBC
- Strong volunteer base
- New stairs at Blueback are great
- Partnerships with community groups and City of Nanaimo Parks, Recreation and Culture dept.
- E&N trail—safe; north-south collector. Good width for now. Backbone of the system
- Piecemeal development—new sections of new bike lanes , sidewalks and trail are done right even if they are not complete
- Parkway Trail rehab is helping (i.e. repairing roots) —safer asphalt where completed
- Harbour Front walkway has many great features including beauty and lighting. Great route for walking and other modes
- Noticeable progress over time (last 30 years) in trails and bike lanes systems
- Boundary bike route is really great
- Biking in the community is growing---Growth in cycling and e bikes
- More lanes also helps to educate drivers about multi-uses on roads
- Mountain bike trails system is fantastic—within and outside Nanaimo limits
- Diversity of features and types of trails
- Downtown is quite walkable
- Snow plowing E and N trail and other major routes helps so much. Please maintain this service.

## ***2. What opportunities do you see for improvements?***

- Access to beauty and natural features in Nanaimo from trails and public waterfront
- Link more with destinations and lens of a tourist
- Narrow roads for cars and give more space to bikes and pedestrians where possible
- Safe routes to school and teaching kids to walk/cycle safely at a young age
- Stewart Ave cycle lanes and waterfront walkway extension are number 1 for tourism. Link from ferries to downtown on foot/cycle is very important. Especially Departure Bay to downtown.
- Multi-modal routes can have conflicts. E&N trail is not wide enough to accommodate all speeds and uses. Need parallel routes or expansion. Bend Oregon example.
- With new subdivisions, continue to think of bike use i.e.) Fleming place has a poor road design that precludes bikes)
- So many more people getting into e bikes and biking in general. New market and user group
- Create more separated bike lane
- More lighting on main routes to increase use, safety and comfort
- Council should consider creating an active transportation committee. The committee could commit to measurable goals and monitor progress in getting more people out of cars
- Connect more with the RDN, CRD, Lantzville and cohesively plan for residents and tourism
- Look at the province's active transportation study. E&N trail mentioned there to convert from rail to active transportation.
- PIMA county in Arizona has free bike safety course info. Like have a bell and use it! Get more bike safety into schools and teach kids to be bikers for life.
- Create trails on unused corridors like Arbutus Corridor in Vancouver. Like on E & N rail corridor
- Bike coop for kids so that vulnerable kids can access bikes

## ***3. What gaps and challenges do you see? What's not working well?***

- Lack of connections to the E & N trail and other infrastructure
- Piecemeal development is hard for tourism driver and also to change behaviors
- Educate drivers on safety for bikes on the road
- Conflicts between walkers and bike users as well as e bikes/heavy scooters on many routes
- Need more racks and end of trail/trip facilities
- E&N needs lights
- Third Street area trails need lights to facilitate commuting to VIU
- Landscaping challenges where roots are coming through i.e.) Galaxy motors, Bluebird hotel. Also discussion about not using herbicides to control volunteer vegetation on trail edges.
- Buttertubs does not allow bikes but is a great commuter route
- Create active transportation corridors that connect to key outdoor rec destinations rather than drive to trailhead to walk/run/cycle
- Better link transit to Active transportation routes for usability and tourism
- Signage, mapping and amenities

**Trails and Active Transportation**

- Wayfinding Signage on the waterfront walkway is lacking—especially where it goes onto Stewart Ave in places and to the ferry
- DND, Mosaic lands are so desirable but not within the city domain
- Crosswalk at town site/Stewart very dangerous. Four lanes of traffic and fast drivers. Safety issues deter walkers.
- Distinguish between e bikes and large scooters in rules (scooters are very heavy and scary if colliding with).
- Maintenance on the stoplight sensors i.e.) Prideaux/Comox. When there is a problem with a sensor, what’s the procedure to report issues?
- Roundabouts can make cycle right of way clear if designed properly. However Rutherford roundabout is unclear for cycling
- Walk and bike routes to schools are often disconnected so kids get driven instead of using active transportation
- Improved connections to Commercial Centers and then having safe storage for all sized bikes
- Connection streets between cul de sacs where there are no connections. Connect with trails.
- Encourage safe routes for family riding (like Galloping Goose). Water Front walkway and E&N are the primary family friendly routes here.
- Parkway Trail was poorly planned (grade, roots, improper base under asphalt). Riding it now adds so much time for commuting.
- Wayfinding. How do you get to E & N trail from Parksville? E & N Wayfinding signage needs work on both ends.
- Why no bike lanes in the new Westwood/JP intersection?
- Time it takes to continue trails. Like Madsen Road. Silly to dead-end with no signs in the interim.
- Money often goes into parking lots rather than building better trails and connectors. Would be better to re-prioritize funding i.e.) Mount Benson trailhead
- Sidewalks and trails don’t always connect. I.e.) Buttertubs trail system to Rotary field house on Third Street do not connect by sidewalk. Third street sidewalk is on the other side of the road.
- Snow clearing—piles are thrown onto sidewalks and it’s impossible to use active transportation
- Owners should have to maintain hedges and brush into sidewalk clearance/width
- Etiquette—cyclists should let walkers know they are coming (bells etc.). Conflicts in narrow space with multiple users
- Electronic crossing signals are better than hard push ones
- More secured bike parking is needed (like bike racks at VIU and aquatic center)
- Bike and trail system connection out to Duke Point Ferry. Safe route from City system to the Duke Point highway. Safe, well-marked cycle connections into town from both ferry terminals is very important for tourism
- Bowen Road is unsafe for kids getting to Quarter Way School. Kids would like to ride from Hawthorne area if there was a better route. Safer routes would help encourage more kids to commute and get out of the car.
- Park and rides and/or partnerships for park and rides would help to encourage more biking. Need to be more than 3 hour parking spots.
- Parking for bike valets.

### Trails and Active Transportation

- Aulds/Rutherford Mall/Old highway to parkway—lack of connected routes and sidewalks
- Many sharrow cycling signs have worn off and have not been repainted or maintained.
- Some sections of the parkway are still very dangerous (near Chase River) need maintenance and new asphalt/root mitigation.
- Multi-modal routes (like Hammond Bay) have blind corners and cyclists could hit pedestrians so easily. Water curbs don't allow cyclists to move quickly onto a safe space.
- Signage to key features from trails (like Colliery Dam waterfall adjacent to the parkway trail).
- More safe routes to school are needed to encourage more kids/families to get out of cars at an early age
- Stevie Smith Bike Park—need more emphasis on safety at Stevie Smith and Skills Park (first aid attendant and coaching).
- Join E&N trail to waterfront trail and continue E&N trail to Woodgrove.
- More education for the general population about initiatives, driver etiquette, bike lane etiquette, who yields etc.
- Would be nice to link Colliery Dam to the former GNWD lands through a formal trail

#### **4. What is your biggest priority for the trail and active transportation system? What one thing would make the biggest impact?**

- Where volume dictates, widen trails and separate user types where there is conflict
- E&N trail extension
- More connectivity and signage
- Communication between users and City staff and various municipalities/govt. in the region
- Snow clearing for pedestrians
- Clear seawall connection to the Departure Bay Ferry terminal to get tourists downtown
- Finish the walkway from downtown to the ferry.
- Safe bike lockup at destinations
- Rail trail from Comox to Victoria
- Who are the users that need the most help –vulnerable and those who don't have a car? The active transportation system serves them and they need to be considered.
- Teach kids to safely move from sidewalk to street and facilitate them to walking/riding to school.
- Land use—denser developments at key locations
- Safety audit of major corridors and look for and quick fixes (i.e.) Hammond Bay Road at Cottle Creek on narrow bridge

my house

my friend



rope swing



Nanaimo

Kind Dis  
Sharing

Being Safe  
Taking Care  
UV protection



## APPENDIX B

### YOUTH INPUT



# ReImagine Nanaimo Proposal

By: Cole, Dane, Haru, Kai, Kalem, Mika and Xiaolu

An aerial photograph of a coastal town and harbor. The town is built on a peninsula, with a dense residential area in the foreground and a commercial/industrial area near the water. The harbor is filled with boats and has a large pier. The surrounding water is a deep blue, and there are forested hills in the background.

**An opportunity we see is....**

**1. Our proposal helps people with lower income.**

**2. And to have a safe place to stay for the homeless.**

**3. It also helps the environment by using recycled soil and lots of trees in the yards.**

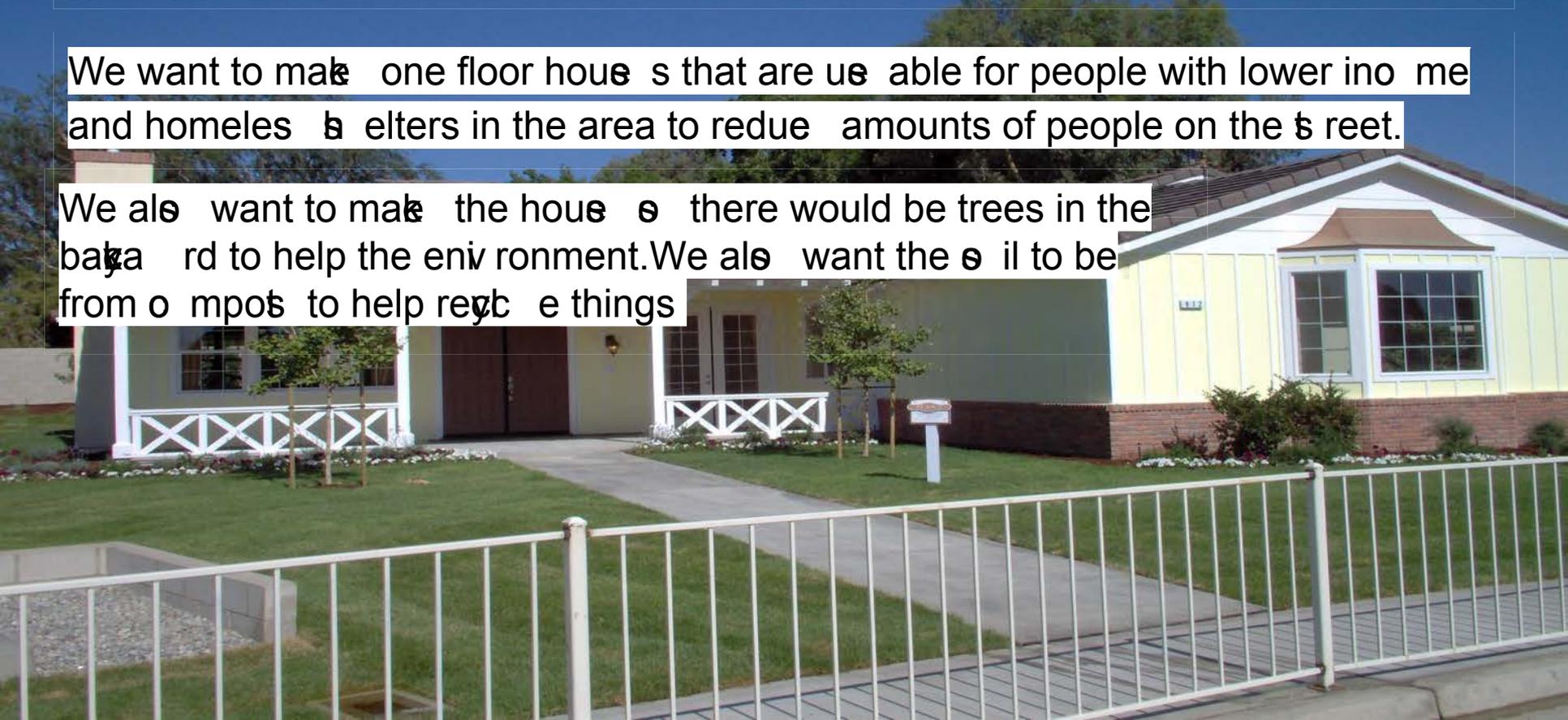
# OUR PROPOS

Our proposal is that we are going to build a bunch of one floor houses making it cheap and modern for people with low income, then we can use compost and compress it to make dirt out of it to plant trees in the backyard for the environment. Then after there could be a few homeless shelters around the neighbourhood to help homeless people and give them a place to stay until they get a job. We could also just plant some trees around the neighbourhood.

# Making cheaper houses and homeless shelters.

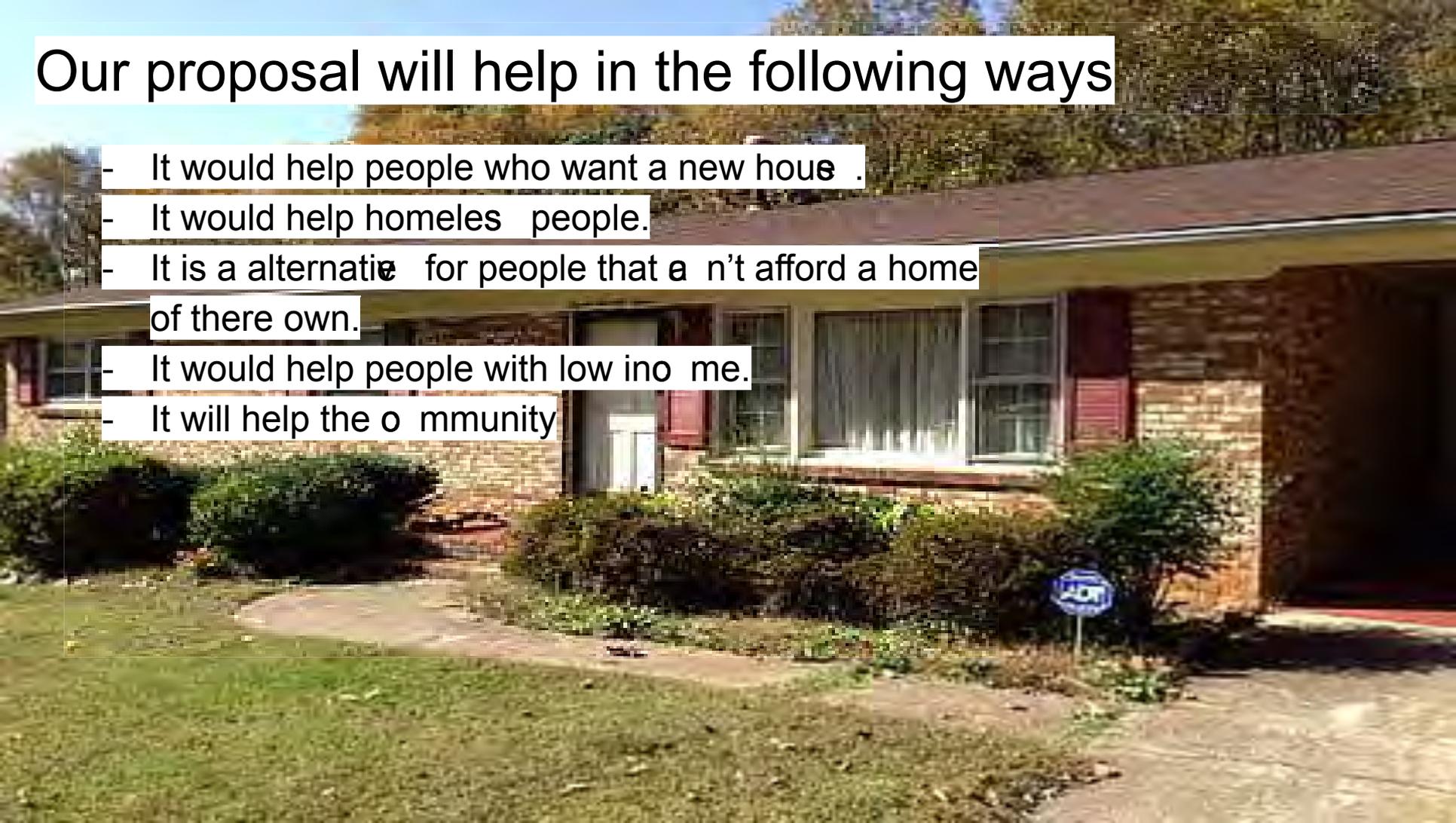
We want to make one floor houses that are useable for people with lower income and homeless shelters in the area to reduce amounts of people on the street.

We also want to make the houses so there would be trees in the backyard to help the environment. We also want the soil to be from compost to help recycle things.



# Our proposal will help in the following ways

- It would help people who want a new house .
- It would help homeless people.
- It is an alternative for people that can't afford a home of their own.
- It would help people with low income.
- It will help the community



Some may say...

Some may say that better housing is going to better help people with less money and are looking for affordable housing. Well, people with more housing may say that having better housing is a bad idea and that housing already is fine how they are.

# They might also say

The houses are too small.

They do not want homeless people by their houses. Or they do not want it in the place we put the homes.

But we think our proposal is good because...

1. It's good because there would be less people that are homeless
2. It would help people with less income who can't afford expensive houses.
3. Would help homeless people get up on their feet and have a job.



# ReImagine Nanaimo Proposal

By: Gabe, Sophia, Moses, Nick, Yune, Brodie,  
Medha, Mariam and Alyth

# A problem we see in Nanaimo is...

- littering and bad oxygen in the air from the pollution from factories and cars/buses. A unstable town with residents not taking actions can affect them in a bad way. People don't take care of themselves and their family. We want to fix that problem by adding a community garden. It will create a better environment for people to live in without worrying about their and the surroundings.



## An opportunity we see is...

- To add a community garden Downtown, near Front St. and Port Place mall.
  - The section of the land hasn't been used for awhile, it would be ideal to have a community garden there. -since all the extra food in the community doesn't use Loaves and Fishes food bank
- Though Nanaimo has already built many community gardens one in Downtown Nanaimo would be appreciated by those who can't afford regular food prices and those who can't build one of their own gardens

## We propose...

- Add a Community Garden Downtown, at the fenced off area behind Port Place shopping mall and Front St. Doing this we could plant trees and hire jobless people to observe and track what is planted. Nanaimo already has two active community gardens but we are helping the environment.



# Our proposal will help in the following ways

- unable to afford food. When they go to the community garden they can try to grow their own food.
- It can also be a big help in our community because when you go to the farmers market it says that all the food is fresh when it isn't. Which is why the
- community garden will be a big help for our community because all the food is fresh. Our proposal will help people because some people live in apartments
- and can't have their own garden. Instead they can go to the community garden and grow their own fruits and vegetables
- It can also help others who are less fortunate and aren't go

# Some may say...

- “How much will it take to build the community garden?”
- “How much garden beds do we need to supply the community garden?”
- “How much water supply does the community garden need to keep the plants alive and healthy?”
- “How much soil does it require to supply the plants?”
- “Where will you get sunlight/LED light bulbs to keep the plants alive?”
- “Where will you keep the plants?” (location)
- “Who will fertilize the plants?”
- “Who will inspect the plants?”
- “Who will run the community garden?”



# Others might also say

Others might say...

- Why do we need a community garden?
- Is it necessary?
- What type of plants are we planting?
- What rules are there?
- How much will a garden cost?

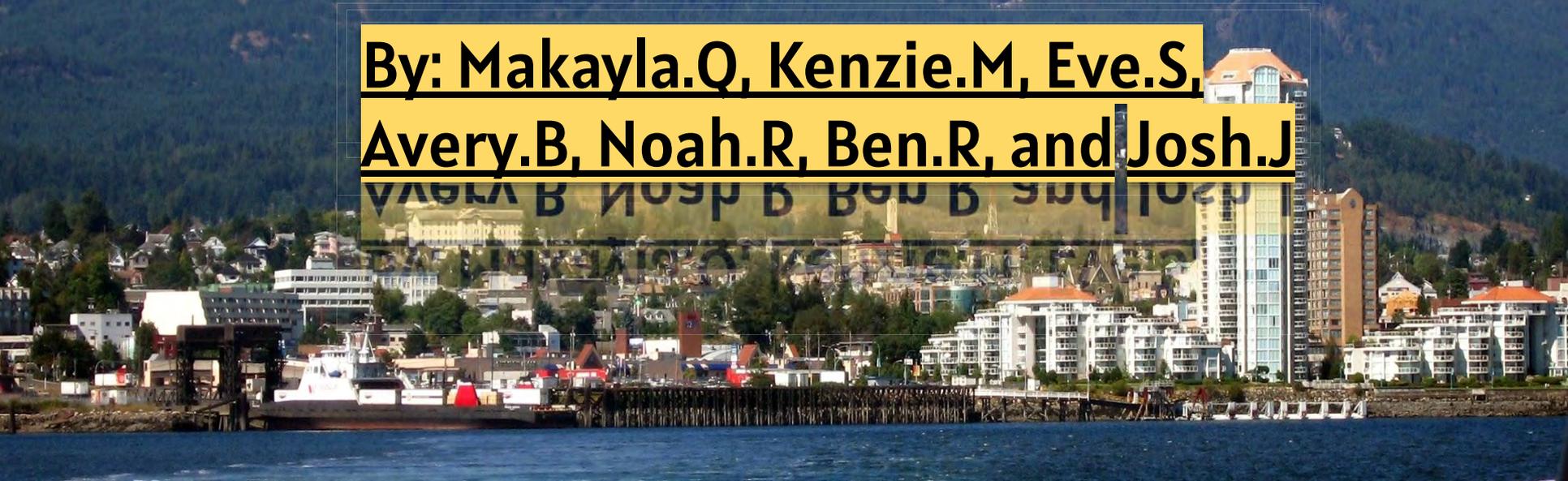


# But we think a community garden would be good because...

- It would be good because for people that can't afford food so they can grow food for less money and also produce more air.
- It would be good for community participation and a chance for people to relax
- People will be able to have a more healthy diet for much less money and more fresh meals
- The homeless will have a way to eat.

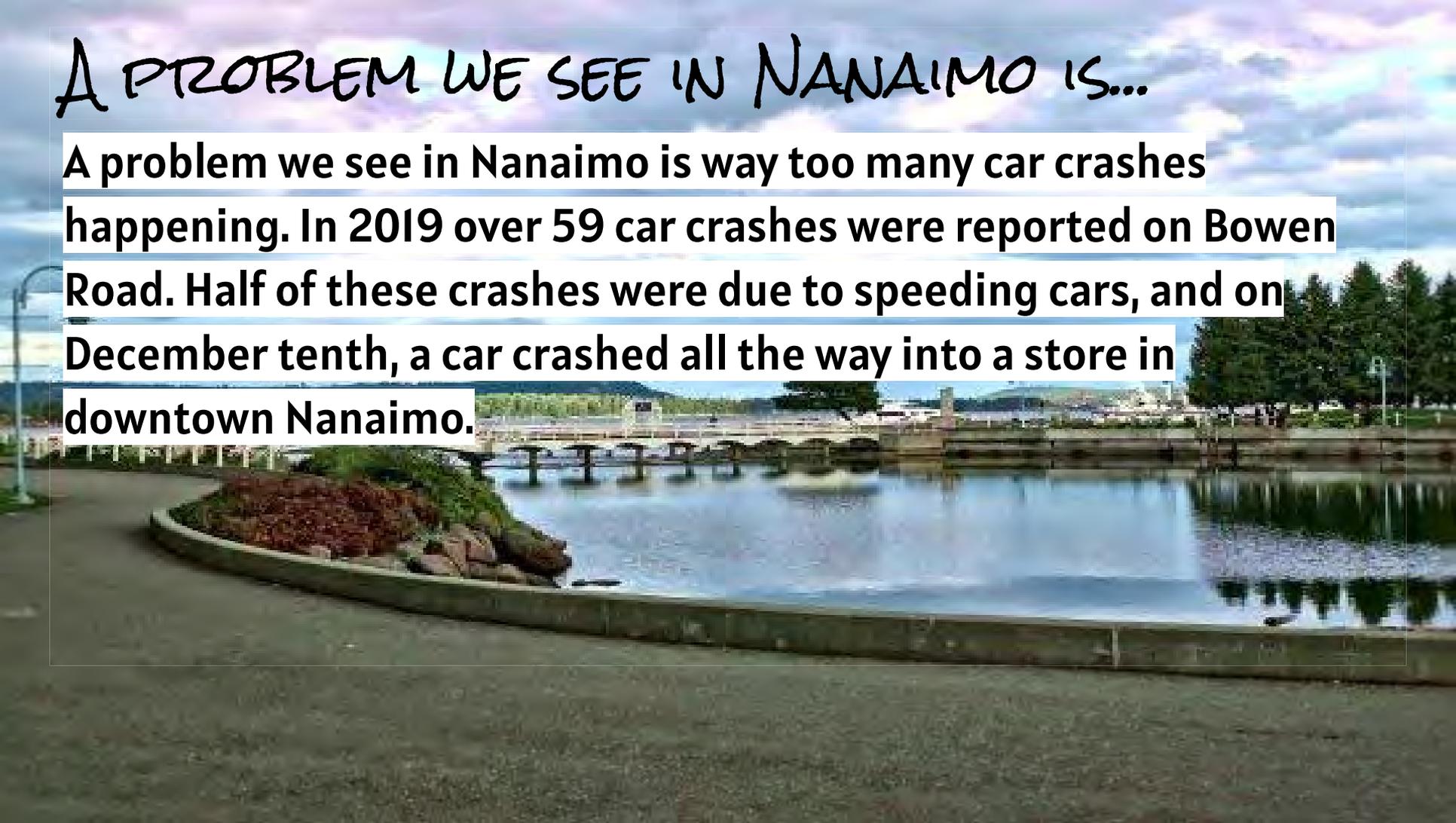
# RE-IMAGINE NANAIMO PROPOSAL

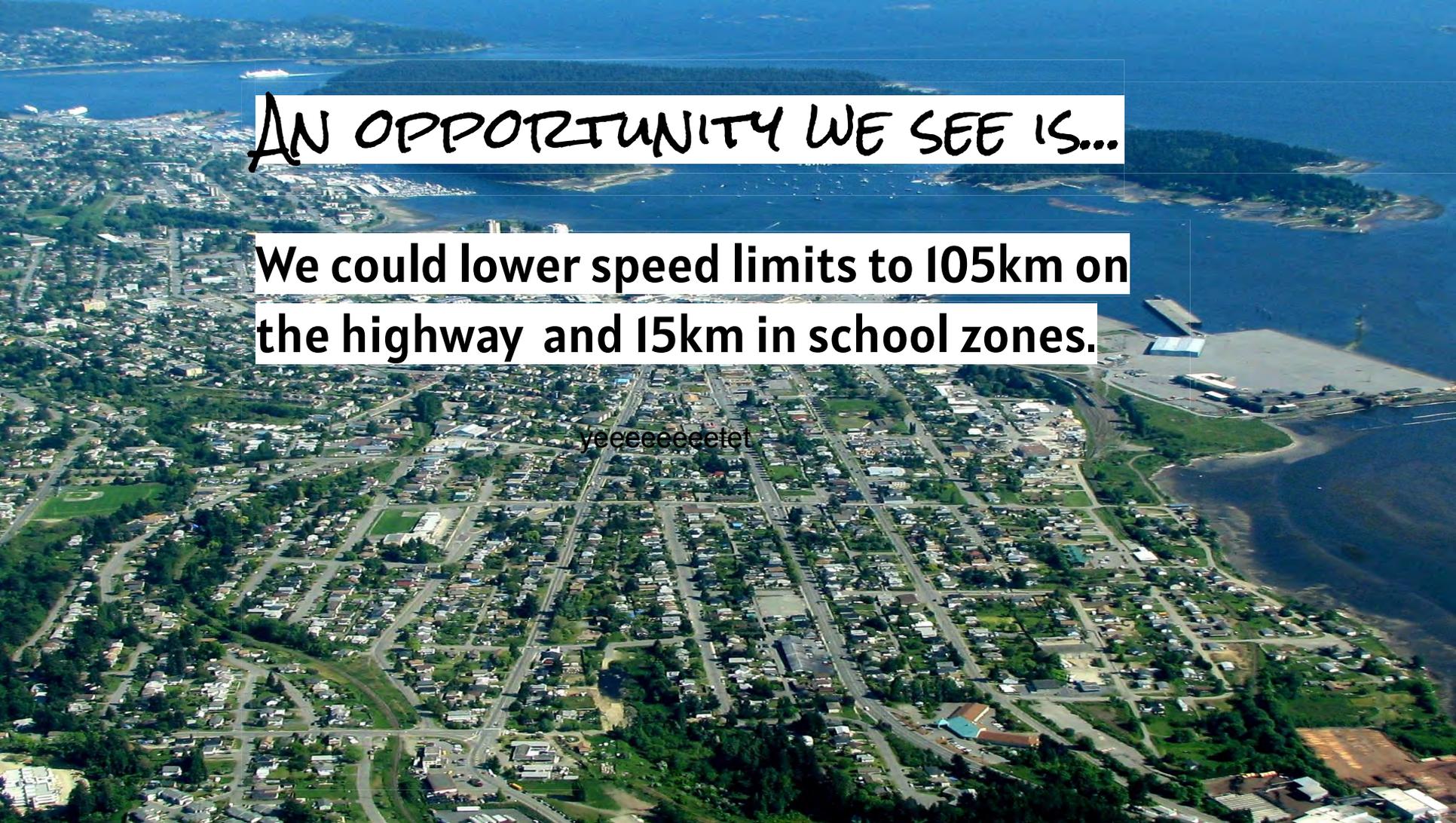
**By: Makayla.Q, Kenzie.M, Eve.S,  
Avery.B, Noah.R, Ben.R, and Josh.J**



# A PROBLEM WE SEE IN NANAIMO IS...

A problem we see in Nanaimo is way too many car crashes happening. In 2019 over 59 car crashes were reported on Bowen Road. Half of these crashes were due to speeding cars, and on December tenth, a car crashed all the way into a store in downtown Nanaimo.



An aerial photograph of a coastal town. The town is densely packed with houses and buildings, with a grid-like street pattern. A large body of water is visible on the right side, with a marina and several boats. The water is a deep blue color. In the background, there are more buildings and a large industrial or commercial area. The sky is clear and blue.

**AN OPPORTUNITY WE SEE IS...**

**We could lower speed limits to 105km on the highway and 15km in school zones.**

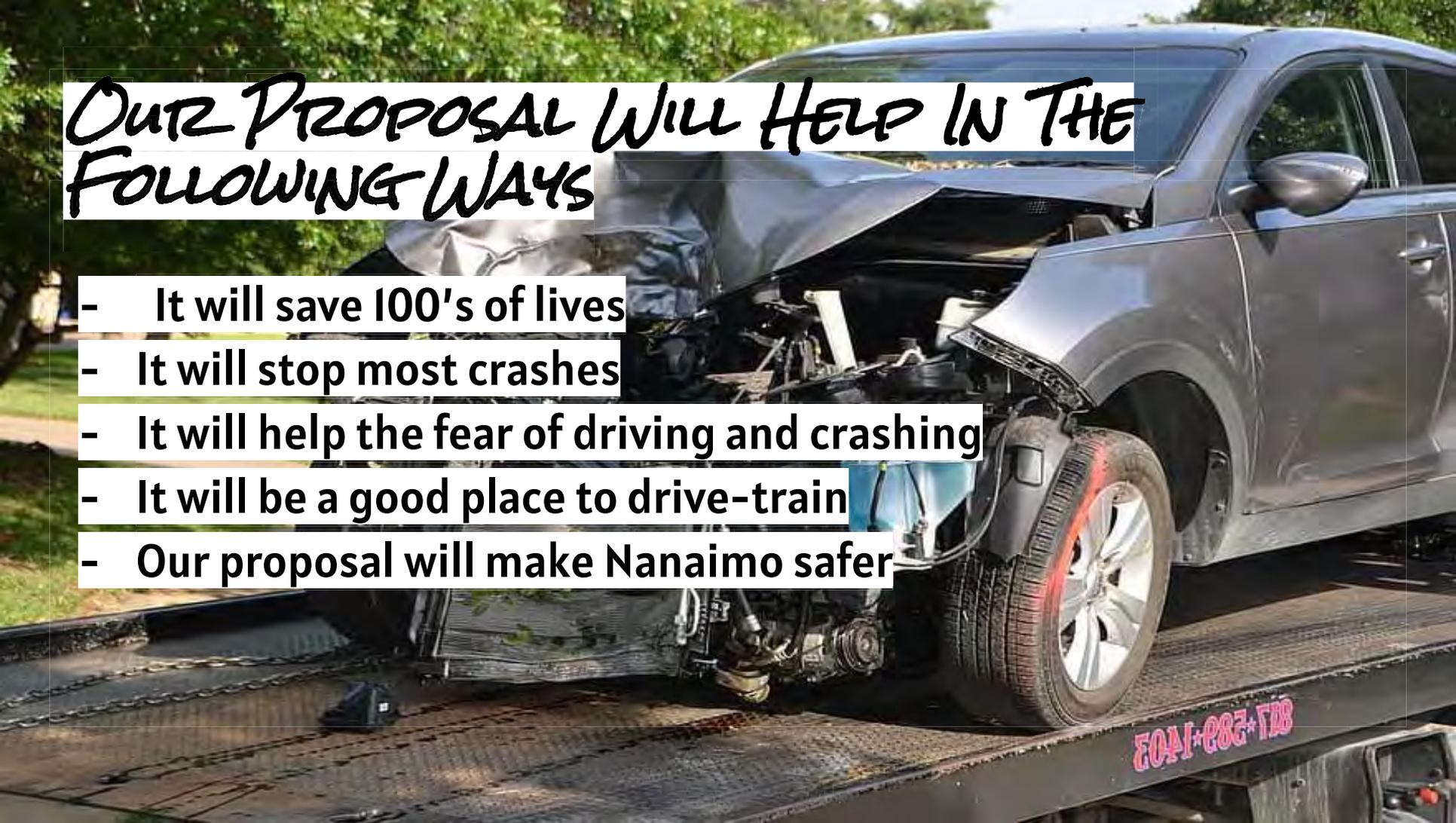
yececececececece

# WE PROPOSE...

**- that on Highway 19A, Bowen road, Hammond Bay road, and Rutherford road, the city makes the speed limit lower in those areas in nanaimo.**

**-Also to help people pay attention to the new and improved speed limits, the city should add speed radar machines to track drivers speeds and add speed bumps on those roads except for Highway 19A.**

**-The city should also have more police officers around the area to make sure people follow the rule.**



# OUR PROPOSAL WILL HELP IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS

- It will save 100's of lives
- It will stop most crashes
- It will help the fear of driving and crashing
- It will be a good place to drive-train
- Our proposal will make Nanaimo safer

# WHAT OTHERS MIGHT SAY...

**"I like the idea, it will cause less crashes."**

**"What if I have a meeting to get to? I won't be able to get there on time!"**

**"The speed limit is too low already! Why would I want to lower it?"**

**"Sounds good to me, the Nanaimo roads scare me sometimes!"**

**BUT WE THINK WE SHOULD LOWER THE  
SPEED LIMIT BECAUSE...**

**~It will lower the chance of car crashes.**

**~Save lots of lives.**

**~End the butterfly feeling in your stomach when it's time to  
drive.**

**~make driving safer for all people....**





# NOTES

## Meeting Details

Meeting Title:	▪ Engagement with SD68 Middle School Classrooms
Date/Time:	▪ October 2020 (various)
Facilitator:	▪ Social Planner
Participating Groups / Individuals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Madame Lewis Grade 5 Class</li> <li>▪ Ms. Carver’s Grade 7 Class</li> <li>▪ Ms. Mirau’s Grade 7 Class</li> </ul>

## Discussion Questions

### Big Ideas from Mme. Lewis’ Class

- Cleaner environment
- More sidewalks on Hammond Bay rd
- Self driving cars & cars that run on renewable energy
- Less school
- More zoos
- More fast food eating opportunities, particularly Wendy’s and In&Out burger (also poutine)
- More street lights in the middle of the city
- more pet-friendly areas
- more trees
- make housing cheaper
- more parks and trails downtown
- Less light pollution
- More entertainment centres
- extend Steve Smith bike park
- bigger malls
- More opportunities for dog adoption, and also places to walk said dogs.

### Big Ideas from Ms. Carver’s Class

- More lighting down darker streets? Departure bay, country club drive
- research lab for cures to diseases/bigger medical centers,
- indoor beach volleyball court,
- cleaner streets,



- more elderly homes,
- astronomy labs,
- more brand stores,
- more shopping,
- pools, lighting,
- indoor beach,
- dog parks,
- basketball courts,
- ice rinks
- higher speed limits
- outdoor beach courts
- walkway from departure bay to downtown
- more running trails like westwood
- more piers
- update schools
- update Beban park
- bridge from here to Newcastle
- more spots for local businesses
- middle school
- more farmers markets
- another mall
- more animal shelters
-

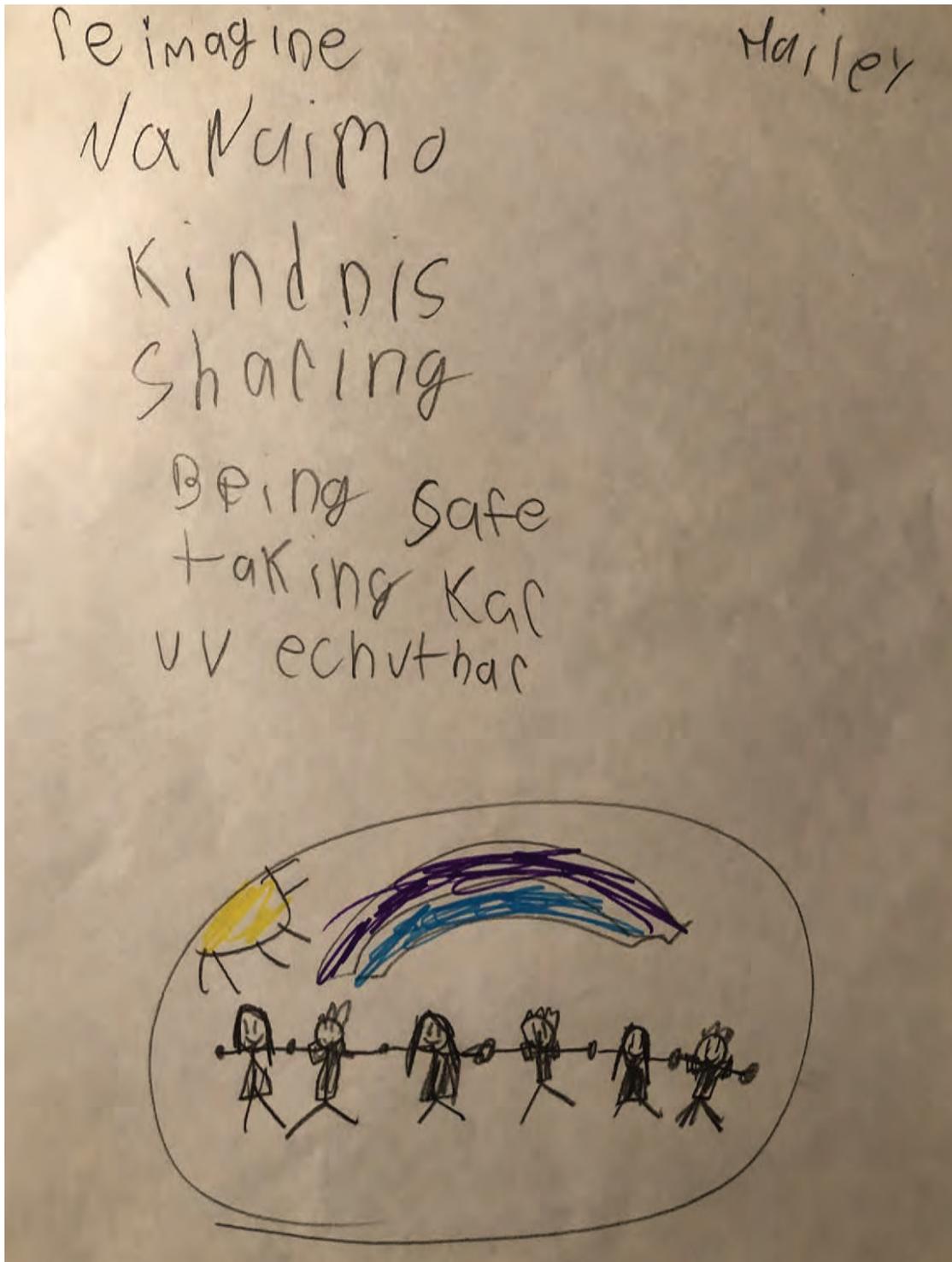


Priorities from Ms. Mirau's Grade 7 Class

- More animal shelters
- More ice rinks
- Fewer bike lanes
- Another outdoor swimming
- Better sidewalks (esp. around schools)
- Better skate parks
- More bike lanes
- More bike trails by Beban
- More supportive housing
- Affordable Housing
- More trees & forested areas
- Cost of living
- More school parks
- More greenery / trees
- Preserving parks
- Year round fair and a better mall
- More homeless shelters
- More shopping
- Return of the Woodgrove Mall clock
- Closing the malls

## KIDS PLAN ACTIVITY

Grade 3

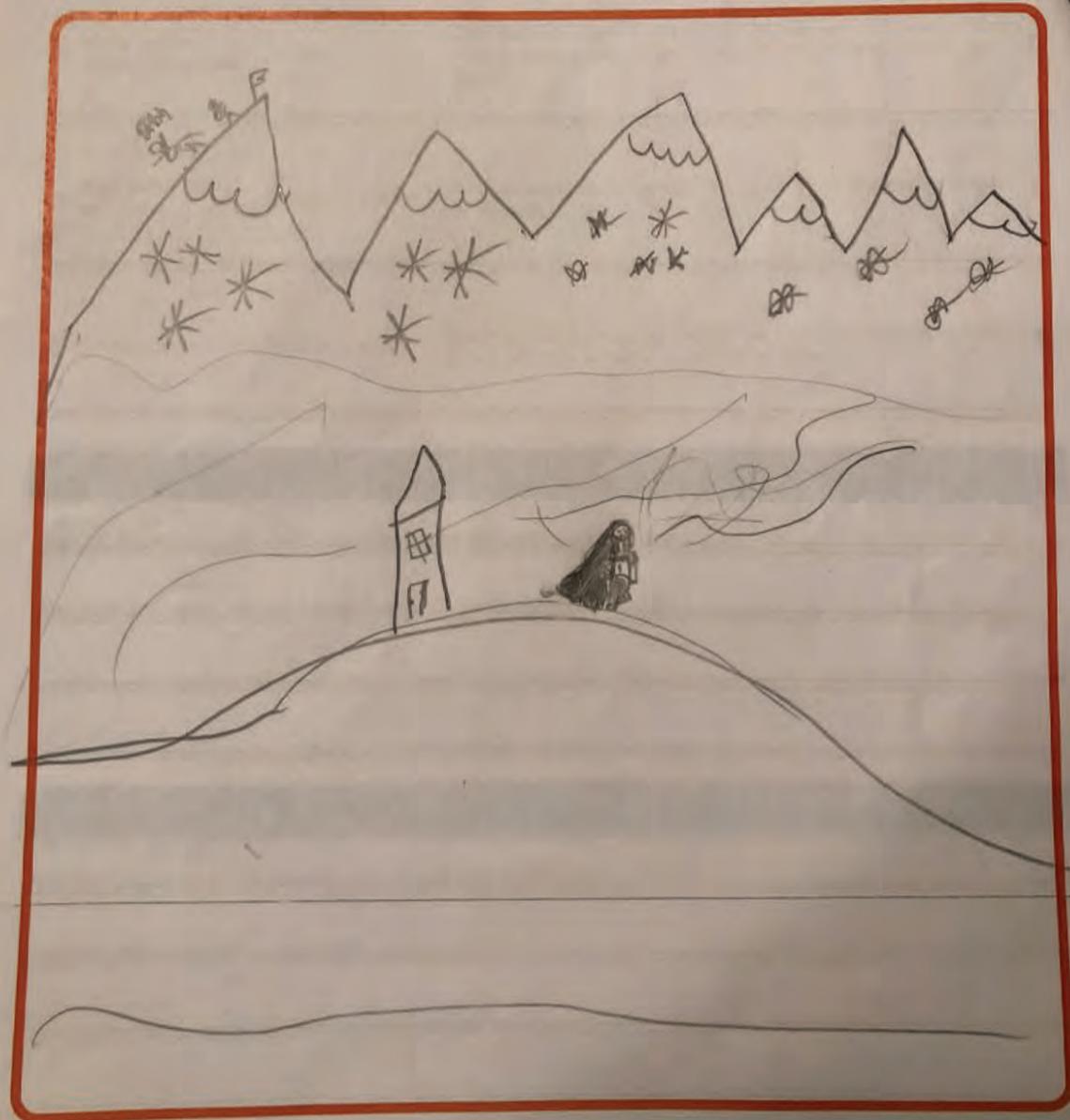


Grade 3



## Activity 6: Picture Your Nanaimo

A picture can be worth a thousand words. Draw a picture or create a collage of what you want your neighbourhood to be like in the future. What kind of building do you live in? What's nearby? How do you get around? Where do you shop? Share your picture with us by taking a photo of it or mailing it to us.





## Activity 7: A Day in Your Future Life

Let's fast forward to the year 2040. Imagine you're living in Nanaimo as an adult. Tell us the story of your typical day. Where do you live? Where do you work? Where do you shop? How do you get around? What do you do for fun? Take us through your entire day – from when you get up to when you go to bed, describing what you see, hear, smell, and experience in Nanaimo.

If it was 2040 i would work as  
a famous acktor. i would eat cookie  
PIZZA from the cookie PIZZA Shop.  
then i would drink Star bucks. then  
i would go home to my mansion and  
my dog's it would have a  
water front and a privet dock.  
and thats what i call  
lacsbery



Hi, I'm Olivia. Imagining how I want my day to be like in the future helps me see what changes we should make now. What do you want your future to look like?

Need more space for your story? Add as many pages as you'd like!



# HOW I TRAVEL AROUND NANAIMO

AGE OF PERSON RESPONDING: 9

THREE PLACES I OFTEN TRAVEL TO IN NANAIMO	HOW I NORMALLY TRAVEL THERE	WHY I TRAVEL THIS WAY
---	-----------------------------------	-----------------------

1 the mall by car

2 the water front by bike and walk

3 the pool By car and bike

## THINGS I COULD DO TO RELY LESS ON VEHICLE TRAVEL:

I could try not to car travel as much anymore i think thats a good idea.

## THINGS THE CITY COULD DO TO MAKE IT EASIER FOR ME TO USE OTHER TRANSPORTATION:

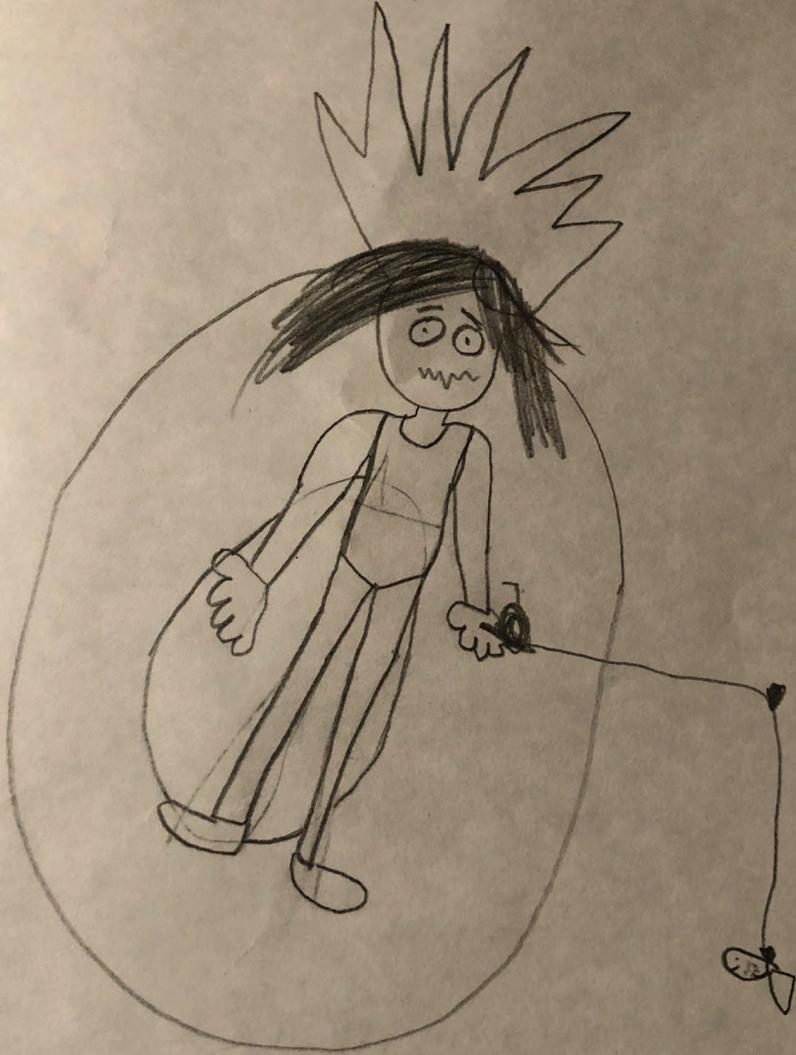
1. make some sky trains
2. dont use as much cement
3. make flying cars

Grade 3



Grade 3

Reimagine NANAIMO





### Activity 7:

## A Day in Your Future Life

Let's fast forward to the year 2040. Imagine you're living in Nanaimo as an adult. Tell us the story of your typical day. Where do you live? Where do you work? Where do you shop? How do you get around? What do you do for fun? Take us through your entire day – from when you get up to when you go to bed – describing what you see, hear, smell, and experience in Nanaimo.

I Will Be a Teacher.  
I Will live in NANAIMO.  
I Will Shop at ToysRUs.  
I Will have an Electric Car.  
I Would go to the Mall for fun  
the mall will look like People  
riding hover Boards in to Stores.



Hi, I'm Olivia. Imagining how I want my day to be like in the future helps me see what changes we should make now. What do you want your future to look like?



### Activity 7: A Day in Your Future Life

Let's fast forward to the year 2040. Imagine you're living in Nanaimo as an adult. Tell us the story of your typical day. Where do you live? Where do you work? Where do you shop? How do you get around? What do you do for fun? Take us through your entire day – from when you get up to when you go to bed, describing what you see, hear, smell, and experience in Nanaimo.

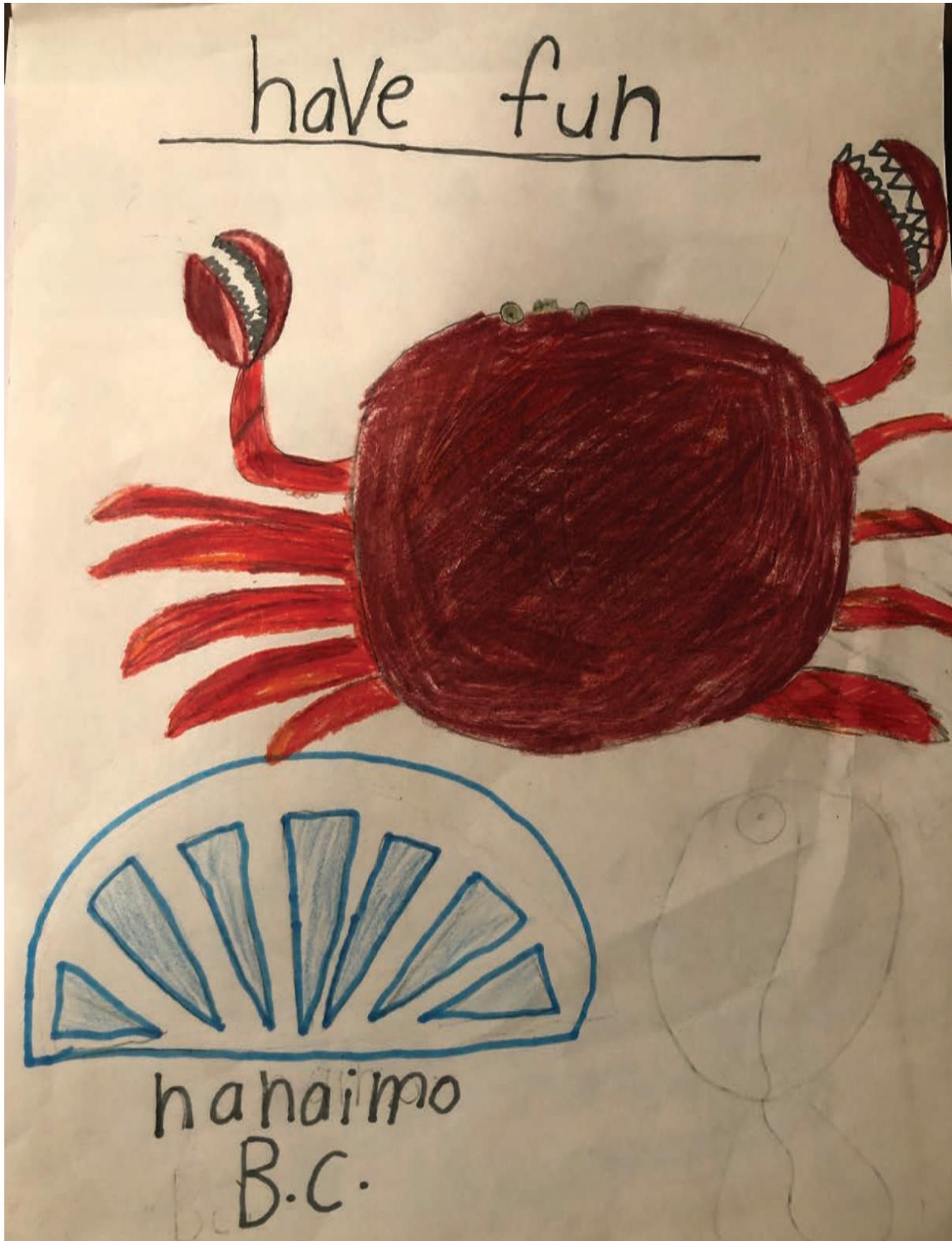
I PLAY WITH MY FRIENDS FOR FUN  
I LIVE IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL.  
IN 2040 THERE'S FLYING CARS  
AND I WILL BE 28 YEARS OLD. AND  
I WILL BE ALIVE FOREVER AND I WILL  
GET A JOB AND IT WILL BE A  
POLICE OFFICER



Hi, I'm Olivia. Imagining how I want my day to be like in the future helps me see what changes we should make now. What do you want your future to look like?

Need more space for your story? Add as many pages as you'd

Grade 4





Activity 6:

# Picture Your Nanaimo

A picture can be worth a thousand words. Draw a picture or create a collage of what you want your neighbourhood to be like in the future. What kind of building do you live in? What's nearby? How do you get around? Where do you shop? Share your picture with us by taking a photo of it or mailing it to us.





Yetta  
2020



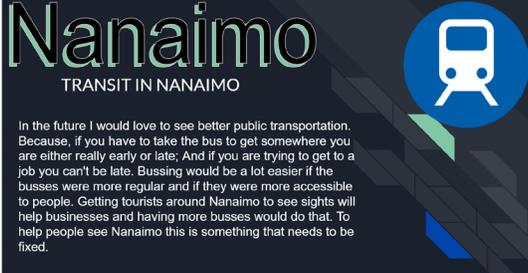
# APPENDIX C

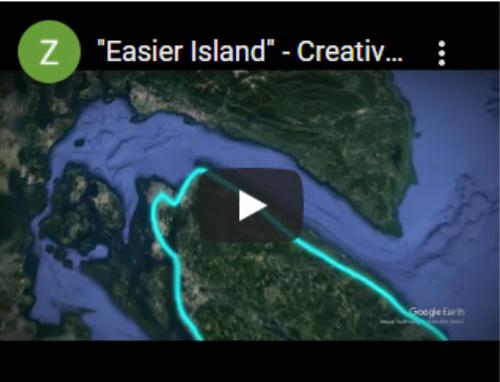
## CREATIVE COMMUNITY CONTEST SUBMISSIONS

All submissions can be viewed at [www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca/reimagine-nanaimo](http://www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca/reimagine-nanaimo) under the Contest tab. These will remain available for viewing for the duration of the process.

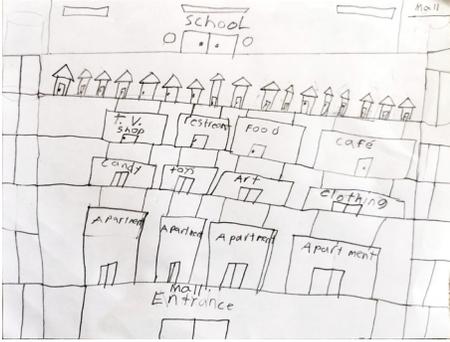
# CREATIVE COMMUNITY CONTEST

SUBMISSION	DESCRIPTION	CREATOR/ AUTHOR
	<p><b>Corny Cornucopia</b>            "Lettuce" plant more local food and flowers for people, birds, and bees!</p> <p>How many types of fruits, veggies, and flowers can you spot in this photo?</p>	<p>MKoch</p>
	<p><b>How We Connect &amp; Play: Multi-Generational Spaces</b>            Looking forward, Nanaimo should look to create more (or enhance existing) multi-generational spaces that could play host to a number of casual activities and sports. Similar to the parks around the city that have seen recent improvements, these can be places that could promote healthy living and community building, all while providing a safe and inclusive space for residents of any age. Fitness equipment, small-sided sports pitches, benches, paved pathways, and all-season covered areas should be considered...</p>	<p>jdburnley</p>
<p><b>The Heart and Soul of Nanaimo is Mt. Benson</b>            May be not too original but Mount Benson is looking over all us everyday (almost) and we can live and appreciate the seasons, the natural light, the night skies, the vistas, the travel routes because of this neighbouring mountain It keeps us fit, inspired and here at home to enjoy local outdoor activities, freshwater and even waterfalls.</p> <p>It even allows us to ski and snowshoe if you are willing to venture on the multiple plateaus and trails.</p>		<p>Lukas</p>

SUBMISSION	DESCRIPTION	CREATOR/ AUTHOR
 <p><b>Nanaimo</b> TRANSIT IN NANAIMO</p> <p>In the future I would love to see better public transportation. Because, if you have to take the bus to get somewhere you are either really early or late. And if you are trying to get to a job you can't be late. Bussing would be a lot easier if the busses were more regular and if they were more accessible to people. Getting tourists around Nanaimo to see sights will help businesses and having more busses would do that. To help people see Nanaimo this is something that needs to be fixed.</p>		caroy
	<p><b>My Best Nanaimo!</b></p> <p>This is what my best Nanaimo dream neighbourhood would look like. Lots of family houses with kids to play with, and lots of trees and flowers. My neighbourhood would be a happy place to live - so happy that we have lots of birds and other wildlife living here too! I would always have a friend to play with and me and my family would feel safe here. I love Nanaimo.</p>	anonymous
	<p><b>Our Parks - a connection for all</b></p> <p>My Nanaimo would include a pedestrian and cycling bridge to Newcastle Island. This beautiful and historical Provincial Park could easily be a premier downtown attraction, helping to revitalize the downtown core and encouraging healthy activity. This lovely jewel is totally underutilized because of the cost of the ferry and the very limited times that it runs. A bridge could be designed over the shortest stretch of water and be incorporated into the path designs already in the works for the waterfront.</p>	Judeville

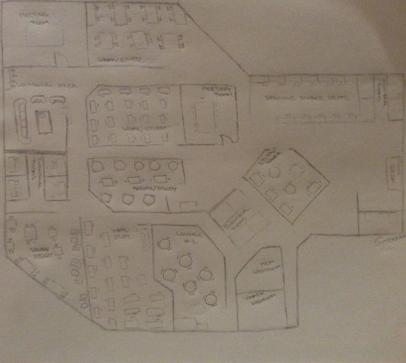
SUBMISSION	DESCRIPTION	CREATOR/ AUTHOR
	<p><b>Easier Island</b></p> <p>My short film titled "Easier-Island" proved to be a very ambitious endeavor. Its main purpose is to demonstrate the idea of a "cross-island sky train". I hoped to sell this idea by juxtaposing Nanaimo's transit system with various other transit systems across North America. Every shot in this film is completely original, and was edited by me using the software "After Effects". I made the 3D world model and train model for Nanaimo with the software "Blender". A sky train would make the island faster and easier. It may seem unrealistic and expensive, however, its utility would not go unnoticed.</p> <p>Video available at this link: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CMtgeROhVsk&amp;feature=emb_logo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CMtgeROhVsk&amp;feature=emb_logo</a></p>	<p>Zephon Winter</p>
	<p><b>Year-round Farmers Market</b></p> <p>I think that Nanaimo needs to be improved with an indoor Farmers Market that goes on 9-12 months a year. It's important to support locals and I feel if we had a market, a lot of people would visit it, so profit would be made. If it would be somewhere in North Nanaimo, that's where the most money could be made because lots of tourists are in this part of town, and more population. Even though we do have a market once a week, I think it would be very beneficial to have on all year round.</p>	<p>Sophie Chernykh</p>

SUBMISSION	DESCRIPTION	CREATOR/ AUTHOR
	<p><b>Our river Our mountain Our ocean</b>  As a painter I have walked this land. I have tried to capture the spirit of this land  Our river  Our mountain  Our ocean  This land does not belong to you or I. It belongs to our great great grandchildren.  We need to  Take care of our rivers  Take care of our mountains  Take care of our ocean  We need to work collectively,  One body  One mind  One spirit.  The legacy of our decisions today, our children will write tomorrow.</p>	<p>Connie Paul RN, Yetta</p>

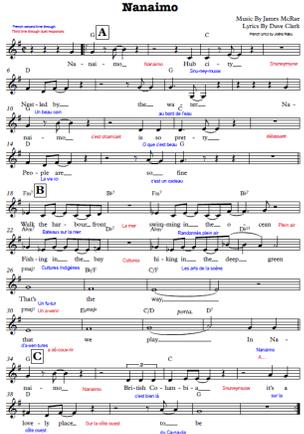
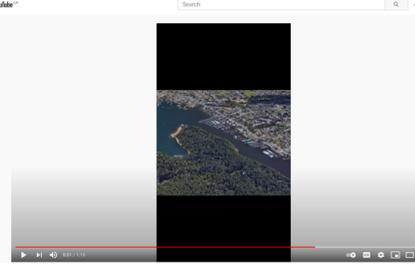
SUBMISSION	DESCRIPTION	CREATOR/ AUTHOR
	<p>Fun neighbourhood</p>	<p>Bronwyn Moes, Age 10</p>
	<p><b>The City Mall</b> It is a mall that people can live in and spend their time in. It has housing, food, clothing, art, toys, and school. There are elevators to travel around the mall. I want to live in the place like this because everyone is close to each other.</p>	<p>Soba</p>
	<p><b>The Dream Park</b> This is a new park. You can swim and play at the same time at this park. The park has a waterpark and a petting zoo. There are many food trucks and eating spaces that will connect people. Children can play and parents can have fun at the same time!</p>	<p>Soba</p>

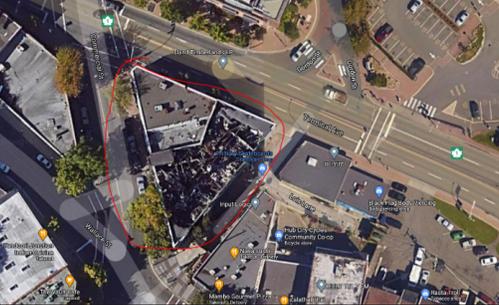
SUBMISSION	DESCRIPTION	CREATOR/ AUTHOR
	<p><b>My Dream Home</b> Colorful houses connected together so neighbors can visit and support each other. The vivid colors make people happy.</p>	Soba
	<p><b>The Way We Travel</b> In the future, we can fly with a cape and wings. The special shoes add additional power which allow us to move fast! When it rains while you are flying, your hood will come out to protect you.</p>	Soba

SUBMISSION	DESCRIPTION	CREATOR/ AUTHOR
<p>Sustainable and active transportation</p>    <p>My vision for Nanaimo is to improve the bus system. I would like to achieve this by having more buses going along existing/improved routes. Additionally, implementing an interval system, where buses come every so often, making it easier for passengers to remember bus times. When the buses are consistent, people will see BC transit as a convenient method of transportation. Because of the current systems, citizens might not rely on the bus when you could end up waiting 30 to 45 minutes for the next one. Which might leave you late for work, or waiting in the cold.</p> 	<p>Sustainable and active transportation</p>	<p>April Woychuk</p>
 <p><b>CLEANING UP DOWNTOWN NANAIMO</b></p> <p>Our downtown is the first thing that tourist see when entering Nanaimo. It should be inviting and cheerful. Unfortunately, the state that Downtown Nanaimo is in is repulsing and disappointing compared to the rest of Nanaimo. I think that we should have a ten year plan to make downtown inviting. By painting buildings and planting more community gardens we can create a safe environment where people can bring their families. We live in such a beautiful place, let's create a downtown that reflexes the beauty of Nanaimo.</p>	<p>Cleaning Up Downtown Nanaimo</p>	<p>Morgan Flint</p>

SUBMISSION	DESCRIPTION	CREATOR/ AUTHOR
<p>Traffic caused because of Costco:</p> <p>The days when Costco is really busy, most of the cars turn right on Applecross and into Hammond Bay road, and the people who are already on that road are forced to wait. Since there is only one entry into Hammond Bay, everyone's target is the same. So my solution is to block Applecross Road which forces all the customers from Costco to go through a different route to get into the highway, possibly Calinda Road. This dramatically reduces the traffic making it less heated, and relieving the headache that this block causes for people.</p> 	<p><b>Traffic caused because of Costco</b></p> <p>My idea is about the block that Costco's customers create when they turn right out of Applecross and into Hammond Bay Road.</p>	<p>Bincy John</p>
	<p><b>Tech Hub</b></p> <p>A TECH HUB for business, and studying at an affordable price. The goal of this hub is to provide high-speed internet, and space to build cloud or non-cloud based start-up businesses or developments. To support students who can't afford modern technologies and those who are passionate about entrepreneurship. Attracting entrepreneurs to visit and explore Nanaimo, at the same time connect with their business, and also to use the space for business meetings. If the transit is connected with the hub it will attract more people and reduce the traffic. Building the future with vision and support.</p>	<p>Athira</p>

SUBMISSION	DESCRIPTION	CREATOR/ AUTHOR
<p><i>Our Neighbourhoods and Housing</i></p> <p><i>Growing Old Together</i></p> <p>Growing old alone            It's something that we fear            Can we stay at home            And enjoy a life we hold dear?            Or can we band together            Share our strengths and weakness too            Maybe not forever            But there is something we can do.            My neighbourhood is green,            We share housing, work and play            We are a little team            And make things work every day.</p> 	<p><b>Growing Old Together</b></p> <p>This is a submission for Our Neighbourhoods and Housing. It is my dream for aging, not a retirement home, more of a shared living development, with many levels of sharing or not. I think the fear of growing old alone is terrifying for many especially considering the current COVID environment and concerns in Care Homes today. Our families are far and wide and many seniors are alone and struggling. Europe has much more progressive ideas to take care of seniors and this is something I'd like to see Nanaimo take on. There's so much to be offered individually and an environment needs to be developed to bring this wealth together.</p>	
	<p><b>The Neon Butterflies</b></p> <p>Representing social connectedness, how we relay information about the new and traditional ways we reduce waste, create with purpose. Our skyline they flit about wouldn't be the same without our old growth and native forests. To speak with knowledge of their presence, how important they are to our ecosystem, and all the creatures who live in them. Paths intersect or are parallel between us. We are mindful of the ocean as it checks and balances restoring wildlife to equilibrium. Colours and strokes reminiscent of the vibrant gardens of growth we contain within us, our homes and parks.</p>	<p>SonyaASierksArts</p>

SUBMISSION	DESCRIPTION	CREATOR/ AUTHOR
 <p>Bike Lanes in Nanaimo © lucylinnea</p>	<p><b>Bike Lanes in Nanaimo</b> A music video by L&amp;L about bike lanes around Nanaimo.</p> <p>Video available at this link: <a href="https://youtu.be/s4Lk-IPsGyM">https://youtu.be/s4Lk-IPsGyM</a></p>	<p>lucylinnea</p>
 <p><b>Nanaimo</b> Music By James McRae Lyrics By Dave Clark repro: enco: jms: rae</p> <p>1 Na - nai - nai... Nanaimo High - tide - ty... 2 Nip - led from... the... sea of... Na - 3 With the bar - boat... La bar - que... 4 Fish - ing... the... bay... hi - king... the... deep... green 5 That's the bar - boat... the... 6 That we... the... In Na - 7 Nanaimo... the... 8 Nanaimo... the... 9 Nanaimo... the... 10 Nanaimo... the... 11 Nanaimo... the... 12 Nanaimo... the... 13 Nanaimo... the... 14 Nanaimo... the... 15 Nanaimo... the... 16 Nanaimo... the... 17 Nanaimo... the... 18 Nanaimo... the... 19 Nanaimo... the... 20 Nanaimo... the... 21 Nanaimo... the... 22 Nanaimo... the... 23 Nanaimo... the... 24 Nanaimo... the... 25 Nanaimo... the... 26 Nanaimo... the... 27 Nanaimo... the... 28 Nanaimo... the... 29 Nanaimo... the... 30 Nanaimo... the... 31 Nanaimo... the... 32 Nanaimo... the... 33 Nanaimo... the... 34 Nanaimo... the... 35 Nanaimo... the... 36 Nanaimo... the... 37 Nanaimo... the... 38 Nanaimo... the... 39 Nanaimo... the... 40 Nanaimo... the... 41 Nanaimo... the... 42 Nanaimo... the... 43 Nanaimo... the... 44 Nanaimo... the... 45 Nanaimo... the... 46 Nanaimo... the... 47 Nanaimo... the... 48 Nanaimo... the... 49 Nanaimo... the... 50 Nanaimo... the... 51 Nanaimo... the... 52 Nanaimo... the... 53 Nanaimo... the... 54 Nanaimo... the... 55 Nanaimo... the... 56 Nanaimo... the... 57 Nanaimo... the... 58 Nanaimo... the... 59 Nanaimo... the... 60 Nanaimo... the... 61 Nanaimo... the... 62 Nanaimo... the... 63 Nanaimo... the... 64 Nanaimo... the... 65 Nanaimo... the... 66 Nanaimo... the... 67 Nanaimo... the... 68 Nanaimo... the... 69 Nanaimo... the... 70 Nanaimo... the... 71 Nanaimo... the... 72 Nanaimo... the... 73 Nanaimo... the... 74 Nanaimo... the... 75 Nanaimo... the... 76 Nanaimo... the... 77 Nanaimo... the... 78 Nanaimo... the... 79 Nanaimo... the... 80 Nanaimo... the... 81 Nanaimo... the... 82 Nanaimo... the... 83 Nanaimo... the... 84 Nanaimo... the... 85 Nanaimo... the... 86 Nanaimo... the... 87 Nanaimo... the... 88 Nanaimo... the... 89 Nanaimo... the... 90 Nanaimo... the... 91 Nanaimo... the... 92 Nanaimo... the... 93 Nanaimo... the... 94 Nanaimo... the... 95 Nanaimo... the... 96 Nanaimo... the... 97 Nanaimo... the... 98 Nanaimo... the... 99 Nanaimo... the... 100 Nanaimo... the...</p>	<p><b>The Nanaimo Song</b> The Nanaimo Song written by James McRae, lyrics by Dave Clark. Singers: Marisha Devoin and Joelle Rabu</p> <p>Piano: Nico Rhodes</p> <p>Song available at this link: <a href="https://www.nanaimo.ca/docs/get-involved/reimagine/the-nanaimo-song.mp3?download=true">https://www.nanaimo.ca/docs/get-involved/reimagine/the-nanaimo-song.mp3?download=true</a></p>	<p>written by James McRae, lyrics by Dave Clark. Singers: Marisha Devoin and Joelle Rabu</p>
 <p>Isaac Schwab</p>	<p><b>NewCastle Bridge</b> this link completely explains why my project is different to other projects</p> <p>Filmed, Edited and produced by Isaac Schwab</p> <p>Video available at this link: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=efGvQyu6jwQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=efGvQyu6jwQ</a></p>	<p>Isaac Schwab</p>

SUBMISSION	DESCRIPTION	CREATOR/ AUTHOR
	<p><b>Nanaimo Skyrise Hotel complex</b></p> <p>Slides available at this link:  <a href="https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Bk0EHq5L9Lyy537Bw_I9Uh-wGv3WLwdwxIDc8LE7FRw/edit#slide=id.gadb0e501be_O_125">https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Bk0EHq5L9Lyy537Bw_I9Uh-wGv3WLwdwxIDc8LE7FRw/edit#slide=id.gadb0e501be_O_125</a></p>	<p>EthanPerpeluk</p>
 <p><b>Problem and Solution - Deforestation</b></p> <p>In the last 25 years, Nanaimo has lost 45% of its urban forests.</p> <p>Deforestation of Nanaimo has occurred because of clear cut developments and the removal of trees on existing lots without any replacement.</p> <p>Deforestation not only affects the pollution in Nanaimo during the process but it also affects the wildlife ecologically.</p> <p>For the deforestation, especially for the environment, we can try to use fuel-free machines, because one of the biggest problem of deforestation is, it produces massive amount of pollution during the process. If we try to use the tools that doesn't produce any pollution, that would be much better for the environment.</p>	<p><b>Deforestation in Nanaimo</b></p>	<p>kylejee</p>
	<p><b>A Safer Nanaimo</b></p> <p>This link includes my slides presentation for a safer Nanaimo with clean injection sites for people who are suffering from drug abuse.</p> <p>Slides available at this link: <a href="https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/15spRoaCILTFzOyMM4__CPBPpSmv15rT8liHrLYNXsVk/edit#slide=id.p">https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/15spRoaCILTFzOyMM4__CPBPpSmv15rT8liHrLYNXsVk/edit#slide=id.p</a></p>	<p>PhoenixGraf</p>



# APPENDIX D

## POP-UP EVENTS COMMENTS

## POP-UP EVENTS COMMENTS



### How the City is Put Together & How we Adapt & Stay Green: (Aug 3-9)

#### What's your favourite place in Nanaimo?

- ▶ Here! Better here than Sand Ropay. (Maffeo Sutton Park)
- ▶ Anywhere with ice cream YAY!! WAHOO!!
- ▶ Westwood Lake (x2)
- ▶ Escape Room
- ▶ Jumpin Jiminy's
- ▶ Drip Coffee
- ▶ White Rabbit
- ▶ All the local ice cream shops
- ▶ This place! (Maffeo Sutton Park) (x2)
- ▶ Maffeo Sutton playground
- ▶ Mt. Benson
- ▶ Departure Bay
- ▶ Starbucks
- ▶ Chinese restaurant
- ▶ Airhouse
- ▶ Tim Horton's
- ▶ The ferries

#### How should the City adapt to a changing climate?

- ▶ Plant trees (x4)
- ▶ More bike routes
- ▶ Plan for sea level rise
- ▶ Biochar
- ▶ Protect wetlands (x2)

## What kind of city do you want Nanaimo to be in 20 years?

- ▶ Higher density (x2)
- ▶ More like Disneyland
- ▶ More scenic places to visit
- ▶ More affordable (x2)
- ▶ More green electric generators
- ▶ All cars are electric
- ▶ Affordable
- ▶ The same
- ▶ More compact
- ▶ Greener
- ▶ More trees (x3)
- ▶ Inclusive
- ▶ Safe

## What challenges should Nanaimo focus on?

- ▶ Waterfront walkway
- ▶ Homeless
- ▶ Better than New York

## How We Connect & Play and How We Care: (Aug 10-16)

## What would make Nanaimo's parks recreation and culture even better?

- ▶ More outdoor theatre
- ▶ Another community centre
- ▶ More nature based programs (x3)
- ▶ More skate parks
- ▶ Pump track
- ▶ Food trucks
- ▶ Everything is great
- ▶ More attractions
- ▶ More pools
- ▶ More water parks
- ▶ More artificial turf fields
- ▶ Accessible to families \$

## What do you consider the heart of Nanaimo?

- ▶ Awesome waterfront for kayaking
- ▶ Nana in Nanaimo
- ▶ Water parks
- ▶ Waterfront
- ▶ Harewood
- ▶ Downtown
- ▶ VIU

## How do we create a more caring and inclusive city?

- ▶ Mental health services and supports
- ▶ More low income housing
- ▶ Mental health hospital
- ▶ Free food
- ▶ Diverse ability employment
- ▶ Cheaper housing

## How We Work and How We Move: (Aug 17–23)

What are your ideas to support our businesses and local economy?

How can we improve our transportation networks in Nanaimo?

What will it take to get you out of an automobile and onto trails and bikes in Nanaimo?

- ▶ City maps at intersections
- ▶ Separated bike lanes (x2)
- ▶ More connections
- ▶ More sidewalks
- ▶ Walkable city
- ▶ More trails
- ▶ Extend waterfront walkway (x2)

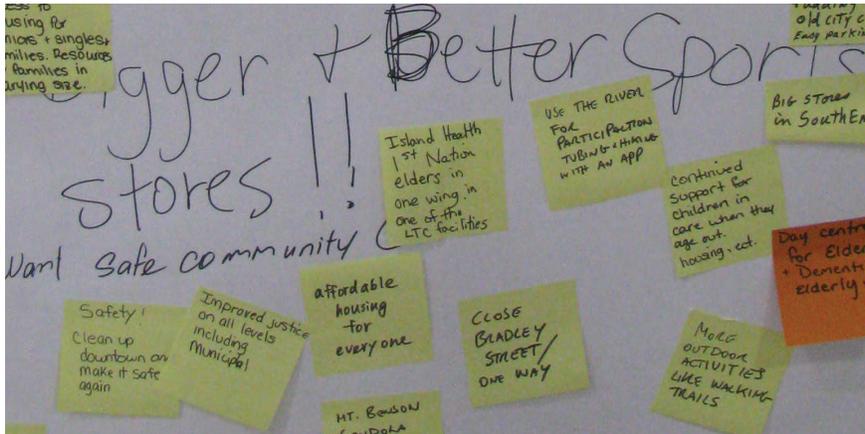
## How We Live: (August 24–29)

What do you love most about living in Nanaimo?

What is one thing you would do to make living in Nanaimo better?

How can we make Nanaimo more affordable and accessible?

## POP-UP EVENTS COMMENTS



### Community feedback received at REIMAGINE pop-up booths at shopping centres (October)

These comments are responses to the following two questions:

- ▶ Imagining 10 years in the future to 2030, describe the future Nanaimo that you want to see; and,
- ▶ If you were in a position to change or improve any aspect of Nanaimo now, what would you do?

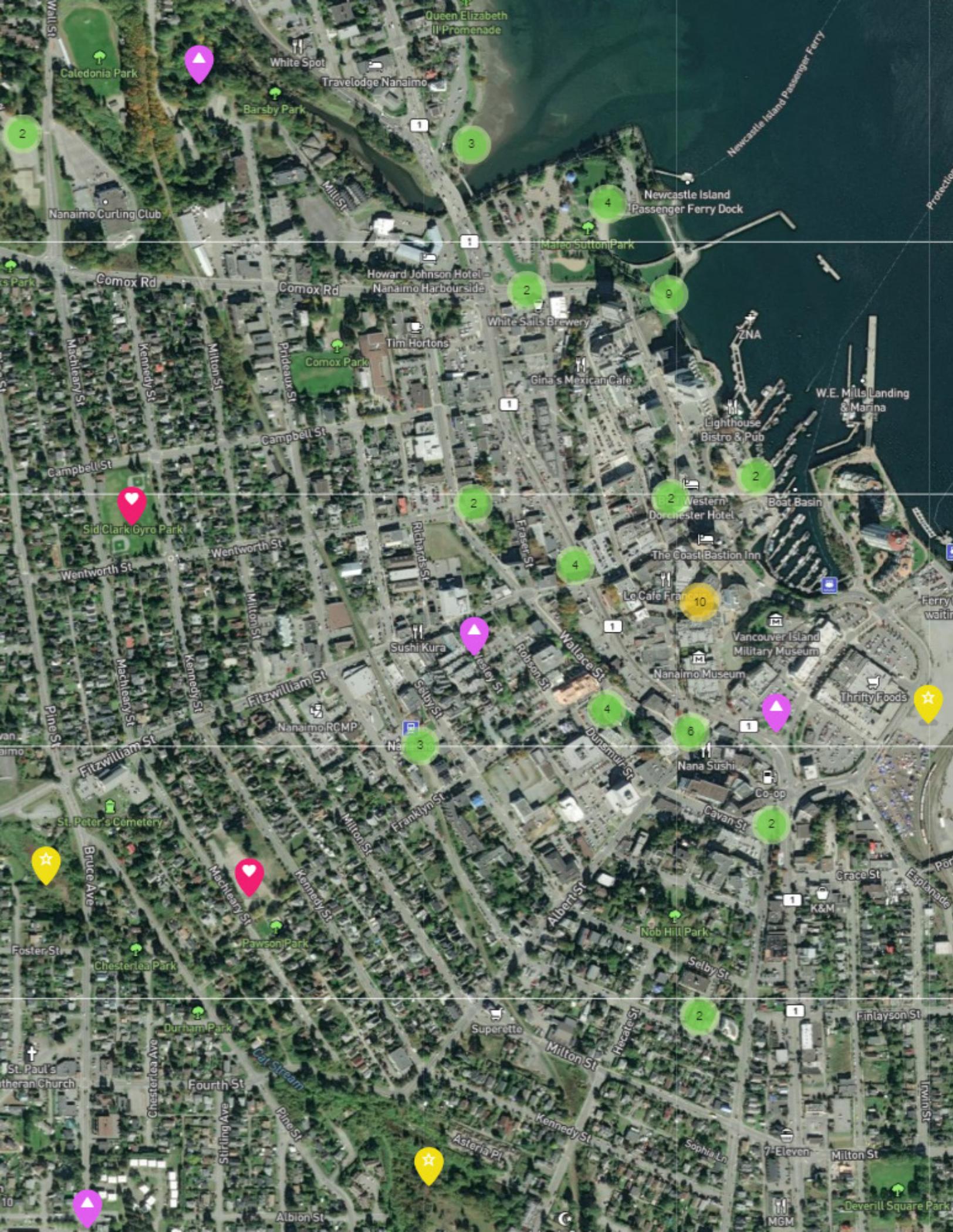
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Lifestyle!</li> <li>▶ More stores.</li> <li>▶ More detox centres &amp; sobering centres &amp; treatment centres for addictions.</li> <li>▶ Bigger &amp; better sports stores!!</li> <li>▶ Want safe community :(</li> <li>▶ Bike lanes!</li> <li>▶ More buses on the bus routes.</li> <li>▶ More resources for homeless people.</li> <li>▶ Safety! Clean up downtown and make it safe again.</li> <li>▶ Improved justice on all levels including municipal.</li> <li>▶ Mt. Benson gondola up one side and down other for recreation</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&amp; tourism.</li> <li>▶ Affordable housing for everyone.</li> <li>▶ Close Bradley Street one way.</li> <li>▶ More outdoor activities like walking trails.</li> <li>▶ Continued support for children in care when they age out – housing, etc.</li> <li>▶ White Street widening?</li> <li>▶ Petting zoo!</li> <li>▶ Cooking classes for kids.</li> <li>▶ Kids safe to be out on their own downtown.</li> <li>▶ More First Nations representation.</li> <li>▶ Pets available for no charge!</li> <li>▶ More pedestrian facilities.</li> <li>▶ Elder indoor exercise walking program.</li> </ul> |
|---|--|

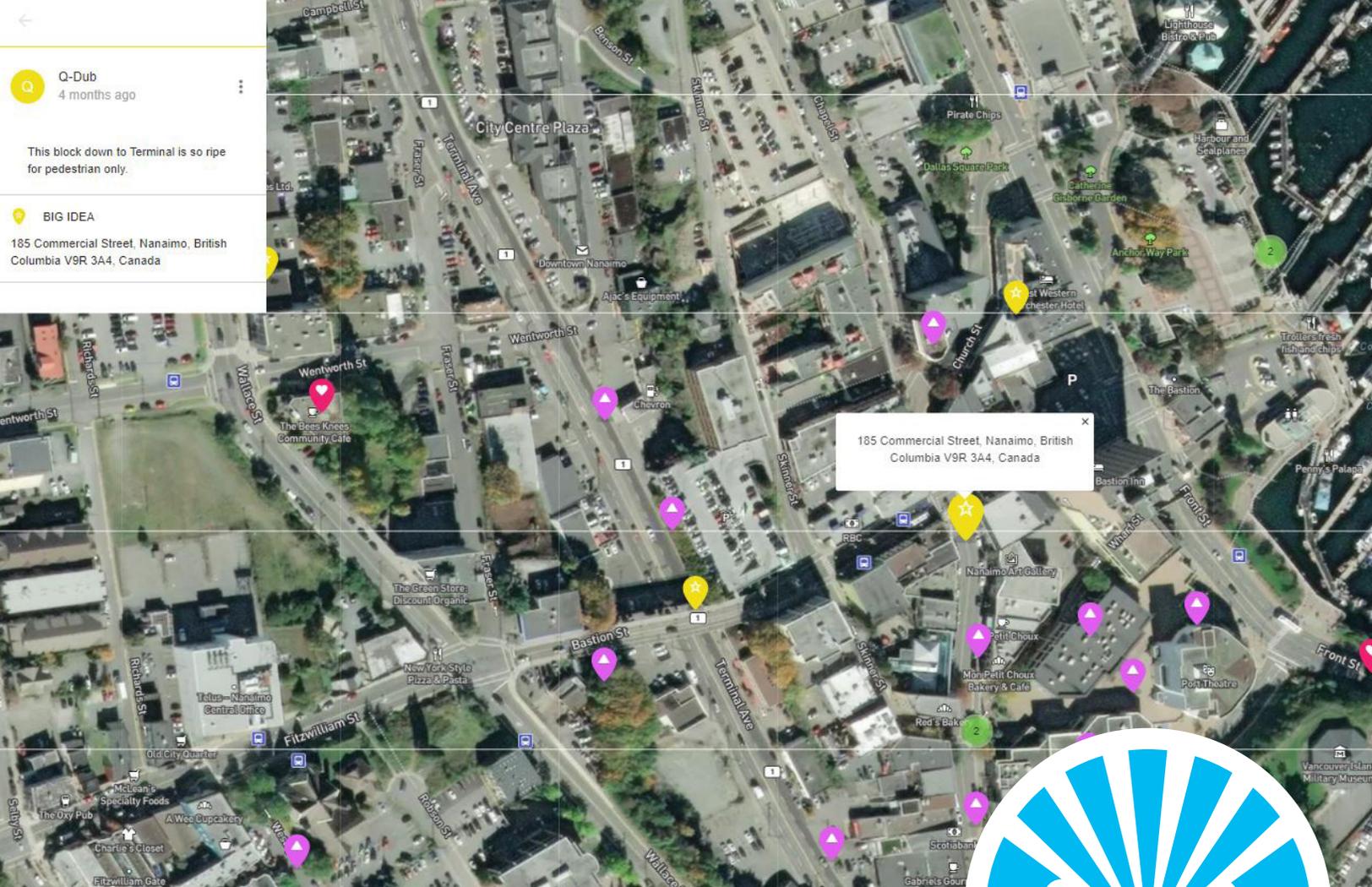
- ▶ Roller rink!
- ▶ More animal shelters to help hurt and sick!
- ▶ More buses that go farther, ex. Bowser, Cedar, Errington.
- ▶ Big stores in south end.
- ▶ I like the staff or personnel of the City of Nanaimo.
- ▶ Use the river for participation tubing & hiking with an app.
- ▶ Island Health First Nation elders in one wing in on of the LTC facilities.
- ▶ Big stores in downtown while keeping & adding to the Old City charm. Easy parking etc.
- ▶ More affordable & access to housing for seniors & singles, families. Resources for families in varying size.
- ▶ Better housing for ALL incomes.
- ▶ We need Friday night youth exercise programs.
- ▶ Affordable housing.
- ▶ More road maintenance! Esp. near Brown's Social intersection.
- ▶ South End one centre for social services for mental health & addictions.
- ▶ More frequent buses #20/20A especially.
- ▶ Day centres for elderly & dementia elderly.
- ▶ Low income affordable housing.
- ▶ Affordable treatment.
- ▶ Helping women in addiction.
- ▶ Better sidewalks.
- ▶ Build more community togetherness/attitude.
- ▶ Education savings. Education planning for children.
- ▶ More boat launches with free parking!
- ▶ Use COVID 6M – separation on waterfront.
- ▶ Build a gondola up Mt. Benson just like in Squamish.
- ▶ Affordable housing.
- ▶ Parks/green space.
- ▶ Take up the rails on the E&N and turn it into a bike path.
- ▶ Improve roads & schools.
- ▶ Indoor walking programs for all ages.
- ▶ Preserve wetlands.
- ▶ Extend waterfront walk to Departure Bay.
- ▶ Affordable family housing.
- ▶ Needs to appeal visually for tourism (looks like an old fishing town!)
- ▶ Reduce ferry costs for residents.
- ▶ Improve and grow hospital & more doctors.
- ▶ Dog park downtown please...
- ▶ Productive use of the homeless people – e.g., to keep the city clean.
- ▶ Public washrooms.
- ▶ Use more natural energy sources! Affordable for average person.
- ▶ More inclusive parks.
- ▶ Improve bike leisure & commuter trails like E&N and Parkway Trail.
- ▶ Protecting environmental areas, parks, marsh & community development around the areas – no condos.
- ▶ Roller derby or an amusement park.
- ▶ Continuation of sea wall Departure Bay to downtown.
- ▶ Low income housing.

- ▶ Food affordability.
- ▶ 1. More sidewalks
- ▶ 2. Covered public spaces (outdoors)
- ▶ More trees – free seedlings!
- ▶ Get rid of COVID!
- ▶ Rollercoaster!
- ▶ Assure Oaks planted in parks come from local genetic stock.
- ▶ Protect more ‘green’ & ‘blue’ corridors. Develop protection strategy.
- ▶ Secure more Garry Oak ecosystems.
- ▶ Public access to waterfront.
- ▶ More sidewalks for wheelchairs. Waterfront access for public.
- ▶ Driver education (not slower speed limits).
- ▶ Sensibility – reduce red tape and regulations.
- ▶ Maintain existing parks + improve access.
- ▶ Replace removed trees on public spaces – no net loss.
- ▶ Ensure proper irrigation for required private landscaping.
- ▶ More residential downtown.
- ▶ Interac on buses!
- ▶ Tree planting targets – increase the urban forest.
- ▶ Do something with ACME building.
- ▶ Broad business diversity in downtown core.
- ▶ More palm trees on median re Hwy 19A.
- ▶ More community parks.
- ▶ Roundabout at Northfield & Hwy.
- ▶ Concern about drug use – and neglect of people in general.
- ▶ More affordable housing.
- ▶ T&T Supermarket.
- ▶ Wider bike lanes. More pedestrian walkways.
- ▶ Better services in the South!
- ▶ More garbage cans!
- ▶ Better defined cycling routes!
- ▶ Support economic development – particularly support for small, innovative businesses.
- ▶ Jobs – good, sustainable, community based jobs.
- ▶ Add 3 meters in width to all roads to compensate for bike lanes.
- ▶ Fewer single family subdivisions.
- ▶ More waterfront public space.
- ▶ Co-op housing.
- ▶ Safer downtown.
- ▶ More French books in the library (children’s books age 8-14)
- ▶ Have cyclists register: insure their bikes for accidents.
- ▶ Put the light back at Commercial.
- ▶ More buses.
- ▶ Revitalize the waterfront.
- ▶ 1. More art on entrances of parks.
- ▶ 2. Renew lights on harbour.
- ▶ 3. Light show and music in harbour.
- ▶ Indoor skate park youth programs.
- ▶ Access to water parking closer.
- ▶ More beautification, less density.
- ▶ More places for seniors to gather; dance at low cost.
- ▶ More benches for those who walk.

- ▶ Newcomers welcome package re: coupons to facilities & businesses.
- ▶ More garbage cans across city.
- ▶ No high rises in residential neighbourhoods.
- ▶ Hospital expansion. Wait times too long.
- ▶ Help homeless.
- ▶ Mobile shower & laundry facilities for homeless.
- ▶ More garbage cans.
- ▶ Only make bike lanes with barriers.
- ▶ Co-op yard services/tools.
- ▶ Sidewalks.
- ▶ Better sidewalk maintenance.
- ▶ Homelessness.
- ▶ Better downtown.
- ▶ Help to the healing of substance abuse. Centres to alleviate it.
- ▶ More bus routes.
- ▶ Better downtown.
- ▶ We all live here & we are all addicted to something. Let's make it understanding.
- ▶ New developments need to embrace values of neighbours.
- ▶ Need a cancer hospital in Nanaimo.
- ▶ Detox
- ▶ Rehab
- ▶ Treatment centres.







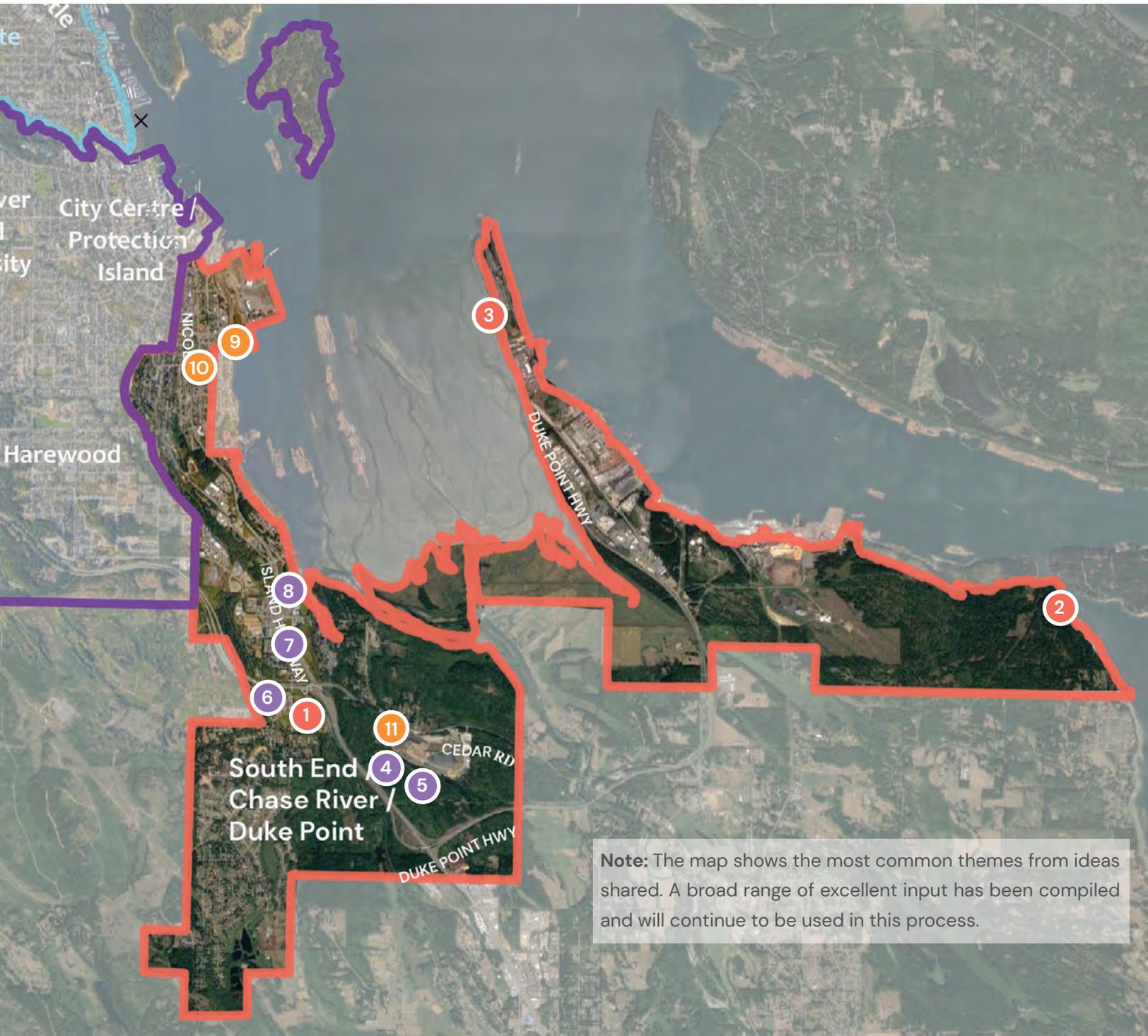
185 Commercial Street Nanaimo, British Columbia V9R 3A4, Canada



# APPENDIX E

## MAPPING ACTIVITY SUBMISSIONS

## SOUTH END/CHASE RIVER/DUKE POINT



**Note:** The map shows the most common themes from ideas shared. A broad range of excellent input has been compiled and will continue to be used in this process.

## SOUTH END/CHASE RIVER/DUKE POINT

### LOVE



- 1 Successful urban farm
- 2 Great spot to hike with your dog and watch sea lions, eagles, and otters.
- 3 Amazing views of the City and awesome sandstone beaches on the Jack Point trail.

### NEEDS IMPROVEMENT



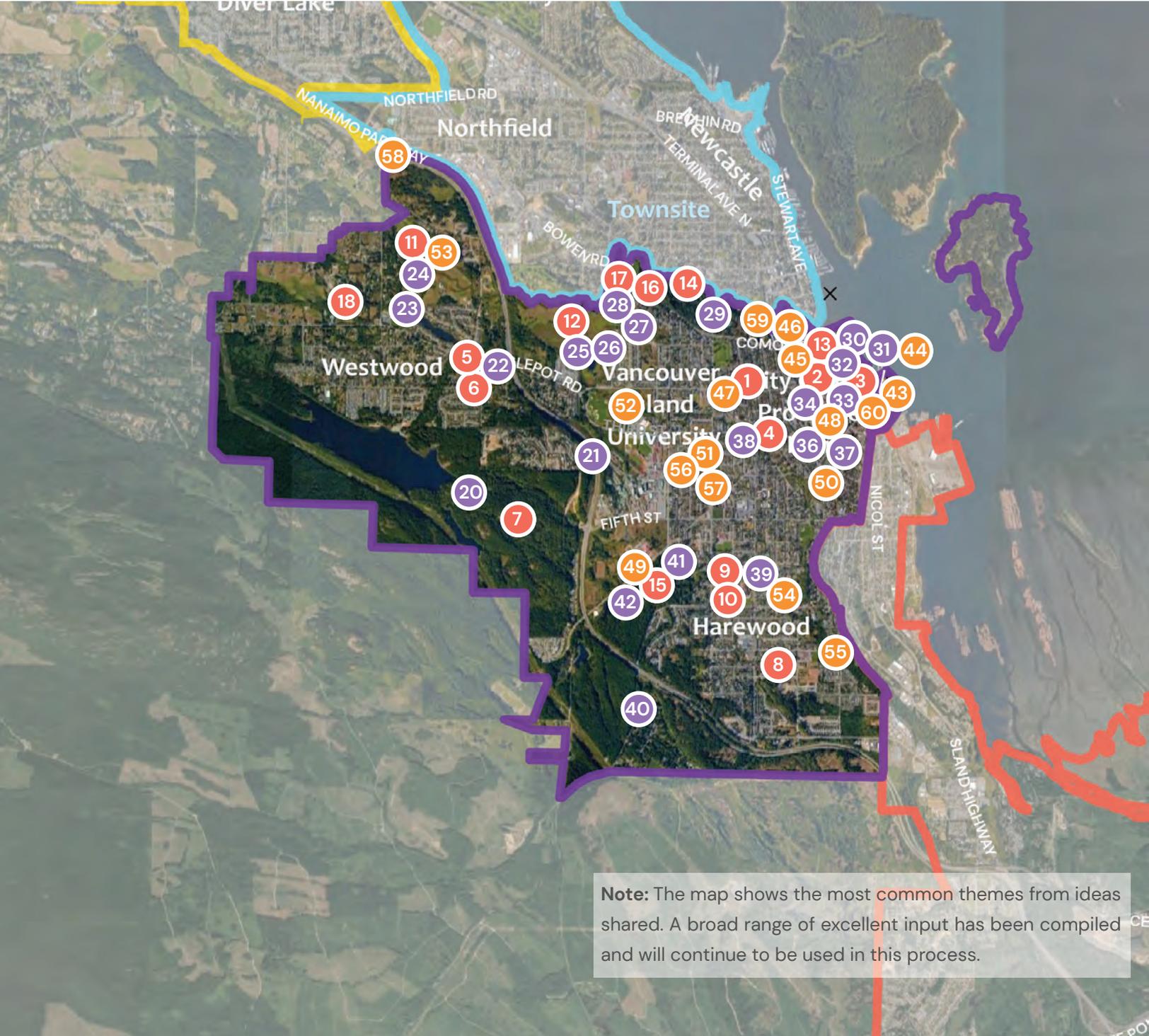
- 4 We need to protect the estuary.
- 5 Less strip malls and suburban sprawl. New developments should propose more thoughtful public spaces.
- 6 Improve access to Chase River/Cinnabar Valley.
- 7 Lack of sidewalks or safe pedestrian route to get from Cranberry Ave to Southgate shopping center.
- 8 Rebuild the boardwalk in the park.

### BIG IDEA



- 9 Build a south-end natural waterfront park in partnership with Snuneymuxw.
- 10 Beautify Nicol Street to create a better first impression as people enter Nanaimo. Other communities use flowers and vegetation as ways to beautify their community entrances – e.g., Duncan, Parksville, Courtenay.
- 11 Find opportunities for nature protection and parkland, including obtaining as much land as possible for nature and public uses during rezonings.

# CITY CENTRE/ PROTECTION ISLAND, VANCOUVER ISLAND UNIVERSITY, WESTWOOD, HAREWOOD



**Note:** The map shows the most common themes from ideas shared. A broad range of excellent input has been compiled and will continue to be used in this process.

## CITY CENTRE/ PROTECTION ISLAND, VANCOUVER ISLAND UNIVERSITY, WESTWOOD, HAREWOOD

### LOVE

- 1 Love Sid Clark Gyro Park
- 2 Love The Bees Knees Community Cafe
- 3 The Front Street bike lanes are a great addition to downtown and the waterfront.
- 4 Love the scenic views of the Old City from here.
- 5 This traffic light makes turning left from Westwood to Jinglepot safer.
- 6 A nice quiet semi-wild, undeveloped corner of grass and trees, great place for dog walking.
- 7 Love the morrell/westwood trails.
- 8 Love the urban farms in this region.
- 9 The Georgia Greenway is a great active transportation route with opportunities to be lengthened.
- 10 Love John Barsby School Garden.
- 11 I like the open field. It seems to be a nice place for people to take their dogs.
- 12 Love buttertubs marsh for the birds.
- 13 Love that White Sails has bike racks inside their bar so you can cycle down for a beer.
- 14 My kids love the playground improvements at Maffoe Sutton.
- 15 I love the wonderful parks in Nanaimo. Bowen, Beban, Mateo Sutton, Westwood, Collier Park Dam, Buttertubs, etc.
- 16 Love the frisbee golf course and tennis courts. Amazing free amenities and really well maintained.

- 17 I love the trees planted along the road here and how it feels like a nice transition between neighbourhoods.
- 18 Love Morgan Creek Farm

### NEEDS IMPROVEMENT

- 19 There could be better signage for the connecting trails.
- 20 Formalize walking route from Colliery Dam Park to Westwood Lake.
- 21 This part of the highway generates a lot of noise pollution. It's at high elevation with nothing to block the noise. Maybe some trees or other sound barriers could be added.
- 22 There should be a crosswalk added here. There are bus stops on opposite sides of jingle pot in front of the pub but no crosswalk.
- 23 This little park/walkway is extremely dark. Lights should be added for safety.
- 24 Find opportunities for permaculture restoration initiatives to the Millstone and riparian area.
- 25 Boardwalks would be a nice addition to Buttertubs Marsh and signage by the City need to be better maintained.
- 26 There is a lot of flooding onto the path here.
- 27 Road connection linking buttertubs to Menzies ridge.

- 28 A cycling connection from the old city / Harewood up into the Bowen Rd commercial area is needed.
- 29 Bowen Park needs maintenance, crosswalk and signage needs an upgrade. Encampments need to be managed.
- 30 Make our waterfront accessible to all BY WATER. Places to temporarily tie up boats and allow for swimming.
- 31 Lighting and benches need upgrades.
- 32 This is an underused lot that is a big opportunity to improve the downtown core.
- 33 Downtown:
  - ▶ This beautiful old empty building would make an amazing community performance center (e.g. concert space, dance space).
  - ▶ Dianna Krall Square: an opportunity for great programming as seen at the Night markets. Pop up shops; markets; outdoor stage for performances; food festivals; kids programming.
  - ▶ We need more amenities to animate downtown. Vacant lots should be decreased.
- 34 Make Terminal Ave more welcoming and attractive.
- 35 Give the China Steps more character. Pay homage to the Chinese who helped build this City and then got pushed out.
- 36 Improve the safety of this intersection.
- 37 Create more outdoor space for clients at New Hope Centre. Build housing and treatment centres.
- 38 Wesley St is uncomfortable.

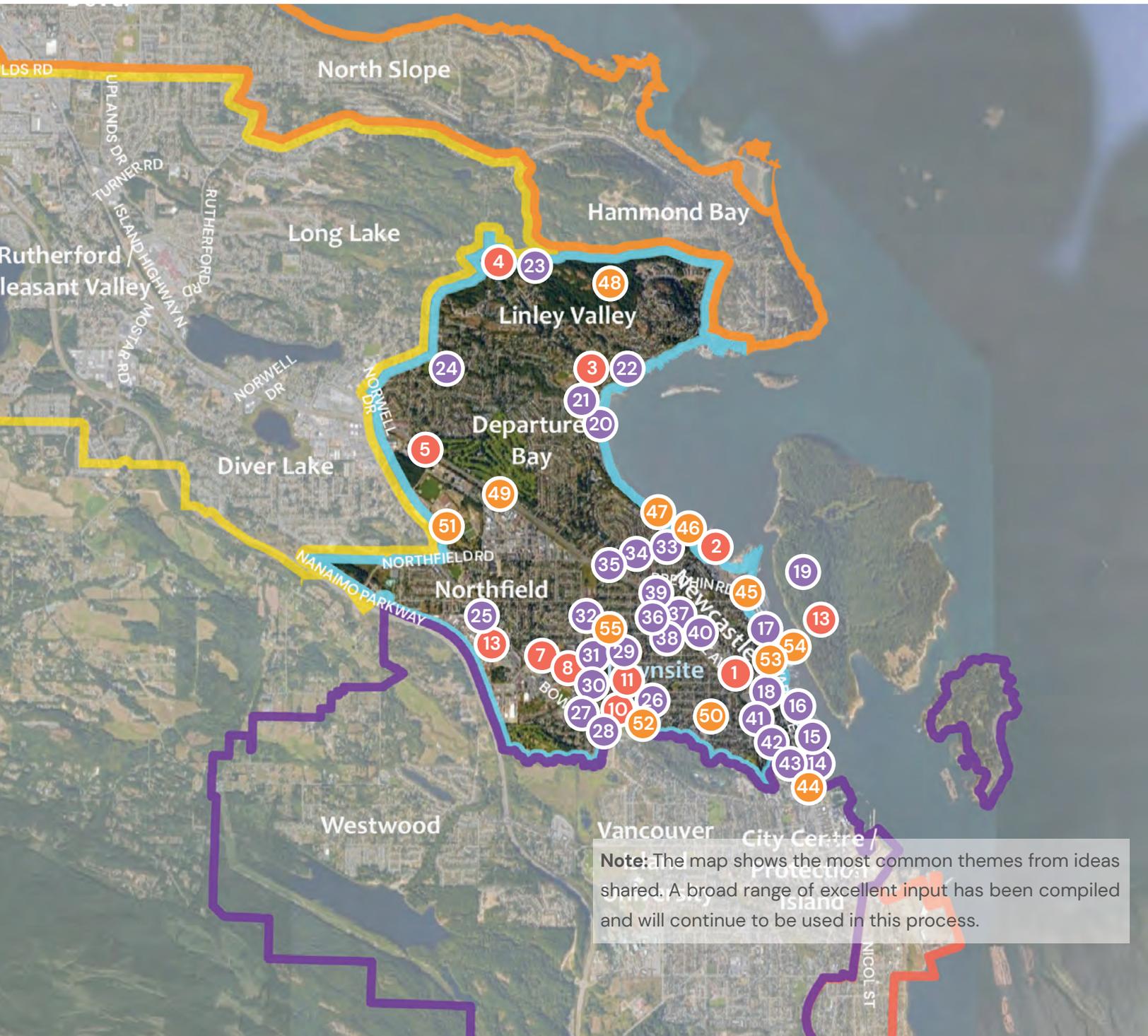
- 39 Revisit place names and work with First Nations to rename important places in the city.
- 40 We should allow greater flexibility in neighborhood design for new developments. It should not be limited to single family homes if people would prefer other styles of homes.
- 41 Better connections into park. Sidewalk needed along Sixth Street.
- 42 Needs more amenities like toilets and garbage bins.

## BIG IDEA

- 43 Empty paved areas around Nanaimo could make for great parks, beach volleyball courts or other amenities.
- 44 Build a quick and affordable foot passenger ferry to downtown Vancouver.
- 45 Stop building out and build up. Conserve as much undeveloped land as possible to keep as parkland.
- 46 Make Terminal Ave pedestrian only. Put a Visitors Centre and city map on Terminal Avenue in an easy-to-see location.
- 47 Encourage Provincial Government offices to relocate near downtown core.
- 48 Close a portion of Commercial Street to vehicle traffic during peak tourist seasons and add street furniture, landscaping, etc.
- 49 Build mountain bike trails near entrance of Colliery Dam Park?

- 50 LRT to Vic and up to Campbell River. In addition to commuting, it could be used heavily for tourism, including a ski express to Mt Washington
- 51 Add trails to city-owned land in this area to facilitate ecologically responsible public access.
- 52 Conservation area and habitat for birds and insects. Reforesting initiatives. Food forests and community gardens.
- 53 East Wellington Park could become the bread basket of Nanaimo while expanding and creating more wildlife habitat.
- 54 Create a recreational corridor for walking, running, mountain biking, etc from here (or further east) alongside the Chase River & up into Colliery Dam Park.
- 55 Protect this green belt alongside the Chase River (Kuwulton) as it is an important wildlife corridor.
- 56 Make this great chunk of land (in its entirety) into a public space. Parkland and/or community gardens.
- 57 Create a 'boulevard' from Uni through to downtown.
- 58 Add escarpment lands south of Tourist Centre to parks acquisition list.
- 59 Make a nice trail connecting Maffeo Sutton Park to Bowen Park
- 60 Have a pedestrian bridge that links the waterfront walkway into Diane Krall Plaza.

# TOWNSITE, NORTHFIELD, DEPARTURE BAY, LINLEY VALLEY, NEWCASTLE



**Note:** The map shows the most common themes from ideas shared. A broad range of excellent input has been compiled and will continue to be used in this process.

## TOWNSITE, NORTHFIELD, DEPARTURE BAY, LINLEY VALLEY, NEWCASTLE

### LOVE

- 1 Love this spot. It's the only place in the city (outside of nature or First Nation culture) that has a spiritual meaning I can connect to.
- 2 I'm so grateful to have a ferry terminal in Nanaimo!
- 3 Love this park with a view.
- 4 Love this large protected green space in the city.
- 5 Huge fan of the E&N bike trail. Great option to be able to bike across town off the road.
- 6 Parkway Trail is a great biking option to get from one end of town to the other.
- 7 Love this section of Dufferin. I feels nice with the trees and well-kept row houses.
- 8 Love the woodlands in this area.
- 9 Love the cycling route from Third Street Park.
- 10 Love this spot down by the river.
- 11 Love this community food forest.
- 12 Love Newcastle Island.
- 13 Love this commercial/light industrial area, could use more interesting public spaces and landscaping.

### NEEDS IMPROVEMENT

- 14 City benches need maintenance. Especially those on the waterfront.
- 15 This popular view spot needs garbage bins and landscaping.
- 16 Create a walkable and attractive waterfront that has restaurants, cafes, seating areas and landscaping, not just marinas.
- 17 Waterfront walkway should be extended from maffeo sutton/downtown to the ferry.
- 18 Make a raised intersection so pedestrians and bicyclists can get across Stewart Ave.
- 19 Great potential here. Lots of history, which should be included on signage around the island.
- 20 Need a well-planned development to animate this area. Clean up the empty area next to The Drip and create more opportunities to visit and socialize.
- 21 The Spray Park needs better access (from beach) and signage. The drainage on the court needs improvement.
- 22 Potential here for a waterfront cycling route to Lantzville.
- 23 Add directional and skill level to the signage for the trails.
- 24 Improve Rock City elementary! Update school infrastructure. Create a intermediate playground and primary playground.
- 25 Bike path needed on Bowen Road.

- 26 Improvements needed along Townsite Rd. Increase safety by reducing the speed limit and adding traffic calming devices on townsite Rd. Add sidewalks on both sides and protect sight lines. A nice and comfortable bus shelter is needed. Add a full basketball court at Gyro Park and improve nearby abandoned property. Parks along the road need improvement.
- 27 Improve Bowen. Add more interesting street trees.
- 28 More seating opportunities needed.
- 29 This area is not well kept and very weedy with invasive scotch broom and Himalayan Blackberries.
- 30 This commercial area seems sleepy. It could use a coffee shop with the hospital close.
- 31 Improve trail access up to Boundary Crescent.
- 32 Parking needs to be improved in hospital area.
- 33 Would love this trail to be dog off-leash friendly.
- 34 This park should have some invasive species removal and more dog friendly surfaces.
- 35 Improve this space with landscaping/public art.
- 36 Improve this intersection safety, especially conflicts between vehicles and cyclists.
- 37 The E&N needs to be better maintained and be lengthened. Eliminate unnecessary slip lanes.
- 38 Crosswalk lights on Waddington Road.
- 39 The walking path here needs to be cleaned up and maintained.
- 40 Improve the decrepit strip malls in Nanaimo.

Upgrade into village shopping centres like Victoria's Uptown Centre.

- 41 Improve traffic congestion on the main arteries by adding more through roads.
- 42 Put some homeless shelters in the North End instead of central-south.
- 43 Make a nice trail connecting Maffeo Sutton Park to Bowen Park

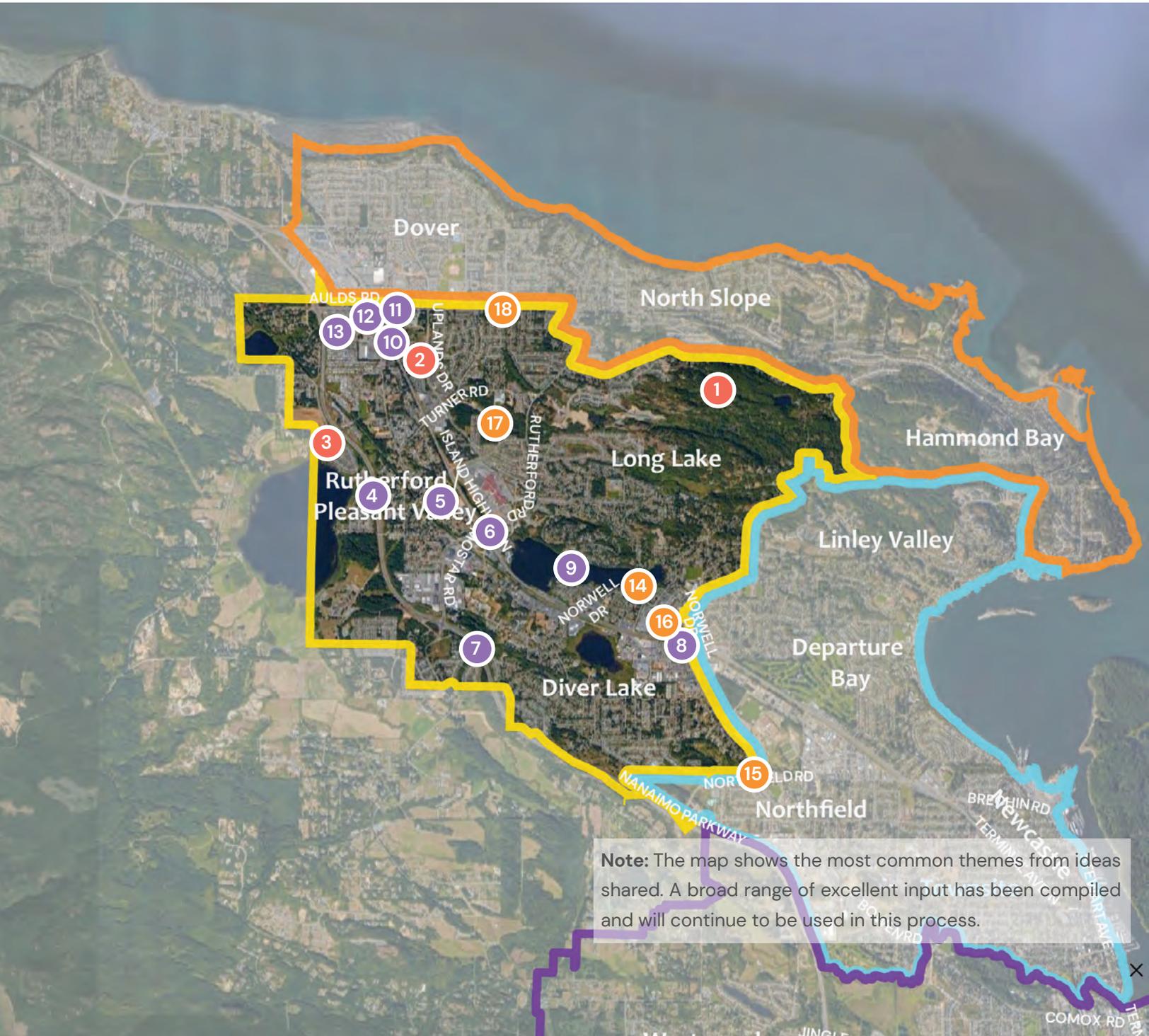
## BIG IDEA



- 44 Pilot allowing responsible alcohol consumption in select city parks.
- 45 Would love to see some of this area more tourism oriented – a mini grandville island.
- 46 Turn vacant lot into parkland.
- 47 Create a beach access here to make the park accessible. A cantilevered boardwalk up on the cliff could allow for the transportation goals while preserving the intertidal zone.
- 48 High points preserved so the public can enjoy the amazing views – perhaps a crest trail could be created.
- 49 Invest in safe cycling infrastructure.
- 50 No encampments within 1km of schools.
- 51 Beban Park is historic ALR and farmland. This would be a great location for a year-round, indoor farmers market.

- 52 New Millstone River Trail from Maffeo–Sutton Park to Bowen to Buttertubs, to the big field on E. Wellington Rd. to Brannen Lake and then into then up through Mt. Benson.
- 53 Passenger railway transit to Victoria.
- 54 Maybe a pedestrian bridge over to Newcastle, for further tourist attraction development.
- 55 City could purchase this property where the old school was and then to incorporate it into Beaufort Park. Building could still be rented out for institutional or community uses.

## DIVER LAKE, LONG LAKE, RUTHERFORD / PLEASANT VALLEY



## DIVER LAKE, LONG LAKE, RUTHERFORD / PLEASANT VALLEY

### LOVE

- 1 Love the Linley Valley for outdoor recreation.
- 2 The proposal at the Green Thumb site provides homes for our growing population close to parks, shops, and services, and without destroying forests.
- 3 Can't beat the deck at the Black Bear Pub on a sunny day.

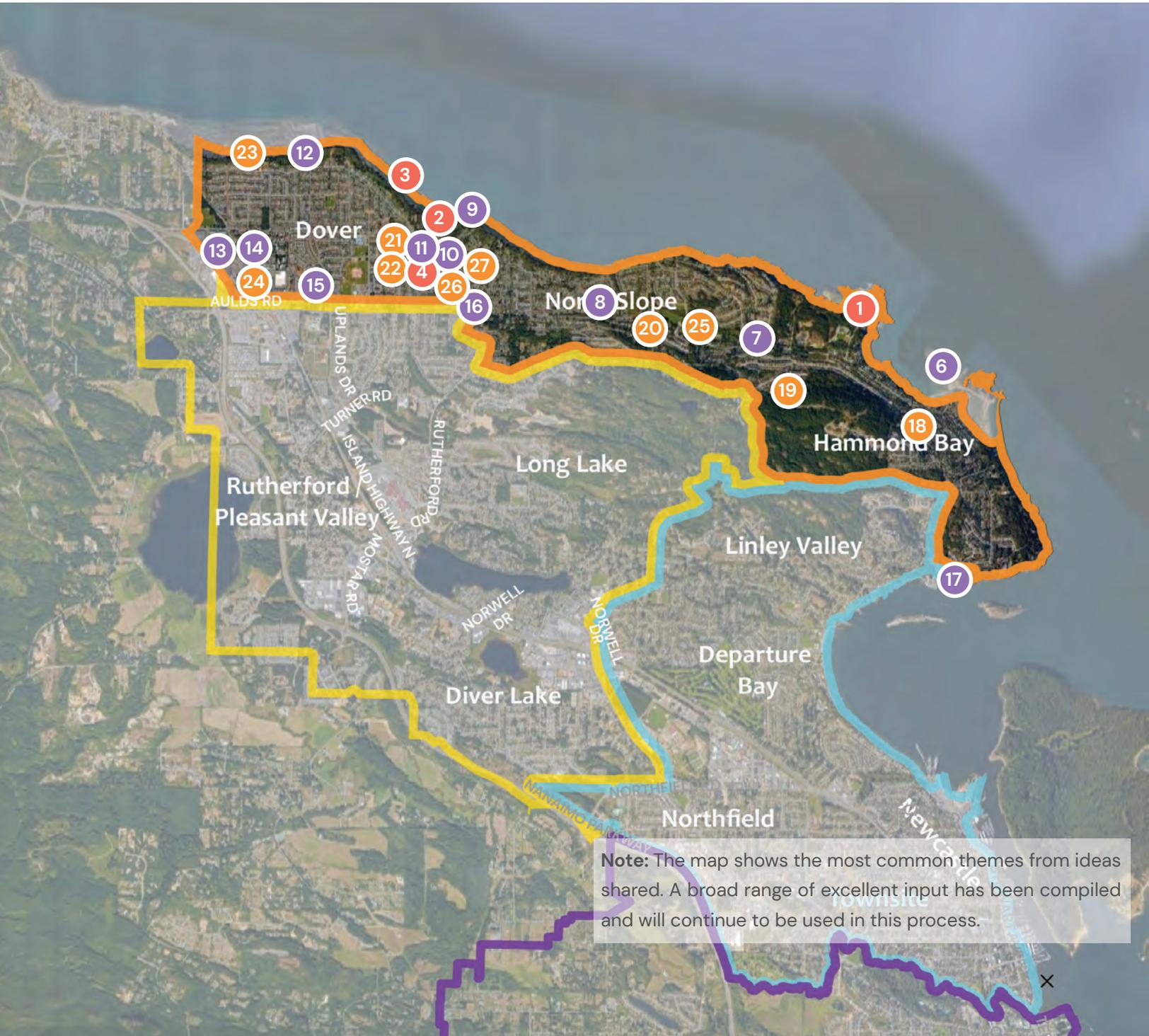
### NEEDS IMPROVEMENT

- 4 Parkway Trail needs to be upgraded and maintained.
- 5 Construction on Metral is disruptive.
- 6 Bike and pedestrian lanes are needed here.
- 7 Add better lighting to the tunnel/underpass and clean up the garbage and graffiti.
- 8 Revamp intersection with priority for pedestrians and cyclists Connect the bike path between the E&N and the Parkway Trail.
- 9 Limit power boats and speed on the lake.
- 10 Future development of this site needs to address drainage, stormwater and on-site treatment.
- 11 A pedestrian crossing is needed.
- 12 Consider more productive uses of this space like green space or improved infrastructure.
- 13 The new pedestrian crossing needs a safe pathway through the parking lot, towards the Superstore.

### BIG IDEA

- 14 Extend the walkway all the way around the lake.
- 15 Turn this area into green space with new trees, walking paths and water features. Use the money saved to fill in some of the missing sidewalks in Nanaimo.
- 16 Utilize the Country Club area for an urban landscape with increased density.
- 17 Create a interpretive trail around pond.
- 18 Could be a good spot for a traffic light.

# HAMMOND BAY, NORTH SLOPE, DOVER



**Note:** The map shows the most common themes from ideas shared. A broad range of excellent input has been compiled and will continue to be used in this process.

## HAMMOND BAY, NORTH SLOPE, DOVER

### LOVE

- 1 Love the trails, kid, dog, and people friendly.
- 2 Love to see this kept a natural green space / natural wild space for pedestrians only to enjoy of all ages.
- 3 Best dog off-leash park in the world especially at low tide.
- 4 I love the traffic circle. It immediately slowed traffic once installed.

### NEEDS IMPROVEMENT



- 6 There should be more informational signage sharing the history of shack island.
- 7 This empty retail space has a big opportunity for interesting development.
- 8 There is a potential for more complexity in these neighbourhood mini-parks, like logs and rocks for climbing/balancing on, and native trees and shrubs to provide more habitat for native plants and animals.
- 9 Add an accessible path and signage to warn of sinking sand and unsafe zones.
- 10 Create an accessible path into the ravine and along the ravine.
- 11 Poor drainage needs to be addressed in this area before more development makes the situation worse.
- 12 Beach access stairs need replacement. There is huge demand for beach access in this area.

- 13 The multi-use trail needs connections to the bike lane that ends on Dover Rd.
- 14 Improve traffic safety. Vehicles turning right on to Dickinson often do not stop or realize when southbound vehicles turning onto Dickinson have advance green.
- 15 This green space/ park needs improvement.
- 16 Rutherford School property has lots of potential for future development.
- 17 Provide better awareness of the Ocean and Fisheries Biological Centre by Open Houses or community involvement.

### BIG IDEA



- 18 Develop an interesting commercial node here with a grocery store.
- 19 Formalize protected public parkland at Abalone Place so that the public can continue to enjoy these views and suburban sprawl is limited.
- 20 Prioritize protecting continuous corridors of green space for rainwater management and ecological integrity for plants and wild animals.
- 21 Acquire green space and create a park here.
- 22 Create a waterpark or other community facility.
- 23 Develop a waterfront walking trail loop from Seabold to Blueback or Invermere.
- 24 Put the next homeless shelter/temporary

boards are now  
being analyzed.  
ned!

### An indoor warming centre for homeless (after Covid)

There has to be somewhere for  
homeless people to go during  
the da...

Share 0 Comment 1



Curtis

4 months ago

### Beautify Terminal Rd.

Make the stretch of road  
(Terminal) that passes through  
the heart...

Share 0 Comment 3



Rio

2 months ago

Don't give up on our  
downtown! We need more  
diverse and sustainable  
employers downtown, not  
just novelty tourist shops  
and restaurants.

Share 0 Comment 1



Curtis

4 months ago

### Pioneer plaza

This space is a big barren slab  
of concrete. The only thing that  
...

Share 1 Comment 4



Curtis

4 months ago

### Chinatown

(Once COVID has died  
down) Have VIU teach  
regular classes at the  
conference centre  
downtown

VIU is running short of  
teaching space on campus,  
and the confere...

Share 0 Comment 1



Curtis

4 months ago

### Diana Kral Plaza

Build a water feature in the  
middle and have some nice  
planters w...

Share 0 Comment 2



Jonagh

4 months ago

When new development  
occurs be more aggressive  
in creating large public  
spaces. Public squares,  
grassy parks, or pedestrian  
corridors.

An issue across Nanaimo is  
the distinct lack of quality  
public ut...

Share 0 Comment 2



Sally Britz

3 months ago

Walkable waterfront from  
Gabriola ferry terminal to  
Departure Bay ferry  
terminal

Move the marinas elsewhere  
and let's have a nice, walkable  
waterfront

Actually fix the prob  
don't just paint over

Instead of painting over  
decrepit buildings, enc  
actual rea...

Share 1 Comment



Jonagh

22 days ago

### Nanaimo, a city of v

Nanaimo is long, and  
multiple points that co  
evolve into v...

Share 0 Comment



Curtis

3 months ago

### Attract employers

More employers = mo  
workers in downtown  
to support dow...

Share 0 Comment



Leon Ivan

4 months ago

Good on Nanaimo C  
for trying to revitaliz  
Downtown, but I fea  
may be far too late.

Share 0 Comment



megoary

6 months ago

Make downtown fe  
and more inviting!

 **Little John**  
4 months ago

**Have bike paths that connect to each other, that doesn't involve juggling with vehicle traffic & is easy to navigate.**

Cycle paths that make sense.

Share 1 Comment 6 

 4 months ago

**Create a minimum grid of safe, relatively flat, and coherent bike routes throughout viable neighborhoods.**

This seems like it could be done from Northfield / Newcastle in C...

Share 0 Comment 2 

**Medium to high speed rail to and from victoria**

Especially service leaving Nanaimo in the morning and coming back...

Share 0 Comment 3 

 **Blue whale**  
4 months ago

**Provide off:site designated parking with pay for use 2 provide funds in landscape with trees , shrubs barriers 4 ped.:access shoreline use**

Share 0 Comment 0 

 **Rio**  
2 months ago

**Expand and attract car sharing services and companies.**

Share 0 Comment 0 

 **jonagh**  
4 months ago

**Encourage independent (preferably non-profit) small scale ownership rather than large multi-unit owners (ie malls).**

Allowing for a more diverse and creative commercial landscape rat...

Share 0 Comment 0 



# APPENDIX F

## IDEAS BOARD COMMENTS

## IDEAS BOARDS

### YOUR IDEAS FOR HOW WE ADAPT

- ▶ **I ride a bike instead of driving whenever possible.**
- ▶ **Veggie garden and backyard chickens**
- ▶ **Bought a used hybrid car.**
- ▶ **Recycling as much as possible.** I try to recycle as much as possible, but the city does not accept everything... It is inconvenient having two places (the blue bin and the recycling depot) where I have to bring my recyclables and then some things are still not accepted at either location. Also, the City only collects recycling every two weeks, so my bins get full and then I have to start putting things into the garbage bin... I have the biggest blue bin too, but I live in a 5-person house and there are a lot of materials to be disposed of... Too much packaging these days.
- ▶ **REFUSE, reduce, recycle.** Refuse to buy plastics and single use containers. Reduce consumption and recycle everything I can. I darn my socks instead of buying new and buy from thrift stores.
- ▶ **Grow your own veggies and/or buy BC produce, meat, and goods.**
- ▶ **Plan my shopping to use my car less.** I save up all the shopping I need to do on one end of town and walk when I don't have a lot to carry.
- ▶ Comment response to "Recycling as much as possible" "To those who still believe in the recycling myth I strongly recommend watching the CBC Marketplace investigation, featuring none other than our own Vancouver Island. Spoiler alert: our recyclables end up burning in the jungles of South-East Asia. "
- ▶ Comment response to "Recycling as much as possible" Sally. I just watched it! That is crazy.

### YOUR IDEAS FOR HOW WE PLAY & RECREATE

- ▶ **Online Arts and Culture hub.** Live streaming events as well as video series promoting past arts and cultures leaders connecting with the community and an education section for free resources promoting educational goals thru arts and culture.
- ▶ **Murals.** Stop painting murals over everything like you're trying to polish a turd. Invest in real city beautification not tacky art'
- ▶ **Inclusive Grand Water Park Play** A large, modern inclusive waterpark & playground in the North for families and to bring tourists to the area.
- ▶ **Add some "Wild-Trips" to Transit.** We could create occasional specialty routes to desirable wilderness recreational areas as part of our transit system. It would be nice to have the option... It's been one of the hardest parts of going car-free.
- ▶ **As a transit user, it's frustrating to not be able to access any wilderness beyond some developed 2nd growth city parks.** Lynn Valley for example is a giant transit hole in the map. Westwood lake has infrequent service. The iconic Mt. Benson trails are out of the question. The range for archery and marksmen is also not accessible for those who enjoy those sports. A lot of rivers, streams, lakes etc are out of range for a swim or fishing or foraging. Even if a bus route goes along a wilderness area, stops are generally not permitted and the service is few and far between. This creates a dis-connect for those who

don't drive, while urban parks and rec. can be great, we don't have the privilege of accessing nature."

- ▶ **Nanaimo needs to create way more community parks, this city has very few places to go have a picnic or sit in a quiet sunny piece of grass.** I'm not sure why Nanaimo is so barren of quality community parks. Yes there are nature/forest parks (of which we also need more), a few small neighbourhood/playground parks, and sports fields.. but almost no small or large community parks. Large public park landscapes are an important part of a livable city. If we look at almost any high quality city in the world parks play a huge part in their makeup and the quality of life for their citizens.
- ▶ **New community pool for Nanaimo North.** There is a community pool in South Nanaimo, one Central, now we need one for North Nanaimo (this one could be saltwater).
- ▶ **Minimal pavement in parks** please. Please stop paving all of the park trails. I understand the idea of accessibility, but they end up getting rooted up anyways defeating the purpose... The toxins in the materials leach into the nature areas. The hard surface is bad for joints, especially for runners. I find it a more pleasant run or bike ride on softer earth than hard asphalt. Well maintained dirt or mulch is fine... They're parks not sidewalks.
- ▶ **The city needs to put something attractive to the citizens of Nanaimo in the south end of town, such as a community centre or shopping mall.** I lived in Nanaimo for a short while in the 80's and recently moved back and was shocked to find that nothing really changed and the downtown is still a bit of a dive. Most of the good development was done in the north end of town. There are streets in the downtown with lovely, quaint shops, but they are surrounded by homeless. This is a place that I and I'm sure that visitors don't feel safe to walk around in.

I understand that homeless shelters will be built in the south end of town, but I believe they should be distributed throughout the city and not concentrated in one area. There is very little economy in the south end except for a couple of grocery stores that have inflated prices that many of the people in the area cannot afford to shop in. It would be nice to see something that would attract visitors, as well as other citizens of Nanaimo. The pockets of nice areas in the south end don't deserve the property values to go down because someone doesn't want to see the homeless living in the north!

Nanaimo's downtown could be such a lovely escape for visitors and we should have a lovely south end to attract visitors coming in...it's the first thing they see, don't scare them away."

- ▶ **Indoor beach volleyball courts!** We could turn the old Sears into beach volleyball courts indoor! As well as more accessible playgrounds.
- ▶ Comment response to "A large, modern inclusive waterpark & playground in the North for families and to bring tourists to the area." My kids would so utilize this!
- ▶ Comment response to "A large, modern inclusive waterpark & playground in the North for families and to bring tourists to the area." Nice idea, but how about we make it more central so that the majority of people can access and use it.

## YOUR IDEAS FOR WE CONNECT

- ▶ **Online Art hub w/ streaming feed of special events and performances** . A local non-profit society should dedicate it's time to creating a central hub for inclusion themed free access of all Nanaimo special events or public art displays to be live streamed for all audiences to see from their own electronic device or internet access point.
- ▶ **More multipurpose green spaces** I feel it is important as density is increased and more and more taxes are spent on special interest, that more public spaces for everyone, programmed for uses of all ages should be a priority. Parks and other green spaces are things that can be used for all regardless of status in life. Parks are free to use. Trees in parks return oxygen. As the earth continue to increase in temperature, a water feature in some of our major parks would help children and adults cool in the hot summer months.
- ▶ Looks like we need to get going on improving our outdoor performance spaces. COVID is changing everything. We will want outside more.
- ▶ **Monitoring of dog spaces for on leash.** Some separated off leash for small and large dogs. Dogs off beaches where they defecate in water.
- ▶ **More wildlife education opportunities in parks.** Can't believe how uninformed city people are and it affects how they use the park.
- ▶ **Sheltered outdoor social space.** Our city could use more social meeting space that is outdoors but sheltered from the rain/sun. It's been very hard during covid to meet with family and friends because we end up sitting on the ground or random cement stairs out in the heat or rain. It's created a huge barrier to connecting socially for people without spacious yards/homes that allow distancing.
- ▶ **More celebrations & festivities.** I've heard our city was once very lively with celebrations and fireworks festivals and concerts...But we have found very few events to really partake in. Maybe 1 or 2 a year and most were meh or heavily commercial. People have told me that the bathtub race is the only really big excitement/draw around here, and that looks to be true. It will require creativity to pull off large events with physical distancing, but we could really use something exciting and pleasant to bring us together.
- ▶ **Daily farmers market.** It would be nice if there was a daily farmers market open 5 per week and with longer hours... That way it is more convenient. I'd probably go there anytime I needed anything, but only being open a few hours once a week, I often don't think to go until it is too late... There are so many farmers markets, but they occur on different days at different times and at different locations making it inconvenient. Maybe something like Granville Island? Obviously, on a smaller scale.
- ▶ **More picnic areas.** My dad and I like to do lunch every now and then. We like to bring food to the park to eat, but not all parks have tables/seating - Jack Point, for example. Picnic areas are a great meeting place.
- ▶ **More community engagement in development processes.** It feels like the community either doesn't find out about something until it is too late or that we have no say in what happens.
- ▶ **More late night activities** (ie performances, comedy, concerts, dances, festivals, restaurants) particularly downtown.
- ▶ **Outdoor spaces/activities for the cold season** It'd be nice to have comfortable, sheltered outdoor spaces for the cooler seasons. It's still nice to be outside in the winter, but not necessarily in the rain. An example would be a picnic shelter at Westwood Lake. A firepit at the centre would be really cool.
- ▶ **Comment response to "More multipurpose green spaces."** Strongly agree. Nanaimo has a stark lack of large quality green spaces.

- ▶ Comment response to “More wildlife education opportunities in parks. Can’t believe how uninformed city people are and it affects how they use the park.” So important!
- ▶ Comment response to “More celebrations & festivities” I personally fine there are a lot of events, but the events are low quality. I’d rather have less events, but focus on really putting in a lot of effort and putting on a real show.

## YOUR IDEAS FOR WE CARE

- ▶ **New Addiction Treatment & Mental Health Facility.** We have a number of empty buildings/lots in Downtown Nanaimo that we could look into purchasing with joint funding from private citizens, corporations, municipal and provincial funding. While I understand health care is a provincial responsibility, we cannot be complacent. The number 1 topic of conversation in Nanaimo is the addiction and homelessness issue, and this has become attached to our reputation as a community.

We should be challenging the Provincial government to address this issue by presenting a proposal for a new mental health complex that can be a safe place for people to access mental health services and treatment beds. We should also be looking at community outreach and support that could be a joint effort with VIHA and the RCMP.

We should mobilize the community to step up with fundraising in order to address this crisis. We clearly cannot rely solely on the Provincial government to help us and right now people feel hopeless, frustrated and scared. I had to attend counselling in the building across from the Police Station in the evening after work and stopped going during the winter months, as I didn’t feel safe in that area after dark.

Most of the community buildings in Nanaimo are close to passing their useful life in terms of assets. We need to be creating new assets that better reflect the needs of this community. Let’s stop ignoring the problem and shine a bring light on it.”

- ▶ **Interactive Art Installations.** We need to be creating an alternative reputation for our city that does not include homelessness, drugs and crime. Nanaimo should be known as a creative hub on the Island. Somewhere to stop and marvel at rather than pass through to get to more tourist-friendly communities.

We should look into bright, colourful and interactive projects. Waterparks, outdoor fitness centres, climbable installations, etc.. What we need is unique and fun attractions that provide unique and fun experiences and can be considered “instagram-able.”

We are already off to a great start with our Marine Festival, our existing installations, and our wonderful murals. We should strive to create an environment where people feel empowered and excited to have fun in our city, and especially our downtown. And while it is a contentious issue I strongly feel that live music should be allowed and encouraged in the Spring and Summer months as it draws locals to the area.

- ▶ **Make commercial street a one way.** Make commercial street a Single lane one way people can park angled. So more people can park downtown. My idea would be because of the increase in parking spots, new art structures, chairs and ect would be built in some of their places. A more bike and pedestrian friendly downtown, while allowing the same if not more cars to park downtown.
- ▶ **Invest in our kids.** The best way (long term) to fix issues like homelessness, addiction, crime etc. is to

invest in our children. Make sure they have good homes, food, clean water, education, access to leisure and healthy socialization, healthcare (including mental) AND THEN see the stats turn in everyone's favour.

- ▶ **Multi-generational.** Multi-generation housing and activities.
- ▶ **City Recreation programs that encourage mixing of diverse people.** Encourage programming that encourages curiosity about and connection with diverse peoples so we can get to know one another.
- ▶ **Diverse people depicted in city advertising and signage.** People feel included in a society when they can imagine themselves being included. Visuals that show diverse people being included help people imagine and work towards inclusion.
- ▶ **Use of visuals and language that reduce stigmatization of people with addictions.** We all have friends and family with addictions. Let's get that out in the open.
- ▶ Comment response to "New Addiction Treatment & Mental Health Facility" I am a downtown resident and I agree that we need a mental health and addiction centre that is highly progressive.
- ▶ **Rehab centres and mental health centres** We need rehab centres and dry housing. We need mental health centres too for those one the streets with mental disorders to get help.
- ▶ **Stronger communities.** If we build stronger communities and better places to raise children - if children grow up in better spaces, they will have less issues.... less likeley to feel anxious, depressed, or resort to drugs. More than just counciling and youth outreach. We need afterschool programs, better access to activities. etc.
- ▶ **Edmonton has one evening a month women's only swim.** A women's only swim (with no male staff present) would allow women, from cultures where women feel uncomfortable being seen by men when uncovered, to enjoy a swim.

## YOUR IDEAS FOR HOW WE WORK

- ▶ **Focus on land uses and opportunities for the future (e-commerce, internet-business, not the past (car dealerships, big retail).** Related ideas: car sharing/hailing versus ownership, electric versus fossil energy,
- ▶ **Strong relationship between VIU and the City to develop the workforce for the future, not the quickly changing past.** Cities that are thriving have strong linkages to post secondary institutions to build the workforce of tomorrow.
- ▶ **Try to attract Green businesses.** Can we make solar panels or windmills? If that is too ambitious can we develop electrical storage project Green Business
- ▶ **Diversity is good.** Try to develop neighbourhoods with coffee shop and services and schools within walking/biking distance. Meeting places. Neighbourhoods that support community.
- ▶ **Affordable housing should be mixed in with middle class housing.** Every development should have to start with 5-10%affordable units.No ghettos Mixed use housing.
- ▶ **Can we support a business incubator?**
- ▶ **Discourage "Land Hoarding" in Commercial Real Estate.** Owners who let buildings sit empty instead of lowering rent should be subject to sufficient tax to discourage the practise. Commercial space needs to be protected from prospecting in order to remain affordable to small businesses.

- ▶ **Clear Language Regulations to help Locally Owned businesses stand out from “Locally Operated” multinational chains.** Misleading language like “locally operated” or “supports local” is currently in use by businesses that are actually part of national or multinational brand conglomerates. It muddies the waters for shoppers and patrons. Let’s give our truly locally-owned businesses a boost with easy-to-see and consistent banners or signage!
- ▶ **De-Earmark the City’s Economy Process.** Too many individuals and institutions’ claim mandate and budget for projects and initiatives where they are actually not capable enough in to support. Nanaimo would thrive tremendously from tailor made solutions developed and executed by those who are talented, skilled and experienced in the subject matter they claim to be their territory and are not in search for Economic gain or Job security or primarily interested in honouring their personal Ego.
- ▶ **Create a Communication Platform.** Nanaimo’s public communication is simply to skimpy. It actually always was. A well set up Platform, (combination of Website, News paper/letter, App) where Businesses, City and Public can take notice of their initiatives, there struggles and gains, their plans, their relationships, their worries, their pride, will give a big impulse to Nanaimo because we not only need to make money and create jobs but even more important...trust, value, learn about each other. Create a professional team of creatives and executors and go for it!
- ▶ **More primary industry.** We need more employers (especially locally-owned ones), specifically for jobs not in the service sector. Primary industries bring money into the economy while service jobs just spread it around. We need money injected into the economy.
- ▶ **Mixed neighbourhoods and mixed buildings.** Chop up the commercial and residential deserts a bit. Downtown should have more mixed-use buildings (residential on top, commercial on the bottom) as well as nodes. Other neighbourhoods could benefit from more restaurants and grocery stores in walking distance. It would be nice if the majority of people could be in walking distance from their work and day-to-day shopping.
- ▶ **Upgrade the hospital and other health services.** Work with VIHA and other health organizations to improve current operations. Try and attract more nurses and doctors to the city. Try to attract investors to build wellness centres/retreats to the area... maybe a fitness camp too – health tourism is a thing!
- ▶ **Ban Self-Checkouts.** Ban self-checkout machines in grocery stores and fast-food restaurants and CREATE JOBS for the struggling local population. It’s criminal that the city, and the province for that matter, have allowed it to happen.
- ▶ **Bylaws on living wages and more.** Is it possible for Nanaimo to pass bylaws to raise wages and to provide better support to workers in the City?
- ▶ **Create incentives for green businesses in Nanaimo.**
- ▶ **Support manufacturing of locally consumed goods.**
- ▶ **Support agribusinesses in Nanaimo (i.e. hothouses connected to manufacturing).**
- ▶ **Tax deferral/cuts for businesses under strain due to Covid-19.**
- ▶ Comment response to “Affordable housing should be mixed in with middle class housing. Every development should have to start with 5-10%affordable units.No ghettos” No ghettos
- ▶ Comment response to “Affordable housing should be mixed in with middle class housing. Every development should have to start with 5-10%affordable units.No ghettos” The saying goes that you start to look like the 5 people you hang out with most. That alone is reason enough to avoid ghettos. If you are surrounded by people who work and reap the rewards, you will be more likely to want to do the same, then if you are surrounded only by people who do not see the rewards in work. (good work is a reward in

itself, but that's my bias as a self employed gardener :) )

- ▶ Comment response to "Discourage "Land Hoarding" in Commercial Real Estate" Fully appreciate that. Would be great to see the old AB sound building used as a connection in the downtown, rather than a divider.

## YOUR IDEAS FOR HOW WE MOVE

- ▶ **Encourage independent (preferably non-profit) small scale ownership rather than large multi-unit owners (ie malls).** Allowing for a more diverse and creative commercial landscape rather than monolithic bland strip malls.
- ▶ **Single floor strip malls are destructive to a healthy community and horribly inefficient.** Ban single-floor strip malls, all commercial nodes should be a minimum of two floors, with variations up to four or five. Increasing density provides a better urban sphere, a more enjoyable pedestrian landscape, and allows for adding commercial and residential space to our communities. Single floor strip malls are destructive to a healthy community and horribly inefficient.
- ▶ **Cycle paths that make sense.** Have bike paths that connect to each other, that doesn't involve juggling with vehicle traffic & is easy to navigate.
- ▶ **No automobile parking in FRONT of new or rebuilt businesses or retail.** Make it more pedestrian and cycle friendly and hide the acres of unsightly parking under or behind these developments.
- ▶ **Finish waterfront walkway.** I'd love to be able to walk, run or cycle from downtown to Departure Bay! Plus it would be a great feature for tourists and may get more folks walking longer distances if they feel safe and have such lovely views.
- ▶ **Secure bike parking.** Create safe, secure bike parking at shops, malls, organizations, & transportation nodes. This would encourage more bike use.
- ▶ **Plant hedges or trees on parts of the E&N multi use path that are big wind traps.** The section between Northfield Rd and Bowen Road (along the old highway) is so exposed to the wind that it becomes unbearable in the winter.
- ▶ **approach Ikea about opening up an outlet in the hub city.** They could occupy the old Sears outlet..
- ▶ **bring in traffic calming strategies for country club drive, rock city road.** People drive into neighbourhoods off the old highway and they do not reduce their speed. Traffic calming should be brought in for roads off the old hwy that go into subdivisions.
- ▶ **Turn Stewart Avenue into a complete street.** Add street trees, protected bike lanes, and more sidewalk space.
- ▶ **Create a minimum grid of safe, relatively flat, and coherent bike routes throughout viable neighborhoods.** This seems like it could be done from Northfield / Newcastle in Central Nanaimo through to the south end of Harewood / South End without major infrastructure upgrades.
- ▶ **Linked walk ways.** I want to be able to walk more in Nanaimo and would like to see the parks linked by a series of pathways. More shade in summer on the E&N trail would make it more appealing to use as well.
- ▶ **Better walking infrastructure** (sidewalks, sidewalks with boulevards and/or protected by a parking lane) would encourage me to walk more. I live in an area close to many shops and services. There is some infrastructure but it is lacking in parts. Walking along Bruce from Fourth to Fifth is unpleasant for a portion

due to strange parking accesses across the sidewalk and a lack of separation from vehicle traffic.

- ▶ **Medium to high speed rail to and from victoria.** Especially service leaving Nanaimo in the morning and coming back in the evening.
- ▶ **No BC ferries overspill onto Stewart save.**
- ▶ **Provide off-site designated parking with pay for use 2 provide funds in landscape with trees , shrubs barriers 4 ped.:access shoreline use**
- ▶ **Build housing above all retail shops to increase both security and accessibility**
- ▶ **Upgrade the E&N.** Upgrade the E&N per the Island Corridor Condition Assessment Summary but expand on the InterCity to have trains scheduled throughout the day. This can be done with four DEMU's on the Courtenay to Victoria section and provide 4 runs south and four runs north on the line. An additional train can connect Parksville to Port Alberni.
- ▶ **Millstone River Trail.** Connect Maffeo Sutton Park to Bowen to Buttertubs to the Jingle Pot Valley and up to Brannen Lake and into the hills
- ▶ **Expand and attract car sharing services and companies.**
- ▶ **Upgrade E and N trail and update bike lanes!** Possibly create a bridge to new castle. More cross walks.
- ▶ **Rental spots for kayaks** at the waterfront so we could bike to our kayak.
- ▶ **Create intuitive and enjoyable corridors for pedestrians & cyclists.** Nanaimo has been built for cars, and walking/cycling is often pushed onto main roads simply because the side streets have dead-ends or otherwise don't connect well. Finding opportunities in connecting side streets with pedestrian/bike paths, allowing safer and more pleasant travel off main roads would be an easy and significant improvement to the city. Connections can simply be small inexpensive paths, not impacting neighbourhoods with any new motor vehicle traffic.
- ▶ Comment response to "Ban single-floor strip malls, all commercial nodes should be a minimum of two floors, with variations up to four or five." Or have the parking on top of the mall, like port place
- ▶ Comment response to "Have bike paths that connect to each other, that doesn't involve juggling with vehicle traffic & is easy to navigate." I totally agree. I don't feel comfortable on the road and love our trails but am so disappointed that they say there is a complete trail but it involves part heavily trafficked roads or a highway.
- ▶ Comment response to "No automobile parking in FRONT of new or rebuilt businesses or retail." Follow Victoria's lead by making separated bike lanes on both sides of the street.
- ▶ Comment response to "Create safe, secure bike parking at shops, malls, organizations, & transportation nodes. This would encourage more bike use." Yes, I love to bike and used to do a lot of groceries on bike. These days I do not dare to leave my bike more than a minute. There is security staff in a lot of malls, would be great if one of them could have a permanent eye on a central bike stall (which would be covered for the rain, of course ) )
- ▶ Comment response to "Plant hedges or trees on parts of the E&N multi use path that are big wind traps." "Planting trees along the E&N would make it a much more enjoyable ride. The E&N would benefit from some shade in the summer.
- ▶ Comment response to "bring in traffic calming strategies for country club drive, rock city road" "What are some traffic calming strategies,? R they Bumps , le flashing, speed awareness Monitors ? Hammond Bay really needs this in northend or something , as after ramping on HWY full throttle and near homes !

Or screeching breaks , burning rubber on the road behind us, not stopped !

Employ those just for road traffic control to Report/ Fine or impound those with no noise control in mufflers, designed to make more noise and using open roadways for racing , especially residential zoned perimeters . Instal, cameras or traffic drones so residents can help fund , to observe , revealed identify , on their devices what licence plates it is ?

Other communities near Qualicum put RoundABOUTs every intersection of long straight roads thru residential areas ! “

- ▶ Comment response to “Better walking infrastructure (sidewalks, sidewalks with boulevards and/ or protected by a parking lane) would encourage me to walk more.” Have you seen the Parksville well designed , choice of accessible, flat various surfaces boardwalk along the shore line ,water and beach . Serviced with fitness challenges ,huge play ground . And for all mobility pedestrian use with, dogs too ? Even with parking for cars with views with large open green spaces, nicely landscaped and maintained for special events , beach volley ball competitions , or markets with food trucks . Really well planned recreation public property large space with beach resort , beach restaurant people globally go visit to stay . Or locals can enjoy with friends and , families . Watching a pa Eagle wrestle a fish out of the water , most talked about event , while enjoying our meal on their patio overlooking the beach & ocean .

- ▶ Comment response to “Better walking infrastructure (sidewalks, sidewalks with boulevards and/ or protected by a parking lane) would encourage me to walk more.” “Definitely the planning of a more aesthetic community away or with landscape barrier from traffic flow , except water craft , for pedestrians to get outside safely could be tried in certain venues . We enjoyed yoga in the park outside one summer & maybe could be done into fall warmly here. As a Tai Chi program, ending in a vegan food table, to relax in fresh air and enjoy our natural beauty . As along the shoreline to leisurely go use regularly , safely monitored , clean, and serviced to change or toilet , or to rinse off , with if needed done better in Neck Point .

With the exception of the outdoor orchestra picnic event music on the green space special which is unique to Nanaimo again all ages can enjoy bringing their own blanket and picnic dinner . Community planning could be improved upon hiring a University student in that field of study in planning development ,using grants given to municipalities for recreation out doors here and competition in downtown green space , harbour views, with variety of activities to choose attract people being protected safely . Even science shows, le an earthquake demo, rocket sciences or building something inviting those of interest with experts , to come here from , across Canada or Globally . Or watch a fun activity in basic physics / engineering principals how things work , like a hovercraft with a chance to ride one and with hands on Science to participate observing even a first responder rescue demo , or ocean & fisheries employees demo .To spark develop that curious interest . To have contact with professions here in Sciences background , & with sheltered rain location nearby . Neck Point is another pedestrian natural planned system of trails nearby the shoreline with accessibility to use daily or holiday times unsure if serviced washroom pavilion , no swim area of water craft activity for public to try as kayaking kiosk to rent in Pipers Lagoon unless u brig in your own . Or where to go to watch a dog show demo , competition outside here . Heard New Castle had some possibilities that utilise our environment outside to enjoy and try kayaks, but no safety precautions requested to use or qualify family use . And not for all ages to easily use , or receive some instruction. Such as from a low level visible beach shore and level bottom like Parksville past the summer season . Are there any outside Opera & Theatre companies that come here , using that Bowen Amphitheatre to watch coming here . Or place for outdoor comedy fest That would be at a safe social distance activity / event ? “

- ▶ Comment response to “No BC ferries overspill onto Stewart save.” Stewart Ave\*

## YOUR IDEAS FOR HOW WE LIVE

- ▶ **partnership with RDN and the city** It would involve the RDN as well as the city, but a bike path that continues along the bottom of Maxie Rd but would continue as a path where Maxie Rd stops but goes to the new subdivision at the end of Shady Mile Way. JP is now so busy that cycling is quite unsafe. Just a thought... “
- ▶ **Food truck freedom.** Many cities have embraced the food truck concept with much greater freedom than Nanaimo has. Id love to see further growth and development in this area. Let it develop naturally dealing with problems and issues as they arrive instead of limiting their progress with such restrictive bylaws. Scott.”
- ▶ **improving walking and bicycling areas means a commitment to clean air** Ban car and truck idling
- ▶ **Extend the Walley Creek trail to Fillinger Cr**
- ▶ **Expand on the E&N Rail Trail.** Extend the trail from Morstar Rd to the section built in Lantzville and to the southside of the city.
- ▶ **Homeless & addicted people in the City Centre must receive housing & treatment so it feels safe once more to walk on city streets.**
- ▶ **More Trash Cans.** There is so much garbage all over Nanaimo, why not put trash cans at every bus stop?
- ▶ **Homeless and addicted people outside of Nanaimo City Centre, away from criminals (drug pushers, pimps) in safe housing and treatment centres**
- ▶ **Saltwater pool in North Nanaimo**
- ▶ **less density.** forcing many people to live in a confined area
- ▶ **Incorporate green spaces everywhere.** More larger parks in new developments. Turn some of the bigger streets like Bowen, Wakesiah, Townsite, etc. Into tree-lined boulevards or gardens down the median. Turn some of the decrepit corners of the city into gardens, and add some planter boxes downtown.
- ▶ **Protect people’s views.** Waterfront, mountain, and even forest views.
- ▶ **Clean up the city.** Keep trash off the streets and trash bash the parks, fix the homelessness and drug addiction crisis.
- ▶ **New ‘Navigation Centre.** ‘Work with the province to put this on the Northend for a change of pace. We’ve already got Scarewood, Nicol street, and the two temporary housing centres’ in South and Central areas. Spread them out a bit.
- ▶ **Ferris Wheel downtown.** To draw tourists downtown- have the city build and run a ferris wheel- along the waterfront downtown- ocean themed with indigenous art on it as well- have union employees run it and have the funds go into community programs
- ▶ **Vibrant downtown** I wish to see a very vibrant downtown with more businesses open and for longer hours (in the morning and in the afternoon)
- ▶ **More Doctors!** Please work a way to attract more doctors to this city. We can’t have young families without easy access to doctors.
- ▶ **Make walk-in clinics more efficient!** People should be able to schedule an appointment at a walk-in clinic.
- ▶ **Don’t allow developers to reduce parking. Buses and bikes are all great but we still need cars**

**AND off-street parking. Cars both sides=danger.** With home prices out-pacing wages most need lodgers or suites to buy a home. This leaves some areas with an overload of cars competing with bikes, pedestrians, garbage cans and snowplows for room.

- ▶ **Create walkable/bikeable neighbourhoods** that are integrated with services and “daily destinations” like shopping, eating, working, playing. Mandate that new developments not just be residential or commercial but integrate both so that people walking or biking actually have somewhere to walk or bike to -- not a 40 min - hour long commute where they must take their life into their hands due to traffic and lack of proper walking/cycling infrastructure. Create opportunities for residents in existing neighbourhoods (Hammond Bay and beyond) to open up small businesses that connect neighbours to services and each other (coffee shops, medical services, book stores etc). If people don't have to drive everywhere, they won't. Less cars on the roads = safer neighbourhoods, stronger communities, a healthier, greener Nanaimo.
- ▶ **Don't let Downtown Become the Downtown Eastside.** The homeless population downtown and elsewhere are decimating business, prosperity, and safety for tax-paying Nanaimoites. Get them off the streets and into the appropriate help centres. It's great that all these hotels are being built downtown, but what if the world comes to stay in them? What will they return home and tell their friends, colleagues, and family about Nanaimo?"
- ▶ **If You Want More Bikes, Build a Bike Friendly City.** It's simple, create more and more routes that connect to get cyclists safely from any imaginable destination and make sure they are well lit. Have crossing buttons accessible from a bike, have safe spots for bikes to wait at intersections, have recycling bins easy for cyclists to dispose of cups etc. Incentivize drivers to get cycling, make it unbearable to drive and incentivize companies to have safe bike storage and showers for employees.
- ▶ **Engage the Community.** This platform has been advertised all over the place for weeks, on the ground of high traffic walking areas, promoted by local businesses, and elsewhere yet there are only 22 (this will make it 23) ideas?! Find a way to engage the community, there seems to be no love for the city.
- ▶ **Build Stairs Down from the Bastion Street Bridge.** There is huge potential to drive traffic to and from the Mews to the businesses and galleries along Terminal Avenue with a beautiful, safe, and well-lit bridge or walkway down from the bridge to the road below. To add on from an earlier idea, this new concourse could be a place for food trucks to set-up to really invigorate the area.
- ▶ **FOOT FERRY to the Mainland**
- ▶ **Cyclist Safety: Front-Facing Exits From Private Driveways Onto Bike Lanes** Residents on road with designated bike lanes, such as Townsite Road, should be made to back their cars into their driveways when parking so that when they are next pulling out of their driveway they have a clear view of oncoming cyclists - which is not the case when backing out.
- ▶ **City should purchase E&N railway corridor within city limits to reserve the land as a future rapid transit line** If there was economic merit to Vancouver Island passenger rail service, it never would have ended, or at least have been resurrected by now. The railway stretches nearly the full length of the City. Most of its path, if not immediately adjacent to the old highway, is at least within 500 metres of the highway deviating only once it passes north of Brannen Lake. South of the Woodgrove District, the existing railway corridor is easily accessible from the downtown core and hospital which are designated as 'Urban Nodes' under the OCP. It is also easily accessible to five out of the six shopping malls that are designated on Map 1 (Schedule A) of the OCP as 'City Centres'. Future (long term) highway improvements to the Aulds Road and Nanaimo Parkway interchange will provide an opportunity to extend the line east to Woodgrove Centre, another 'Urban Node' under the OCP. These Urban Nodes will one day support high rise development, as the new owner of Woodgrove Centre is contemplating. From a planning perspective, there is a strong case for providing rapid transit service to densely populated

neighbourhoods and commercial centres. The railway corridor furthermore, is already zoned CS3 (Community Service 3) which, according to zoning, is intended to provide for transportation terminals, depots, corridors, and other required infrastructure. Therefore, when the population density merits and funding is secured, Nimbys won't have a leg to stand on. Do I believe that there is economic merit in developing rapid transit along the railway corridor now? Of course not, and not likely in my life time. It's a long way off, but I believe we need to start planning for it now. This begins with recognition of the railway as a future city transit corridor, and declaration of such to the Island Corridor Foundation, Provincial and Federal level governments.

- ▶ **More green spaces with native plant species to promote the health and diversity of our local insect pollinators & to make Nan more beautiful** Adding more flower boxes, planters throughout Nanaimo, especially downtown and more densely populated and shopping areas. Turn unused/lightly used pavement corners, sidewalks and streets into beautiful oases for a variety of local insects. Have information about the importance of growing native plants and infographics on the types of animals that rely on them. Infographics could be made by a collaboration between VIU biology and art students.
- ▶ **Safety for cyclists** need to have improved bike pathways throughout nanaimo
- ▶ **Photocatalytic paint for murals downtown (and more art in Nanaimo)** reduces pollutants in the air, making it more "pure"
- ▶ **More parks and larger parks**
- ▶ **Better Glass Recycling Options.** Due to all glass products not being accepted into a households blue bin. Most families are not willing to clean them and take them to a recycling centre for collection. This results in glass products being thrown into household garbage bins and ending up in our landfill. I think we can improve on this. Glass is 100% recyclable all we need is the appropriate systems, equipment and contracts (where required) in place.
- ▶ **Road safely.** Speed bumps and sidewalks installed on Barrington road. Once a dead end road , is now a through road with a ton more traffic then opal rd ever has seen, even before there little " upgrade". People speed up this family neighborhood, which is a 30 kmhr zone, which is full of young families and kids, we don't even have safe sidewalks to walk to school in , and our kids can't even play out front without worrying if a person in going to speeding by, or even big trucks and equipment. We need sidewalks, speed bumps and a ton of speed controls put in place, to make this area safer for kids and families.
- ▶ **change our image** Change Nanaimo ' Harbour City' to ' Rainbow City' or ' City of Parks' something that is less tied to the past legacy of the coal industry
- ▶ **reduce air pollution by banning car and truck idling** Too many people idle their cars and trucks in order to have their heating or air conditioning running- impose fines.
- ▶ **Extend the waterfront walkway from maffeo sutton all the way to the departure bay ferry**
- ▶ **We could certainly use a purpose built racquet Centre , also some more Pickleball courts throughout the city would certainly be nice.**
- ▶ **Make sure all streets are fully lit!** Specifically around Departure Bay area, Bay street. As well as the south end.
- ▶ **Address Housing Market Inflation by Foreign Investors.** "How about addressing the issue of the housing market being inflated by foreign investors, thus making it impossible for local hardworking people to be able to ever afford a house? Even the rent for a 1-2 bedroom apt is higher than some full-time employees' monthly wages! How in the world are these working folk supposed to survive and build a future for themselves in this community?"

Not to mention, small studios are simply non-existent in this town. Single adults are forced to rent rooms in shared houses.

Who cares? The city council is busy teaching cats not to overstep property lines. "

- ▶ **Make laneways/alleyways into livable spaces.** "It's not a place where people feel they can dump their old couches and garbage," "It became a gathering place for many us over the summers. We've held barbecues there." <http://www.fonvca.org/agendas/nov2013/support-material/Converting%20Alleyways%20to%20Livable%20Laneways%20and%20Country%20Lanes-d.pdf>
- ▶ **What happened to the older ideas?** Were they deleted?
- ▶ **Large sized green bins for ALL homes with yards.** Large sized green bins for ALL homes with yards. I regularly see compostable materials put in the black landfill bins because there is not enough room in the small green bins.
- ▶ **Don't allow developers to count under water spaces as green spaces.**
- ▶ **Address the homeless situation in a compassionate way that has been a success in other places.**
- ▶ **Make Nanaimo more bike friendly and safe.**
- ▶ **Nanaimo sets a bold and ambitious plan to be carbon negative by 2035! We are recognized as one of greenest cities in Canada and the world!**
- ▶ **Designate areas for floating homes similar to Victoria; especially in low-lying waterfront areas at risk from flooding or sea level rise.** There could be "floating neighbourhoods" which become popular tourist attractions and showcase this possible response to climate change.
- ▶ **Facelift area around the deep sea port and get cruise ships back. In summer, close off Commercial St, have expanded eatery patios etc**
- ▶ Comment response to "Extend the Walley Creek trail to Fillinger Cr" Great idea!
- ▶ Comment response to "Expand on the E&N Rail Trail" And beyond!
- ▶ Comment response to "Homeless and addicted people outside of Nanaimo City Centre, away from criminals (drug pushers, pimps) in safe housing and treatment centres" I strongly agree with this!
- ▶ Comment response to "More Doctors!" There is no shortage of doctors in Canada. The system is such that very few are employed and very well paid, and the rest of the work is done by nurses.
- ▶ Comment response to "More Doctors!" Let's follow how well the nurse practitioners' place in Southgate goes! Health care is more than just MDs.
- ▶ Comment response to "Create walkable/bikeable neighbourhoods that are integrated with services and "daily destinations" like shopping, eating, working, playing." Well, the city has just approved yet another car dealership, so... Yeah.
- ▶ Comment response to "Build Stairs Down from the Bastion Street Bridge" And make terminal more walkable/more beautiful too
- ▶ Comment response to "Cyclist Safety: Front-Facing Exits From Private Driveways Onto Bike Lanes" Also, Townsite road needs traffic to be slowed. It's a long straight stretch that people love to race down. The intersection and TownsiteXBush is dangerous... there are blind spots when driving... nobody stops for pedestrians crossing the road... and there are always so many accidents... I think a round-about would be ideal here.
- ▶ Comment response to "Photocatalytic paint for murals downtown (and more art in Nanaimo)" Also stop painting murals to hide the decay of our city and actually fix the issues.

- ▶ Comment response to “Better Glass Recycling Options “ Agreed! Also, the fact that the City only accepts certain plastics and then the regional recycling centre accepts others. All recyclables should be accepted in the bins and then sorted or have more different bins for different types of recyclables. I also don’t understand the log as to why not all styrofoam is accepted. In the EU, they have machines that chip everything up and then a computer sorts the pieces. With infrared sensors, they can even separate different types of plastics and metals from other types. Seems super convenient and efficient. It’s also been around for so long already. Our system seems archaic.
- ▶ Comment response to “reduce air pollution by banning car and truck idling “ I think more roundabouts for better traffic flow could help.
- ▶ Comment response to “We could certainly use a purpose built racquet Centre , also some more Pickleball courts throughout the city would certainly be nice. “ The old school by the hospital? I don’t know the name.
- ▶ Comment response to “Address Housing Market Inflation by Foreign Investors “ I think the City should make it easier for people to create rentable suites, lane houses, etc. Maybe even with incentives for rental?

## YOUR IDEAS FOR OUR HOUSING

- ▶ **Townhouses for young families.** Nanaimo is in need of townhouses for young families. Preferably wheelchair/stroller accessible. Preferably not looking like grey boxes (like everything else in Nanaimo).
- ▶ **We should be looking at all ways people can be housed.** Bylaws could be relaxed to allow tiny homes and RVs to be attached to cityservices.
- ▶ **Public housing.** More public housing for the homeless, but stop concentrating them only in the south and central areas. balance them out throughout the city.
- ▶ **Mixed-use.** Businesses and shops at the bottom residential up top... especially at urban nodes.
- ▶ **Build up.** Build up in more urban areas like downtown
- ▶ **Suites.** Allow for more secondary suites, lane houses, etc.
- ▶ **No more single-family zoning. Low-medium density housing instead.** We need to stop the sprawl of single family zoning (and strip malls / big-block stores / parking lots). In fill housing, townhouses / multiplexes, and considered medium (3-5 story) developments should be the norm. Additionally we should look at ways to prevent the loss of natural (and farm) lands to development. Through direct acquisitions and density for land trades we could allow developers to build more on a small portion of the land while protecting the rest for habitat protection as well as public realm uses.”
- ▶ **Explore & experiment with land covenants that increase affordability.** Both for housing and businesses we should be looking at creating systemic policies that allow affordable property as an emergent quality. Using covenants to ensure some significant portion of profit gained from sale of property is re-invested into additional non-profit covenant housing developments. There are many ideas and ways this might occur and they should be researched and experimented with to find those that are productive.”
- ▶ Comment response to “Townhouses for young families “ I think the developments on Dufferin are really nice

## YOUR IDEAS FOR OUR DOWNTOWN

- ▶ **Gabriola Ferry Terminal.** The land beside the Gabe ferry should be set aside for future expansion.
- ▶ **Beautify Terminal Rd.** Make the stretch of road (Terminal) that passes through the heart of downtown more beautiful somehow. Not sure what specifically, but something should be done.
- ▶ **Chinatown** Emphasize the heritage of the old Chinatown to make it more beautiful and touristy. Maybe the China Steps could be redone?
- ▶ **Diana Kral Plaza.** Build a water feature in the middle and have some nice planters with shade trees around the perimeter. Make it a nice spot to sit. People will want to grab food from the nearby cafes and restaurants and head over to relax. People using the library could take a book out to read there. To keep the musical theme, you could probably play around with the acoustic qualities of water. You could maybe even rent a spot out to a food truck. I think that would be really neat.
- ▶ **Pioneer plaza.** This space is a big barren slab of concrete. The only thing that really happens here is the downtown farmer's market which doesn't do very well I gather. I think it does have potential for hosting events, but it's not very welcoming the way it is right now and it needs tweaking. Versailles is famous for their citrus trees that are in moveable box containers. Thinking about this big open space, the idea of the moving planter boxes would be nice because you could have trees to give shade and then they could be reorganized when hosting events to make open spaces. Depending on the size of the event, the trees could be reconfigured in different ways, so as to give just the right amount of room... too much room like when at the farmers market is depressing and uninviting, so it would actually help events like that and to attract new events. Tree choice would play a big roll in the mood... obviously, citrus trees won't work without having glasshouses to store them in (they were more just the inspiration for this idea
- ▶ **Actually fix the problems, don't just paint over them.** Instead of painting over decrepit buildings, encourage actual real and tangible improvements like redevelopment, creating jobs downtown that bring people to the area, and entertainment to keep them there. If the space is livable, it will attract everyone including tourists. Owners of unsightly properties should be fined... land that is sit on and not used should be taxed. In Vancouver, empty lots have to be used somehow which is why there was a community garden downtown until development started. The hole in the ground beside the China Steps is actually quite dangerous, so I am shocked they haven't been forced to fill it.
- ▶ **FN vendors** There is a name for the spot beside the wildplay zip line where the grassy hill comes down from the canoe, but I can't remember. I was told this place had significant meaning to the Snuneymuxw. I also see the odd FN artist selling artwork down there. I think if there were stalls for these vendors to sell out of, that would be nice. It would look more legitimate and they might have a better time attracting tourists to buy their items. The structure could be designed and built by snuneymuxw artists. I think that would be really cool, especially since Hill's is closing if it hasn't already.
- ▶ **In the 19th century the British renamed parts of Nanaimo. Let's change them back to the names given by the Snuneymuxw.**
- ▶ **Good on Nanaimo Council for trying to revitalize Downtown, but I fear that it may be far too late.**
- ▶ **When new development occurs be more aggressive in creating large public spaces. Public squares, grassy parks, or pedestrian corridors.** An issue across Nanaimo is the distinct lack of quality public urban spaces.
- ▶ **Encourage the owners of Port Place to add density to their property. It is a low quality use of land right in the middle of downtown.** With the addition of extra floors on top of the existing buildings as well as the parking lots, and new commercial frontages along the roads the current strip-mall could be

turned into an integrated part of the downtown urban realm. Currently it poses a serious obstacle to an enjoyable urban environment.

- ▶ **Attract employers.** More employers = more workers in downtown = people to support downtown restaurants and other businesses.
- ▶ **Walkable waterfront from Gabriola ferry terminal to Departure Bay ferry terminal.** Move the marinas elsewhere and let's have a nice, walkable waterfront with shops, cafes, patios, ice-cream parlors for locals and tourists to enjoy. Nanaimo has the potential of being a much more exciting place for tourists than Victoria. There could also be a pedestrian/bike bridge over to Newcastle Island. Would make a fantastic touristy place. There are barely a couple of tables to sit down at and enjoy the view by the Bastion Place, when there should be hundreds on the waterfront. And that multi-storied eyesore of an apartment building is not only covering all the sunlight, but it creates a wind corridor that makes it really unpleasant to be there. "
- ▶ **(Once COVID has died down) Have VIU teach regular classes at the conference centre downtown** "VIU is running short of teaching space on campus, and the conference center pre-covid sat mostly unused. Once in class seminars resume, an agreement between VIU and the City of Nanaimo to create a downtown campus of sorts would likely benefit all parties involved. The VICC would generate revenue by allowing VIU to run regular classes on select days (likely days/times which historically haven't seen much use from the VICC). VIU would earn some much-needed teaching space. Businesses, especially restaurants downtown would benefit economically from the injection of students looking for places to shop after class. Lastly, bus infrastructure and transportation from VIU's campus to downtown would likely have to be increased. If done properly, this would create an urban corridor between VIU and the downtown, which would foster densification in the area."
- ▶ **Don't give up on our downtown! We need more diverse and sustainable employers downtown, not just novelty tourist shops and restaurants.**
- ▶ **Support our downtown businesses during COVID:** offer rent and tax relief create "downtown gift cards" like Woodgrove Mall has
- ▶ **Make downtown feel safer and more inviting!** Ensure lots of lighting at night, create more social areas for citizens, lots of cafe's.
- ▶ **An indoor warming centre for homeless (after Covid).** There has to be somewhere for homeless people to go during the day (a warming centre?) besides congregating on the streets. I feel like I SHOULD'N'T feel unsafe because of homeless people around. I've never been threatened, but I still feel unsafe.
- ▶ **Nanaimo, a city of villages.** Nanaimo is long, and has multiple points that could evolve into village nodes.

I am totally on board with enhancing the downtown and focusing resources in that area. However I think we should have a general policy with regard to concentrating development around these village nodes. Increasing density for housing and commercial (and office/industry) at these nodes and discouraging sprawl. Creating these villages of engaging public realms, services and livable communities.

Is it possible to give developers increased density in these concentrated nodes in return for land that was otherwise going to be used for sprawl / single-family housing (especially when it could be used instead for parks/nature/farms)."

- ▶ **Protect and enhance character/historic buildings.** There are so few character/historic buildings in Nanaimo, it would be good to protect these from demolition. Obviously many will need rehabilitation, but there is a charm to the old wooden buildings (and the few brick ones) that would be a shame to not capitalize upon.

This is something that should be done broadly, not just in downtown – though obviously many of these buildings are concentrated in that area.”

- ▶ Comment response to “Gabriola Ferry Terminal” Would be great location for summer fairs :D Imagine going up the big wheel and seeing the view.
- ▶ Comment response to “Pioneer plaza” It’s true that an open space that is too big will scare away people. Love your idea of the citrus trees! Maybe there are citrus varieties that are hardy enough, I can keep some outdoors all year (with protection)
- ▶ Comment response to “Actually fix the problems, don’t just paint over them” “The hole in the ground is not dangerous at all. It has been reviewed and deemed safe.

The property is currently taxed. We wanted to use it last summer for entertainment, but ran into issues with the city.”

- ▶ Comment response to “FN vendors” I would love to support that idea as I am a first nations business women and entrepreneur in the arts
- ▶ Comment response to “In the 19th century the British renamed parts of Nanaimo. Let’s change them back to the names given by the Snuneymuxw.” What specific examples do you know of? I think the City is working on it one example is Saysutshun/New Castle Island.
- ▶ Comment response to “Encourage the owners of Port Place to add density to their property. It is a low quality use of land right in the middle of downtown.” Sounds like a nice idea. I wonder how you’d engineer more floors atop an already-existing structure, but it’s be nice. The area across fro the bus exchange is supposed to be a parking lot or loading bay? I’m not sure, but it is grungy. I think most of the port place and casino parking lot remains empty, so maybe some of it could be given up to more development o ra green space.



1:11

HOME			GUEST		
PLYR	PENALTY	PERIOD	PLYR	PENALTY	PERIOD
		SHOTS ON GOAL			

reline odonotics POWER ADE Milner Fountain Tire DODD'S FURNITURE & MATTRESS panago RecSkate Program RE/MAX RE/MAX Robbins Company SIGNAGE United Rentals

  
**reimagine**  
**NANAIMO**



# APPENDIX G

## STATISTICAL SURVEY VERBATIM COMMENTS

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# DISCOVERY RESEARCH

Tel: (250) 503-2181 Fax: (250) 503-2189  
[www.discoveryresearch.ca](http://www.discoveryresearch.ca)

## **Reimagine Nanaimo Mail Survey Verbatim Responses**

Prepared for: **Lanarc**

Prepared by: **Discovery Research**

Date: **November 2020**

**Q2. "Overall, do you feel quality of life in Nanaimo has improved or worsened in the last 10 years"**

**Answer: "IMPROVED"**

**Why?**

- BECAME HOME OWNERS AND HAD A FAMILY
- BEEN HERE 3.5 YEARS & FEEL OUR QUALITY OF LIFE HAS IMPROVED. LESS RUSHING AROUND MORE RELAXED.
- BETTER ROADS - MORE BUSINESS OPENINGS
- BETTER ROADS & PARKS & PROGRAMS
- BETTER ROADS, MORE FACILITIES
- BETTER SERVICES, PARKS ETC.
- BETTER WATER, MORE MULTICULTURAL, IMPROVED GARBAGE COLLECTION
- CITY HAS GROWN AND WITH THAT COMES DIVERSITY & OPPORTUNITY
- CULTURAL LIFE , COUNCIL FOCUS ON ISSUES; BIKE LANES, ADDRESSING ADDICTION & HOMELESSNESS
- DEVELOPMENT IN COMMUNITY LOCAL BUSINESSES, ARTS, MUSIC, MORE BIKE LANES. BETTER GOVERNMENT NOW.
- DOWNTOWN CLEANUP
- ECONOMICALLY MORE STABLE
- FOCUSED RESOURCES ON UNIVERSITY DISTRICT & DOWNTOWN
- FOR MYSELF NON RETIRED & CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF MORE PRC OFFERING WHICH I FEEL HAVE EXPANDED IN THE LAST 10 YEARS
- GOOD AMENITIES
- GROWTH
- GROWTH & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- HARWOOD CENTENNIAL, DOWNTOWN ACTIVITY
- HOUSING, NEW RESTAURANTS
- I BELIEVE I'M HEALTHIER
- I NOW GO TO THE GYM
- IMPROVED GARBAGE COLLECTION, MORE SERVICES, MORE RECYCLING
- IMPROVED PARKS
- IMPROVED PARKS & STORES
- IMPROVEMENTS TO CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE
- INVESTMENTS & RESTORATION
- KINDNESS & TOLERANCE OF PEOPLE
- LARGE POPULATION & MORE SERVICES
- LARGER POPULATION - MORE OPTIONS
- LUSPERIA BETTER
- ME & MY FAMILY HAVE EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES
- MINDSET
- MORE ACCESSIBLE
- MORE ACTIVITIES & SERVICE FOR COMMUNITIES
- MORE AMENITIES

- MORE AMENITIES BUT WORSE MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS
- MORE AMENITIES, GROWTH
- MORE LOCAL SMALL BUSINESSES, DOWNTOWN ACTIVITIES
- MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILIES
- MORE OPPORTUNITY
- MORE PEOPLE LIKE TO VISIT
- MORE PEOPLE, MORE DIVERSITY
- MORE SERVICES
- MORE SHELTERS FOR HOMELESS & MORE HOUSING FOR SENIORS
- MORE SHOPPING, GROWTH, FACILITIES
- MORE SMALL BUSINESS
- MORE STORES MOVED IN
- MORE WALKING HIKING TRAILS PARKS
- MOVED TO GATED 55+ COMMUNITY
- NEW IMPROVED PARK, OUTDOOR SPACES & BIKE TRAILS
- NEW MAYOR & COUNCIL
- NEW NRGH EMERGENCY, IMPROVED PARKS.
- NEW WATER TREATMENT CENTER NEWCASTLE ISLAND
- NEWER HOUSING WITH CONDOS, WATERFRONT IMPROVEMENTS
- PARK MAINTENANCE
- PARK UPKEEP
- PARKS, ROADS, UPGRADE SEWERS
- POPULATION & ECONOMIC GROWTH
- PORT PLACE MALL LOOKS GREAT DOING OTHER UPLIFTS IN THE SOUTH.
- RESPONSE TO RESIDENTS NEEDS
- RETIRED, MORE TIME
- ROAD IMPROVEMENTS, BIKE LANES
- ROADS, TRAILS, NEW HOUSING, DEVELOPMENT
- ROADWORK
- SERVICES & PROGRAMS
- SERVICES ARE BETTER
- SOME NEWER PARKS BUILT
- SPACE TOO SMALL TO LIST ALL
- THERE IS A NEW FEELING OF OPTIMISM
- TRAIL BUILDING & OUTDOOR COMMUNITY
- TRANSPORT ON/OFF ISLAND
- TRANSPORTATION
- WE HAVE GROWN UP AS A CITY WITH MORE AMENITIES AND SERVICES
- *10 RESPONDENTS DID NOT SPECIFY*

## Answer: "WORSENERD"

### Why?

- ADDICTION & CRIME
- ADDICTION & HOMELESSNESS & ASSOCIATED CRIME.
- AFFORDABLE HOUSING
- BECAUSE OF DENSITY & TRAFFIC PROBLEMS
- BECOMING SEEDIER, MORE CRIME
- BEGGARS, CRIME, DRUGS, STREET PEOPLE
- BUSIER WITH MORE PEOPLE, TRAFFIC & BUILDING
- BUSIER, MORE PEOPLE FOR SAME SERVICES
- BUSY
- CITY PROPERTY IN DISREPAIR
- COST OF LIVING INCREASE
- COST OF LIVING, HOMELESSNESS, DRUGS. OUR DOWNTOWN IS NOT INVITING OR A PLACE THAT PEOPLE WANT TO FREQUENT
- COVID 19
- COVID 19 & NOT RESOLVING HOMELESS ISSUE.
- CRIME
- CRIME
- CRIME
- CRIME & HOMELESS
- CRIME & HOMELESS
- CRIME & HOMELESS, DRUGS & CRIME, USELESS MAYORS & AIDER PEOPLE.
- CRIME & HOMELESSNESS
- CRIME INCREASE, DRUGS, HOMELESS
- CRIME INCREASED HOMELESS INCREASED
- CRIME INCREASES, HOMELESSNESS PROBLEM, MORE ABANDON BUILDINGS DOWNTOWN.
- CRIME RELATED TO ADDICTION, MENTAL ILLNESS
- CRIME, DRUGS, HOMELESS, NEED MORE DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES
- CRIME, HOMELESS
- CRIME, HOMELESS
- CRIME, HOMELESS, COST OF LIVING
- CRIME, HOMELESSNESS
- CRIME, SAFETY, TRANSIT
- CRIME, TRAFFIC CONGESTION AND LOST GREEN SPACE
- CRIME, DRUGS
- CRIME, GETTING A TOWN MORE CROWDED
- CRIMINAL ACTIVITY
- DEEP CONCERN FOR HOMELESS
- DERELICT BUILDINGS & HOMELESS
- DERELICT, DIRTY, UN-KEPT ROADWAYS, MEDIANS & HOMELESSNESS, DANGEROUS

- DO NOT FEEL THAT I CAN SAFELY WALK TO DOWNTOWN FROM MY HOME OR IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD
- DOESN'T FEEL SAFE (DRUG SCENE)
- DOWNTOWN CORE OVERRUN WITH VAGRANTS, CRIME, OPEN DRUG USE, HOMELESS HAVEN. LESS VIABLE BUSINESS. PUBLIC PARKS BECOMING UNSAFE
- DOWNTOWN IS SCARY
- DOWNTOWN NOT VIBRANT SUPER BUSY EVERYWHERE
- DRIVERS NOT AS CONSIDERATE AS THEY USED TO BE
- DRUG & ALCOHOL MISUSE
- DRUG ADDICTS
- DRUGS & CRIME INCREASE
- DRUGS & HOMELESS
- DRUGS & THEFT
- DRUGS AND HOMELESSNESS
- DRUGS, CRIME, HOMELESSNESS
- DRUGS, HOMELESS, THIEVING
- DRUGS, HOMELESSNESS & CRIME
- DRUGS, CRIME, HOMELESSNESS
- ECONOMICS
- ENABLING DRUGS & TENT CITY
- FEEL UNSAFE
- FEELS LESS SAFE
- FERRY ISSUES & HOMELESSNESS
- GETTING EXPENSIVE
- HIGH DENSITY HOUSING
- HIGH RENTAL COST, SOCIAL SAFETY
- HIGH RENTS, HOMELESSNESS, DRUG USE
- HIGH TAXES, HOMELESSNESS
- HIGHWAY, HOMELESS
- HOME PRICES WAY TOO UNAFFORDABLE, TOO MANY HOMELESS PEOPLE.
- HOMELESS
- HOMELESS
- HOMELESS & THEFT
- HOMELESS AND CRIME
- HOMELESS CAMPS, THEFT
- HOMELESS DRUG ADDICTS
- HOMELESS IN NANAIMO
- HOMELESS OUT OF CONTROL
- HOMELESS PEOPLE
- HOMELESS PEOPLE
- HOMELESS PEOPLE & CLEAN CUTTING FOREST FOR APARTMENTS/CONDOS
- HOMELESS PEOPLE, CAN'T ENJOY CITY ANYWHERE NEAR AS MUCH
- HOMELESS PROBLEM
- HOMELESS PROBLEM
- HOMELESS PROBLEM

- HOMELESS, CRIME
- HOMELESS, DEAD DOWNTOWN
- HOMELESS, DRUGS ADDICTS, THEFTS
- HOMELESS, DRUGS, THIEVES - TOO MANY DOWNTOWN
- HOMELESS, LESS SAFE, THEFTS
- HOMELESS, MENTAL HEALTH CRIME
- HOMELESS, MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES
- HOMELESS, THEFT
- HOMELESS/ADDICTS/CRIME
- HOMELESS/DRUGS
- HOMELESSNESS
- HOMELESSNESS
- HOMELESSNESS
- HOMELESSNESS
- HOMELESSNESS
- HOMELESSNESS & CRIME
- HOMELESSNESS & CRIMINAL ACTIVITY
- HOMELESSNESS & THEFT
- HOMELESSNESS DUE TO DRUG USE AND MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES.
- HOMELESSNESS UNRESOLVED, TAXES INCREASING.
- HOMELESSNESS, ADDICTION, POVERTY
- HOMELESSNESS, CRIME
- HOMELESSNESS, CRIME, TRAFFIC CONGESTION
- HOMELESSNESS, LITTER, CRIME
- HOMELESSNESS/ROADS ETC.
- HOMELESSNESS/VANDALISM/SAFETY
- HOUSING AFFORDABILITY
- HOUSING PRICES
- I MOVED INTO A SENIORS BUILDING WHERE THERE IS A PARKING VARIANCE AND NOW HAVE TO PARK ON THE STREET & MOVE MY CAR EVERY 24 HOURS
- INCREASE IN CRIME
- INCREASE IN CRIME AND MORE TENT CITIES
- INCREASE IN CRIME AND THEFT
- INCREASE IN HOMELESS POPULATION
- INCREASED CRIME & HOMELESSNESS
- INCREASED HOMELESS
- INCREASED TRAFFIC
- INCREASED TRAFFIC & HIGHER PRICES
- INCREASED TRAFFIC, INCREASED HOMELESS
- INCREASED TRAFFIC, NOISE, POPULATION INCREASE, LOSS OF TREES
- INCREASING COST INCLUDING PROPERTY TAXES
- INEPT CITY COUNCILS THAT LACK VISION AND BUSINESS ACUMEN
- INFLATION & WAGES
- IT SEEMS WITH ALL THE HOMELESS THE COPS CAN'T DO ANYTHING
- JUNKIES/NO TREATMENT

- LACK OF AFFORDABLE RENT, HOMELESSNESS & CRIME
- LACK OF CARE OF STREETS
- LACK OF HOUSING
- LACK OF INFRASTRUCTURE
- LESS ACCESS TO FREE FAMILY ACTIVITIES - EVERYTHING COSTS TOO MUCH
- LESS FREEDOM/FEELS UNSAFE
- LESS LEISURE TIME
- LESS SAFETY CITY CENTRE
- LESS SERVICES FOR HOMELESS/MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES
- METH, STREET PEOPLE
- MORE CRIME
- MORE CROWDED, BUSY, OVER BUILT
- MORE EXPENSIVE FOOD & HOUSING
- MORE HOMELESS
- MORE HOMELESS
- MORE HOMELESS & CRIME
- MORE HOMELESS ON THE STREETS
- MORE HOMELESS/CRIME
- MORE HOMELESSNESS
- MORE PEOPLE HOMELESS
- MORE STREET PEOPLE
- MORE THEFT IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD
- MORE TRAFFIC
- MORE VISIBLE THEFT & TRANSIENTS
- NANAIMO IS NOT A SAFE CITY ANYMORE. CRIME, BREAK-INS, HOMELESSNESS, VAGRANTS.
- NEW TRAIL BY MY HOUSE
- NOTHING DONE ABOUT DRUGGIES AND HOMELESS
- OPEN DRUG USE, TENT CITIES, THEFT, GARBAGE ALL OVER
- OPIOID CRISIS
- OVERPOPULATION, TOO MUCH GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT
- PEOPLE CARE LESS
- PEOPLE STEALING FROM MY YARD
- POPULATION INCREASE EXCEED ABILITY TO COPE
- QUALITY/STATE OF CITY, LACK OF COMMUNITY, LACK OF CULTURE, FEELS RUNDOWN,
- RAMPANT THEFT, HIGH HOUSING COSTS
- REAL HOMELESS PROBLEM
- REDUNDANT DEVELOPMENT INCOME INEQUALITY, LOW AFFORDABILITY.
- RENT IS TOO HIGH, LOW RENT OPTIONS. HOMELESS ISSUE
- RENT PRICE INCREASE, NOT ENOUGH SOCIAL HOUSING, HOMELESS AT ALL-TIME HIGH.
- RENTS TOO HIGH
- SAFETY
- SAFETY, MORE TRAFFIC, LESS GREEN SPACE

- SLIGHTLY DUE TO ATTRACTING DRUG USERS WITH OUR TOO SOFT APPROACH
- SOCIAL DISORDER, UNFINISHED INVESTMENTS
- STREET PEOPLE, DRUGS, THEFT.
- TAXES AND AFFORDABILITY
- TENT CITY
- THEFT, CRIME, DRUG DEALS IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD
- TOO BIG, TOO MANY HOMELESS DRUG ADDICTS, TOO MUCH FOREIGN INTOLERANCE
- TOO MANY HOMELESS
- TOO MANY HOMELESS PEOPLE
- TOO MANY PEOPLE NOW
- TOO MANY STREET PEOPLE, DRUG USE & THEFT FROM CARS & PROPERTIES
- TOO MUCH CRIME
- TOO MUCH HOMELESS & CRIME
- TOO MUCH TRAFFIC, TOO MANY HOMELESS
- TOO MUCH TRAFFIC, TOO MANY HOUSES, LESS TREES
- TRAFFIC
- TRAFFIC CONGESTION, HOMELESSNESS, HOUSING AFFORDABILITY
- TRAFFIC NOISE, SPEED. ADDICTS ON THE STREETS. HOUSING CRISIS
- TRAFFIC, NO DOCTORS
- UNABLE TO VISIT DOWNTOWN
- WE HAD LAW & ORDER NOW NONE
- *2 RESPONDENTS DID NOT SPECIFY*

## *Additional Comments:*

- A COMMUNITY CENTRE FOR CHASE RIVER
- ACCOUNTABILITY FOR POLICING, WHEN PROPERTY CRIME HAPPENS PERSON TO POLICE REPORT ON OR AT SCENE.
- ADDICTION AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED ALONG WITH HOMELESSNESS. I AM SCARED TO GO DOWNTOWN, IT'S A MESS. WE CAN'T ATTRACT TOURISTS WITH WHAT IS HAPPENING DOWNTOWN. ALL OVER OUR COMMUNITY REALLY IT'S A PROBLEM
- AFFORDABLE HOUSING, HOMELESS - FOOD & HOUSING. SUPPORT LOCAL. IMPROVE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES & ACCESS TO THEM.
- AS A CYCLIST, WE NEED MORE CYCLING LANES FOR COMMUNITY. MORE OLDER NEIGHBORHOODS NEED PROPER SIDEWALKS
- BEAUTIFUL CITY BUT WE HAVE A HOMELESS PROBLEM THAT NEEDS TO BE SOLVED BEFORE WE HAVE A TRULY SAFE AND PROSPEROUS CITY THAT ATTRACTS MORE PEOPLE & BUSINESSES
- BEING 68 , ARTHRITIC & DISABLED - JUST PAINFUL GETTING, RIDING TRANSIT. HELP US WITH THIS, WE NEED: INCREASED SERVICE, CLOSER STOPS, MORE EXPRESS. NOT LIKELY WE'LL GET PEOPLE OUT OF THEIR CARS.
- BETTER SNOW REMOVAL
- BRADLEY ST. 30KM MILE HR, BUT MOST ARE GOING 60 - 80. TO STOP THEM WE NEED SPEED BUMPS EVERY 100FT.
- BRING BACK THE NANAIMO BOWL RACE TRACK
- BYLAWS NEEDS TO BE ENGAGED TO ALLOW SMALL BUILDINGS SUCH AS ROW HOUSES OR TINY HOMES TO ADDRESS THE HOMELESSNESS.
- CAN PEDESTRIANS BE ABLE TO USE A CROSSWALK WITHOUT SOME LUNATIC DRIVER TRYING TO RUN US DOWN.
- STOP CRIME, NO DRUGS, WE HAVE HAD 3 BIKES STOLEN.
- CITY NEEDS TO CONNECT WATERFRONT. SPEED UP RE-DEVELOPMENT. PUT IN PLACE BETTER INFRASTRUCTURE, ROADS IN SOUTH END ARE GETTING REALLY BUSY. FIX HOMELESSNESS IN DOWNTOWN OR RE-IMAGINE DOWNTOWN COMPLETELY.
- CLEAN UP DOWNTOWN OF DRUGS & CRIME
- CLEAN UP DOWNTOWN, EMPTY LOTS AND BUILDINGS - IMPROVE APPEARANCES. CREATE MARKET INDOOR YEAR ROUND SETTING. SMALLER SCALE SO FARMER MARKETS COULD STILL BE OPEN IN SUMMER. SOMETHING TO ATTRACT PEOPLE WITH MIX OF RETAIL, FOOD, ENTERTAINMENT.
- CRIME AND HOMELESS ARE A HUGE PROBLEM, THAT HAVE ESCALATED HUGELY IN THE PAST COUPLE OF YEARS
- CULTURAL EVENTS ARE A COMPLETE VOID HERE. THERE ARE SO MANY OPPORTUNITIES IN VICTORIA, BUT HOUSING IS UNAFFORDABLE THERE SO WE ARE IN NANAIMO. WE HAVE TO TRAVEL TO VICTORIA (FREQUENTLY) IF WE WANT TO GO TO THE CINEMA OR GO SEE PROFESSIONAL THEATRE.

- CURRENT MUNICIPAL GOVERNANCE HAS BEEN DILIGENT IN IMPOSING PROBLEMS OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL - PROBLEMS THAT RESULTED IN MUNICIPAL CHAOS
- DRUG USERS & CRIME - SEPARATE ONE HEALTH THE OTHER LAW. HOUSING FOR HOMELESS FIRST AND FOREMOST, AFFORDABLE.
- EXTENSION OF THE SEAWALL & WALKWAY ALONG WATERFRONT. CREATE MUCH MORE HOUSING FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE AND HEALTH SERVICES TO HELP THEM IMPROVE THEIR LIVES.
- FOCUS NEEDED ON MORE CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS IN SOUTH NANAIMO. THERE IS LITTLE ACCESSIBLE TRANSIT OR WALKING FOR CHILDREN UNDER 12. TODDLER INDOOR CLASSES DANCE, GYM PALS, PRE K, ART. MOST ARE CONCENTRATED BEBEN & OLIVER WOODS WHICH IS A COMMUTE.
- FOCUS ON REVIVING DOWNTOWN, TOO MANY DERELICT BUILDINGS. ATTRACT TOURISTS
- FOR A SAFER CITY, CARE FOR HOMELESS. AFFORDABLE HOUSING. SAFETY FOR DRUG USERS. MORE WORK TO DECREASE POLLUTION & TAKE CARE OF THE ENVIRONMENT.
- FOR ALL THE DRIVERS THAT NANAIMO HAS, WE NEED A PARKADE FOR THE HOSPITAL AREA
- GARBAGE PICKUP ALWAYS REGULAR. CITY HALL WORKERS COURTEOUS & HELPFUL. SANDING & PLOWING ALWAYS REGULAR. NEVER SEE GARBAGE IN THE PARKS, DISPLAY GARDENS ARE BEAUTIFUL. MAFFEO SUTTON PARK WELL PLANNED
- GOOD LUCK, REMEMBER ENVIRONMENT & CLEAN AIR FIRST
- HAVING TEENAGE CHILDREN GOING TO SCHOOL, I WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE EVENING AND WEEKEND ACTIVITIES. ALSO PUBLIC TRANSIT TO AND FROM SCHOOL IS DIFFICULT.
- HEALTH NOT ENOUGH DOCTORS, 10 MINUTES IS NOT LONG ENOUGH FOR DOCTORS' VISITS. BETTER COMMUNICATION IN ALL DEPARTMENTS. INFRASTRUCTURE, STOP BUILDING BUILDINGS ALMOST ON SIDEWALKS. BETTER LIFE FOR HOMELESS.
- HOMELESS ISSUES MUST BE HANDLED IF IN NO OTHER WAY THAN BY FEEDING THEIR COMMUNITY, NO ONE SHOULD GO WITHOUT FOOD. EXPEDITE PERMITS FOR A COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION COMMERCIAL KITCHEN, BEFORE IT GETS TOO COLD, HOT FOOD NEEDS TO BECOME AN OPTION
- HOUSES WITHIN MY AREA THAT HAVE BEEN ALLOWED TO FALL INTO A STATE OF DISREPAIR - DISGRACEFUL.
- I AM VERY DISAPPOINTED WITH HOW THE CITY IS DEALING WITH THE HOMELESS. I HAVE LIVED HERE ALL MY LIFE AND DON'T FEEL SAFE ANYMORE.
- I HOPE NANAIMO CITY WILL PROTECT IT'S RESIDENTS FROM THE FOREIGN INTERFERENCE THE CHINESE HAVE HAD ON REAL ESTATE. THEY HAVE RUINED VANCOUVER AND ARE ACTIVELY STARTING TO DO THE SAME ON THE ISLAND
- I LIVE AT THE END OF HOLLY HILL RD. AND WOULD LIKE TO SEE A NO PARKING SIGN INSTALLED. YOU SEE PEOPLE PARK ACROSS MY DRIVEWAY BLOCKING ME

AND THE GARBAGE TRUCK. BYLAW DOES NOTHING TO ENFORCE THE LAWS THAT ARE IN PLACE BUT A CITY INSTALLED SIGN MIGHT.

- I LOVE ALL THE UPGRADES TO CALGARY DAM PARK, IT'S SO BEAUTIFUL TO WALK AND SWIM THERE.
- I THINK A PRIORITY FOR THE CITY SHOULD BE THE CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT & EXTENSION OF THE WATERFRONT WALKWAY.
- I THINK THE CITY OF NANAIMO DOES AN OUTSTANDING JOB PROVIDING CURRENT SERVICES. MORE EFFORTS TO CRIME & CRIME RELATED TO ADDICTION IS NEEDED, NANAIMO IS A LOT LESS SAFE THAN 5 YEARS AGO
- I WALK EVERYDAY WITH A VISUALLY IMPAIRED FRIEND. THE CITY HAS MANY AREAS WHERE OBSTACLES ARE A PROBLEM - INCLUDING CITY SIDEWALKS THAT HAVE TREE BRANCHES, SHRUBBERY OR OTHER ITEMS THAT BLOCK EASY WALKING.
- I WALK MY DOG FOR EXERCISE & APPRECIATE THAT THE CITY WELCOMES DOGS ON LEASH THROUGHOUT THE CITY WITH SOME REASONABLE EXCEPTIONS.
- I WISH THIS SURVEY OFFERED MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF BRINGING NANAIMO INTO THE FUTURE AS A BIKE FRIENDLY CITY. IMAGINE HOW WE WOULD COME ALIVE AND ATTRACT AN ECO-FRIENDLY TOURISM COMPONENT WHILE KEEPING NANAIMO BEAUTIFUL.
- I WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE RECREATION CENTERS IN NORTH NANAIMO & A POOL
- I'D LIKE TO SEE MORE PLANNING WITH LESS DEVELOPMENT AS I FEEL OUR ROADS & INFRASTRUCTURE CAN'T HANDLE THE EXCESSIVE DEVELOPMENT & INFLUX OF PEOPLE WHEN THESE ARE COMPLETED.
- IN REGARDS TO THE COUPLE QUESTIONS THAT ASKED ABOUT THE NUMBER OF THINGS, PLACES I THOUGHT THE OPTION TOO FEW, TOO MANY MAY HAVE COME IN HANDY.
- INTERESTING SURVEY DURING COVID, MANY ITEMS ARE RELEVANT NOW.
- JUNGLEPOT ROAD UP FROM MOSCROP TO EAST WELLINGTON NEEDS: TO BE REPAIRED, TRAFFIC CONTROL, BIKE LANE, PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY ADDED.
- KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK TO LEONARD KROG. TOWNSITE & STEWART AVE NEEDS FLASHING WALK OR TRAFFIC LIGHTS. THE SPEEDING AND NOISE IS UNACCEPTABLE, U-TURNS, J-WALKING & POOR VISIBILITY MAKE THIS INTERSECTION DANGEROUS.
- KEY WORDS FOR US ARE GREEN SUSTAINABLE, LOCAL, BIOPHILIC, SUPPORTIVE.
- LIVED IN LOW INCOME HAREWOOD 30 MANY YEARS, CURRENTLY LIVE IN PRESTIGIOUS AREA OF NORTH NANAIMO FOR 17 YEARS. HAVE A DISABLED GRANDDAUGHTER. DEEPLY COMMITTED TO THIS COMMUNITY, HAVE A BROAD VIEW. WAS AN IMMIGRANT TO CANADA
- LOVE NANAIMO
- LOVE THE BIKE LANE ON BOWAN. BUILD IT THEY WILL COME. THERE IS A CORRALATION BETWEEN BIKE RIDING AND THE IMMUNE SYSTEM.
- LOVE THIS CITY

- LOW INCOME SENIOR COUPLES NEED MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING. HOUSING IS STILL MUCH TOO EXPENSIVE.
- MORE HANDICAP PARKING OCQ.
- MORE LAND SHOULD BE TAKEN OUT OF ALR TO DEVELOP THE CITY, OTHERWISE IT WILL NEVER HAVE THE RIGHT AVENUES
- MY FAMILY MOVED TO NANAIMO FROM A LARGER CITY 25 YEARS AGO. THIS MOVE HAS NEVER BEEN REGRETTEED & MY FAMILY COULD NOT HAVE HOPED TO BE BROUGHT UP OR AGING IN A BETTER SPOT. I'VE ALWAYS SAID THIS CITY IS THE BEST PLACE TO RAISE A FAMILY.
- NANAIMO HAS A LOT OF POTENTIAL FOR WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT, HOWEVER PROGRESS SEEMS TO BE PAINFULLY SLOW. THE HOLE IN THE GROUND AT THE TERMINAL & COMMERCIAL STREET NEEDS TO BE DEALT WITH. THINGS LIKE THAT ARE VERY UNATTRACTIVE TO VISITORS.
- NANAIMO HAS DONE A GREAT JOB IMPROVING A MANAGING IT'S PARKS IN THE LAST FEW YEARS. THANK YOU. WE SHOULD USE OUR FORESTS & LAKES MORE BY ALLOWING GREATER ACCESS TO LOCALS AND CREATING ACTIVITIES THAT ATTRACT TOURISTS. HIKING, BIKING & CAMPING.
- NANAIMO HAS GROWN IN THE LAST 40 YEARS, AS LONG AS I HAVED LIVED HERE. I DON'T FEEL CONFIDENT THAT THE CITY IS MAKING ENOUGH EFFORT REGARDING CLIMATE CHANGE. MY WISH IS THAT THIS STUDY WILL CHANGE THAT PLEASE.
- NANAIMO HAS WONDERFUL PARKS THROUGHOUT THE CITY. MANY PARKS & FACILITIES LIKE PICNIC SHELTERS ARE BEING NEGATIVELY IMPACTED BY AGGRESSIVE STREET PEOPLE WHO BEG, HARASS, DAMAGE & LITTER. NEED MORE FACILITIES THAT CAN BE LOCKED, UNLOCKED.
- NANAIMO IS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL CITY I'VE SEEN ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD.
- NANAIMO RESIDENTS DO NOT FEEL SAFE TO THE POINT WHERE THE RESIDENTS TAKE CONTROL OF THEIR NEIGHBORHOODS. MANDATORY REHAB 30 DAY FIRST OFFENSE. BUT WHEN THEY DO GET OFF DRUGS, WE NEED TO PAY FOR THEIR DENTAL TO GIVE THEM A CHANCE AT LIFE.
- NANAIMO SHOULD CAPITALIZE ON ITS AREA FOR MOUNTAIN BIKING. THIS AREA IS UNDERDEVELOPED AND WITH THE RIGHT STRATEGY THE CITY COULD HAVE POTENTIAL TO BE A WORLD CLASS DESTINATION FOR MOUNTAIN BIKING.
- NANAIMO WITH THE DOWNTOWN, THERE IS NOTHING TOURIST ATTRACTIVE IN THAT AREA, EXCEPT LARGE HOLES, DEBRIS, & EMPTY BUILDINGS. A HOTEL BEHIND THE CONVENTION CENTRE DOES NOT DO IT.
- NANAIMO WOULD BE GREAT IF WE COULD GET RESTAURANTS & EVENTS ON THE OCEAN. SUCK A LIMITED AREA DOWNTOWN FOR SAME. BUILDING DEPT BETTER TURN AROUND, CLEAN UP CITY MEDIANS & INTERSECTIONS; ONLY MALLS & SMALL COMPLEXES KEEP NICE LANDSCAPE
- NEED ADDITIONAL ICE ARENA IN NORTH END. POSSIBLE EVEN A PRIVATE ONE THAT ATTRACTS FAMILIES, LIKE THE OKANAGAN HOCKEY SCHOOL IN PENTICTON. BETTER ACCESSIBILITY TO SWIM LESSONS TO ACCOMMODATE WORKING PARENTS. A VENUE FOR LARGE TO MID-SIZE EVENTS, CONCERTS

- NEED MORE HOUSING & FACILITIES NEEDED FOR SENIORS & REFINISH OLD FOR THE HOMELESS. NEED MORE BIKE TRAILS CONNECTING OUTLYING SUBDIVISIONS TO OTHER AREAS OF TOWN AND DOWNTOWN. WITH E BIKES THE BOOMERS ARE NOW LOVING CYCLING AND EXPLORING AGAIN
- NEED SPEED CONTROL ON WESTWOOD RD.
- NEED TO FOCUS DEVELOPMENT ON THE 23 ACRES BY THE HELIPOINT, SHOULD HAVE A MIX OF CONDOS & BUSINESSES TO HAVE MORE PEOPLE LIVING DOWNTOWN WITH ENTERTAINMENT & TRANSPORTATION FACTORED INTO DEVELOPMENT OF THIS AREA. NEED CONTROL OVER RDN
- NEED TO RECLAIM THE ENTIRE WATERFRONT. MOVE VERY NOISY MILL OUT OF THE AREA.
- NO RESOURCE EMPLOYMENT POTENTIAL UNTIL STOP EXPORT OF RAW LOGS. NEED RESOURCES FOR HOMELESS, ADDICTS-REHAB. MUST CLEAN UP STREETS AND GET RID OF PETTY CRIME. NO HOMELESS CAMPING IN ANY PARK
- ONLY LIVED HERE 2 YEARS, HARD TO ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS.
- OUR DOWNTOWN IS EMBARRASSING TO HAVE PEOPLE VISIT - DIRTY & UNSAFE
- PERHAPS MINI BUSES IN GREATER QUANTITY BETTER FOR NANAIMO THAN HALF FULL REGULAR BUSES. MORE INSPECTING OF HOMES, SHORT TERM RENTALS. MORE THEATRES FOR OUR TALENTED POPULATION.
- PERMITS COST OF SUBDIVISION ECT, ARE NOT CONDUCIVE TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING. TAKING MORE MONEY FROM HARDWORKING PEOPLE & GIVING TO INDIVIDUALS WHO MAKE LESS PRODUCTIVE LIFE CHOICES WILL DRIVE WEALTH OUT OF THE AREA.
- PLEASE ENDEAVOR TO HELP ALL CITIZENS OF NANAIMO, NOT JUST THE SPECIAL INTEREST OR LOUDEST VOICES IN THE COMMUNITY OR COUNCIL. WE ARE ALL CITIZENS OF NANAIMO, NOT JUST SOME
- PLEASE FIX THE SAFETY FOR FAMILIES AROUND DEPARTURE BAY SCHOOL. PARKING, CROSSWALKS WITH FLASHING LIGHT, SIDEWALK ON SOUTH SIDE OF ROAD. HELP NANAIMO ARTS COUNCIL FIND A HOME FOR EXHIBITION & WORKSHOP.
- PLEASE KEEP THE PROCESS OPEN TO STRONG PUBLIC INPUT
- PLEASE MAKE NANAIMO SAFE AGAIN. I'VE SEEN HOMELESS GROWTH WITHIN 4 YEARS TO THE POINT WHERE MY STREET WON'T LEAVE OUR WINDOWS OPEN AT NIGHT OR ANYTHING OUTSIDE. TOO MUCH CRIME, THEFT AND NO CONSEQUENCES.
- PLEASE PLEASE DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE RAMPANT CRIME IN NANAIMO. VERY DISHEARTENING AND MAKING DAILY LIFE MORE AND MORE DIFFICULT, THANK YOU.
- PLEASE PROTECT DL56 FROM DEVELOPMENT. THIS IS ECOLOGICALLY SIGNIFICANT AREA WHICH SHOULD BE OFFICIALLY JOINED WITH COTTLE LAKE PARK AREA & PROTECTED FOR FUTURE GENERATION TO ENJOY.
- PLEASE STOP ALLOWING DEVELOPERS TO CUT DOWN ALL THE TREES. WHEN THE TREES ARE ALL GONE, WHAT WE ARE LEFT WITH IS CALGARY. BLEAK, COLD

& BARREN, THAT SUCKS. IT CAN BE DONE DIFFERENTLY SEE CONDO BUILDINGS NEAR LONGWOOD STATION

- PLEASE STOP DEVELOPING NATURE & GREEN SPACES. PLEASE AVOID HOUSING DEVELOPMENT HIGH RISES ON WATERFRONT.
- PORT THEATRE THOUGH A GOOD PERFORMANCE SPACE IS TOO EXPENSIVE. I HAVE FEARS THAT CRIME DRUG ADDICTION HOMELESSNESS WILL SET THE STAGE FOR OUR CITY, SCARY, SAD.
- PROVIDING DRUG INJECTION SITES, ACCOMMODATING THESE PEOPLE WITH OUR TAX DOLLARS IS NOT WHAT I ENDORSE. CLEAN UP OUR CITY BECAUSE IT IS NOT SAFE DOWNTOWN. BUSINESS'S ARE LOSING OUT BECAUSE OF THIS ENVIRONMENT YOU HAVE CREATED
- QUESTION #35 IS NOT ADEQUATE TOO LIMITED.
- RECENT IMMIGRANT: BEEN HERE BUT LIVED ABROAD FOR 18+ YEARS, THEN MOVED BACK.
- REDUCE SPEED LIMIT ON SIDE STREET TO 40 OR LESS. FINISH SOUTH WALKWAY FROM DOWNTOWN TO BOTTOM OF DEPARTURE BAY.
- REGARDING OLD HARWOOD SPORTS FIELD, I THINK IT WOULD BE A GREAT LOSS TO LOSE IT.
- REGULARLY FINDING DEER/ ANIMAL CARCASSES NEAR RECREATION TRAILS, HOPING THE CITY CAN DISCOURAGE THIS.
- SECTION 9 IS HARD TO ANSWER. NANAIMO IS FULL OF BEAUTIFUL PARKS AND TRAILS, ALL OF THEM BEING DESTROYED AND UNAVAILABLE DUE TO HOMELESS, DRUGS AND CRIME.
- SENT ADDITIONAL COMMENTS VIA EMAIL TO HIS WORSHIP MAYOR LEONARD KROG.
- SEVERAL PEOPLE IN THE OUTDOOR SPORT COMMUNITY (MOUNTAIN BIKING, TRAIL RUNNING) FEEL THAT WE HAVE ENORMOUS POTENTIAL TO GROW IN THAT AREA & BECOME ANOTHER DESTINATION CITY FOR TOURISM & COMPETITION (LOOK AT CUMBERLAND)
- SHOULD OPEN A DAY PLACE FOR HOMELESS AND KEEP OFF THE STREET WHEN SHELTERS ARE CLOSED. KEEP PUBLIC SAFE & OUT OF MISUNDERSTOOD ABUSE
- STOP HOMELESSNESS, STOP CRIME. CLEAN UP, MAKE GARBAGE DROP OFF FREE. IMPROVE THE FLOW OF TRAFFIC.
- THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO PARTICIPATE.
- THANK YOU FOR ASKING - I FEEL THAT THIS CITY DOES A PRETTY GOOD JOB OF DELIVERING SERVICES & PROVIDING AMENITIES/FACILITIES. RECYCLING COULD BE HIGHER ON THE PRIORITY LIST, HOWEVER.
- THANK YOU FOR INCLUDING ME IN THIS SURVEY
- THANK YOU FOR PROVIDING ME WITH THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS SURVEY
- THANK YOU FOR PROVIDING THIS SURVEY AND FOR PROVIDING INCLUSIVE GENDER OPTIONS

- THANKS LEONARD KROG & THE TOWN COUNCIL FOR MOVING AWAY FROM THAT ERA OF DISPUTE AND STRIVING TO BUILD A BETTER NANAIMO FOR US TO LIVE IN.
- THE AMOUNT OF PILES OF GARBAGE EVERYWHERE IS DISGUSTING. I'M HORRIFIED HOW MUCH NANAIMO HAS GONE DOWNHILL IN LAST 5 YEARS. IT HAS BECOME DIRTY AND DEPRESSING.
- THE CITY HAS BECOME OVERRUN BY HOMELESS ADDICTS, THIEVES AND REPEAT OFFENDERS. HELP THE MENTALLY ILL WITH INSTITUTIONS & PROGRAMS. STOP THE FREE HANDOUTS WHICH SIMPLY ATTRACT MORE OF THE ABOVE.
- THE CITY SHOULD ENCOURAGE NATURALIZED HOME GARDEN.
- THE DOWNTOWN IS A DISGRACE BIG EXCAVATIONS WITH NO HOARDING. RUNDOWN BUILDINGS COVERED IN STREET ART. DRUG ADDICTS SLEEPING IN THE STREETS/PARKS/PLAZA
- THE HOMELESS & STREET PEOPLE PROBLEM NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED. I LOVE THE DOWNTOWN BUT ITS NOT ATTRACTIVE OR INVITING TO SEE PEOPLE BEGGING OR TENTS SET UP. TOURISTS WILL NOT COME BACK AND ITS HARD TO ATTRACT NEW BUSINESSES OR INVESTMENTS. SAFETY.
- THIS IS AN UNREALISTICALLY LONG QUESTIONNAIRE. I DOUBT WHETHER THIS DATA CAN BE PUT INTO ANY USABLE FORM AS IN PUBLIC POLICY
- THIS SURVEY WAS TOO LONG.
- TOO MUCH GOV'T IN PEOPLES LIVES, TOO MANY TAXES AT ALL GOV'T LEVELS. TOO MUCH GOV'T INTERFERENCE IN BUSINESS PLANNING, ZONING. WHERE GOV'T IS IN PEOPLES PRIVATE LIVES TOO FAR, ITS CALLED COMMUNISM.
- TRAFFIC NOW IS HELL ON EARTH.
- USE A CANE WHEN I WALK TO STORE OR DESTINATION, SOMETIMES FAMILY MEMBER OR FRIEND TAKE ME WHERE WE WISH TO GO. USE HANDY DART SOMETIMES.
- WALKING USED FOR EXERCISE NOT FOR MEANINGFUL TRANSPORTATION
- WE DESIRE THAT THE FEEDBACK FROM THESE SURVEYS WILL BE CONSIDERED AND IMPLEMENTED IN AN EQUITABLE & ECONOMICALLY RESPONSIBLE MANNER.
- WE ENJOY LIVING IN NORTH NANAIMO - OUR ONLY BEEF IS STREET PARKING - BETTER PLANNING FOR SFDS WITH SUITES - ENFORCEMENT NEED TO BE IMPROVED - MANY DANGEROUS SITUATIONS CREATED BY CARS PARKED ON BOTH SIDES OF STREET NEAR CURVES & CORNERS
- WE LIVED FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS ON GABRIOLA ISLAND. BECAUSE OF OUR AGE WE RECENTLY MOVED HERE. WE HAD ALWAYS SHOPPED IN NANAIMO FOR ALL OF OUR GROCERIES AND EVERYTHING ELSE.
- WE NEED MORE FACILITIES FOR THE ELDERLY. GET THE DRUG & SOCIETY ABUSERS OFF THE STREETS
- WE NEED SIDEWALKS, WE NEED A MORE EFFICIENT CITY BUREAUCRACY
- WE NEED THE WATERFRONT SEA WALL CONNECTED FROM DEPARTURE BAY ALL THE WAY AROUND TO DOWNTOWN.

- WE NEED TO GET CRIME UNDER CONTROL AND GET PEOPLE WITH ADDICTION, MENTAL ISSUES OFF THE STREETS AND IN A PLACE THAT IS PROPERLY SUPERVISED, SO THEY CAN GET THE HELP THEY NEED TO BECOME CONTRIBUTORY CITIZENS
- WE REALLY NEED TO INVEST IN THE MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION CRISIS.
- WE WERE REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO THE MULTI-USE TRAIL BEING BUILT BETWEEN DEPARTURE BAY & THE FERRY TERMINAL & WERE VERY DISAPPOINTED WHEN IT WAS PUSHED TO THE BACK BURNER. A LOT OF TIME AND MONEY WAS SPENT ON MAKING SURE THIS WOULD HAPPEN.
- WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE A LINK, WALK WAY FROM DEPARTURE BAY BEACH THAT CONNECTS TO THE DOWNTOWN WATERFRONT WALKWAY.
- WHAT HAPPENED TO OCP? WAS THIS EVER FOLLOWED THROUGH. STEEP SLOPE DEVELOPMENT FOR NEW BUILDING VARIANCES TO ACCOMADATE, SOMEONES WANTS OVER ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES (STREAM HABITAT). WILL YOU FOLLOW THROUGH OR JUST PROCEED WITH WHAT YOU HAVE IN THE PAST.
- WITH THE GROWTH OF THE CITY, WE REALLY REQUIRE A SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT FACILITY
- WOULD BENEFIT TO HAVE PEDESTRIAN ONLY AREAS. WALKWAYS ALONG THE WATERFRONT. ENCOURAGE MULTIFAMILY DEVELOPMENT AGAINST NEW SUBDIVISIONS TO PRESERVE GREEN SPACE AND REDUCE CUTTING OF TREES AND VEGETATION. PRESERVE AND CREATE WETLANDS.
- WOULD LIKE TO SEE OFF LEASH DOG PARK (PIONEER) TO BE FENCED OFF COMPLETELY WITH GATES ETC.
- WOULD LIKE TO SEE SAFER CYCLING OPTIONS WITH SEPARATE BIKE LANES. EXPANSION OF WATERFRONT WALKWAY TO DEPARTURE BAY.
- WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE SANDSTONE DEVELOPMENT GET UNDERWAY - MORE HOUSING, SHOPPING OTHER END. THE NORTH END PRIORITIZE THE TRAIN - NOT FOR TOURISTS BUT ISLANDERS AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO DRIVING TO VICTORIA OR UP ISLAND
- WOULD LOVE A SPORTING COMPLEX TO ATTRACT CONCERTS, EVENTS, TOURISM ETC.
- YOU NEED TO IMPROVE THE DOWNTOWN CORE. IT IS NOT A WELCOMING PLACE AT ALL, TOO MANY DERELICT BUILDINGS & HOMELESS. IT'S LIKE NANAIMO HAS GIVEN UP.
- YOU NEED TO PROVIDE THE LEAP CARD TO ANYONE ON DISABILITY, NOT JUST INCOME LEVEL
- YOUR SURVEY IS TOO LONG AND COMPLEX, ALMOST GAVE UP

# Beban Park



REIMAGINE NANAIMO  
GET INVOLVED NANAIMO CA

BEBAN PARK SOCIAL CENTRE  
NOW OPEN FOR RENTALS





# APPENDIX H

## PUBLIC QUESTIONNAIRES VERBATIM COMMENTS

## QUESTIONNAIRE VERBATIM COMMENTS

### HOW WE CARE (OUR SOCIAL EQUITY)

Q3. Are there other social equity issues that you think are priorities for Nanaimo? Please explain below.

- ▶ 1. Childcare – this is listed above, but I think is a key priority for many in the community, either directly, or indirectly. Currently, childcare under the age of 3 is challenging to secure close to home. The cost of childcare from infant through toddler and after school care is not affordable for many families. Although this only directly affects those with children, it indirectly effects our entire community since the parents and families of children are impacted in their finances and abilities to participate in local economy, or in time to participate in local community. 2. Housing affordability – again, this is mentioned, but is worth emphasis. Even middle-income individuals or families can be burdened by the cost of housing. The cost of rent is also increasing, which benefits those who own, but widens the gap for those who are not able to afford ownership.
- ▶ The housing market is ridiculous. How do middle income couples and families buy a home? This needs to be addressed.
- ▶ Mental health and addressing drug problems, homelessness addressed, physicians available as well as walk in clinics, removing Fentanyl from drugs!
- ▶ :We have a drug problem with no facilities in place or means to address the issue.
- ▶ 1 in 6 children in Nanaimo comes from a food insecure family, proper nutrition could GRATELY impact students mental and physical health and therefore be seen as a catalyst for reducing future socio-economic disadvantages
- ▶ Local indigenous students still face lower than average high school graduation rates, we need to consider having more options for alternative education delivery and more funding available for professional development opportunities among teachers who are hungry for more skills to reach more of their learners
- ▶ The opioid crisis in Nanaimo is impacting the lives of several of our community members. I think more mental health services should be offered, specifically for those who are recovering from addiction, I say this because I have experienced people struggle to integrate back into society because of stigma and lack of resources – we are not necessarily failing to get them into programs, because I recognize that people need to make an extremely difficult personal decision when it comes to seeking help / recovery, but I do see that it is really challenging for people to get back on their feet and find a community during their recovery
- ▶ 1. I am concerned about full cycle of life housing arrangements. I am concerned about my parents entering into an old age home and experiencing the potential alienating experience of social isolation that was typified by COVID. I would like to see more housing models that Cater to Multigenerational living arrangements. I know that this is a sticky question for us westerners at this juncture of time, however, I think supporting multigenerational living arrangements or seniors housing that is dispersed throughout out community so that they are close to family is important. 2. Nanaimo has made an incredible quantum leap with food provisioning with Loaves and Fishes which has addressed several

issues of water and food redistribution. Urban Food Production in City Parkland and throughout our neighborhoods will enhance our sense of security. We are a colonial based community, embedded in global food system economies since we incorporated in the mid 19th century, and amidst Victorian Notions of wealth and prestige which meant that if you were high status, you don't grow a garden because you could get others to do that for you. Now moving into the uncertainty of the 21st century, we got to unify on basic human needs and grow as much food with the resources we have on hand.

3. Decriminalize opioids and other drugs and treat as a mental health issue. We are heading in that direction. 4. Support more infant bonding with parents with paternity leave. This leads to higher mental health outcomes in the future.

- ▶ A strong, respectful, positive relationship with Snuneymuxw First Nation.
- ▶ Access to facilities that help with drug addiction
- ▶ Access to local ecosystems begins with education. When the land our earth is recognized as fundamental to our social well-being cultural health and community future. Equity for the land begins by asking what we can give back.
- ▶ Access to mental health services. Affordable housing. Low income housing. Drug and addictions services. Services (spec. Mental health and addictions) that are focused towards men and boys.
- ▶ Access to public spaces such as Port Place and downtown should be safe for all especially in the evenings
- ▶ Accessible and holistic mental health supports
- ▶ Addiction and mental health, we need more facilities
- ▶ addiction issues are making places unsafe
- ▶ "Address homelessness. Address the Drug crisis and mental illness on our streets. Remove these people off our streets."
- ▶ Address the health and addictions crisis. Supporting seniors ability to age in place.
- ▶ Addressing mental health and addictions and NOT thinking that the homelessness issue is about housing. The issue is more complex than simply affordable housing. When we keep thinking this can be fixed through housing then this issue will never be resolved. The provincial and the federal governments need to step up and get involved. This is not just a city issue. I am disheartened at how the homeless are being treated and left without resources to help them at least live a life with proper shelter, food, medical (including the drugs that they are addicted to) and a safe place to live. Get these people the services they need.
- ▶ Benches are not available for those disabled waiting for a bus in many areas, especially at Country Club Mall
- ▶ Better mental health access for all.
- ▶ Child poverty is a key indicator of the health of a community. Nanaimo is not doing well.
- ▶ Choosing five priorities above should not indicate that I don't feel the "unchecked" boxes are unimportant -- merely that I see the ones I chose as being basic to creating a caring and inclusive community, in reconciliation with First Nations, and in providing accessibility and services for all.
- ▶ City policies should support decriminalization and a harm reduction approach, while maintaining safety and security within our communities.
- ▶ City staff - what are the diversity policies and training?

- ▶ Clean up street population – get people the treatment/services/homes/law enforcement they need. The homelessness and crime is extreme – it is ruining businesses and making people feel unsafe.
- ▶ Cleaning up downtown at whatever the cost. This is the biggest drawback of the city and needs to be addressed for us to have any chance of growing and attracting talented and educated residents.
- ▶ Connecting public life from the city and the First Nation, so we don't remain two separate entities.
- ▶ Continue to support the poor. There is a lot of poverty here. Why not provide free bus rides for those who are on limited incomes for homeless & seniors between the hours of 10–4 (or 10–3) so they can take their children to nice places & public events, or see a Dr. or have an interview for a job. The buses are always empty once rush hour is over anyway. Make sure there is good service on stat hols & Sundays.
- ▶ Counseling services needed.
- ▶ Crime is staggering and drug use rampant –mentally challenged have no place to look after them–no rehab for those who want to stop.The city is filthy and garbage disposal needs to be be cheaper so trash gets there instead of the ditches and back alleys.
- ▶ Crime, lawlessness, lack of municipal leadership
- ▶ Deal with the addiction issues!
- ▶ Dealing with Mental Health issues, Drug Addition and Homelessness.
- ▶ Difficult to pick 5 in above question because also feel that homelessness is a big issue but we can create housing for people who need it but mental and drug issues are of great concern. We need to create spaces for better medical care and support For these individuals who want and need it.
- ▶ Diversity of cultures
- ▶ Downtown development
- ▶ Downtown needs huge improvement to attract biz. It is very sad and tired looking yet should be a magnet for the community and tourists. Homelessness and crime downtown are also a deterrent. This can be addressed by affordable and supportive housing and social supports.
- ▶ Drug addict / stop enabling the addiction hand up not hand out mandatory rehab
- ▶ Drug addiction needs to be destigmatized and harm reduction needs to be widely available.
- ▶ drug addiction theft vandalisms saftey when waklking at night
- ▶ Drug use
- ▶ Drug use and unsafe needles littering our streets! I guess it's assumed that this goes along with the homelessness crisis.
- ▶ Drugs and addiction are out of control and ruining everything good Nanaimo once had. We need to stop the crime.
- ▶ Drugs, drugs, drugs. Obviously. None of the other issues listed above are killing people daily.
- ▶ Emphasis on drugs and homelessness
- ▶ Environmental sustainability/behaviour, neighbourhood planning, lack of culture
- ▶ Equitable access/programming/housing.All aspects of being an inclusive community are often completely ignored for those with disabilities. Our city further marginalizes this population by not having inclusive leisure programming,city buildings, washrooms, community inclusion programs, access to food.

- ▶ For Christ's sake, figure out the homeless problem. This was NOT like this 10 years ago, make it happen and stop sticking your head up your arses.
- ▶ "Free access to recreation opportunities  
Social programs that build and encourage participation – not passive sign up"
- ▶ Getting help/treatment for mentally ill homeless
- ▶ Growing difference between public and private sector jobs, pay levels, security, benefits, pensions. The halve notes are becoming those who don't work for government
- ▶ Guaranteed Annual Income for all.
- ▶ "Have ventured downtown twice in two weeks for dinner with out of town guests. The first night out we are on a beautiful patio enjoying dinner when a homeless person starts urinating on the church directly across from the patio. Several other homeless people walked by which is totally fine as we can all share downtown. However the public urination in broad daylight was disheartening.  
The next visit we are on a patio enjoying dinner when a homeless person stops 15 feet away from us, ties off and injects himself right there.  
I feel terrible for the business owners downtown as I will no longer take guests downtown for dinner. We will just have to stay in the North end and go to a chain restaurant. This is really sad because our downtown is beautiful. "
- ▶ Health care is very inaccessible due to the lack of doctors. Homelessness is obviously a problem. It's hard to enjoy public places when homeless people are forced to camp in parks and alleys, leaving their garbage behind.
- ▶ Healthcare
- ▶ Helping the homeless to obtain the tools and mental capacity to allow them to make their own choice and effort to obtain housing and employment.
- ▶ "Homeless drug addicted low income people and housing for them should not be built or placed in established neighborhoods or close to businesses. If they are addicted and leaving needles and defecating everywhere they should not be living in a nice neighborhood. They should be locked up in a treatment center or put into housing far away. There is too much crime and many unhappy people in these neighborhoods where you have forced in homeless housing.  
  
Social protection: You should be protecting innocent people in neighborhoods from these drug addicted homeless people. Do not put these homes for drug addicted homeless people in established neighborhoods and or near businesses. Look at what is happening already in Victoria to businesses and neighborhoods. They are taking over!"
- ▶ Homeless needs lots of help
- ▶ homeless people dont seem to have access to housing? wheeling their buggies around all day? sleeping where?
- ▶ Homeless people need housing, food, jobs and access to healthcare
- ▶ Homeless, homeless, homeless! And we can't just give them housing. We need to bring in institutions again, and provide them with free drugs in an enclosed environment.
- ▶ Homelessness and addiction is a huge issue, those who can't take care of themselves for addiction or mental health reasons need to be institutionalize for their own sake and the sake of the community, it is heartbreaking to see. Those who can take care of themselves need help, a basic income and housing

provided until they can manage on their own. Homelessness is unfair to everyone. Addiction is a huge problem, it increases crime and homelessness. Not sure how to deal with this. Affordable childcare is necessary for the physical and emotional wealth of families.

- ▶ Homelessness and drug addiction and related crime need to be addressed
- ▶ Homelessness is a city-wide problem. Public housing should be spread equally throughout the community. Currently the burden is placed on Central and South Nanaimo. North Nanaimo needs to take their share of this responsibility.
- ▶ "Homelessness is not just about housing as we know, or there would be no issue of neighborhoods not wanting supported housing. Until the drug situation improves there are going to be very sad cases and people who cannot look after themselves and are desperate and likely on the streets."
- ▶ "Homelessness  
The first batch of questions were bs. People don't know the answers, they are opinions and questions are phrased to reinforce stereotypes

Stop talking in jargon"

- ▶ Homelessness, Addiction, and Mental Health
- ▶ Homelessness, panhandling
- ▶ homelessness, poverty, drug addiction are things I see every day in my neighborhood (Newcastle). We must do more to help people.
- ▶ Housing affordability, especially for rentals, cost for mid income folks are getting way too extreme for the size of this city. Seeing newly build 1bedrooms for 1600 /month is certainly not affordable for here. Maybe if we were in Vic or Van but not here.
- ▶ "Housing for those with 375 a month to spend on a roof over their heads, and lots of it"
- ▶ "Housing prices are out of reach, especially anything safe(no drugs/crime/violence and clean(no mold/smoke/pest issues) and decent(not falling apart, hideous and so dated you're sure things are made with asbestos).

Pedestrians are at risk and face a very un-welcoming terrain on our roadways. From non-existent to obstructed to hazardous sidewalks and cross walks, to a 10 sec crossing window while drivers drive at you to make their turns. I find bike lanes more walkable than sidewalks in my area and at times need to use them instead(uneven, lots of dips, obstructed, avoid other people). "

- ▶ Housing should be a basic human right not an arbitrary and too often substandard outcome of the market.
- ▶ Housing the elderly. I think it's more important than housing people with criminal behaviours.
- ▶ I agree that all 13 points above are important for social equity in Nanaimo.
- ▶ I am concerned by what I perceive to be mental health challenges in our adult population that impacts their ability to provide stable, supportive environments for children. I encourage City staff to continue to provide access to nature, leisure, and arts so that families can have healthy outlets for stress and anxiety.
- ▶ I am extremely uncomfortable with groups like sons of Odin and would like to limit their presence. It was very bad to let them bait, yell obscenities at the tent city people and block traffic. Groups, regardless of

who they are, should have to apply for a permit to block traffic and there should be some rules about hate speech.

- ▶ I am scared to go downtown to support the businesses there as I'm continually harassed by homeless people,
- ▶ I believe that everyone should be guaranteed a roof over their head – very basic room for living and sleeping with adjoining bathroom. Homelessness should not exist. We will always have people sleeping rough if we can't offer them a home.
- ▶ I had volunteered in poor villages in a Third World country. When I returned to Canada, I realized that the problems of homelessness and addiction were worse in Nanaimo than in Guatemala.
- ▶ I need the shelter bus route 20a brickyard road off Hammond bay. Keep people dry from the rain and when we're waiting for the bus
- ▶ I think homeless is a major issue that needs to be addressed. I don't agree with the policy of allowing the homeless to sleep in our city parks. It has led to an increase in garbage and drug paraphernalia in the parks. Many residents now feel unsafe walking in some parks such as Bowen park.
- ▶ I think the biggest concern right now is trying to address the homeless issue. I think one problem is too many people equate this with affordable housing which is not related. The individuals who are the chronic homeless suffer from mental health and drug addiction issues and that is what we need to establish supports to help them overcome. You have to focus on the core issues that result in people living on the street. Moving them to the temporary housing with little or no supports is not working and we have seen a spike in theft since this was set up nearby, help needs to be focused and comprehensive to give these people a chance to overcome their current situation and become functioning members of society again.
- ▶ I think the homeless are more comfortable here than elsewhere and the taxpaying citizens are more uncomfortable because of this!
- ▶ I think Truth and Reconciliation with First Nations is important, however we need to be able to take care of all people's basic needs. If we do that then many other things will flow from that. We will be a caring and inclusive community and people will feel safe.
- ▶ I want to emphasize fixing the homelessness, drug addiction, and crime epidemics. Child poverty and poverty in general. City beautification, especially streets trees and more parkland that is clean and safe for people to enjoy and to improve quality of life for all. Complete streets to allow diverse modes of transport.
- ▶ I wanted to pick way more than five choices in the section above. Everything is connected. I see City Council trying so hard to create positive change. Thank you.
- ▶ I worry that Vancouver Island has become a dumping ground for social agencies from the mainland, that they are moving 'problem' clients out here. I saw homelessness issues ramp up very quickly in the 6 months leading up to 'discontent city'. The face of homelessness changed and this greater 'per capita' homeless population has been highly problematic.
- ▶ "I would appreciate our City NOT being involved in the challenges of the homeless. The province needs to accept responsibility and solve this problem.

The priority for our city should be to promote the social rewards available in Nanaimo. We need to improve transportation so all can enjoy them."

- ▶ I would like to see more options within the city for housing. Tiny homes built to agreed upon code

only to be allowed on R1 zoned properties. Not necessarily all neighborhoods. (This concept would be working with our current community layout) 60% or so to be designed for the elderly. Resulting in multi-generational time spent. (Supporting each other), also having care facilities that these elderly people could have access to such as medical care and socializing. Major companies are struggling with supporting Tiny Homes manufacturing of equipment and investing in further technologies without municipalities support. I believe that if the concept was supported at this level the cost of homes could be reduced. Until this happens the Tiny House concept built to a certain standard is expensive.

- ▶ I would LOVE traffic calming on Victoria Road (just after Victoria and Milton). In the evening and at nighttime, we constantly hear speeding cars and find it disturbing. There is a lot of problems with addiction and substance abuse in our neighbourhood so programs that address the drug trade and the intersection of drugs, and mental illness.
- ▶ Impatience on part of some people, when dealing with people with hearing loss, those with limited English and those with disabilities.
- ▶ In regards to the question above, I would choose all of them if that was the option. I didn't include childcare because my children are older, I didn't choose transportation because I see improvements already, I didn't choose immigration or first nations because affordable housing and income and all lifestyles/walks of life addresses this. But seriously, every single one of these issues is important and at the very heart of the development that needs to happen.
- ▶ information is difficult to access - you need to know the organisations that do things to find out what's on and available
- ▶ It was a struggle to pick only 5 of the above, they are all priorities. Child care and daily food needs high priority as well
- ▶ It would be nice to look at people as individuals. Access their need. Figure out what could be done to help that person as an individual, especially if they are in crisis with support from the city and the community.
- ▶ I've only lived here 7 months but I've had my car broken into, a glass bottle thrown at me, and numerous instances of being harassed for money. I hear fighting and yelling every night. I don't feel very safe here and there is a lot of poverty, drug addiction and mental health challenges that need to be addressed to make everyone's lives better.
- ▶ Keep the homeless out of parks. Don't give them a reason to move to Nanaimo.
- ▶ Knowledge and access to grow food. Purchasing the 5 acre farm was such a bold and progressive move - now let's keep going! The food bank and Foodshare are amazing innovative organizations that should be supported to the full extent.
- ▶ Lack of pride and support for less fortunate communities
- ▶ Lack of treatment for people with mental health and addictions.
- ▶ "less police and more mental health ride alongs for applicable 911 calls"
- ▶ Level of children living in poverty, adequate mental health and addictions services are lacking.
- ▶ living wage
- ▶ Living wage for all workers in Nanaimo
- ▶ Lower income areas will be harder hit by the impacts of climate change.

- ▶ Make policies that benefit tax payers and not freeloaders.
- ▶ Mental health and addiction services
- ▶ Mental health and addiction support
- ▶ Mental health and drug addiction
- ▶ Mental health services
- ▶ mental health services for homeless and poor with addiction issues
- ▶ Mental Health supports; drug use supports; homelessness
- ▶ more addiction treatment and services are needed desperately
- ▶ More community housing for youth, First Nations people and refugees. A community garden in every neighbourhood/community park to get people together growing their own food.
- ▶ More diverse housing options in more areas of the city.
- ▶ More low income rental housing.
- ▶ More needs to be done to address sex trafficking and exploitation of women, children and vulnerable groups in society.
- ▶ "More policing needed on foot and bikes for the public spaces so citizens feel safe.  
"
- ▶ "More public spaces.  
Affordable housing."
- ▶ More rehab facilities
- ▶ More visible minorities in signage and advertising so that people feel that they can be included in our community. Programs that specifically encourage curiosity about and connections with people of different backgrounds.
- ▶ Multiple treatment options for addictions
- ▶ My community provides a wet house for men. Nothing like that for women or women with children.
- ▶ My personal concern is providing housing and food for battered women and their children.
- ▶ n/a
- ▶ Nanaimo is filled with a high range of underemployment job opportunities with a low range of job or career growth opportunities even for a small city
- ▶ No
- ▶ No- you've covered them
- ▶ None
- ▶ nope
- ▶ Not at this time
- ▶ Not sure if this applies in this area but we need to support our small businesses downtown without them there is no downtown!!!!
- ▶ Not sure why addiction isn't addressed here. It is a major issue that is impeding the enjoyment of our

city, and is a major issue for addicts in terms of lack of belonging and equity. Personally, I feel pushed out of parts of the city that are occupied by addicts (Especially Downtown but the issue is everywhere). I am concerned with theft, violence, and B&E in the community linked to addiction. Nanaimo feels less safe than when I moved here 15 years ago. I own homes in north and south Nanaimo and have spent the majority of my time in this city in the south end.

- ▶ Opioid crisis – more supports required
- ▶ Our city needs to work on inclusiveness of all its current and future inhabitants and enhance its relationships with the area's original inhabitants
- ▶ Our spaces are not safe. There is open drug use and social disorder. We need to solve this. It is only getting worse and we the taxpayer are paying for it. This should be a priority, City spending too much on WANTS i.e. bike lanes and not NEEDS! You can not create a vibrant city until these issues are addressed.
- ▶ Owning a local business is getting to be harder and harder. Without the ability to create locally thriving businesses in SAFE areas, people are pigeon-holed into minimum wage jobs. Most of our community is not well-off, and experiencing financial stress as money that could have gone to small business goes OUT OF THE COMMUNITY altogether.
- ▶ Participatory budgeting, for the 20% of the city budget that is discretionary, so all residents have a say in how these discretionary tax dollars are allocated.
- ▶ People who steal like the copper wire from the Viex should be taken off the street
- ▶ Physical accessibility is poor in Nanaimo. At best it is an afterthought in many circumstances it is blatantly disregarded in the name of what is popular or financially cheaper
- ▶ playground accessibility for all
- ▶ Please deal with the homelessness.
- ▶ Please encourage our provincial and federal governments to deal with and pay for the homelessness, addiction and associated crime problem. It is not our civic responsibility
- ▶ poor policing and investigation of murder. A lot of Ahousat people have been murdered in Nanaimo.
- ▶ Racism and white supremacy are huge issues that will destroy our community if they are not appropriately addressed.
- ▶ Recognition of past contributions and racial abuse of first Chinese community
- ▶ Reduce City funding for policing (and bylaw enforcement of social disorder). Direct funds to housing, addictions, job training, and other supports that actually are the root causes of the problems that policing is supposed to address.
- ▶ "Rehabilitation and detox facilities that are affordable and accessible. The sustainability of Vancouver Island."
- ▶ Safety and cleanliness in our downtown area
- ▶ Safety of residents. Crime in the city has skyrocketed in recent years, and news articles report multiple horrifying incidents daily. Obviously this lies with other levels of governments and the courts however, I also see very little in the way of bylaw enforcement or help for working class citizens by the City of Nanaimo. Many areas of town are unsafe, unwelcoming, unsightly, and unsanitary. Money siphoned into tourism is a joke given that the biggest things to improve tourism would be cleaning up the unsightly, smelly city and allowing people to walk around feeling safe. As a minority woman, I feel incredibly unsafe in the city. I get followed, harassed, and slurs and threats hurled at me often. My elderly and disabled

family members feel unsafe and vulnerable in this city. Stories like the young family who had a repeat criminal offender breaking into their house, squatting, destroying it, and returning are the new normal for this town.

- ▶ Safety. Nanaimo is the one community on the island that I do not feel safe when walking alone or at night, especially as a woman.
- ▶ Seriously mentally ill people are living on our streets they need institutional care nice ones not housing in apartments or hotels. Detox units for addicted people they should not be roaming the streets or committing crimes to support their habits unfair to the community and to consider this a mental health issue not a crime is insane. Driving the insurance rates up sky high!!!
- ▶ Service Canada has been a very unwelcoming place for First Nations.
- ▶ Sports teams and leagues, joining and the equipment is too expensive in youth and children's age groups, not affordable to one on social assistance therefore these potentially super talented young don't even get a chance to advance or try these activities. ie. Hockey, Baseball, Lacrosse, Gymnastics.
- ▶ Spread the low-income and temporary housing throughout Nanaimo, instead of lumping it in central and south Nanaimo.
- ▶ "STOP enabling the street drug use and homelessness here in Nanaimo by just throwing our tax money and stupid program after stupid program at it to make the city councillors and elected officials feel good, and stop wasting our tax \$. Supportive housing with responsibilities AND consequences, is the only way this is going to stop here. I no longer feel safe in my own city, day or night if I am out alone. Stop wasting/ raising our taxes and spending our tax \$\$ on foolish projects like bike lanes and walkways right now, Nanaimo needs to be radically cleaned up, clean up this cesspool of a city first before a stupid bike lane or walkway ffs! I am ashamed of my City (Nanaimo) now."
- ▶ Support for vulnerable seniors who are being left out of an increasing digital world.
- ▶ Support inclusiveness in housing.
- ▶ Supporting and encouraging newcomers is critical, given the aging population in this region.
- ▶ The city officials may be moving toward truth and reconciliation, but the citizens in general are still dismissive and ignorant of history. Aboriginal sites and history around Nanaimo need to be better marked, named, acknowledged
- ▶ The crime rate is deplorable and we need to get a handle on this, too many repeat offenders are not being served with consequences for their actions. I do not feel safe to shop downtown and walk in Bowen Park and the seawall as a result of being harassed by criminal mentally ill individuals and drug users.
- ▶ The direction of the city to police and bylaw officers to harass the homeless population.
- ▶ The leaders creating and implementing social equity need to reflect the population.
- ▶ The new marginalized group of people – people of faith are not welcomed
- ▶ The prolific petty theft that is occurring on a daily basis across Nanaimo – from parcel pirates to the late night thieves – and because it's not 'violent', gets little attention from RCMP.
- ▶ The racism towards First Nations people is extreme in this city. More First Nations people need to be in the government and you need to listen to what they have to say.
- ▶ "The statements in #2 are mostly worded wrong, as if everything is great with no need for improvement.

Many things are set up only for people with online access. This survey initially was announced with only online access – no info for hard copies.

Your prizes do not include the rules one has to agree to and an email address is required – again, only online people. “

- ▶ The street drug, public consumption and public urination and defecation are very gross to witness and is maddening. Aggressive behavior is so common now, I’m amazed when I finish a city walk without witnessing such behavior. We need to get the mental health and drug users cases get into mandatory treatment programs. They will remain homeless without that help. Tent City still lingers in the shadows.
- ▶ The tax paying, non-minority, “working class” has the least “benefits”... They earn the same wages as 10 years ago, are lucky to find a job that pays 20/hr, yet property taxes skyrocket and make owning a modest home in Nanaimo almost impossible. Giving out lots of freebies to the so-called “homeless” / drug addicts migrating here from other cities and provinces has only increased their number, and 600% increase in crime rates have ruined several formerly nice neighborhoods-- the bill is paid disproportionately by those with rather moderate incomes... (\*\*\*) 600% increase in crime is according to Realtor info, referring to Diver Lake area, and this also impacts home insurance premiums)
- ▶ There are areas of town that are run down (south of downtown) that need support and greater safety.
- ▶ “There is no shortage of food in Nanaimo, for many there is only a shortage of money to buy food. The Food Bank papers over a much larger problem. Until we solve the problem that having mentally ill, homeless and disenfranchised street people present we need more community policing. Not cops in cars but walking the beat. Many residents are afraid to go out at night in the downtown area. This is a major problem.”
- ▶ There’s a lack of green spaces in some neighbourhoods.
- ▶ Tied into the disparity in this City is a deep need for better police services. We need empathetic responses, more unmarked patrols, and a stronger hand on property crime. Nobody I know feels safe in their neighborhoods anymore.
- ▶ Tired of having to protect our property from vandalism
- ▶ Too many homeless camps scattered around the city. Tax payers are paying too much to support the criminals/thieves living in the housing units on Terminal Ave & Labieux Rd
- ▶ Too much social supports for Homeless and Drug Addicts are centered in Downtown Core – which is inherently unfair to neighbourhood and hinders growth of region.
- ▶ Treating everyone the same is not enough. We have residents living on the street that are all treated the same way, but have varying levels of needs. Lumping all high need people in 2 for profit housing units is not helping them.
- ▶ Truth and reconciliation with First nations with priority on equity and cultural safety should be a front and centre in planning for ALL of the priorities above.
- ▶ Twenty First Century solutions to our addicted population.
- ▶ “Understanding the needs of the youth;  
I believe it’s not about how much capital growth young individuals brings better yet it is about how Nanaimo’s economy can reap the benefits of these voices to help those who need the help required to motivate them to be successful and feel like they belong to the community of Nanaimo.  
Teaching young teens about how to be cool in ways that make us soon to be responsible adults.  
”

- ▶ We live on Protection Island and there are no public transportation services, just one private ferry. As well, there is only 1 public dock that is not large enough and boats are regularly damaged. There is no dedicated dock space on the Nanaimo side. We need another public dock on the south side of the island and a dedicated space in Nanaimo. Ideally with a bike locker. Protection Island is a Nanaimo neighborhood with no public transportation to Nanaimo.
- ▶ We need better mental health and addiction services, and better affordable housing and mixed-use construction. If the province cannot or will not step in, municipal government should take on this responsibility however it can.
- ▶ We need more mental health and addiction treatment centres.
- ▶ We need to do more to help the homeless especially the alcohol and addiction issues. We need more access to help for these people.
- ▶ We need to have more accessible social services that address the root causes of the systemic issues such as, oppression, racism, chronic homelessness, intergenerational traumas, gender violence and discrimination. However, most importantly we need to provide more services for youth, ages 12-17, who suffer from substance abuse. We need to provide a safe space where youth who are experiencing chronic homelessness, prostitution, mental health, and substance abuse can access medical help, counseling, and safe substance use spaces. This service should be culturally aware and provide access to Elders, free life skills classes, group classes for all genders, sexualities, and races.
- ▶ we need to provide the helping services for those who need our help
- ▶ We need to spread services and housing for vulnerable people through the whole city and not overburden the downtown area.
- ▶ We need viable community gardens. We need to have intergenerational projects to benefit the youth and elders.
- ▶ We should not be focussing on Homelessness nor Health as those are Prov and Fed responsibilities
- ▶ Well, if you had let us pick more than 5 answers above, it would have helped. In terms of priorities, accessible health services, education, transportation, and immigrant services also rank very high.
- ▶ With the Provincial government provide assessment of the homeless into those who can be successfully aided with from little to extensive help and those who are for some reason unable to successfully help themselves in order to assist the Federal and Provincial governments in developing appropriate programs for dealing with this growing social problem. Due to technology and corporate international trade this problem is likely only to get worse as fewer local workers are required to meet local needs.
- ▶ "Yes, public transit. I think that if public transit is improved, bike lanes are built and Nanaimo becomes less car-centric it will be a progressive move as lower income folks are less able to afford the costs of having a car. Mobility is a huge factor for happiness and ability to get to work.  
"
- ▶ yes. the rights of majority of the population are being ignored in an organized effort to pander to an (understandably) growing homeless population. Social equality must include the protection of the rights of taxpayers not to have to spend so much of their tax money on services that neither meet their goals nor provide any noticeable advantage to the taxpayer. As a concrete example, we pay a lot of money the RCMP to police our city. Yet anything that's not nailed down (and some things that are) is stolen in minutes anywhere in the downtown area.
- ▶ Your introduction says "Everyone needs a place to live, FOOD TO EAT, and to experience a sense of belonging in their community. Yet I have seen only one passing reference to food in the rest of this

#### Q4. Do you have ideas or suggestions that could help improve social equity in Nanaimo?

- ▶ *“\*making owning a modest home in Nanaimo affordable, for young families and working individuals, by NOT increasing property taxes. (our own property taxes have more than doubled (!) in only 2 years!!!) Tax foreign investors higher instead – or increase home owner’s grant for people under 65  
Attract more medical doctors to Nanaimo. It is almost impossible to find a new family doctor- nobody seems to accept new patients, and several good doctors have moved or retired. ”*
- ▶ *“1. Housing First program, like that adopted by Finland.  
2. Not sure how, but we need to attract more GP doctors to the community (I currently do not have a family doctor this is a big issue for those arriving in the community).”*
- ▶ *“1. Make home ownership – or at the very least housing – available for everyone. So many home owners I speak to own multiple homes and rent it out for income. Why is housing a commodity?  
2. I see so many Nazi / white supremacist symbols around Nanaimo. I moved here less than a year ago and having lived in a few different cities on the Island and the Lower Mainland, I’ve never seen so many hate symbols in public! Being a person of colour, it’s really disconcerting and makes me fear for my and other’s safety. Is there not a way to ban people from flaunting their hate?”*
- ▶ *35 Hour work week, with 5 hour volunteer time. Volunteer time for all citizens. People to be challenging themselves to be utilizing their skills during volunteer time. Encouragement to generally help one another.*
- ▶ *A unified policing/harm reduction/addiction treatment/mental health/homelessness support system to ensure that our most vulnerable citizens get the help they need and our downtown core and waterfront is safe and enjoyable for all.*
- ▶ *Accessibility plan,budget and goals for city services then as an example start being an ambassador for persons with challenges.Hire persons with disabilities*
- ▶ *Address homelessness through Rent Control and access to mental health services. When I was suicidal, it took me 3 HOURS to see an emergency counsellor in this city. That’s unacceptable.*
- ▶ *“Addressing addictions in a real and significant way.  
Access to rehab and safe and stable housing. ”*
- ▶ *affordable housing*
- ▶ *Affordable housing development. Houses under 500K instead of huge, massive show homes. Houses with decent yards and garden space to grow food. Logical transportation by bike, bus or walking to grocery stores.*
- ▶ *“Affordable housing must never be a NIMBY issue again (as it was a few years ago in Chase River).  
Harm reduction models from Vancouver might be copied and/or adapted to meet Nanaimo’s addiction crisis.”*
- ▶ *Affordable housing needs to actually be affordable.*
- ▶ *Affordable housing will only be achievable by more by allowing TINY HOMES in our city. Perhaps a solution similar to the increase in allowing mobile home expansion in the 80’s when interest rates are high. Take an area and allow them using a small d developer in our city to help put it together with a large group of volunteers.*
- ▶ *An increase in the amount of hard to home beds.*

- ▶ Assistance for homeless and low income citizens, but require them to be accountable to laws and do more to stop and punish criminal behaviour which will make others feel safer.
- ▶ Attention to First Nations is excessive (even annoying) and takes away from attention more deserved by those who need help.
- ▶ Better communication about the need and overall cost savings of housing first projects.
- ▶ Bridging the gap between the struggling and the succeeding. Creating opportunities with incentives for all walks of life. Stop prioritizing certain cliqs or elites.
- ▶ Build and/or find accommodation for more facilities to help with addictions
- ▶ Build low income housing. Not one big project a decade, or some repurposed apartment building from the 70's... A multi use development at least every year with min 15, 2 bed units. Nice ones, not more ghetto minimums, building office or retail but especially like grocery etc into the site to subsidize the cost along with bc housing, and also services. Put developments in places that make sense! Don't pick a spot off main bus routes, or 10 km from groceries where you then HAVE to have a car, my family has not been able to apply for so many of those places. Make these developments part of middle income neighbourhoods, neighbourhoods the city plans. When developers come to get permits and submit plans, make stipulations...
- ▶ Build more housing for people experiencing homelessness and affordable housing for people that are at risk of being homeless. This housing should incorporate services such as addictions counselling, health services and educational/training opportunities.
- ▶ "Build rehab facilities not more supportive housing. Allow carriage houses, bring back mobile home parks and create tiny home communities."
- ▶ "Charities shouldn't be needed in order to help people get food, that should be the job of a functioning government, in my opinion. homelessness appears to be getting worse, despite the focus on it the last few years, the current focus needs to be increased in this area"
- ▶ City should fast track (change zoning, PPPs, city owned developments) low income/affordable developments along public transportation corridors - inventory needs to increase tremendously for pricing to be kept flat in single family homes. With how long it takes developers to get projects going in Nanaimo, there is hardly any inventory of housing available and this pushes prices upwards - This is happening in almost all municipalities. Marketing basic - price elasticity. Low demand + high inventory, low prices. High demand + low inventory = high prices.
- ▶ collaboration, conversation, creativity
- ▶ Communication with tax payers. Quit spending money on ridiculous questionnaires and studies and do something.
- ▶ "Community co housing. Better addictions treatment, outreach, and counseling available. Rent controlled housing. Putting a cap on the ridiculous housing market. Disability audits frequently, with actual disabled people being consulted and involved. Integrating more aboriginal interests into everything we do."
- ▶ Continue to develop the vacant malls, work with other levels of govt for increased housing options, develop the downtown
- ▶ "Co-op housing

Every apartment building is required to have a percentage of apartments that are designated for those of us with lower incomes.”

- ▶ “Create programs for individuals to learn skills, do work, make marketable goods. This way homeless or disadvantaged people have a place to go, learn job skills, get a meal. It’s helps them to get off the streets at least for a few hours, to potentially make better decisions, to gain a sense of accomplishment/pride.

Designate specific plots/locations for homeless to set up their tents and to leave set up. Some rules will need to be in place. This way homeless will not be forced to spread out in the city. There obviously are some individuals who refuse to use low-barrier housing and so this would be another tier of “housing” available to them. Hopefully with time, individuals would progress upwards in tiers of housing options.”

- ▶ “Cultural sensitivity programs for staff  
Make racism unacceptable and groups of workers unable to support each other in the bullying of First Nations. If management lost ability to guide, direct staff then change management “
- ▶ deal with the safety issues around addicts in our community. People are unsafe shopping or going downtown
- ▶ Decriminalize drugs. Create alternatives to policing and throw all needed resources at drug problems until people stop dying.
- ▶ Develop a municipal yard garden program to help people raise food for their families. Offer a discount on user fees (water use) for those yard gardeners growing food crops.
- ▶ Also help develop a telephone service for new immigrants that allows them to ask about their new community in their own language. Equipment infrastructure could be a city task with at least some of the translators as volunteers.
- ▶ Don’t wait for the provincial or federal governments to step in, do what you can with the resources you have.
- ▶ Education in the schools and by the parents that we accept all people who are trying their best , but do not segregate or give special treatment to any group.
- ▶ Education and celebrations
- ▶ Encourage Community Pride and engagement
- ▶ Encourage people to work instead of relying on social programs
- ▶ Ensure that social programs are distributed throughout the city.

- ▶ “ENTERTAINMENT  
VOLUNTARY PROGRAMS  
JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR HOMELESS  
JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH  
JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMMIGRANTS

N.B: a major factor within these employment opportunities lies in the quality of these jobs. How stressful is it? Does it result in someone going home to force themselves to feel better after a day of brutality vs going home happy to their families? (As a result Domestic violence, drug abuse, overdose, underage drugs, rape, soliciting can either rise or fall)

At the end of the day it isn’t about whether I have ideas or not; it really should be about how likely is it that Nanaimo is taking a sustainable approach to economic growth.

Starts with the city’s allocation of resources which has been unfavorable to many minorities.

Life in Nanaimo still doesn’t have what it is required to permanently attract immigrants this may result in

social and economic differences within the island in the next 50 years.

Free public transport! Paid in taxes; get it paid by tax payers. Allow people to prevent from being in places they shouldn't be in. It's deeper than it is written out to be.

Anyways I wish you all the best in your research.

"

- ▶ Expand the range and quality of services for newcomers and residents with low incomes.
- ▶ Fancy, expensive housing developments in Harewood/downtown/south Nanaimo Affordable housing developments in North/Hammond Bay/Departure Bay = equity.
- ▶ Financial help from provincial and/or federal government? Not sure if this is possible or not.
- ▶ "Find ways where people can be seen as individuals. I do think a more hospital like setting for people struggling with mental illness and addiction is needed. Not a jail. Not supportive housing. A better more modern institution geared towards maybe helping someone become READY for supportive housing. We need options for people. When someone is ready to receive LESS help we need to be able to give them that. In various stages, with the objective being that they find their feet and can contribute again by doing something that benefits others. Wherever possible. Caregivers need good wages. People in our community who do outreach work on their own should be supported, encouraged."
- ▶ "Focus on getting people off drugs via withdrawal facilities -- instead of paying pharmacies the big bucks for methadone FOREVER for our addicts.  
There are good results with community supported rituals using Ayahuasca and so forth.  
I had a friend who kicked heroin by going to a religious retreat, when methadone had not helped.  
But the current drugs are worse than heroin, so serious action needs to be taken.  
Why not incorporate some of the First Nations support rituals for addictions?"
- ▶ Food and shelter are the basics. In this time of great income inequality, affordable housing can only be provided off market through subsidy or through repurposing existing housing. Your "Affordable Housing Strategy" includes many good strategies to address the affordable housing problem, but I notice that it offers no incentives to homeowners to repurpose their housing. The Old City Neighbourhood, where I live, is privately doing a lot to address the problem of affordable housing through repurposing existing houses in spite of impediments raised by the Building Permit process which is not clear, transparent or speedy.
- ▶ Form a network of service providers and stakeholders. Roundtables with community representation to address homelessness and/or addiction. The lack of consultation in decision making is creating a rift in the community. People are kept in the dark about what is going on.
- ▶ Free bus times (see above) would provide incredible opportunities for people to mix & feel part of the city. Good for the children. Frequent service from downtown to Duke Pt. Allow small group blocks of MINI-HOMES (ie 400 sq ft) to be erected as permanent homes. They could be nice & spread around neighbourhoods. Are not costly. Install a public washroom, toilets & showers on each group lot. Caretaker for each could earn money.
- ▶ Free public transportation, Nanaimo/RDN housing corporation to encourage non-market housing
- ▶ Fund treatment beds, fund outreach programs, fund mental health.
- ▶ get a council that is willing to make the tough decisions
- ▶ Get hard on drug dealers and the city will start to heal. We need strong leadership to come to city hall. Stop forcing the south end to bear the brunt of so many shelters. Listen to community leaders who know what's best for their communities. Send out at tax time coupons for 2 free dump runs a year and see if

that doesn't help people get garbage to the dump and not in a ditch. Would make them feel like you cared about them and a clean city—which would be rather nice, don't you think?!

- ▶ Get rid of addicts
- ▶ Get the waterfront project going, improve the downtown core and old acme a&b sound
- ▶ Getting to see a doctor is very difficult.
- ▶ Give all workshops, events that celebrate our nature equity for, love in our blue skies, clean air our gifts from our land and water, our home place. Create a sense of place, what is home.
- ▶ Guaranteed Annual income for all and mental health services and homes for homeless.
- ▶ Have a funded, well resourced center to house and treat people with chronic mental health issues. NOT THE HOSPITAL, and NOT THE JAIL
- ▶ Help the homeless get adequate housing and other necessary supports
- ▶ Help to house and support the homeless so that downtown and our neighborhoods can be safe again.
- ▶ Hire more nurse practitioners instead of doctors. Build more low income housing.
- ▶ Home renovation subsidies for low income households
- ▶ "Homeless drug addicted low income people and housing for them should not be built or placed in established neighborhoods or close to businesses. If they are addicted and leaving needles and defecating everywhere they should not be living in a nice neighborhood. I don't even go downtown or the waterfront anymore because of this. They should be locked up in a treatment center or put into housing far away. There is too much crime and many unhappy people in these neighborhoods where you have forced in homeless housing.

Social protection: You should be protecting Nanaimo's innocent people in neighborhoods from these drug addicted homeless people. Do not put these homes for drug addicted homeless people in established neighborhoods and or near businesses. Look at what is happening already in Victoria to businesses and neighborhoods. They are taking over!"

- ▶ Homelessness and addiction is a huge issue, those who can't take care of themselves for addiction or mental health reasons need to be institutionalized for their own sake and the sake of the community, it is heartbreaking to see. Those who can take care of themselves need help, a basic income and housing provided until they can manage on their own. Homelessness is unfair to everyone. Addiction is a huge problem, it increases crime and homelessness. Not sure how to deal with this. But it requires funding from all levels of government across the country. Affordable childcare is necessary for the physical and emotional wealth of families.
- ▶ Housing and services for low income and homeless people
- ▶ Housing First – deal with the suffering homeless, people with mental health issues and drug addiction crisis. We need more detox beds for all ages (youth, women, men separate). We need more street workers to get those suffering people into the care they need. We need to get support for our First Responders who are dealing with this crisis every day.
- ▶ Housing for homeless and those in danger of becoming homeless must require accountability from those helped, and from government to provide and connect those helped with core supports needed for lifelong improvement, not just a roof to shelter people suffering from addictions and mental illness.
- ▶ Housing needs to be truly affordable, it has gotten out of hand. Grocers should not be allowed to be

jacking up food prices every couple of weeks, it has gotten such that seniors and those on low income cannot afford to eat well and its taking more and more of our household budget so we can't help others in need as much.

- ▶ I am special need young adult bus Shelter on Brickyard Road to keep us dry dry from the rain waiting waiting for waiting for the bus going to work or I want to school
- ▶ I believe that if we focus on the vulnerable members of our population (children and seniors), our entire community will benefit.
- ▶ I don't think that it is good policy to create 'ghettos' of people, whether homeless or uberwealthy. We need to integrate people, so that those who are more fortunate are able to contribute to the lives of the less fortunate – as neighbours and friends. Research shows that it is the unpaid people in peoples' lives that keep them safer. So we need to provide more opportunities for people from all walks of life to interact and get to know one another.
- ▶ "I strongly believe we need to come together as a community and think bigger outside the box. Engage in community to truly understand the needs of ALL. More social enterprise programs. A food program that truly utilized healthy ingredients to make real food to those in need, rather than low nutrient packaged. A centralized commercial community kitchen could open up the possibilities to reduce waste, process real food, distribute it to the many in need and stop the piece meal and gaps in serving the community. Giving many a purpose and building sustainable community.  
I believe we should also be looking at how we offer housing to our community. There is next to no options for youth with disabilities or complex medical needs that is inclusive. A multi generational community style housing complex that is supportive and yet gives people a true feeling of choice and hope, rather than no choice and be "re-homed" is disempowering and not inclusive.  
"
- ▶ I think most people would like to engage in social equity as long as the personal price tag is not too high. I think my neighbourhood (Newcastle) was burdened with the recent emergency homeless facilities, decreasing my sense of personal safety and my ability to enjoy my neighbourhood. Who wants that? But if social support was provided in a way that didn't lead to public and private property damage, inc. garbage, unstable people hanging around ... well, I might actually like to get involved in being part of the solution as a volunteer, but right now I feel unsafe and frustrated. I feel defensive that the city inserted this into my neighbourhood without considering how the existing residents might be supported in the presence of an influx of new, unstable neighbours.
- ▶ I think the difficulty is that improving social equity is a much larger challenge than just one that can be addressed at this level. Of course we as a city and individuals can contribute to changes, but changes are needed provincially and federally for real change to occur. On an individual and community level, I think anything which helps to build relationships and connection, particularly between those with different backgrounds (culture, income, education, etc), tends to contribute to understanding and compassion.
- ▶ I think we are working on improving social equity in Nanaimo, but everyone has to do their part, even the homeless. These homeless camps don't do anybody any good. I think all they do is aggravate those people who work hard to provide for their families. It's about what you can do for your city, not necessarily what your city can do for you. It seems the city is jumping through hoops trying to please people who can't be pleased. Just because you are homeless doesn't mean you have free rein to destroy or vandalize other people's property, leave your garbage and dirty needles wherever you want. I think social equity means we have to help those who are mentally ill or addicted, even if it means they have to go to hospital or treatment. I have heard that residential farms can help some people. Do we have anything like that in our area? I don't have too many answers because the problem is so complex. I think we should be taking care of our own, but what happens when homeless people arrive from out of town?

Whose responsibility is it to accommodate them? Also, I have not seen any statistics on the success or failure of the facilities on Labieux Road and Terminal Avenue. Is this a viable alternative. Do they create social equity? I think I have more questions than answers when it comes to this subject.

- ▶ "I think we have to start from a place of agreeing that social equity probably isn't possible. Most of the time, the non-profit sector (where I work) is focused on alleviation, or educating the public about social inequity issues.

It's hard work, but we need to take on that responsibility as a city and listen to those most impacted by social inequity to understand what needs to change."

- ▶ I think we need to address the safety problems we have in Downtown Nanaimo. I feel incredibly unsafe walking around there unless I am in a group. We have increasing homelessness, little to no security guards (I would say police officers are needed, but maybe a different service worker would be better) and I often get cat-called or stared at when walking on my own. I think that as a teenage girl, this shouldn't be a problem.
- ▶ I want to see effective programs that help homeless people, specifically addressing addiction, mental health, and employment. I want our police to be compassionate and helpful to homeless people, and to receive training to help them know how to serve and protect the homeless in our community, not just the affluent.
- ▶ I would like to become involved in working with a group of professionals to address these issues. This would be a huge undertaking.
- ▶ If we are going to continue with the urban node concept in the next OCP then north Nanaimo urban nodes have to take their share of supportive housing and other services to the homeless and addicted. We cannot have urban nodes in the north just for the rich and urban nodes in the south carrying the burden of services to the poor.
- ▶ If we could educate people that homeless and addicted are not there by choice and that addictions are illness not a fun pastime.
- ▶ Improved healthcare equals improved social equity
- ▶ "Improved infrastructure to the same standard as the rest of Nanaimo & improved housing on Snuneymuxw reserve  
Improved community centre with health care clinic for marginalized populations in downtown Nanaimo"
- ▶ Improved transit, subsidized housing, green spaces playgrounds, community hubs
- ▶ Improving access to rehabilitation facilities to address drug use and removing drug users from the downtown core
- ▶ In our important reconciliation efforts, I hope that each SFN request is looked at through a lens of fairness and not just a 'whatever they want, they get' lens. True reconciliation is important, but it shouldn't just be about handouts. It's also important to recognize that Nanaimo is a multi-cultural society with many cultures co-existing here. To heavily rely on inequities from the past to shape our future is not respectful of who our society is today.
- ▶ Increase property taxes drastically on property values in excess of one million. Do not create any more single residence zones. When zoning can be changed, move to more dense options. For current single residence zoning, change it so that multi unit/storey buildings can be built. Mandate affordable housing in new buildings.
- ▶ Increase the services for people with mental illness.

- ▶ Indigenous specific services
- ▶ It seems like the city doesn't want to give anything to the north end. Barsby has so many amazing facilities it would be nice to have something similar in the north end
- ▶ "It was challenging to select five topics because all are important. As you know, social equity has many interconnecting parts. We should look at the whole and how all the parts connect.

This involves creating safe spaces and making a concerted effort to reach people who are the most impacted by particular issues, inviting them to participate as idea contributors. People experiencing homelessness, seniors with mobility barriers, immigrants with language barriers, First Nations communities, and others have ideas on what they need. However, sometimes they are not invited to participate in matters related to their well-being, and others are unable to participate due to barriers created by the digital divide. COVID-19 presents a particular challenge in ensuring the voices of these populations are heard as more and more community engagement is done online. "

- ▶ It's a take or leave in city. Staff has their ideas and rules. Instead of "These are the rules & regulations with no options", an approach of "What's your idea - how can we help you?".
- ▶ Jobs, healthcare, education.
- ▶ "Keep streets clean and make sure weeds growing by curbs are cut regularly.  
"
- ▶ "Keep taxes minimal.. Remember that property tax is the major tax paid by those on low incomes.. Ensure that while all city system needs: water, sewer, roads, fire and police services as well as basic recreational needs are met, remember that major accessory needs such as a Hotel, some parks, and other optional facilities were met by public subscription by those who could afford it. What percent of our current tax income is used to cover all costs associated with such facilities as the Port Theatre and the Convention Centre and how much is thus passed on in tax to those on low incomes??  
"
- ▶ less cars and therefore more interfacing with community
- ▶ Less money towards bloated positions and raises for city employees/council and elimination of nonsensical projects that do nothing to help or contribute to the city. Invest in projects that actually improve the lives of lower and middle class citizens, as well as ALL minority groups (instead of focusing exclusively on Indigenous groups). Reduce city taxes and fees.
- ▶ Less NIMBYism, more thinking about how our stories are all connected -- and more listening. Navigation centres and situation tables are a great start -- let's come together and do this.
- ▶ Lighting. More transit options.
- ▶ Limit real estate speculation and developers' dominance in designing new neighborhoods.
- ▶ living wages
- ▶ Local services for emergency mental health and addictions including beds for people who need crisis support in these areas urgently. Detox and in-patient addictions treatment -- street level supports for resourcing people who are homeless, poor, struggling with addictions and severe mental health.
- ▶ Lots of housing and support services all over the city. Deliver more services to the clients vs. opening a location clients must visit.
- ▶ Low income families are more than supported. It's getting hard for middle classes families to afford the high taxes and don't benefit from any of the programs

- ▶ Lower taxes
- ▶ "Make land available for supportive housing and a mental health institution. Increase supports to non profits working on poverty supports.  
"
- ▶ make nanaimo one community not North and South we are 1 city not 2
- ▶ Make sure all children have adequate nutrition thru school lunch programs etc, so they can get a decent education. Increase cultural events that celebrate and explain immigrant and indigenous culture, music, and history
- ▶ Make the officials that are voting for these waste of time programs legally and personally responsible for the actions/voting they make and take. With responsibility comes consequences. Implement them. As for persons that need help, vet them first, then, they also must take responsibility and accept the consequences if they violate the rules of the supportive housing. Put supports in place, have them adhered to or face the consequences. Stop moving all the criminal drug element all over the city to get it away from your own back yard. The whole city of Nanaimo is contaminated by it now.
- ▶ "Making sure there is enough homes for all who need support, but also making sure that hard working people and taxpayers home owners and renters who live in this city are not put in position of having to deal with people who break the laws and won't follow the rules of society aren't placed in the middle of communities. There are areas where supportive housing can be built that doesn't have to adverse effects on communities.  
  
"
- ▶ Many of the issues in this survey and the others are beyond the ability of one municipality. Too many variables, history and outside forces. Needs multi faceted approach. Other levels of government. Massive economic rethink.
- ▶ Many on the street have complex mental health issues - if those can be addressed and managed long term - there would like be an improvement in crime/drug use etc.. not an easy task but needed.
- ▶ Mayor and council would best serve us if they truly educated themselves and put themselves in the shoes of others who are not as white and predominantly male. There are many in this community who are less privileged and living with challenges most of our council do not seem to face on a daily basis. If our community is unable to vote in a more representative council, the council must still consider and take seriously the needs of all.
- ▶ Mayor Krog and his successors may have to step outside the narrowly defined "mandate" the current administration follows to better address out most pressing issues.
- ▶ Mental health & addiction services need to be more accessible. Housing should be available for all. No one should want for basic needs like food, clothing, shelter
- ▶ Mental health and addictions services. Support groups. Mental health programs for youth. Affordable/ free programs (mental health, life skills, extra curricular) for youth.
- ▶ Mixed income development.
- ▶ Mixed income level housing
- ▶ Mixed use housing, public owned rental housing with rent caps
- ▶ more access to alcohol and addiction help for the most vulnerable

- ▶ More affordable housing, increased mental health and addictions services.
- ▶ More education surrounding addiction and harm reduction, reducing stigma towards people suffering from drug/alcohol addiction and recognizing that the health of our community depends on the health of all, recognizing issues of systemic racism that can impact socio-economic situations and improving services for families with barriers to health care and quality education, subsidized education for people who are pursuing social work/counselling/addictions counselling, more social programs for people transitioning back into the work force from homelessness, more multigenerational living and education opportunities, increasing distribution of local/healthful food to schools, hospitals and low income families, incentive for young local growers, agricultural programs at local high schools and universities
- ▶ More events that bring a wide variety of people together; more subsidies for recreation and the arts, especially for low income and families

- ▶ “More eyes on the street. So many people live very shuttered lives, couped up in their homes, when we are truly social beings who rely on one another for our health and wellbeing. We need more public spaces that gather people to see and be seen. Europeans have Plazas/Piazzas/town squares that enable the intersectionality of the community to cross paths, to acknowledge others, and meet. The privatized Mall is not that space. We need beautiful public spaces (not just open expansive parks) that can hold high numbers of people to be together. The European technology of plazas are such a place. I am not talking about all the plaza’s we have in town that are parking lots with strip malls around. People need space to themselves without the interference of cars to meets, a closed and intimate space of a square surrounded by buildings, and filled with restaurants, coffee shops, bars, where children can gather together under the omniscient watchful eye of parents who are sipping their coffee or nursing a beer on the periphery. Ramblas are another form of social equity building, A long streetscape where people can meander up and down. We kind of had that happening with the downtown market where everyone and their dog started to go to. That is a rambla. A people only walkway with commercial on the sides of the street, but the street is dominated exclusively by people and not cars. Even pop up Ramblas like this are invaluable.

An indigenous Educator told me recently that Reconciliation happens on the land. What does that mean? I wonder. I think it means that we need to meet one another in purposeful ways on the land. Perhaps to plant a food forest, to grow a garden, to build a house, or gathering space. Maybe it is to restore an ecosystem, to listen to stories. It is a matter of intersecting with diverse populations. I think our streetscapes are places to focus on and transform so that we can meet with Settlers, Newcomers and original peoples of the land. I planted out a row of raspberries on the boulevard in front of my house. When people walk by I invite them to pick some (I also have a sign) I go out there and talk to them about the special yellow raspberries. A lot of Indigenous community members walk by, and I go out and engage them through conversations about the raspberries. It is a small act that I can do, yet it has yielded many positive feelings for all. My plan is to increase publicly accessible food production in my neighborhood so that more people can fill their bellies as they pass on through. Those walking are privileged because they are moving at the speed of relationality, where as car commuters whizz by any opportunity for connection.”

- ▶ More funds to create supports for the homeless
- ▶ More investment in social programs and social housing.
- ▶ More mental health workers boots on the streets.
- ▶ more money into services that will help those who need it
- ▶ More Nanaimo Foodshare programs for kids and teens to give them some character building, to teach them about healthy living, and to improve their food security. Free school lunches for kids, so we know

they are getting at least one healthy meal per day. More and better job opportunities to lift people up. Street trees and cleaning the parks.

- ▶ more pressure needs to be put on upper levels of government to get more funding. Somehow people need to be educated to realize that “those who have” need to be willing to share a larger portion in taxes. We need to be willing to work toward a living wage for all people.
- ▶ More profit sharing between employers and employees
- ▶ More safe, clean subsidized housing for families, seniors and homeless.
- ▶ more social housing for the homeless
- ▶ More social programs and affordable housing that addresses root causes of problems.
- ▶ More support for food and housing for the homeless.
- ▶ More visible minorities in signage and advertising so that people feel that they can be included in our community. Programs that specifically encourage curiosity about and connections with people of different backgrounds. Childcare and after school care for working moms. Thank goodness we did away with that Empire Day thing! I was mortified when I moved here and heard the name for that celebration.
- ▶ Move forward with more urgency
- ▶ Multicultural celebrations and opportunities to share and learn
- ▶ Nanaimo Aboriginal Centre has led the way in filling gaps through community partnerships. Need more of that style of engagement, at every level of gov’t
- ▶ Need facilities for people with Mental Health issues.
- ▶ Need to get the province on board to help as this should not be a Nanaimo only issue to resolve. Mental health supports need to be ramped up provincially so people can be helped before they get to this state.
- ▶ No
- ▶ No
- ▶ “No because I am a straight white person who is housed. You should ask the people suffering what they would like to see.

My suggestion is to reach out to the victimized/marginalized communities and ask them how to improve. I just see it’s a problem. “

- ▶ Not allowing Hells Angels to operate
- ▶ Not at this time
- ▶ Our biggest problem, by far, is the number of Nanaimoites living without shelter. It’s disgraceful. I believe the problem started decades ago, when mental health facilities were closed down, leaving little support for these vulnerable people. If they are expected to integrate into society, they must have access to mental health and addiction organizations that can provide residential care.
- ▶ Our downtown office on Wentworth is like a war zone!
- ▶ Particular attention to ensuring accessibility for Nanaimo’s amenities/developments.
- ▶ Partnerships with building developers and not-for-profits for low income housing.
- ▶ Pay and engage people of diverse backgrounds to consult on planning of programs and infrastructure.

- ▶ “Please stop enabling the homeless people by providing housing etc  
A lot have wrecked everything provided and it is very disheartening “
- ▶ prioritizing local food security, requiring diversity, inclusion and reconciliation plan or statement for all new business permits, building plans etc; incentives to businesses (especially large chains and non-sustainable businesses) to give back more to communities and to participate in programs such as Safe Harbour – Respect for all.
- ▶ Provide a sense of belonging, a location for emergency food assembly and support sustainable food production by using the Centennial Building as Nanaimo’s Food Centre and full time farmers market supporting local agriculture and food distribution.
- ▶ provide more to do, more jobs. improve the downtown area for seniors so that they feel safe. WHERE IS THE WALK ON FERRY THAT WE WERE SUPPOSED TO GET YEARS AGO. Provide access to the lower mainland so younger people have better access to better jobs...GET with it Nanaimo!!!
- ▶ Provide more treatment/health services/law and order to those on the streets.
- ▶ Provide security for businesses in the downtown area. Things are bad enough for city hall to have security, the city has not found a way to deal with the Wesley Street situation, and that impacts businesses in the area.
- ▶ Providing far more dedicated and safe pedestrian and cycling infrastructure
- ▶ Providing free or very low-cost drug and mental health care treatment for people in need. Also, increasing the services offered and available for drug and mental health care. Work to address the underlying issues of homelessness rather than slapping on a band-aid solution. Keep creating initiatives such as the showers in Maffeo Sutton for homeless people. Focus on creating an inclusive and safe community for all people.
- ▶ Provincial / federal agreement for everyone to provide the same services (so people don’t flock to the few places that do). Provide safe housing with access to health care, social workers, clean / safe drugs, etc. Decriminalize all drug use. Have everyone volunteer and take part in making our society better for everyone.
- ▶ Public rehab centres by the province. And dry public housing. The temporary housing facilities should have stricter rules like curfews and security should not allow drugs or stolen goods to be brought into the facility. We need to protect the communities around these facilities too!
- ▶ Publishing bulletins, public information and, right now, COVID information in various languages to reflect the composition of our community.
- ▶ “Putting addicts in housing together encourages them to mentor each other. This is not wise. What positive role model programs are in place to help change daily interactions? What is the faith community doing other than Brechin and Unitarians? Are community members being asked to help with the dire situation?  
I would love to help tutor adults trying to get back into the work place/school/learning to read or be a community counsellor but you somehow have to be an expert to volunteer or training classes are only held during standard working hours. Look for barriers that impede community members from helping and tear them down.”
- ▶ Re: homelessness.....one person at a time.....determine why they are homeless and offer intense solutions.....eg alcoholism or drug addiction - offer secure housing with mandatory treatment.....eg mental illness - provide counselling, medication, and secure housing
- ▶ Recreation - use of facilities by Nanaimo residents, move from user pays to tax collection would benefit

low income families and perhaps improve quality of life residents

- ▶ reducing incentives for the homeless to reside here by decentralizing services and supports. As city council rightly points out, solving the often co-morbid states of homelessness, mental illness and substance addiction is not the responsibility of the municipal level of government. That is a responsibility, it seems to me that more senior levels of government are failing at meeting. In absence that leadership, municipal government can do only so much. One thing they can do is ensure that the burdens placed on the community by these populations is more equally shared. By way of example, there is a disused elementary school on Hammond Bay Rd. that would make an excellent spot for providing shelter and services to the homeless and is already built. Yet we hear that downtown and the south end will be getting more centralized units to house the homeless, thus further concentrating the associated crime and disorder in these areas and increasing the inequality experienced between residents of the north part of the city and those who are trying to live less car dependent lifestyles in the southern half of Nanaimo.
- ▶ Refine “affordable housing”. Those “low” rents are not affordable.
- ▶ Rethink dealing with addicts and mentally unstable
- ▶ See #2
- ▶ See above
- ▶ “See above regarding public transit and safe bike lanes. It was pretty sad when a classmate was killed by a car while trying to cross the highway by Country Club Mall. Make Nanaimo less car-centric. I hate that I have to drive.

Something creative, functional and progressive that works well to address homelessness, revitalise downtown.

Also parkland is a great thing that can be enjoyed by everyone for free or often cheap. Really, everyone that lives here loves the access to nature one way or another (mountain biking out by Doumont, hiking, kayaking around Newcastle etc. Make that a priority. “

- ▶ See above. Homelessness is a mental problem in our society, that needs to be addressed without giving housing away.
- ▶ “Social / housing / medical services spread out over the city. Neighbourhoods need to be diverse: young families, students, retired, working,.. We cannot build a real community if our children need to get into a car to visit our elders. We need to be able to live close to work, or work close to home. Drop the out-dated segregation of shopping malls, (small) industrial parks, residential areas and social/cultural activity centres.  
Our youth should be able to bike / walk to their after school activities, not be shuttled around town by mom and dad.  
Those in our community that need help to find their way back into society will benefit from living among people of all walks. When homeless, addicted, poor, mentally ill,.. people are only surrounded by other homeless, addicted, poor or mentally ill people, they will never be able to improve their lives. (Remember: People take on the traits of the 5 people around them that they interact with most)”
- ▶ Social equity can only be improved by providing every citizen with an income which will allow integration into society. This integration will have to as well guide people back into a normal lifestyle with instruction in basic life skills such as how to choose an appropriate diet, dental hygiene, cleanliness, punctuality and even literacy. It will be an enormous project.

- ▶ social equity is not a realistic goal
- ▶ Social housing will improve social equity since it's clear market housing will NEVER do that. We need to grow our own food -- not just commercial farms and private gardens, but food forests. See this link: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/what-on-earth-food-forests-1.5660211> or google Why cities are planting more 'food forests' at the CBC.
- ▶ Something real needs to be started to address the rampant drug use throughout the city especially in the DTC. People should not be allowed to openly use hard drugs in the middle of the afternoon in front of businesses with O repercussions. I understand it is a complex and expensive issue but it's getting to the point where no one feels safe downtown even in the middle of the day. The city needs to start being proactive to this and stop being reactive. Hire an army of social workers who patrol the DTC and other areas of concern to safely address the issues and get people the help they need before things get out of control and the cops or ambulance have to be called. I'm really tired of seeing people overdosing on the side of the street when I go out for breaks or having people openly smoking crack in front of my work screaming at people waiting for the bus.
- ▶ Spread affordable housing and social service sites throughout the city, including the North End So that it's more integrated. The downtown district is becoming a smaller version of the DTES in Vancouver because of the concentration of services there. It should be spread throughout the neighbourhoods, to lessen the concentration, perhaps make it more visible to communities that don't think of it as an issue when completing surveys like this one, and to keep the homeless and drug users away from one another. We know they do better when integrated with a healthy population.
- ▶ Spread the low-income and temporary housing throughout Nanaimo, instead of lumping it in central and south Nanaimo.
- ▶ Spread the social support network and NEVER allow another Wesley Street type housing project again - too many, needs smaller and more dispersed housing complexes
- ▶ Start putting the homeless that are committing crimes into jail and/or send them back to the community they are from.
- ▶ Stop enabling drug addiction by providing housing and resources to these people. The tax payers are being victimize and stuck funding failed public policy.
- ▶ Stop providing wet houses (housing where active drug use is permitted) as they are proven to fail, increase crime and jeopardize our safety and security. Council should be actively requesting from the Feds and Province for funding housing that addresses the needs for the mentally ill and do not allow active drug use. Presently we are offering bandage solutions and not addressing the true need.
- ▶ Stop treating all homeless as if they have the same issues. Get the dealers, mentally troubled and incorrigible addicts funnelled into other services and locations to deal with their issues so the actual unfortunate can be safer.
- ▶ Strategic investments in housing for those residents who can't afford decent housing, for example, co-housing. Restoring the natural environment in our urban settings (and placing boundaries on run-away growth) will improve the quality of life for all residents, but especially those with lower incomes. "
- ▶ study other worldwide communities where social inequities have been reduced successfully and emulate their programs
- ▶ Support children. Make them the biggest commodity in our society. Protect, shelter, feed, support and encourage them through our schools. Put nurses back in schools! Link them with Social Workers that can combat early risks and support children to choose a path of 'clean living' from of harmful substances,

teach boundaries and make goals that students can reach....with society being their biggest cheerleader.

- ▶ support Indigenous people enough that they don't perpetuate stereotypes by panhandling drunk in public spaces
- ▶ Support opportunities for activities that would increase diverse community interaction: theatres, galleries, concerts, markets, museums, etc.
- ▶ Support programs that help people grow their own food; especially those who struggle with food or nutritional security.
- ▶ Take care of the homeless issue, and affordable housing. What we are seeing as the new Affordable Housing is NOT affordable. We need affordable options for those just starting, for those essential workers. Affordable is a third of your income per month, and most are minimum wage or near it. Reevaluate what affordable actually IS for the common worker.
- ▶ The City needs an immediate action plan on homelessness and poverty. The city needs to communicate effectively on the plan's progress with weekly reports given by a spokesperson on their website.
- ▶ The City should develop a plan to integrate the Recommendation of the truth and Reconciliation Report into all of its planning documents.
- ▶ "The council needs to get involved in interacting with the criminal element who are threatening people, there are good people going out cleaning up homeless sites and picking up discarded needles but its not being led by the people who are paid to look out for those of us who pay taxes and therefore their salaries.  
Instead your too busy fining places like Reds Bakery for loading up their food trucks, This business is garnering National accolades for all the kind and caring things that they do and instead of supporting and recognizing them you are hindering their efforts.  
Shame on you "
- ▶ "The homeless situation. Working downtown I see people so far gone they don't even realize they aren't wearing any shoes. I've seen people defecating and/or urinating in business doorways. I see people screaming at their surroundings. The situation is not just in Nanaimo but it would be great to see Nanaimo lead a solution. People with mental issues can be a danger to residents. They need help and monitoring - and a provincial or federal run and regularly inspected facility that takes them off the streets and provides them with help and shelter.  
A community type/commune like facility located on the outskirts of town away from residential areas for drug-addicted homeless, with a facility that provides assistance, with health care, shelter, a place where those who want to clean up have opportunities to do so and a center for learning where people with no education and no hope can learn a trade. A sustainable vegetable growing and fruit farm so those who want to can assist with growing food that they and their community can eat. A program that teaches people how to cook the food they grow. There will always be those that won't want to be part of this but I suspect there are a number that do. One young lady downtown who always used to panhandle on the streets and was continuously in abuse relationships and has an alcohol addition ended up homeless. All the shelters were full and the one that apparently was open for drunk people and only let those who were drunk spend the night. She was so frustrated as at the point she was trying hard to be sober. There is a lot of that out there and while not all can be helped - those who can be should have that opportunity to regain self-respect and hope. "
- ▶ The price of renting and owning a home is rising faster than incomes. Effort should be made to limit any rules or fees that make providing them more expensive.
- ▶ The southend of Nanaimo socioeconomically is the poorest part of town. It also looks that way I have

lived here for almost 20 years and I have not witnessed any city initiatives to improve the quality of life or to improve the the overall aesthetics of the area. There have been lots of initiatives by small non-profit groups like My CDC and SECA that have improved areas with garbage clean-ups and planting trees etc. However the city seems to overlook this area completely and we don't even have sidewalks everywhere. We really need garbage cans that the city maintains or even regular garbage clean-up would be nice. Or how about and welcoming sign as you approach Nanaimo to welcome visitors!!! anything that shows that we have some pride in our city and its residents, how bout a sign that says welcome to the SNENEYMUXW NATION! anything that says we celebrate our indigenous people!!!

- ▶ "There is a rich part of town (north) and a less wealthy part of town (midtown and south). These are too separated from each other. It seems all large single family developments in the north end, and all density is in the south end. Lets have more of a mix.
- "
- ▶ There is an undercurrent of fear and frustration all over Nanaimo regarding the growing number of street tents in many, many places. As well as spillover problems with the temporary shelters. As a professional in the social equity business, I have been very concerned with the inability to assess the people in those various groups when providing housing. There are the majority who wish to take and use the services offered to them and have the capacity to work with those services. And then there is a small but loud, very aggressive group whose mh and addictions are in extreme conflict. Those people should not be put with those who are able to work on their issues. They are very ill but dangerous to themselves and other homeless people as well as any regular person passing by. I think it is very abusive of our society not to provide them with basic services – it could be a very basic concrete building with stainless sink/toilet/cot. Sounds rather cold but it is 100% better than what is happening now. Also I would urge Mayor and Council to start a campaign to force Island Health to develop a plan for them as they are their clients. Until this issue is addressed, every single initiative is sabotaged by the violence/crime/general disorder generated. I would call this the elephant in the city no one wants to talk about.
- ▶ There is systemic racism that prevails in the community. Education, improvement in job opportunities and awareness may help to reduce racism, especially in the trade and agriculture sectors. Nanaimo is behind in educating its population, therefore people don't feel welcome and there is low engagement.
- ▶ There needs to be a facility where people are sent who Are a danger to themselves and others . Open drug use in my area and the crazy behaviour it sparks needs community action not acceptance. Facilities with detox , long term housing and mental health support away from the drug scene are needed. So people can see their lives can be good!
- ▶ there would be more empathy for homeless if there was less degenerative behaviours that disregard what civil society represents and less handovers without expectation of future "citizenship" that includes tax paying and self reliance; and a zero tolerance on crime
- ▶ These problems are complex. How can we reduce the costs of housing and food when they are rising everywhere? I'm not sure, but there has to be something. It has to cap out at some point. Right now, the cap for housing is infinite, while minimum wage rarely rises (and isn't enough in the first place to generate a livable income). I make far more than minimum wage and can't afford the housing situation that meets my needs, and I am a generally frugal person in other areas of my life. Student loan payments don't help that, but what can Nanaimo do about those?
- ▶ Time to start taking cans and bottles back in stores. There is no evidence that it increases threat of Covid-19. Also bring back reusable plates and cups in restaurants.
- ▶ To improve housing stock: License and tax Air BnB-style accommodation. Impose a speculation tax on

short-term (less than 5-year) resale of homes.

- ▶ Tougher justice system that does not release thieves and violent people until they have been to court and sentenced to jail. A jail system that treats, educates and reforms before release. Judges that see the true cost of the crime to the victims, the loss of confidence and PTSD, and order treatment and counselling for victims too.
- ▶ "Triple the number of police  
-somehow teach literacy in schools by getting literate teachers to teach kids (?) "
- ▶ universal basic income
- ▶ Use city resources to provide services not harassment. Homelessness is a social justice and equity problem not a policing problem.
- ▶ Use non-profit zoning and a density-credit bank to change the real-estate market so that it is more affordable and to create a city that serves its people.
- ▶ We need a comprehensive strategy to deal with sex trafficking, drug addiction, and other illegal activities that perpetuate poverty.
- ▶ We need a mental health and addiction hospital or lock up facility. Access to mental health is pitiful. Why do we give lump sum social assistance money in lump sums once a month? The street people call it Mardi Gras and use drug after drug.
- ▶ We need to build housing to give homeless people somewhere to live. Individual neighborhoods refuse, but it has to be done to help these people out.
- ▶ "We need to recognize and support First Nations. This city is on their land. It was never ceded. We have the audacity to name rivers after the hunt and summary execution of FN men. We have plaques that talk about land theft and colonization as "events" that happened and the village just moved. We need to use and normalize traditional place names. Make an effort to have Hul'q'umin'um taught in schools, and used on signs around town. The city should be proactive and be paying rent to the First Nations. We need active anti racism.  
"
- ▶ We need to tackle noise pollution e.g.: Motorbikes with high engine noise & inappropriate revving of engines and roaring of engines during the night around quiet streets. Leaf blowers being used for hours at a time etc.
- ▶ Well, clearly what's being done on homelessness isn't working - time to start again and re-think the problem and solution. And welcoming immigrants needs a new approach too. My sense is that Nanaimo congratulates itself because "you can find it online." Well, not everyone has access to a computer and even if they do, it isn't very clear where to go to find information. That's compounded with language barriers. Flyers need to be posted in areas frequented by everyone - grocery stores, banks, malls. I will share my story: I immigrated from the US to be with my Canadian husband. There was no one to help me understand banking, Pensions things like that. When I found one service I was told: "you're American, you don't count - this service is for people who need it." I arrived a decade ago and almost everywhere I went: "I hate Americans." I can't imagine what someone from Syria or Honduras feels like. No, Nanaimo isn't welcoming and clearly doesn't make people feel safe.
- ▶ When land is developed into a community the city MUST work with the developer to ensure social structures are in place. 1) School within walking distance 2) sidewalks + parks 3) community centres
- ▶ Where appropriate affordable housing and services should be spread out across our community not just consolidated in the south end. This contributes to a have vs have not scenario between the south side

and the north end.

- ▶ Work with first nation's to build a first nation's cultural center for tourism and cultural preservation. Urge senior levels of government to stop encouraging the use of housing as an investment.
- ▶ Would be great to see options for tiny homes and laneway homes to open options for purchasing smaller housing for single or low/mid income folks.
- ▶ Yes
- ▶ Yes mentally ill people need care in hospitals not roaming our streets they need equal medical care warm beds food and supervision
- ▶ You can never satisfy all the special interests.
- ▶ You could require all restaurants and bars to pay a living wage to employees and eliminate tipping. This would be a benefit to employees and businesses would benefit because of increased tourism.
- ▶ You might want to link housing issues with proximity to services; for example, people with chronic illnesses might need supportive housing near a medical centre. People who are homeless for economic reasons might need affordable housing near economic centres that increase their chances of participating in the local economy.
- ▶ Zero tolerance for social disorder

## HOW WE MOVE

### Q5. Do you have ideas that would improve Nanaimo's Active Transportation Network?

- ▶ Get rid of the thieves. I would not lock my bike anywhere in full view because the thieves will steal it. Until they are dealt with there is no reason to expand the lock up areas.
- ▶ Colour code the E&N and Parkway trail in a way that makes it obvious they are contiguous routes and different routes when spotted by passing drivers. Coloured archways and crossings where they intersect with roads maybe? Hopefully it would tempt more people out of their cars once they realise where they can get to/from without dealing with too much traffic.
  - Signage at all the alleyways and routes on and off the E&N and Parkway making it clear that they're the active transportation equivalent of highways with destinations and distances. Also some of the existing signage is difficult to spot. It took me a while to realise that the E&N joins to the Parkway trail via Dunster, for example.
  - Issue permits for coffee and snack stands to set up along bike and walking routes.
  - Fix the join from the end of the E&N to Maffeo Sutton Park somehow.
  - Consider the "dark alleyway effect" when planning infrastructure. (I love the Parkway trail and choose it over the E&N to ride to work because it's more secluded but if I was a woman, I may feel safer on the E&N.)
  - More corner stores and mixed use zoning.
- ▶ -Incentives to support active transportation modalities such as e-bikes
  - require all new residential and commercial developments to support active transportation (EV charging station, bike lock up, walking routes, transit access, etc.)
  - explore ways to increase EV charging in existing stratas
  - embed LEDs in bike paths that are charged by sun during day and provide light at night
  - encourage car and bike sharing services (possibly create a local app to support these)
  - ask RDN to explore making public transit free to increase use
  - go electric when replacing or purchasing new transit/school buses, and other city fleet vehicles
  - in partnership with other Vancouver Island communities, explore the viability of an island rail service connecting the north and south island"
- ▶ "- increase width of sidewalks (parents with strollers)
  - improve safety of walking and cycling by redesigning roads for multimodal use
  - improve the bus system!!! Has barely changed since I was a kid. We are a linear city, use that to our advantage. Deploy smaller buses. Look at light rail.
  - provides public covered areas for locking up bikes
  - all roads except major highways should face separated bike lanes.
  - provide safe travel routes for children in the radius of schools"
- ▶ - sidewalks everywhere - at minimum on 1 side of the street
  - address the speed issue on all the side streets that have changed in the last 10 years due to new neighbourhoods ie: 6th, 10th etc.
- ▶ #1. Take a senior with low vision and arthritis down to a lighted crosswalk and walk across with them. I can't even make half way across before the light changes and the engines start to rev.
- ▶ Ride to work" days in Vancouver offer rider-pride, sponsorship opportunities and cycling organizations to

be involved.

- ▶ 0) Passenger ropeways linking urban nodes.
  - 1) Default speed limit 30Km/h with collector roads and highways above that only where safe (for road users and wildlife who are NOT IN THE VEHICLE)
  - 2) Form based zone for urban node and corridor requiring street oriented stacked mixed use with 3 storey minimum, and no lot coverage permitted for parking (require under building, multistory garage etc)
  - 3) permit no new R1 zones.
  - 4) each new residential unit to require 2 secure bicycle storage per bedroom, with charge facility
  - 5) Parks and Rec to host education program for new cycle commuters
  - 6) Where infrastructure refurbishment is planned, implement woonerf on residential, protected intersections, separated & protected modes on collector streets.
  - 7) Where parallel parking and bike lane exist on same street, implement as island parking – the extra space afforded by the bike lane adjacent to the driving lane offers no protection to cyclists and encourages speeding.
  - 8) when businesses are refurbishing parking lots, requires space dedicated to bicycle parking facilities.
  - 9) when single or small number of parcels redeveloped – require contribution to an active transport improvement fund, to upgrade entire blocks in a priority determined by proximity to elementary school, low income areas, pop density, etc – upgrading sidewalks in front of single houses leads to a discontinuous network and may or may not place sidewalks where they are needed.
  - 10) Moratorium on expansion of lot coverage of motor vehicle sale, repair, or fueling facilities.
  - 11) No new zoning variances for automobile sales.
  - 12) Strongly encourage drivers to drive with courtesy to the neighbourhood they are in – with respect to both safety and noise.
- ▶ 1 – Don't spend money on bus shelters until you have improved punctuality. I have had the pleasure of travelling through many foreign countries, and I wish for Nanaimo to reach the punctuality seen in some East Asian countries. If your bus is on time, all the time, then there is no need for a shelter.
  - 2 – that being said, where big routes connect, use the location to transform idle time into social or cultural time. On big hubs there could be a coffee stand with benches. Those are the right locations for shelter. The local economy will improve, too, if people have an opportunity to spend a dollar on a snack while waiting.
  - 3 – Safe ways to store your bicycle, out of the rain. Malls can have their security staff help, business centres can provide dedicated bike cages in garages.
- ▶ 1. More Bicycle paths and complete marked routes (some existing ones come to an end)
- ▶ 1. Create nature transportation Corridors for nature enthusiasts like mountain bikers to access Nanaimo's Hinterland Bike trails without having to drive their cars with bikes on it.
  2. add trees to E&N corridor. Tall trees where possible, and small drought-tolerant SEPTED shrubberies/ trees to soften the feel of commuting next to the highway.
  3. Focus on School areas in investing active transportation infrastructure around them so that we are training our upcoming generations from the get go that biking and walking is the future of locomotion.
  4. Reintegrating other land use zones within single purpose suburban neighborhoods. add multistory apartments with commercial on the bottom and underground parking. Then Suburbanites will be able to get what they need closer by.
  5. Continue to narrow roads and adding shoulder cycling lanes.
  6. The 7 mobility hubs are great, but this is still a big distance for many people to access on a bike or by walking without taking the bus or driving. I think we should focus on other small hubs that are like little culturally engaged social centres, that people can walk to feel connected with humanity. I think we need neighborhood scale social gathering spots, both indoors like in coffee shops and also sheltered outdoor

spaces.

7. More traffic calming measures. empowering Safe Street audits in our neighborhoods.

8. Supporting more telecommuting.

9. Expropriating lands from private landowners along nature corridors which had not been previously protected. Using natural corridors like along streams to be used for pathways for people to utilize for recreation and for commuting. An example would be to create a trans Catstream trail from 7th street all the way winding through Harewood/University District up to the headwaters at VIU. There are some stretches that are accessible to the public but there are many private landowners where the creek passes through. These lands I think should be bought back for the public good so we can create transportation connectivity through our city off the street scape. This nature paths would also stimulate more interest in caring for the streams because more people would have access to them.

10. Build some gondolas within the city for those really steep hills that are major disincentives for non hard-core commuters to use. They have them in Sweeden apparently.

11. Have the city be more proactive about the landscaping that happens alongside the trails. Having a cottonwood tree next to the path is 100% guarantee that the asphalt will get broken up and disheveled due to root growth, causing increased maintenance costs.

12. Mandatory elementary school bike teaching classes in all schools.

- ▶ 1. Safe and convenient bike land connectivity between the Parkway trail and the E&N trail (bike lane connection from Northfield road exit to the E&N trail, for example) keeping in mind that cycling is hard work and forcing cyclists to make large detours to stay on bike lanes won't work. It's the cars that should be forced to make the large detours to accommodate the cyclists. 2. Bike lanes that lead to somewhere and connect to other bike lanes rather than just ending in random places. An Example of a bike lane from nowhere to nowhere is the short bike lane recently painted on Rock City Rd. We bike along Rock City Rd. regularly and don't understand what the point of that lane is. Furthermore, it's only on one side of the street. Are cyclists going in the other direction expected to cross to the lane and bike against oncoming traffic? Continuity and consistency are key otherwise cyclists will just do what is most convenient, often putting themselves in danger. Another example is the new bike lane at the north end of Bowen Rd. which starts at the highway and ends at Labieux Rd. I like that it is a dedicated bike lane but what use is it for such a short distance? I have spent a lot of time cycling in The Netherlands where every street has a dedicated bike lane running alongside it. Everyone can get from their front door to anywhere else in their city solely on bike lanes. People choose to bike there because it is more convenient and often faster than driving. 3. More bike and pedestrian overpasses from the E&N trail to the other side of the island highway. A prime location would be from the E&N trail to Rock City Rd. where currently many pedestrians and cyclists cross the highway illegally – someone will get hit there one of these days. This is an example of cyclists choosing the shorter more direct route (rather than crossing at the Bowen/Island Highway intersection) despite the danger. 4. Transit routes that take people to where they live, not just between shopping hubs. If people have less than a 5 minute walk to a bus stop they will be far more likely to use transit – having to walk longer than 5 minutes to get home with groceries is going to discourage most people. For example, a bus route that came down Rock City Rd. and through the Sherwood Forest neighborhood would make it far more likely that we would use the bus. There are many residential "chunks" of the city that are not served by bus routes. 5. More frequent busses at busy times. Examples are the bus stops across from NDSS on Wakesiah or on Departure Bay Road near Wellington High School which are packed with kids at the end of the school day. Crowding at the bus stops is undermining the attempts the schools are making to keep kids within their cohort and limit the spread of COVID-19. Regardless, kids should not have to be pushing and shoving to get on the bus. 6. Safer intersections that prioritize pedestrians and cyclists. The intersection of Rock City Rd. and Departure Bay Rd. is a nightmare for cyclists, pedestrians and drivers, especially during school start and dismissal times. Kids are crossing in all directions (not just at the crosswalk) while drivers are trying to cross or turn onto Departure Bay Rd. from Rock City Rd. The intersection of Uplands and Departure Bay Rd. is another dangerous spot with

limited visibility which has become even more congested since the closing of Opal Rd. at Rock City Rd. Opal Rd. and this intersection have never been dangerous or congested – why is so much money and effort being spent on closing off this road when the real issue is traffic flow along Uplands and Departure Bay Rds? It's a miracle there hasn't been a serious accident involving a child at these two intersections flanked by two schools. Planned new high density housing along Rock City Rd. will only increase the traffic at these intersections highlighting the urgent need for better transit planning in this area.

- ▶ A good well defined, easily accessible Lantzville to Chase river bike/walking corridor. There's parts of one in place now, but it's hard to follow and requires a lot of mount/dismount in areas. It kinda meanders around city streets in areas as well. I'm a Portland OR native and they have a superb bike corridors and bike to work policy in place.
- ▶ A high-quality active transportation network, i.e. bicycle network, does not yet exist. Given the climate emergency and the urgent need to wean ourselves off private motorized vehicles, not to mention that this mode of transport has been historically underfunded, the City need to immediately make strategic investments to build a comprehensive high quality network. In addition to complete street projects, completion of the E & N multiuser trail is also an essential components of an AT network.
- ▶ A mix of commercial/residential/recreational buildings that would contribute to the walkability and safety of the community.
- ▶ A plan ... with incremental implementations. Also, there must be some limit e-bikes (and probably other micro motorized options) on walking paths, not cool! The paths are never wide enough to accommodate this diversity. Re walking some simple things like cutting back grass and shrubby vegetation would really help a sense of being away from traffic. Sometimes the vegetation is taking up nearly half of a sidewalk width.
- ▶ A trolley service using the train tracks
- ▶ A walkway from North Nanaimo all the way south with half the walk way designated for walking and the others for cyclists. Please utilize the waterfront as it's a beautiful and motivational way to commute daily from work to home or the grocery store or whatever the need may be.
- ▶ A waterfront bike/pedestrian lane on Hammond Bay Rd
- ▶ a) There must be a greater emphasis placed on providing secure places to lock bicycles/ebikes at places like grocery stores, places of employment etc.  
b) My current commute takes 10 minutes by car, or 90 minutes each way by public transit. Need I say more??
- ▶ Add a modern train using the E&N rail to connect the Nanaimo's Mobility Hubs.
- ▶ add bus along Rutherford road. Too far to walk to Hammond Bay or North Nanaimo Mall to access transit.
- ▶ Add more bike lanes to Bowen road
- ▶ Add more cycling infrastructure that responds to the needs of e-bikes and kids on bikes. Both of these groups want convenience and safety. Human powered cyclists are more confident. It is the less confident groups we should be encouraging.
- ▶ Add SAFE end of trips facilities... I use my bike everyday. Unfortunately I never know if my bike will be where I left it... way too many thieves in the city
- ▶ Add seats and shelters to bus stops. It makes waiting for the bus so much easier and people are more likely to ride if they can wait in a shelter, otherwise they'll just keep walking in the rain.
- ▶ Add sidewalks where needed to make moving between home and daily destinations easier and safer.

- ▶ add to cycling routes and improve various connector trails and feeders to cycling routes
- ▶ all neighborhoods should have sidewalks
- ▶ Allow and encourage cycling on sidewalks. Bike lanes as they are here are frightening for both cars and cyclists. The buses all go in one direction along practically the same route at the same time.
- ▶ Although I don't personally use transit services, we are continually bothered that bus service ends early on Sunday and holidays making it hard for young non drivers to return home from work. If no one is available to call on it can mean a long miserable walk at the end of the work day especially heading into colder, wetter weather.
- ▶ An extensive system for off road cycling, proper bike racks for locking bikes at destinations, landscaped bike and walking routes, walking and bike routes along the railway, reduce parking at malls and plant trees and community gardens there, make transit routes more frequent, discourage use of SUVs and pick ups and trucks by greatly increasing fees for use, do something to make inland highway quiet, it is so loud and the noise dominates many areas of Nanaimo by adding noise barriers all along the highway and prohibit the use of air brakes, bring back the train for transport of goods instead of big trucks, get rid of the malls so people drive less and buy less junk for the landfills which would reduce the need for transport trucks. Encourage people to turn off the TV and take up gardening so they buy less stuff.
- ▶ As I age, access to better bus transportation will be a number one priority as an e-bike, which I plan to purchase will not serve me during the most inclement weather.
- ▶ As someone who enjoys cycling but is not an experienced cyclist, I often find myself opting out of cycling as an option because I am unsure of routes, how they connect, etc. I know Nanaimo has the PDF map of bike trails, but it can be hard to read on a phone. More community awareness sounds like a great idea. For people wanting to get into cycling more, it would be interesting to know if Nanaimo has a program that introduces people to the City's bike path network, places to safely store bikes, apps for identifying paths more easily, etc. If not, I wonder if one of the bike stores might be interested in starting a program like this to support community awareness and cycling as a viable active transportation option.
- ▶ As Victoria did, just keep adding bike lanes and lockup areas anytime you can, connecting them whenever possible. Cyclists will ome. Just look what they accomplished!!!
- ▶ ban cars from downtown.
- ▶ Benches and COVERED area in areas where the hospital bus route goes. In Country Club stop there is NO bench or COVER for the Hospital bus and it makes it very difficult for those with disabilities. VERY difficult.....!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- ▶ Better bike path from parkway trail into downtown core
- ▶ Better bus routes, more frequent buses, nicer communication with bus drivers ( I had bad experience twice, and heard of bad experience of friends). Half an hour wait for bus in unacceptable. Routes are not well designed. No Express buses: why? No bus connection with Duke point, airport. No bus connection from Departure bay STRAIGHT to Downtown. The most crazy bus schedule I have ever seen. Lack of clarity when trying to find out bus schedule few days ahead. So I use taxi instead of bus. And this is CRAZY!!!!!!
- ▶ Better bus service - for example it takes me 17 minutes to drive to work, but over an hour and a half to take the bus due to poor connections when changing buses, and the closest transit stop a 15 minute walk uphill from my home. So I drive! A thought is to use smaller shuttle-size buses for less busy routes, that are less expensive to fuel and run, and provide more frequent service and convenient routes.
- ▶ Better connected bike routes that are easy found and marked with a minimum of a painted line.

- ▶ Better connections between bike/pedestrian routes. More protected/separated bike/pedestrian routes. More secure bike storage downtown and at events, shopping areas and restaurants. Connect the Parkway Trail and/or E&N Trail to other protected bike trails from Cowichan to Parksville.
- ▶ Better connectivity, completed routes (not ending part way), more dedicated bike lanes!
- ▶ Better signage and wayfinding
- ▶ Better signage for bike routes, e.g., Halliburton instead of Nichol, and the proper routes between E&N, Maffeo Sutton, downtown, and Franklyn or Halliburton, as new and visiting riders end up causing friction with both pedestrians and motorists when they try to find safe routes in busy roads and walking-only zones.

Reduce motor traffic speed on residential streets with furniture, calming corners or other means. People are being killed by drivers going too fast and not paying attention on roads that make it too easy to build up speed.

Install more lit pedestrian crossing signals in crossings that are risky due to vehicle speed or visibility e.g., corner of Richardson and Ranchview Drive, Bruce Ave.

Building new bike trails: consider that older people, new riders and bike commuters are stopped by steep grades, poor signage/connections and dangerous corners and crossings. Also by mixing with motor vehicle traffic. Try to reduce grades and sharp curves to make trails more inviting and safer.

Connecting to our neighbouring communities with rail trails, like the existing ones between Ladysmith and Chemainus, Duncan and Lake Cowichan, Parksville and Coombs, would be a dream come true for active families, bike commuters and bike tourists who come here from all over the world. It would be wonderful to have an alternative to the highways between Nanaimo and Ladysmith, Duke Point and Parksville and complete a real, functional mid-island transportation network. "

- ▶ Bicycles have been getting a free ride. It's about time cyclists start paying a license fee to help pay for bicycle lanes. Cities around BC have spent millions of dollars to accommodate cyclists and no return. License bicycles to help pay for bike lanes. Register them with a description of the bike, (picture), serial number and give each cyclist a booklet on the rules of the road for cyclists. This may even cut down on bicycle theft by having each bike registered to its owner. Each bike must have a license plate attached.
- ▶ Bike lanes and sidewalks separated from the road by medians, preferably garden-style... or even street trees! Better intersections. A crosswalk light, stop light, 4-way stop, or traffic-calming circle at TownsiteXBush/St. Patrick would be nice as there are so many close-calls here with people trying to cross and traffic rarely actually stops at all... lots of fender benders and car accidents here too.
- ▶ Bike lanes on all major roads. Lose the lights on the bypass highway. V9v1e4
- ▶ Bike path along Hammond Bay and Uplands Walk.
- ▶ Bike racks in Colliery Dam. New cycling map for city with steepness indicated (choose neighbourhood streets for routes). Alleys have so much potential! (re: connectivity). Space for more than 2 bikes on the bus.
- ▶ Build more decent roads and stop wasting money on bike trails. They are always empty and meantime traffic has a hard time flowing. Maybe we should fix our transit system and our private vehicle roads first.
- ▶ build some neighbourhood nodes (small mixed use villages) in north end, the area is far from being friendly for walkers and cyclists, the car dominates the north part of town as well as national/international

chain stores, very few small local businesses there.

- ▶ Build the water front walkway right from Departure Bay to the ferry. That is the major link for all of Hammond Bay area to get to downtown or south safely.  
Build a bike lane from the new Westwood Road intersection to Westwood lake. The road width is already there.  
Nanaimo Parkway trail is a mess of sharp steep inclines and uprooted asphalt. At least revamp the Jingle Pot to Mostar if this is even to be considered a viable cycling option for commuters.  
A major factor in not wanting to cycle for errands is rampant theft in Nanaimo. It takes excessive planning to get multiple cable locks and ULocks ready, watch for thieves etc. At major end trip points the bike lock boxes like at NAC are a great idea.
- ▶ Build up not out. Densify for better services. Smaller busses, like 15 passenger, with more frequent public transportation. Neighbourhood stores that are in walking distance for all homes. ie how far does a 9 year old, or anyone in a pinch, have to walk to pick up milk for dinner? Green spaces to delineate separation of people powered movement from motor powered vehicles. Cars can be restricted to certain routes so people can bike, walk and get around safely.
- ▶ Bus service has been trimmed back so much that not everyone can use it ie. seniors, disabled .... Not everyone can walk a kilometer to catch a bus.
- ▶ Bus system should be 'grid like' with multiple hubs/connections (for example not simply 1 bus route should serve the Hospital). Bike routes along every major conduit. No car zones (Downtown)
- ▶ Bus to airport/Duke Point Ferry Terminal
- ▶ Bus transit service needs to be more much frequent and closely accessible if you expect people to use it. It needs to get people where they want to go quickly and efficiently or it won't get used. But to get there we need increased density and infill. As for walking, that can be done anywhere on the side of a road or sidewalk with nothing special required. For biking, we already have the parkway trail and E and N trail that provide a couple main routes to cover large distance safely, and bikers can use regular city roads off the main trails. There isn't a need to get bike lanes in every road especially residential areas as they can share the road, a few well thought out main roads to facilitate travel could be added where room is available but there is no need to spend the money putting them everywhere, bowen road has now become much more dangerous to drive a vehicle in because it is so narrow now.
- ▶ Buses to Duke point coordinated with ferries
- ▶ Buses—more hubs and connections between them. Example the Hospital is serviced by ONE route. If I want to take transit, I typically have to walk greater than 1/2 km to connect between routes, which are all circuitous, non-direct to start with—not convenient at all
- ▶ Buy busses appropriately sized. Link all seven transportation hubs. Downtown Nanaimo needs a fast passenger ferry to downtown Vancouver
- ▶ Bylaw that makes it mandatory to install covered bike lock up sites at all malls. Restaurants and pubs are encouraged to have small parking lots in comox. these establishments give you a discount on your tab if you bike or walk there. We could do this in Nanaimo
- ▶ car free living housing developments
- ▶ Car-free downtown and surrounding areas on weekends as a test and expand to car-free all summer.
- ▶ Cars are here to stay. As taxpayers, we pay to have good transportation routes for vehicles, so make sure we have safe roads for drivers. Making the roads narrower for vehicles will not improve transportation in our cities.

- ▶ Certain areas of the city are hard for pedestrians/cyclists to travel between without either taking a detour or going on busy roads. These problem spots need to have better pedestrian/cycle connections.
- ▶ Clear bike and mobility pathway divisions, for bikes, skateboards, roller skaters etc. separate from the walking paths
- ▶ Close curb lanes to single-occupancy motor vehicles on four-lane roads such as Bowen Rd. and make those HOV lanes and bicycle lanes. Block off one end of Harewood rd at the end of each block, but allow cycling and walking access at both ends ("fused grid"). Do this on other residential streets that are close to arteries so that pedestrians and cyclists can safely get off of the major roads. Ask the province to pay for the extending of the E&N trail to 7th St. Widen walking areas and narrow roadways in residential areas to create more pedestrian safety and slow vehicular traffic. Close Commercial to all but service and emergency vehicles and make the street safe for pedestrians. Designate 1 Port Place a stopping location for inter-city buses. Ask the province to fund more cycling lanes and begin to connect the ones that have already been built. Make those lanes more secure from vehicles. Change the sign at the corner of Esplanade and Victoria to permit left hand turns for bicycles on to Victoria (which had been promised years ago). Add speed bumps or other "traffic calming" measures where traffic tends to go too fast. Prohibit right turns on red lights where pedestrians have been hit. Change the lights on Front St. at the Gabriola ferry rd that gives priority to pedestrians and prohibits right hand turns on red lights. End the practice of forcing builders of multi-family dwellings to have one parking place per unit (but still provide some for service vehicles and some residents). Build up sidewalks at all bus stops so that handicapped users can board the buses. Provide more shelters. Provide more cross-walk lights, such as the very dangerous intersection of Bruce @ Albion. Post 30 KM signs in residential areas in conjunction with traffic calming methods. Provide more portable speed signs and use them in problematic areas. Ask the police to train civilians to move this around and report vehicles greatly exceeding the speed limit (the more eyes there are, the less drivers will think they can "get away with" their speeding). Plant trees along streets wherever possible (reduces air pollution, calms traffic). Stop providing free on-street parking. Use the revenue from the meters or from monthly or yearly parking passes to build more active transportation infrastructure. Retrain the city's traffic engineers in designing a 21st century city, and update the city's codes. Work with active community neighbourhood associations to identify ways of making their neighbourhoods better for active transportation.
- ▶ Complete sidewalks for safe walking. Build bicycle routes on streets parallel to main arteries - not just painted white lines that disappear at intersections or that are strewn with recycling/garbage bins (Townsite Rd) on pickup days. The Vancouver model of directing cycling traffic on side streets works well. Ensure connectivity of cycling routes across the city.
- ▶ Complete sidewalks on Prideaux St between Barsby Ave and Comox Rd. Also the sidewalk on Mill St. These streets have high pedestrian traffic that now forces walkers to walk on the road.
- ▶ Connect Bike paths to Neck Point and Pipers Lagoon from Parkway Trail & WoodGrove Mall  
Extend recreation E&N Trail.  
Extend Downtown Bike Trails/Lanes. Look at Cities like Vancouver.  
Encourage Biking to school with safe bike paths connecting schools to catchment neighborhoods  
Develop recreational rural bike trails in Jinglepot and Lantzville area.  
Look at recreational and commuting Bike accessible cities like Victoria & Vancouver that connect parks, retail and neighborhoods as models for development  
Maintain Bike lanes (clear of debris and tree branches after storms) especially along Hammond Bay Rd"
- ▶ Connecting routes, especially for cycling - Bowen Rd corridor, Hammond Bay Rd
- ▶ connecting so you can get through entire city either walking, running or cycling. both paved and trail.

- ▶ Connections to neighboring communities are poor. No safe cycling lanes to Cedar, Lantzville, etc.
- ▶ Connectivity. Too many bike lanes and sidewalks just dead end and drop people in traffic.
- ▶ Continue to add dedicated bike lanes and trails where possible. My bike commute is along Hammond Bay Road and Departure Bay Road. I applaud the recent upgrades, and I'd like to see bike lanes in both directions along those two roads.
- ▶ Continue to work on connecting city with bicycle routes, and on extending the E&N rail trail – focus on Nanaimo Regional rail trail to encourage cycling tourism and cycling for longer distance transportation and exercise.
- ▶ Continue with Georgia Greenway, create more slow street active transportation corridors (Pine Street / Park?), add infrastructure to bicycle routes (Albert Street, Townsite), add sidewalks with boulevards to busy corridors, encourage car-lite (reduced parking requirements) development near active transportation corridors.
- ▶ continuity of sidewalk and pathway designs, more accessibility for the vision impaired
- ▶ Controlling cyclists on pedestrian areas of the waterfront and other areas, cyclists ignore the No Cycling signs. Require dog owners to use leashes of maximum length of one meter there are too many owners with long or retractable leashes that are all across the pedestrian paths and are difficult to see. Improve the kayak launch areas at Brechin, Swyalana Kayaking and paddle boarding are the fastest growing marine activities in Nanaimo and surrounding areas, install a pedestrian crosswalk on Stewart at the junction with Cypress St, the city built a new multiuse trail on Cypress St between Terminal and Vancouver avenue that stops at Vancouver avenue. There is more pedestrian traffic on this route than on Townsite that does have a crosswalk.
- ▶ Convert old railways to bike paths so we could enhance tourism and healthy active lifestyle. Tourists will love to be able to cycle the island from north to south
- ▶ Coordinate with CVRD transit. It is ridiculous people are unable to travel between Duncan and Nanaimo or Ladysmith and Nanaimo. Transit should connect not divide communities.
- ▶ Create dedicated cycling routes that are separated from other vehicle traffic
- ▶ Create low traffic density (walkable) areas in downtown. Make public transportation affordable. Create more safety in bus. We need decent waiting areas for public transportation: shelter against rain/wind light, camera's in darker area's.
- ▶ Create more neighborhoods with mixed use spaces so that people won't need to use vehicles for daily activities like going to the store, pharmacy, or coffee shop. Allocate more funds in lower income neighborhoods where families are more dependent on active transportation and therefore bare a greater portion of risk in using inadequate infrastructure.
- ▶ creating safe corridors for active transportation of all kinds
- ▶ Crosswalks are not safe in a lot places because people don't stop, cars race to beat pedestrians, and there's no enforcement of pedestrian right of way. People drive too fast in this city, especially in school and residential areas. Lower the speed limits, make downtown car free all the time, enforce pedestrian right of way
- ▶ cut through paths to reduce walking and biking distance. good bike lock up facilities for expensive e-bikes – which are the only realistic option for most people who want to use a bike as a means of transportation in a hilly city like Nanaimo.
- ▶ Cycle friendly convert railroad tracks.. long overdue

- ▶ Cycle route on Cypress Hill between Terminal and Vancouver Ave – needs improvement – Near misses between cars leaving car park and cyclists. Cypress Rd – vehicle Entry/Exit crosses bike path very dangerous. Please clearly mark entrance and exit and speed bumps for cyclists to slow their speed & signs to encourage walking when crossing these areas as they speed down hill across vehicular traffic routes.
- ▶ Cycling lock up racks in the downtown core on Commercial St. More cycling infrastructure (marked shoulders) between mobility hubs in the South End of Nanaimo. Densify housing around VIU to allow for more people to live in multi-unit buildings and less single family housing. This will allow more students and young families to settle there.
- ▶ dedicate some routes for e-bikes and scooters, then cyclists, skateboarders and roller-bladers, and then finally pedestrians. if you can create dedicated routes, it would make active transportation safer
- ▶ Dedicated and safe bike routes
- ▶ Dedicated bike lanes and biking-prioritized streets. Having these in the previous city I lived in was a huge incentive for me, my family, and friends and colleagues to bike more often.
- ▶ Dedicated bike lanes and other routes away from traffic
- ▶ Dedicated bike lanes are not connected. Some start and end abruptly. This makes it dangerous for cyclists. Also, newly constructed round-abouts create hazards for cyclists who need to temporarily move into motorized vehicle lanes if the cyclist wants to stay on the street.

I have friends who have bought cars only because they couldn't get to or from work after buses stop operating. Buses or some other type of public transit should be available to get shift workers to and from work.

Call to your home transit should be possible as soon as self-driving vehicles are licensed to drive. This makes it possible for low density areas (with low to no use of public transit) to be able to use public transit. On-line booking opportunities are already available.

I would like to age in place but don't think I will be able to unless I have some public transit options.

If we are building the city of tomorrow do we really need the number of parking spots currently required of new builds?

Public transport is, in reality, integrated with available public spaces. Can we build more human scale public meeting spots (squares and parks) where cyclists and pedestrians feel comfortable, versus huge car-oriented public spaces (mega-intersections, parking lots). "

- ▶ Dedicated bike lanes so we can safely bike to work and school. Better and more sidewalks for kids to safely walk to school. Traffic calming like speed bumps in school zones and near parks. Better and more sidewalks to safely enjoy walking in our neighbourhoods.
- ▶ Dedicated cycling routes. Development that allows for interconnection of residential areas By bike or foot so major roadways are not required to connect between residential areas. Bike lock ups areas in commercial areas.
- ▶ Dedicated separate cycling lanes . Dedicated lights for cyclists  
Dedicated walking routes . Traffic calming. All neighbourhoods should have sidewalks
- ▶ Dedicated, separated bike paths (such as e&n) are a good investment that can likely be utilized by

many, but I've seen that simply painted bike lanes retro fitted to car centric areas (ie Turner or Broadway where the bike lane puts you right up against parked cars) only seem to lead to increased driver aggression. Education and enforcement for drivers who put more vulnerable road users engaging in active transportation at risk is very important.

- ▶ dedicated/separated bike lanes.
- ▶ Definitely need sidewalks on EVERY urban street with adequate lighting. There should also be more lights at major intersections instead of 4 or 2 way stops. More advanced or delayed turn signals. More overpasses for pedestrian safety (this includes cyclists and other micro transportation) and safer traffic flow for private and public transit.
- ▶ Desperately need crosswalks with lights on Hammond Bay, particularly at Norasea. There ought to be crosswalks wherever there are bus stops on Hammond Bay, as it is very hard to get across, particularly for those with mobility issues.
- ▶ Develop routes around busy traffic areas. Improve road traffic islands so that wheel chairs can easily cross.
- ▶ Diversify the audience - young, hip teens, young adults to uni, adults to work, retired, moms and dad with kids or pets in trailer.
- ▶ Do not ignore the majority. Direct at least 95% of funding to maintain and improve the convenience of car traffic. Ones age in this survey is irrelevant and should not be used in a discriminatory way.
- ▶ Do not put cycling facilities on busy streets. No matter how safe they are, it is stressful and unpleasant to ride with the noise and pollution of vehicular traffic
- ▶ Don't forget motorcycles mitigate road congestion and parking. Please plan for and dedicate motorcycle parking -- spots can be created where access is awkward for a car.
- ▶ Don't want my tax dollars used for bike routes
- ▶ Don't waste money on bike lanes!
- ▶ Downtown pickup-stop and link to the Victoria bus.  
The need to go to the DB Ferry to take the bus service to Victoria is completely redundant. It should stop at Port Place Mall for boarding, etc.
- ▶ E and N train service to Victoria and Courtenay would make a big difference. There are many tourists that could access our wineries and destinations if there was a way to get there without driving. Residents who are trying to use the car less would have a way to travel without carbon emission.
- ▶ E-bike rental sites around town
- ▶ Ebikes are coming fast, I'm keen to buy one but there is way too much theft and no safe lock up areas for cyclists to use bikes for most errands. The pool has a big metal container lock up for bikes, this should be used at all recreation sites. I've been told that is now used for storage and not available for bikes.... Bike lanes start and stop all over the place as do sidewalks, it's seems more dangerous constantly merging with cars. Spend the money and get it done in one big push. Look at Tofino. Look at Victoria. Thanks for trying, I do see improvements but this is the time to do it, low interest loans. 2021 ebikes are already ordered and almost sold out for many makes! Good luck.
- ▶ Educate citizens on existing routes and options instead of throwing money here and there at random disconnected neighbourhoods, Improve crosswalk safety and lighting.
- ▶ Emulate the Netherlands -- Mixed use or dedicated cyclepaths where possible (E&N trail is good but

could be vastly improved), reduced traffic speed where on-street bike lanes are necessary. proper cyclist support in roundabouts. Simple alterations to neighbourhoods to prevent through-traffic for cars while still permitting it for bikes. Also, address crazy situations such as sidewalks that end and dump the user out onto the road. For transit, consider a network design for commuting (a north/south express which links smaller routes which are timed properly for transfers) -- not just a network which seems to be designed for... VIU and highschool students?

- ▶ Enclosed bike lock-up spots. I do not feel comfortable locking my bike up anywhere as theft and vandalism is a problem. Fully functioning bike lanes separated from traffic. Information and wayfinding of how active transportation routes connect. (Also, I cannot comment on the past ten years as I have lived in Nanaimo for about a year, but now reside here full time).
- ▶ Encouraging cycling and walking, but I think the bike cycling lanes need to be prioritized much like Victoria.
- ▶ Energy efficient jet packs.
- ▶ Enforcement of Regulatory Signs ...!
- ▶ Enforcement of snow clearing bylaw so kids and people with mobility challenges can reliably walk/ride to services they need. Ensure sidewalks are continuous, kept clear of overhanging hedges and repaired appropriately. Ensure bike activations of traffic lights work consistently.
- ▶ Equip all busy roads with sidewalks and proper lighted.....reduce traffic speeders.
- ▶ Even more bike routes, all the way along Bowen Road for example. Some places it is way to scary to cycle Bowen Rd. Sidewalks on Boxwood Road. Also I indicated not using Transit - pre-Covid I used it more than once a week. And some day I'll use it again...but not yet.
- ▶ Expand and make affordable and safe. Coming from nearly 4 decades of exile in Europe, Nanaimo is in the Bronze Age state of development - so excruciatingly far behind most other nations in the world. A line at the side of the road is NOT going to provide safe passage for pedestrians and cyclists. Sidewalks separate (by obstacle) cycling lanes; extensive, affordable, and frequent transit with short wait times for connections.... it requires an initial major investment, but if the majority of major centres around the world can do it on a reliable budget, so can Nanaimo.
- ▶ Expand on the E&N trail.
- ▶ Extend the E & N across the viaduct beside Caledonia Park and beyond to provide an easy grade cycle route across town
- ▶ Fewer shopping carts
- ▶ Find a way to make it safer overall. With the homeless and addicts, you don't feel safe especially after dark. You for sure can not go into a park after dusk without the fear of being attacked, raped, or worse. I would personally focus more on making walking paths brighter and safer so we can enjoy this beautiful city before it is known even more as a crack haven. You are not even safe downtown after dark, doesn't matter what mode of transport you are on.
- ▶ Finish the harbour walkway extension project.
- ▶ First, a cycling path from departure bay to downtown. Then, on towards the south of the city.
- ▶ fix the roads for cars as the city is spread out .too much money is being spent on bike lanes
- ▶ Flatten out the tree root bumps on the Parkway trail (you made a very good start last year).
- ▶ Focus on building up a solid centralized core zone of active transportation infrastructure emanating from

downtown and to VIU. A patchwork of active transportation infrastructure throughout the city will not be used frequently and will not do anything to change the culture of Nanaimo commuters. A transformation of our downtown core (protected bike lanes, wider sidewalks without electrical poles in their center, and rapid bus transit) should be the primary target.

- ▶ Focus on getting regular old bikes on almost every street first. Then you can work on fancy corridors. Short little stretches of fancy bike corridors don't really make any difference from a serious cyclist's perspective.
- ▶ Focus on major nodes that people need to travel to and work back from there. The idea of only adding safe walking paths or bike routes when doing larger upgrades is really frustrating as sometimes you have to risk your life to reach these short spots. Also do some quick wins and low hanging fruit like painting faded lanes, adding more cross walks or improving intersections. Notices some recent improvements for cycling.
- ▶ Focus on roads vehicles are not going away because you build bike lanes. Roads are a problem they have twice the traffic they had 20 years ago and there are no new roads. Bowen Rd. crossing the old hwy now is another light longer to get across than before you did your improvements(?) Provide off lane bus stops everywhere so traffic is not stopped every time a bus stops. require the City to build sidewalks to developers standards or allow developers to build to city style sidewalks i.e. - asphalt
- ▶ For older citizens it would be more beneficial to have bus stops closer together. It's quite a hike to get to some bus stops.
- ▶ Frequent, regular public transportation (Every 30 minutes or more from the hours of 6am to midnight) in select areas where it is needed. Downtown core to university village would be a start. A broad-based increase in public transportation frequency will result in minimal increases in ridership. A focused approach with significant investment into key areas should drastically increase the daily trips made in those areas. Otherwise, low ridership will continue to be used as an excuse to reduce transportation investment in Nanaimo.
- ▶ From a cyclist's point of view: Start with driver's education: make car drivers aware of the position of cyclists on the road. And increase the bike lane designation indicated on the roads (a continuous line on the streets and not a symbol here and there). And increase the frequency of the transit services.
- ▶ From the early 2000's to now being on Nanaimo streets is dangerous. Far TOO many speeding drivers racing through school zones and driving hwy speeds on residential streets, racing through red lights, talking on cell phones. No police, no ticketing - the problem gets worse year after year. Try driving north down Departure Bay by Cilaire school- drivers move to the right side lane to race down this lane which ends - not regarding the school zone speed and then cut off drivers in the left lane before the road ends creating dangerous conditions. This happens EVERY DAY with a number of drivers and never any police to ticket the speeders.
- ▶ Functional bike routes on Metral Drive, Wakesiah, and something along Bowen would be super appreciated. Given the fact that we have many fast, selfish drivers (often in loud trucks) and that many streets aren't well lit at night, anything you can do to promote slower traffic along routes where there are many pedestrians and cyclists, would be helpful. In particular, in the winter months, I am frequently "almost-hit" by cars/trucks making turns off Wakesiah and onto the east-west running streets. This happens, on average, once or twice a month, that I have to suddenly run out of the way of a car turning, or racing a light. Really, Nanaimo is the first city I've lived in, where I feel I need to wear a high-visibility vest when cycling or walking the dog! I'm scared to send my kids out to walk the dog after dark, all because of aggressive drivers.

- ▶ Further development of the E&N trail & links to it would be beneficial.
- ▶ Get input from transit users when designing bus routes and make routes that make sense and allow for efficient travel
- ▶ GET RID OF ALL THE TRAFFIC LIGHTS. The way this town is growing we are destined to gridlock when all the construction is completed. The roads were NEVER built to handle all the New developments. Overpasses should have been implemented YEARS AGO when they were still affordable, especially the bypass. The lineups are getting longer every year. Who thought up the bright idea of putting a stop light at the bottom of a steep incline? The north end of this town is getting worse and worse for traffic, and unfortunately that's where a lot of the seniors are living. Recipe for disaster.
- ▶ Get the passenger and freight train running full island.
- ▶ Get vehicle storage aka parking off the public roads or at least require annual permits which can raise funds for better transportation services.
- ▶ Glad to see that your strategy includes mobility hubs. I chose to move to the Old City because it is the only complete mobility hub in the City. Lots of work to make the other hubs more complete so walking, cycling and transit will serve the residents needs. More residential over commercial will help as will more dedicated bike lanes. People need to be educated about the liveability disadvantages of suburban living. For example, I would take street people if I can get sidewalks. My community tries to support street people while my suburban acquaintances fear them.
- ▶ Greatest need is for dedicated bike lanes, separate from traffic, wider sidewalks, better signals for crosswalks that are visible to pedestrians and traffic. More attention to transitions to/from common cycling routes is also important as is developing secondary corridors for active transport away from busiest roads. Actually cycle these routes and see how they work! There should be mandate (retroactive) for bike parking at all major centers. Example, commercial centers and malls (e.g. Port Place, Woodgrove) have only a handful of bike parking spaces compared to 100s of car spaces. We need to transition almost completely from single vehicle transport in short order to avoid climate breakdown--stop investment in roads for cars and dedicate that \$ to non-vehicle infrastructure. Municipalities on the island should lobby for and invest toward island rail corridor as alternative to highway system.
- ▶ Hammond Bay needs a lower (or at least enforced speed limit), speedbumps would work. It also needs cycling lanes (particularly just south of Pacific Biological Station)
- ▶ Hammond Bay Road dangerous for cyclists
- ▶ Hammond Bay road is getting way too busy with all the new construction, including the planned expansion at Hammond Bay School. There need to be traffic calming measures, better bike and sidewalks and more crosswalks so we can safely cross to the mailbox or bus stop.
- ▶ Have more integrated zoning so there are more community-located commercial areas instead of large hubs that require cars to get to.
- ▶ Having bike lockup's that prevent theft
- ▶ Having safe bike storage for the end of trips - I feel anxious taking my e-bike for errands (when that's the whole reason I bought it) as I worry about it getting stolen. It would be cool to have safe/secure e-bike charging stations at places like malls and downtown and such too, where people are likely to spend more time. Protected bike lanes are also super important. I wouldn't consider myself a very confident cyclist (I just recently bought my e-bike) so bike lanes - ideally protected but at least painted if nothing else - make a huge difference about whether/where/when I'll ride my bike. Even though e-bikes are more expensive, they're more reliable (time-wise) and convenient than Nanaimo

transit and regular bikes, which is why I've chosen that mode.

- ▶ Having the busses run more often throughout the day and having their hours of operations extended would be so beneficial not only for those who want to 'save the environment' and save a few dollars, and not want to fight over paid parking, but also for those of us who do not have the choice of driving, where buying a car is not a feasible option, and where the place you're going to is just too far to walk. And having the busses running south, especially into Chase River, and Cedar, and Cinnabar. I have missed out on some good employment opportunities because the bus doesn't make it feasible to get to a worksite on time. About 10 years back when I used to work 3-11pm weekend shifts at a Tim Horton's up by Woodgrove, I would have to walk home for 2hrs afterwards because the busses weren't running from Woodgrove at that time of night and I lived by the hospital. And I have know so many other people who've had to work graveyard shifts at jobs that are miles away from their homes and not having a reliable bus or transit system is a real impediment. Plus, I have heard a number of people say that if the bus system was more convenient they would leave their car at home and take transit. so that would ease up with crowded parking area's like the hospital, VIU and Downtown.  
Another idea that I mentioned in my last survey, is that I seriously think that Nanaimo and other political officials should look at fixing the railway lines and providng train service as another form of transportation both around the city and around the island. Travelling back and forth to Victoria on the highway is always problematic, and train service can help with that.  
And I also think that things should be done to make the roads more pedestran and bike friendly and calm the traffic both by decreasing the number of vehicles and by getting them to drive slower and more carefully. One idea that has been discussed is to have cars parked along the streets in a way so that the parked cars are a barrier between the moving cars, and the pedestrians and even peddle-bikers. Because I live on Nicol Street, I find it very uncomfortable to have cars driving fast right beside the curb when I'm on the sidewalk. If we could implement parking spaces along the street especially towards the bottom and fill those empty buildings with businesses, and do that transfer from Provincial Highway to City Street and maybe some signage to inform the drivers and some more crosswalks between Needlem and Chase River, making we can get the drivers to start driving slower.
- ▶ Help people map out safest routes with a route finder tool of some kind. Routes that have wider streets or dedicated sidewalks/bike lanes and street lights.
- ▶ I am not a user of the Active Transportation Network (if this means public transit and bike paths) and really know nothing about it. While I recognize the benefits to the environment of reducing the number of cars on the road, I am not likely to be a transit user in the future as I truly detest waiting for and riding buses. As a retiree with some mobility issues, I am not able to walk or bicycle any great distance for shopping or other services, and depend on my car.
- ▶ I am not aware of the Active Transportation Network. It would be helpful to have public wayfinding on city streets and other transportation corridors. The painted lines with bicycles on them are a key indicator to me as a cyclist that I am welcome and expected on a roadway. Further signage and where appropriate, designated bike lanes.

Like most cyclists and commuters, I have integrated google maps into my transportation planning. I use their GPS in the car and I plan cycling routes according to their advice. I would suggest ensuring that Nanaimo's plans are well reflected by the integration into google services.

Regarding bus transportation, I live in the South End. I would forseably take the bus to various locations if i could bring my bicycle along, or for specific services, but I also feel I need a car in order to access the larger network of activities in the smaller communities that dot along the coast of Vancouver Island. In the long term, I would love to see an active transportation network that stretches up and down island and

could accommodate a similar approach (bicycle transport). A lot of people also come over to the island from the mainland for tourism purposes, and use the main artery of the old island highway for cycling to smaller communities and ferries. An active transportation network that also sees a place for island cycle tourism and encourages residents would be great. I would absolutely consider jumping on a commuter train or bus link that could take me and my bike to a ferry so that I could cycle and camp on a gulf island without my car. "

- ▶ I believe if there were more bike lanes I would feel safer biking to and from work. I do not feel safe biking beside moving vehicles. OR let's say riding on a sidewalk was considered legal with half the side walk painted green as a bike lane (side closest to road). Also overpasses at the intersections along the highway 19.
- ▶ I couldn't tick connectivity of routes above but it is important.
- ▶ I do not take transit as I live in Ladysmith and it is very inaccessible. I enjoy living here but would like to be able to reduce to single-vehicle driving by taking transit.
- ▶ I do not understand how I can use public transit to get from Burnaby to North Van in 25 minutes, but it takes 45 minutes plus to get from Harewood to Woodgrove area and I still have a 5-7 minute walk to my destination?
- ▶ I don't ride my bicycle here because the roads are too narrow and it feels very unsafe. I would use it if there were dedicated bicycle lanes.
- ▶ I don't take the bus often but bike, better bike routes would be great and better bus options to the ferries, float planes and airport
- ▶ I don't take the Bus system, but I hear from friends that it is undependable.
- ▶ I don't use the bus system because it takes so long. It just does not work. It is faster to walk most times or to save 3 hours by taking a cab. Or just not go.
- ▶ I find it really hard to figure out the times of the busses and where they are stopping. Would love to get my kids on the bus more but we are always worried that we don't know where it is stopping and when.
- ▶ I have been an avid bike rider for many years, but am not necessarily in favor of choking roads by installing bike lanes in downtown areas. Put bike lanes on high speed, high traffic routes like Bowen Rd they are not needed in areas like Front St.
- ▶ I have never seen such a mess with transit in all my life! It takes my son an hour to take transit to high school and it's only a 10 minute drive from our house!  
Nanaimo also desperately needs transit pull in areas so they aren't stopping in the road at every stop, backing up traffic.
- ▶ I have to drive a car due to nature of my work. In Istanbul they have/had group taxis called dolmu . Efficient and cheap. No schedule, but a fixed route.
- ▶ I live in Extension. It would be wonderful to have bus service close by. I am a senior citizen. In a few years I may not be able to drive and bus service to the grocery store or pharmacy would be wonderful. Then I could maintain some of my freedoms.
- ▶ I live on brickyard road and there's no water coming down my street has ever given minutes and if you minutes it should be every 15 minutes every 15 minutes they should be up at six and goes back down town and one uncle's to you I was at Brickyard to downtown and then one from camp Downtown to woodgrill and there should be a bus stop shelter but people don't like to get wet before people go into their work

- ▶ I love to see the seawall connect downtown to the ferry terminal.
- ▶ I moved here from Europe (5 countries). There is absolutely no way of comparing. Nanaimo is like the Dark Ages.
- ▶ I must admit bike paths are great but feel many of them now create more confusion and danger for both bikes and cars. The roads are narrower and with so many line markings in some places it is so confusing. I actually felt safer without the paths riding my bike.
- ▶ I only know that it takes my son 9 minutes by car to get to work, and 45 minutes to an hour by bus. Not counting walking time to get to bus stop (15 minutes) we live in city limits on East Wellington road.
- ▶ I recommend Bike paths that follow main routes not just where the paths are easy to create. E&N trail should make clear connections when path ends. The bike/walking paths have great potential but they often end with confusion on how to continue.
- ▶ I think all of the above options are very important!
- ▶ I think bus transit should be free, or less expensive for youth under the age of 19. Most teenagers have trouble affording 40\$ bus passes every month. Maybe lowering this price down or offering them for free to teens in high schools could help with climate change and traffic. I also think that the bus schedules should be updated more regularly because often the busses do not come on time. Other than that, I do see major improvements.
- ▶ I think converting the E&N corridor to a park with the track area used for a true community cycle highway and the adjacent existing path to walking. Incorporating a food forest would be a great start. Adding in the sea way across the city and then tying it all together with safe dedicated cycle connection and add secure bike parking would make Nanaimo a hub of active transport.
- ▶ I think it is important for the people who are involved in planning and decision-making to empathize with people who are dependent on public transit, cycling and walking. I dare you to leave your car in the driveway for 2 weeks and explore the city by foot, bike and bus.
- ▶ I think it would be a fun and exciting idea to use the rail system that is already in place. A small train going north and south through the city would create many opportunities for everyone.
- ▶ I think Nanaimo is making good forward strides with cycling and pedestrian infrastructure. Long way to go, but moving the right way! So, my only suggestion would be to put in as many cycling lanes in as possible, and divided if at all possible (Vancouver does a great job of this, as an example). I ride all the time and it's quite difficult to find a fully safe route for cycling. If I was a parent, no way I would let my kids ride in Nanaimo, other than on the E&N and Parkway trails (which are world class, by the way- brilliant and exemplary).
- ▶ I think the biggest priority right now is working on establishing transit between Nanaimo and other communities, like the proposed E&N line from Victoria or the passenger ferry from downtown Nanaimo to downtown Vancouver. These would bring more work and money into the city and increase the livability for the residents.
- ▶ I think there's a lack of sidewalks in the south end, so walking can be dangerous. I really appreciate the E&N and Parkway Trails though. Adding more bike lanes would also make biking safer.
- ▶ I think we tend to build around traffic, instead of diverting traffic. Building an active transportation network, to me, means starting with the question of "how do we divert cars from using this throughway.

There are many areas that would benefit from disallowing single vehicle traffic entirely. What if we started there?"

- ▶ I use an electric wheelchair and my neighbourhood (Rutherford Elementary) is not safe. I need to “drive” on the road due to the absence of sidewalks or unsafe sidewalks.
- ▶ I work in the north end, and it is disheartening to try to move around as a pedestrian in that part of Nanaimo. Sidewalks end abruptly or don't exist in the first place. Roadsides feel unsafe. Crosswalks feel dangerous -- motorists honk and yell as if you are inconveniencing them by existing. The shortest distances take forever to navigate because routes simply aren't pedestrian-friendly. Luckily, I live downtown because it is closer to the places I frequent. I can walk, cycle or take transit from my home to most places. I would love to feel as comfortable as a pedestrian in the north end. It is nice to see the work underway in the Metral Drive area -- we need it and we need more of it. Safe pedestrian areas are connected communities.
- ▶ -I would be afraid to ride by bike here as so many main roads (Bowen) have no bike lanes.
- ▶ I would like to see bikes and especially ebikes which can travel at high speeds removed from the seawall... it gets too congested and with half of the walk dedicated to cyclists it is too congested especially during Covid 19
- ▶ I would like to see land use include mixed uses so that shopping is not far from residential neighbourhoods. I would walk to buy small amounts of groceries and to a restaurant if those services were closer to my house.
- ▶ I would like to see the city co-share safe bike lockers to enable people who live in condos without storage facilities to lock up their bikes safely and out of the weather. “Pedal Pods”
- ▶ I would like to see the swylana lagoon waterfront walking path connect from downtown to Departure bay so people could bike & walk downtown & vice versa. I would like to see a riding path from where the e& n trail finishes now near downtown, be extended south as far as the airport and also path through cedar/yellow point. We have such a beautiful area, but it needs to be connected so people can get out of their cars and pursue these different destinations on foot or bike. I would also like to see a portion of Commercial street become pedestrian only to add walkability & vibrancy to downtown. Beyond the scope of this survey I would also like to see the e & n train running to Victoria daily with space for bikes.
- ▶ I would love to see more dedicated biking lanes.
- ▶ I would prioritize walking first and foremost because it's something almost everyone can do and it requires no equipment but Nanaimo is currently very pedestrian unfriendly--so many areas in Nanaimo don't even have sidewalks for pedestrians! More sidewalks (and ones that don't end in the middle of a block) and better pedestrian crossings would go a long way.

My partner and I are in the process of purchasing bikes in order to reduce our car use but it would be nice to have more bike friendly routes and even dedicated trails like the E&N to make cycling feel more accessible.

- ▶ I would really love to be able to bike to places I go to play. I HATE that I drive to Lost Lake and Blueback Beach in particular. They would be a beautiful bike ride from my house for me and my kids (well, maybe not along Lost Lake Rd with my kids), but there's no where safe to leave our bikes. Those are ones that hit me in particular, but a small solid bike rack would be great at so many parks, especially ones where you're out of sight of the entrance (like, we bike to playgrounds, that's fine, I can see my bike the whole time. But the point of Blueback is that I'm far from the entrance for hours.)
- ▶ Identify the existing pressure points and try to fix those first!. For example - all these multi-family developments are putting pressure on existing road systems causing congestion and safety issues. Be proactive and link transportation plan with development.

- ▶ If end-of-route security was better for bikes (person-powered), I would use my bike more than I do now. I only use my bike to go downtown if I'm not stopping for more than five minutes & I can see my bike at all times. Bike security / bike theft is always a concern for me. I have my bikes registered with Project 529 and have a level 8 lock...but I still don't feel secure about leaving my bikes for any length of time.
- ▶ If the transit was quicker/more efficient, I would take that over driving my car. Having more buses or affordable options for transportation would be beneficial, although can be costly if not used.
- ▶ I'm glad to see a more active focus on increasing sustainable transit infrastructure! I understand that it will be a difficult task, due to a fairly severe lack of foresight in previous city planning. Distance to work and grocery shopping are my own personal biggest obstacles: higher density housing closer to amenities IS AN ABSOLUTE MUST. More apartments and whatnot, preferably for sale to residents only (you cannot purchase unless you have lived in the city 2 years and OWN NO OTHER PROPERTY), would also be a great step towards affordable housing.
- ▶ improve bus routes ( more local and area attached) increase the number of buses and increase the ridership cost.
- ▶ Improve cycling networks by separating cycles from other traffic and, most importantly, grade the shoulders where necessary so that there is no drop off in the transition from road to shoulder. Lack of a smooth transition has been the cause of fatal bike accidents.

Electric motorcycles are not e-bikes and they should be prohibited from using cycling networks. The owners should be required to demonstrate competence and carry insurance as other motor cycle riders are required to do."

- ▶ Improve our road system for future growth. Cars owners will remain the largest portion of tax payers represented and paying for services.
- ▶ Improve parking lots so it's safe to walk from your car to the store. A prime example is the Canadian Tire parking lot. The number of times my children and I have almost been hit just trying to get to the store is astounding. The civil engineer that has been designing these new, very tightly spaced parking lots with no safe space to walk, needs to go! I've lived in Nanaimo for 40 years and these new parking lots are ridiculous!
- ▶ Improve the bus route system.
- ▶ Improve Transit substantially and bring back transfers.  
Make bus stops actual pull outs so that they do not impede the regular flow of traffic.
- ▶ improved safe bike and walk lanes More bike lock ups. Better understanding of bus system
- ▶ In many areas we need to downsize to smaller buses that go into neighborhoods and then increase the number bus trips per day to these neighborhoods. Often we see the large buses with only a minimal amount of riders throughout the day. Smaller buses with increased frequency and more routes might lead to increased ridership and less people relying on their cars.
- ▶ In the past my experience with buses has been that they are not regular enough to justify purchasing a pass and leaving my car at home. This may have changed in recent years, but I have not looked into the newest schedules. I do communicate to work via bike on occasion, but otherwise leave my bike for mountain biking. I would do my part to leave my car at home if I knew I could rely on public transportation. The other issue is worrying about my safety with all of the homeless people downtown, which is where I live.
- ▶ Increase beautiful and safe walking paths around town and especially at the waterfront

- ▶ Increase bike lanes and transit frequency; this will help promote these forms of transit.
- ▶ Increase bus routes, frequency of transit transportation and safe, reliable evening transit.
- ▶ Increase frequency of bus routes; encourage density to encourage people to live more local
- ▶ increase frequency of buses, add dedicated biking lanes to major destinations/thoroughfares through communities. Hammond Bay Road and Departure Bay road for example.
- ▶ "Increase the number of sidewalks. Free transit passes for seniors (cost is a problem). Safe & connected bicycle routes throughout city."
- ▶ Increase the safety requirements already in place for sidewalks and bike lanes in new development.
- ▶ Increase the sense of public safety. I cannot walk to work because of homelessness on the E&N trail– last time I tried, I was confronted by a group of people who were high with a sex worker. I don't take transit because transit is not safe anymore, too many homeless and drug users on... very uncomfortable to travel with stinky, screaming people.
- ▶ Increase transit frequency and hours of operations and locations serviced. Same with BC Ferries. Create safe separated bike lanes. Stop doing band aid infrastructure repairs to the Nanaimo Parkway and make it into a proper highway. It takes at least 3 fold longer to get anywhere on the parkway than even 5 years ago due to heavy use and too many traffic lights.
- ▶ increased bike lanes, closing sections of downtown to pedestrian traffic, carbon reduction incentives for cyclists, electric car rental services, safer bike lockup options, better connectivity from N to S end
- ▶ Increased bus service from Departure Bay Ferry to city locations. More time for drivers to be successful in achieving scheduled timetables
- ▶ Increased frequency of bus services. The bus transit systems here is woefully inadequate. For example, although we live 5 km from my daughter's school, she would have to take 2 buses to get there and it would take over an hour.
- ▶ Increased investment in dedicated walking and cycling routes as well as public transit and planning to reduce Nanaimo's dependency on private vehicles. Particularly important is city planning to reduce urban sprawl given Nanaimo's poor history in this regard.
- ▶ Increased number of bicycle lanes throughout Nanaimo.
- ▶ Interesting new phrase, active transportation network. Well, I'm in my 60s and I live by Westwood lake. You may know that it's a fair high hill to get down town from here and even more so coming back! And I'm certainly not going to cycle it, not at my age. Even a younger person would be pushed. So can we be realistic about these options, this looks like a thinly veiled disguise to try and promote "green" alternatives for climate change. Nanaimo making itself less accessible via motor powered transportation in favour of bicycles, because that's what this is all about, is a monumental mistake. Check the demographics of Nanaimo, we're not all young Mountain climbers you know.
- ▶ Interesting that this questionnaire does not cover the issue of parking expectations and availability of the population for different modes of transportation, including infrastructure for cycling lock-up, the idea of a public bicycle-use program such as Victoria has implemented, and electric vehicle charging station availability/accessability.
- ▶ Invest in some ""fancy"" artistic bike lock ups downtown – look up what other cities have done or have a contest. Involve the art gallery. This shows City commitment to active transportation in a tangible way.

Consider enclosed lock ups in the downtown parkades – bike theft is a deterrent for people using this as their main mode of transportation. Personally I ride my bike but don't lock it up anywhere as I am afraid of it being stolen.

Improve quality of bus stops. Tacky plastic benches emblazoned with realtor names do not belong in our key tourism areas such as downtown. Upgrade facilities and enclose bus shelters to protect people from the elements.

- ▶ Island Rail Corridor to be made into bike greenway. get rid of intersection conflicts, negate noise pollution, make intercity connections easy on ebikes, if you must have tourism this would be a magnet. Positively a win for First Nation reconciliation.
- ▶ It will aid in the reduction on the carbon footprint . Create better tourism. Aide in getting families out cycling and going to the downtown core.
- ▶ It's the little connections that make all of the difference. Being able to cut off of the E&N trail at regular intervals, more connection to the parkway trail; interconnectedness between neighbourhoods where roads don't connect – but small trails do. Thank you for your attention to this issue.
- ▶ Jingle pot needs a real sidewalk for so many kids to cycle to mountain view school. There would be a large decrease in the Bus system which means less fuel.  
Plus safer kids creating a healthy habit
- ▶ Keep adding in more bike lanes and sidewalks.
- ▶ Keep up the good work wirh bike lanes. The more the better. Very excited about the new bike lane project in the north end– that will connect me to the bike path and then to work. The more bike paths, the more people will feel comfortable and safe biking, the more people will bike, the more drivers will be accustomed to bikers, the safer and healthier everyone is.
- ▶ Keep up the good work.  
Consider lowering speed limits on The Island Highway and in residential areas. 80kphis just too fast inside the City and 50kph is too fast on residential streets. Both these limits are continually ""stretched"" by a majority of drivers. More enforcement, please.
- ▶ Lack of bus stops along some roads ( eg Hammond Bay Road between Departure Bay Rd and about Neck Point Park area.). Some park and ride areas?
- ▶ Larger fines for vehicles that don't share the roads and money goes back into bike lanes and trails
- ▶ Less exclusive bike lanes
- ▶ Less of the short "bike lanes" like on Dover near Uplands & Hammond Bay Rd near Williamson/Dunn area, completely useless and confusing

More convenient bus times to airport and Duke Point ferry from North Nanaimo maybe an express line"

- ▶ Light rail from Chase to North Nanaimo
- ▶ Lighting and sidewalks in the Harewood/ South Nanaimo area. New neighborhoods in south Nanaimo are lacking connectivity to rest of Harewood– difficult to walk to VIU as you have to walk along busy roads with no pathways unless you take the path along the highway and through the forest. After 5pm in the winter this route is not possible without a flashlight and does not feel safe.
- ▶ Look at European cities that use commuter trains, trams and trellises to get people out of cars. Time for commuter train to Victoria!

- ▶ Look at old routes that have become main arterials and put in sidewalks, bike lanes and speed bumps/ other traffic calming measures. Roads such as Jingle Pot, Lost Lake road etc.
- ▶ Lots of places where the curb area could be improved for safety, but I feel that this is improving already. Proper lighted cross walks are needed in many areas of the city but near the schools (including the elementary) especially (Townsite, Bruce, Uplands). Overhead pass near Bowen and Island Hwy. by Country Club.
- ▶ Lower speeds on roads, smaller roads to improve walking routes. Tax dollars for sidewalks/walking path only – no for bikes. Active transportation concerns are bike accidents, speeding/swerving cyclists, cost of bike/SUV, bike coalitions, reduction in green living landscapes. Designate the climate crisis as a top priority. This project would measure the use of natural areas and soils, the use of cement, asphalt, gravel against any carbon neutrality.
- ▶ LRT from South Nanaimo, 10th St area, to an area around Fountain tire near North Town Mall with rapid bus route to Woodgrove mall.  
No place to buy men’s clothing on the south end until Country Club mall.
- ▶ Make active transportation routes a priority for safety, speed and convenience while enacting policies to discourage single vehicle use.
- ▶ Make better and safer bike routes.
- ▶ Make cycling safe for the people who want to cycle all the time. I have almost been hit by motorists on many occasions because I had no choice but to use the roadways. The bike trails are not set up for those of us who want to shop, commute and go about our daily lives without driving a car. It’s downright inconvenient and dangerous at times.
- ▶ make driving less convenient. reduce lane width. Lengthen light cycles. Reduce overall lanes. Bowen, for example, is ridiculous in terms of the space it takes. 1 lane each way is more than sufficient. I bike there sometimes and the idiots in pick-up trucks (almost always) drive fast and aggressively towards cyclists here. Nanaimo could be one of the most walkable/bikeable small cities in Canada if we simply reduce the number of cars on the roads.
- ▶ Make it easier to change from route to route
- ▶ Make more dedicated bike lanes and repaint worn off bike route signage on road surfaces. Encourage police to crackdown when witnessing drivers acting aggressively towards cyclists.
- ▶ Make Nanaimo less vehicle-centric and more pedestrian and bicycle-friendly.
- ▶ Make sure any new developments have amenities within walking distance and are served by transit. Provide more frequent shuttle service to ferries that dovetails with ferry schedule. Keep building safe biking and walking infrastructure. Consider whether traffic circles are effective.
- ▶ Make the busses to PULL OFF the road!!!! into the BUS STOP AREAS OFF THE ROAD!... so they don’t back up traffic behind them, we are all in our cars idling behind Nanaimo city buses that stop ON THE roadway to pick up and discharge passengers. Get the transit schedules to link up better and run for more hours per day and service farther destinations , ie: Woodgrove to Cassidy and also to Lantzville-currently it’s a joke trying to navigate to those areas without it taking hours.
- ▶ Make the signed bike routes safer with a designated bike lane. Right now some areas just have a bike painted on the side of the road and I don’t always feel the drivers want me to survive.
- ▶ Make the train tracks into a rail trail.
- ▶ Making Hammond Bay Road safe for cycling and walking

- ▶ Mandating that new developments include “daily destinations” such as shopping, other services and places of work -- mixed use developments -- so residents can walk and/or cycle EASILY and SAFELY to these destinations . Also, allowing residents of existing neighbourhoods to open up small home businesses that do not have restrictions such as “enough parking spaces” to create walkable neighborhoods and connect people.
- ▶ Many bike paths and bike lanes suddenly run out and the cyclist is back in traffic. Complete bike lanes and narrow car lanes.
- ▶ “Massive investment in electrified public transit. Build the capacity as a public service rather than in response to need. People (like myself) will not use public transit frequently until I can depend on it for the majority of my transportation. Until that occurs, there is no incentive for me to use public transportation. Increase residential density at the same time as increasing public transit investment (and no more parking spaces). Make it easier and cheaper to not have a car than to have a car in Nanaimo.”
- ▶ More awareness on bus times and more frequently!
- ▶ More bicycle tracks
- ▶ More bike lanes
- ▶ More bike lanes and routes.
- ▶ More bike lanes and walking areas are needed.
- ▶ More bike lanes or even the ability to rent bikes at a low cost.
- ▶ More bike lanes separated from cars, trucks and buses
- ▶ More bike lanes separated from cars/buses
- ▶ More bike lanes  
Downtown bike centre - with safe bike lock up area (lights, cameras, security guard) and bike repair options (air, tools..)  
Close Commercial St to vehicle traffic  
Free parking just outside of downtown core - encourage people to bike/walk/park away  
Free public transit - more people using the transit would make it more worthwhile to spend money to improve it and would get people out of their cars.  
Connect the waterfront trail - allow a bike lane along it.
- ▶ More bike lanes, for example Jingle pot road.
- ▶ More bike lanes.
- ▶ More bike lanes. Hammond Bay road is dangerous on a bike and silly bits and pieces of bike lanes do not help overall.
- ▶ “More bike pathways  
Sidewalks on all streets  
Better lighting at night”
- ▶ More buses- Regular routes - easy access- Electric or Hydrogen buses.
- ▶ More clearly marked cycle lanes. Dedicated cycle routes to allow access to key destinations such as downtown and major work places, Victoria has fantastic cycling infrastructure.
- ▶ More convenient destinations
- ▶ More covered bus stops and more sidewalks

- ▶ more cycling and please lets connect up the existing cycling networks. The current cycling network seems to be designed by a fat guy in a car not a cyclist!!
- ▶ more cycling routes, more frequent and better bus connections
- ▶ More dedicated bike lanes
- ▶ More dedicated bike routes, some routes which have a barrier between bike and car.
- ▶ More dedicated bike/pedestrian paths – wider lanes for safety, physical barriers between cycling path and the roads.
- ▶ More dedicated biking paths
- ▶ More dedicated cycling routes – and not just a bicycle sign painted on the road. Bike routes must be continuous, not stop and start, as eg. the one on Dover Road is.  
A walking/cycling route along the entire waterfront would be excellent.
- ▶ More direct bus routes. Quit removing bus routes. More buses with more frequent direct routes.
- ▶ More EV charging stations and somewhere to charge up electric bicycles and motorcycle (these usually use level 1 plugs).
- ▶ MORE FLOW THRU STREETS, LESS TRAFFIC LIGHTS ON MAIN STREETS, WHICH CAUSES BACKUPS AND ACCIDENTS, CLOVERLEAFS AND OVERPASSES ARE REQUIRED, THIS CITY IS GROWING AND WE NEED GOOD ROADS IN THE FUTURE.
- ▶ More frequent bus routes in the south end . Connecting with duke pt. ferry , ladysmith etc.
- ▶ More frequent busses.  
Better connectivity throughout the city.  
More protected bike lanes, more bike lanes in general, Terminal ave has 0 bike lanes and it scares the heck out of me when I have to pass someone biking in the car lane because it's 'illegal' to bike on the side walk and there is no bike lane for them to be in. As a driver I also feel better when there is some kind of indication (bumper strip, pylons) separating the car and bike lane so i know i'm not going to hit someone.  
  
I would also bike more if i ever felt safe to but I frankly don't."
- ▶ More projects like Metral Drive. That one is very exciting!
- ▶ More protected, dedicated biking lanes. More sidewalks. More signage for hiking and biking lanes, trails, areas, specific trails.
- ▶ More routes and more frequent service.
- ▶ More routes, more frequency, more tech savvy (ie vancouver system)
- ▶ More safe bicycle and walking routes. Hammond Bay Road is an example of an unsafe route in many parts.
- ▶ More separated bike/walk lanes and paths connecting neighbourhoods so you can avoid using major driving routes. Make Hammond Bay safe for bikes.
- ▶ More services for mobility challenged
- ▶ More shelters are needed at bus stops. At major hubs there are shelters but at most others there might only be a bench. Protection from the elements while waiting makes taking transit safer
- ▶ More sidewalks and bike lanes.

- ▶ More sidewalks and regulated pedestrian crossings. More small businesses within walkable distance from residential developments.
- ▶ More sidewalks! Sidewalk down 6th st connecting Colliery Dam and Centennial Park... why doesn't this exist?
- ▶ More sidewalks, bike lanes.
- ▶ more sidewalks.
- ▶ More speakers dedicated bike lanes. Path from departure bay to the south end along the water
- ▶ More, smaller, more frequent buses on more routes between neighbourhoods and nearest shopping areas/hubs
- ▶ "My wife and I are avid walkers and find many area's dangerous to walk.

Maffeo Sutton park has some signage for where bikes and skateboards can travel and this is not enforced. It can be very dangerous around the waterfront stores.

Most of the bike lanes are just a short distance and just end without warning

Many areas on the Island highway have no way for pedestrians to cross for long sections, so many walkers are on the shoulder of the road in the dark many times walking with traffic instead of against the traffic with very poor lighting.

Also not enough of the crosswalks have flashing lights as many cars will not stop for pedestrians "

- ▶ Nanaimo has a lot of work to do to embrace inclusion for people who use wheelchairs or walkers, and electric scooters. There are many areas where the sidewalk suddenly ends with a curb, or a step, which means that a wheelchair using person has to turn around and try another way, which may or may not exist. I feel this is a priority for our city; it is disgraceful that a lot of Nanaimo is still not wheelchair accessible.
- ▶ Nanaimo has excellent cycling trails & paths but frequently they are signed very poorly making them hard to find as well as where they go. They should be interconnected when possible too.
- ▶ "Nanaimo has very very poor end of trip facilities. There is often nowhere to lock up a bike anywhere near my destination. A relatively cheap and easy fix would be to install bike racks in every single commercial area in town. Anywhere that has a parking lot also should have a bike rack.

Nanaimo also needs better infrastructure to make walking and cycling safe. For example, hammond bay road is a terrifying place to ride a bike, and DFO is a huge employer there. The recent upgrades have been very disappointing in their inadequate integration of sidewalks and bike lanes."

- ▶ "Nanaimo is an elongated city, making it difficult to get across the city with ease unless you have a car or have the patience to wait for multiple buses. There needs to be a central transportation means that takes you across the city like a light rail system or utilize the R&N tracks within the city. Once you are within a certain area, the buses are pretty good reaching within the communities.

Having more sidewalks in the neighbourhoods would be great as many times the roads are narrow and there is no pedestrian space to walk except on the roads. Which is dangerous for pedestrians especially when Nanaimo is full of narrow, windy roads. Also connecting the boardwalk from downtown to Departure bay ferry terminal would be great as there are a few paths just not connected."

- ▶ Nanaimo is behind other island communities in developing safe and attractive walking and cycling infrastructure. Perhaps it is time to stop catering so heavily to the majority who only want to use cars.
- ▶ Nanaimo is hilly! Consider areas where cyclists are forced to stop in a valley. For example, roundabouts in place of 4 way stops would help cyclists maintain some speed to go up hill out of a valley without losing momentum.
- ▶ Nanaimo isn't conducive to biking because of the hilly terrain. I tried the Parkway route once and the hills nearly killed me. If there was financial assistance in purchasing an e-bike, I'd certainly consider that.
- ▶ Nanaimo needs more bike lanes and side walks. More one way streets and traffic dampening
- ▶ Nanaimo's transit and active transit system should look like a tree trunk or spine with high capacity high frequency service along the primary trunk (E&N corridor) fed by feeder branches served with lower capacity and frequency along the branch routes. Is it possible to develop a high frequency electric tram service along the E& N rail system?
- ▶ Narrow roads so vehicles slow down.
- ▶ Need a way better commitment from the city to create a way better connected, more safe active transportation infrastructure. More protected bike paths, more sidewalks, WAY more traffic calming measures (traffic circles, speed bumps, cul de sacs, speed limit reductions).
- ▶ Need more bus routes in South End to college, shopping, ferries, airport. Service in Chase River is sadly lacking
- ▶ Need more frequent and later busses.
- ▶ NEED SIDE WALKS. Get control of that rail road and create a bus/Bike/Walk Route Save time for everyone. Run a bus route along it so you can get from north nanaimo to downtown to Cedar. Need better lighting on some streets as well.
- ▶ Neighbourhood road safety has not been addressed in your questionnaires although that may be a future consideration. The access and egress for the area bounded by Departure Bay Road, Rock City Road, Hwy 19A, and Norwell Drive is at times dangerous. To go into town from here is difficult unless you go down Departure Bay Road but then you are impacting 3 school zones. Turning left out of Wassell Drive onto Departure Bay Road is poorly planned with a bus stop, high school, misaligned Barons Road with crosswalk and a strip mall with numerous entrances and exits all impeding a safe turn many times of the day. We also see many illegal left turns from Rock City Road onto Hwy 19A by frustrated drivers. Most residence use the private alley between Norwell Drive and Country Club Drive and do a u-turn at the entrance to Country Club Centre. The visibility is not great for doing this, but it is far safer than using Wassell. The problem could be eliminated with a light at Rock City Road and Hwy 19A.
- ▶ New road improvements should always take into consideration cycling. Make downtown a one-way and use extra space for patios, cycle lane.
- ▶ No
- ▶ No more piece meal bike and pedestrian lanes
- ▶ not at this time
- ▶ Not more bike lanes for sure. Waste of money and under utilized. We live in a rain forest. Improved frequency of buses.
- ▶ Nothing now
- ▶ Nothing your making it worse with dedicated bike lanes, the only way you know what's working is to see in

all weather conditions on daily use. I do not see anyone from the city doing this.

- ▶ off ramps for the parkway overpasses and underpasses. Waaaaaaaay too many lights in this city too much traffic too many lights
- ▶ one big electric train running through Nanaimo across the town because when you are let for the bus you will have to wait and get in trouble from you teacher
- ▶ One thing I can't do by foot or bike is get my kayak to the waterfront. If there were places at the waterfront I could rent to store my kayak and lock my bike, I could leave my car at home for local paddles.
- ▶ Only put bike lanes in where there is room. By bike lanes by McGirr school are dangerous for riders and drivers
- ▶ Open up Opal rd to traffic again...now I have to drive further, creating more greenhouse gas emissions and potential insurance claims by have to drive thru areas of high collision frequency...terrible bike access and bus transport ion access in the area...30+ minutes to walk to a bus, then a 20 minute bus ride, only to walk another 10-20 minutes to get to work from last bus stop...was under ten minutes before Opal rd was closed and that was driving at or below the speed limits...lots of children and wildlife in the area so no need to speed.
- ▶ "'-overhaul of Nanaimo transit routes
  - bike lanes - more and don't start and stop randomly along a route
  - bike activated traffic signals and/or bike friendly press buttons (on both directions of route, unlike at townsite highway where there is a great bike-push button traveling NE but if you come up the hill there only button is the walking one that is WAY off the roadway. "
- ▶ Overpasses at dangerous intersections.
- ▶ Park and ride or park and cyle areas.
- ▶ Pathways for walking and cycling end in the city. Making it difficult to feel safe and have good efficient routes. Extending the E & N trail so it extended from North to South Nanaimo would encourage safer more effective transport all the way through the city.
- ▶ People do not bike to work due to lack of bike ease of parking, safty and connections are difficult.
- ▶ "People use cars because they are the most convenient and efficient method of travel in a city the size of Nanaimo. Nothing the city does will improve on that. Over 50 years ago while living in Vancouver I used the bus even though I owned a car because it was convenient for going to the city center. Most Nanaimo streets have sidewalks for those who wish to use them. In the 1950s and 60s we rode our bicycles on the sidewalk and respected pedestrians' safety. Your bicycle lanes are dangerous and unnecessary. HandyDart is a good service as are buses for those who don't have cars, but buses should not be subsidized by those who have cars. Agenda 2030 UN-sustainability goals - 'doing the wrong thing everywhere'.

Climate Change from an insider:

Following is a quote from Dr. Ottmar Endenhofer

IPCC co-chair of Working Group #3,

November 13, 2010 interview H/t Dr. Charles Battig

We UN-IPCC redistribute de facto the world's wealth by climate policy..."  
 "One has to free oneself from the illusion that international climate policy is environmental policy. This has almost nothing to do with environmental

policy any more..." and even less today, 10 years later .

- ▶ Pilot your surveys! Poor design!!! Define that you mean using walking or biking to get places, not just exercising. Provide \$ incentives for bike lock ups.
- ▶ Plan for active transportation as a priority rather than adding it on as an afterthought
- ▶ Plant a flower bed that spells "Nanaimo" on the empty grass embankment that is visible when you arrive by float plane. Widen the narrow pedestrian ramp in Sway Lana Park by converting the existing wide staircase that nobody uses (right next to the ramp) into a second ramp. Add traffic calming and pedestrian controlled crosswalks on Nicol and Terminal. Open up the narrow boarded up pedestrian alleyways from Commercial St to Terminal to give access to businesses there and add some funk. Identify and link ALL forms of public transport throughout the city and the whole island in a user-friendly way so people don't run into dead-ends with poor scheduling/lack of service and finally give up and buy a car (true story). Continue the good work on turning the industrial harbourfront into cool urban space with green parkways, community docks, shops, galleries, cafes etc. Extending the walkway it in both directions. Provide transportation service from Nanaimo to points south (Duke Point ferry, Ladysmith, Crofton ferry, Duncan, Mill bay ferry, Victoria). Repair the rail line before it's lost forever. Extend the E&N bike trail into the south end somehow. Add bike paths everywhere and paint them green like in Victoria and Vancouver. Add nice bike and bus shelters. Make the bus stops visible (ex. Red curb, bench) and provide route and scheduling information there. Mandate that developers include car-share spaces, electric vehicle charging stations, and covered bike racks. Make sure roads include sidewalks (preferably with trees, benches). Plant trees like Oak, Arbutus, Dogwood, and evergreens in the median along the Parkway. Consider making the downtown core a pedestrian zone during the summer months.
- ▶ Plant trees between cycling paths and the highways they run alongside. There is nothing more unpleasant than a well-made cycling/walking path with a noisy, ugly highway beside it (ie the path running from Terminal Park to Long Lake). Trees are cheap, use them to improve the city.
- ▶ PLEASE finish the waterfront walk from Port Place to Departure Bay Beach.
- ▶ Please build a sidewalk on Lost Lake road
- ▶ Please build more bike lanes/shared pathways.
- ▶ "Please build the boardwalk/walkway along the water and link up the downtown harbour front with Departure Bay, Pipers Lagoon & Neck Point. Highlight this as a city feature.

Please fix goofy, outdated intersections that are now unsafe with higher traffic volume. (E.g. intersection of Mary Ellen Drive and Chapters) and also the weird left turn lane to Costco just past the Old Island Hwy & Aulds Rd/Hammond Bay Rd intersection is outdated and dangerous.

Please build sidewalks and retrofit older neighbourhood with sidewalks! ☐

Please incorporate bike lanes and boulevards into streets planning. Please consider green spaces and design in the planning. Please add trees along the horribly exposed bike/pedestrian pathway that runs along the Old Island highway."

- ▶ please consider creating "park and ride" areas along the highway. I commute to Duncan for work and there is nowhere to conveniently meet my fellow carpoolers where I can leave my car for the day. The tourist info lot at the end of Northfield parking is limited to a few hours.
- ▶ Please extend the E&N trail north. Unfortunately the Parkway trail is very up and down and has limited use because it is not flat enough for most cyclists and walkers. I cycle commute to work, but often worry

about my safety.

- ▶ please have a continuous travel corridor between south and north nanaimo and make it nice to use. For example, the travel corridor that follows the old highway is ugly (garbage everywhere, no trees, no garbage cans, etc).
- ▶ Please have bikes in their own lane I do not feel safe to travel by bike on the road, and it is illegal to ride on the sidewalk. This is my main reason I don't consider biking to be a viable alternative. Eventually having a train system in place would be ideal, especially connecting to other cities on the island instead of driving. Additionally more beautiful walkways that connect to parks (such as Hammond bay connecting to the waterfront).
- ▶ Please insure that bike accessibility is part of any new development. Also any downtown waterfront development should have walk, bike, ebike access to reduce dependence on vehicle use.
- ▶ Please keep cycle paths and pedestrian trails separate. It is alarming and dangerous to have cyclists speeding by close to me when I am walking (e.g. E & N trail, Parkway Trail, Colliery Dam, Bowen Park, sections of waterfront walkway where bikes are actually NOT allowed. More signs and information about the shared spaces are needed. Please note I am a fast walker and feel someone on foot should have equal rights to use that mode of travel as cyclists . Please give priority to designating more space for those on foot along all our roads which would encourage healthy, non polluting movement between our neighbourhoods.
- ▶ "Please make waiting for the bus less open to the elements. The icy wind off the water is too much for this old timer!  
Parking by the water at Departure Bay is at a premium and the situation by the Kin Hut diabolical. Perhaps boaters/kayakers could be persuaded to park elsewhere. When children attending classes at the Kin Hut are on the street it becomes absurdly dangerous."
- ▶ Please put bike lanes on jinglpot rd as that is a route more would take from North to south.
- ▶ Please REPAINT the cycling route symbols on roadway. Traffic still treats bicycles like an inconvenience as opposed to having a legal right to share the road.
- ▶ "Priority should be put on providing every major and minor arterial road with at least one safe (sidewalk or roll curbed) pedestrian area on at least ONE side.  
Transparency in decision making process should be paramount with pedestrian infrastructure improvements. At present, there is much talk and written documentation saying that a in depth list of criteria is considered, but is never provided when Council or residents request to see it. There is the suggestion that decisions are being made based on anecdotal evidence, misinterpretation of thin available data, Staff biases, and/or on what is financially/politically/logistically easiest.  
Identify strategic gaps to a few critical corridors which would bring the highest return to the overall system, rather than doing bits and pieces all over the City, sometimes because they are 'easier' to tackle."
- ▶ "Provide more access for seniors. All these questions are aimed at young people. Seniors need to be able to get around too. Bicycles are not an option for some of us. "
- ▶ Provide proper sidewalks along ALL streets, including residential side streets, so that people are not having to walk on the road at all! Another option for residential side streets without sidewalks, is to at least provide proper area for cars to park off the street so that people don't have to walk in the middle of the road while walking past a car that currently has to park on the road!
- ▶ Provide pull outs for transit buses so that they do not impede vehicular traffic which causes delays and increased emissions

- ▶ Providing more raised sidewalks on streets that either do not have them, or only have one on one side of the street. Especially in school zones.
- ▶ Public awareness and improved and beautified routes. For example the bike route along side the inland highway is full of root ridges and lot holes. There are zero trees along the E&N, it is gulag and along side a highway. Plus there is glass and blackberry thorns on the bike routes. It is unpleasant to commute by bike in Nanaimo. Unless something changes, the people of Nanaimo are going to choke on their complacency. I saw 12 cars lined up this AM at the Starbucks drive through. Then I saw several people with their cars on looking at their cell phones. There needs to be a huge public awareness campaign to and infrastructure to get people out of their cars and actively moving themselves around. Maybe a large carbon tax and paid parking everywhere would help. Also a quality infrastructure could help. I rarely needed to use my car while living in Vancouver, I walked to work and rode my bike and took transit everywhere.
- ▶ Put a sidewalk on 9th street from Howard ave to Bruce ave. Steep hill, lots of trucks, big ditch is the only way off the road. Really dangerous in the winter. Also have busses pull off where they can and let the traffic pass them, they have traffic backed up through the busy intersection at Northfeild and Bowen to unload passengers.
- ▶ "Put bike lanes on less busy streets. The proposed bike lane on Departure Bay Road, from Departure Beach to Terminal Park Mall is the WORST place to put a bike route. Who wants to cycle beside cars going up the hill spewing exhaust. Why not use Glenayr and Lynburn. One still rides up the same hill, gets to the same destination, but the view is better and the air is cleaner. Plus Glenayr is a bus route so you can connect bus and bike routes!  
I do not see how you can get a wide demographic of people riding bikes by using busy streets. What Mom and Dad would be comfortable taking their kids up and down Departure Bay road. Science proves that one's stress level increases when in a loud and busy environment. I ride my bike a lot in this city and I avoid many of the currently created bike routes for exactly that reason. Loud, stinky and stressful. I have found routes that are away from the busy streets, get me to my destination in about the same time, and all the while I enjoy the journey.  
Same for Bowen Road, wrong spot entirely. It will attract the hard core commuter cyclists, but not Mom and Pop taking the kids for an ice cream cone on a sunny evening. In Europe and the US, they consider a bike route successful when a wide range of people use it, and I do not see that happening here. A lot of money being spent for a very small gain in NEW ridership."
- ▶ Quality over quantity? Good city planners working to maximize the difficult landscape we have. There is a lot of animosity towards bike lanes on major routes, or that pass by shops, and I'm always shocked by how angry drivers get at cyclists. Harm reduction and fostering mutual respect very important.
- ▶ "Rapid transit corridors  
Small electric busses - make public transit a novelty or desire. Perhaps like the golf carts at Calgary airport. Make it fun! Make it convenient. Mall to mall? "
- ▶ Reduce our dependence on the automobile. The statistic of 79% solo car use to get around says it all. Car culture must go if we are to survive as a city.
- ▶ "Reduce speed limits on non-highway roads (and down to 30 in residential neighbourhoods) as most cars and truck exceed limits by 10km.  
Add more dedicated bike lanes separated from cars/trucks and also pedestrians in addition to the highway parallel routes.  
Increase frequency of buses - use smaller buses.  
"
- ▶ Reintroduction of passenger rail.

- ▶ Remember we all age, this is a hilly city well spread out.
- ▶ Remove the curbs that jut out into the bike lane at the end of roundabouts e.g. Rutherford. They force bikes into traffic suddenly.
- ▶ Replace more of the large highway size buses with more buses that are smaller and more nimble for neighbourhood routes.
- ▶ Require safe bike lockup options at malls and stores.
- ▶ "Requirement for businesses to provide bike racks. zoning changes that create more hubs. Greenrock area is a great example of grouping of business, commercial and residential. "
- ▶ "Ridiculous options. Most use vehicles. Older people don't want to be stuffed into buses, especially with Covid. Looks like all your initiatives are all right out of UN Agenda 21. The 800 apt. complex that was allowed to be built on across from Thrifty's plaza on Uplands is a monstrosity. That area is already too dense. Do you really think people want to be stacked up in high rises, only allowed to go anywhere if they ride a bike or walk? Purely delusional. THAT is not quality of life. Bunch of control freaks. "
- ▶ Right now I don't mind that we don't have bus service but, as I age, I will likely want to use public transportation. I want to stay in my home as long as possible!
- ▶ rip up the e&n tracks and put in cycling paths, introduce VTOL landing and take-off sites in multiple locations in the city and a dedicated navcanada approved flight control centre for VTOLs like Drone Delivery Canada is starting on in Toronto for shipping and ultimately people moving purposes
- ▶ Safe bike lanes. If you build it they will adapt. Look at what amsterdam did in the 70s. It was a car city. We can do this nanaimo. Go all in on bikes.
- ▶ Safe charging areas for e-bikes and scooters besides electric cars.
- ▶ "Safe lockups for bike is important. I often don't cycle to the stores because of this. Even with effective locks, to come out and have your bike stripped in broad daylight is troubling. "
- ▶ Safe Walking and safe cycling routes in downtown nanaimo. It's a very walkable place , but geared to cars and not pedestrians. Would live to see this change.
- ▶ safer cycling route along Hammond Bay Road
- ▶ Safer highway crossings to connect communities with parks and bike lanes (underpass near Nanaimo Golf Course!).
- ▶ Sea wall trail from downtown to departure bay
- ▶ Secure Bike storage and locking areas where bikes won't get stolen. E-bikes are \$2,000+ and I wouldn't;t leave them almost anywhere in the city. I live on Protection Island and there is no public transportation option. As well, there is no dedicated boat docking for Protention residence on the Nanaimo side and the island desperately needs another public dock for residents as there is limited space at the current one.
- ▶ Secure Bike Storage options in the downtown core PLEASE
- ▶ separate bike and walking lanes (separate walkers from cyclists and separate both from cars/trucks/ buses etc)
- ▶ Separate bike lanes around town and especially downtown would make it safer to ride a bike. The reason

I do not ride a bike because it is so unsafe to do so. I grew up in a country that uses bikes as their main transportation (Netherlands).

- ▶ Separate bikes and cars always
- ▶ Separate biking lanes would be an improvement and no cars allowed on Commercial Street would be great.
- ▶ Separated bike lanes!!! Sidewalks. I have never lived anywhere so car dependent in my life!! This city is sprawling and not in a good way
- ▶ seriously invest in proper, safe, separated from motor vehicles, connected active transportation infrastructure, and maintenance of said infrastructure.
- ▶ Shared Pathways are better than bike lanes. Bike lanes like those on Boundary Avenue are difficult to navigate as both a cyclist and a driver. It makes visibility very poor. Shared pathways would be a better and safer investment.
- ▶ Sidewalks
- ▶ Sidewalks and crosswalks please in logical places that connect to each other especially near schools and parks.
- ▶ "Sidewalks everywhere, please. Dedicated bike lanes.

Train drivers to open their doors with RIGHT hand, forcing them to check over shoulder for cyclists (as is the practice in the Netherlands)."

- ▶ "Sidewalks on all roads in all areas. Duh. New development should have a large buffer or boulevard between the sidewalk and the road. "
- ▶ Sidewalks on both sides on the street should be the norm. It's not practical to keep crossing the street to get to a sidewalk especially with young kids and strollers
- ▶ Sidewalks on every road should be a goal. Why is there no sidewalk on stretches of Hammond Bay road? Safer intersections especially those on the E&N Trail along the highway. Those slip lanes are a hazard to cyclists and pedestrians. Bike lanes should be a bit better thought out. Many of them just end randomly, like the one on Townsite Rd. Also there should be better long distance connectivity, why is there no safe road or trail to cycle from Nanaimo to Ladysmith, or Nanaimo to Parksville?
- ▶ Sidewalks protected by boulevards, traffic taming so there can be more crosswalks, bicycles are licensed and not ridden on sidewalks, longer signaling for crosswalks, electric bikes, scooters etc licensed and required to use bike lanes
- ▶ Sidewalks would be helpful. Many parts of Nanaimo lack basic sidewalks. Sidewalks add safety and walkability. Boulevards, trees, etc add enjoyment and pleasure for people. Rest stops for walkers, (benches, green spaces). Link walking and cycling routes to rest areas and transit. Combine a walking and cycling route that goes from the south end to the north end of town and have it next to an express bus route that goes back and forth frequently.
- ▶ sidewalks
- ▶ Sidewalks!! So many places do not have them yet. try walking from Woodgrove to Costco, there is no safe walk unless you cross to Applecross, and you have to walk to either end of Woodgrove to cross, where the lights take for ever to allow safe crossing. parking lots should have walkways not just along the front of the mall or building, but around the perimeter as well. Walking thru Northfield involves unsafe areas thru the parking lot, or getting run over by bikes in the bike lanes. Metral has sidewalks on one side

only. Four way stops!! Cross lights!! Walking down McRobb and crossing Applecross is worth your life, as speeding cars to and from Costco ignore pedestrians travelling to Portsmouth.

- ▶ Sidewalks, pedestrian overpasses and street lights are desperately needed along Hwy 19 that connect downtown Nanaimo to the north part of town for the safety of pedestrians.
- ▶ “Simple things like lit crosswalks and sidewalks would go a very long way. I know I was very much caught off guard by the shared shoulders in areas such as Harewood, which is beside VIU and that close to downtown. Its something I’d expect in a smaller rural community and not a larger center like Nanaimo. Big scale active transport like Metral is awesome and should be encouraged too, but the simple investments can also go a very logn way.

Counterintuitively, the transit system in Nanaimo actually ended up making me buy a car! Even though I was between VIU and Downtown and had decent access to transit, the frequency and speed made it exceptionally challenging to go to major destinations like the ferry or even within downtown and Harewood. Woodgrove service isn’t terrible but could use more frequency. Also, it’s very expensive and the infrastructure for bus stops was quite sad and lacking. My smaller community in Northern BC could have safe and proper bus stop signs at every stop, while near my apartment I had a bus ribbon on a telephone pole in a ditch. Not what I was expecting from a city like Nanaimo. “

- ▶ “Slow city,waliking city no more shopping centers,parking lots.use small buses Increase handydart evening,weekend services”
- ▶ Slow down traffic, less car traffic esp. downtown, Commercial Street closed to traffic,
- ▶ Smaller and more frequent bus service.
- ▶ smaller buses more frequently might make ridership go up
- ▶ “Smaller buses running more frequently.  
””Kneeling”” platforms at entrance for those with mobility problems (steps are too high) & parents with babies. “
- ▶ Smaller energy efficient buses. The standard size buses are almost empty in my experience and seem such a waste. Until people start using buses more, use small buses and increase the size when route use demand it. More frequent use will come with more stops (they are too far apart) and better transfer system and more frequent buses on the routes.
- ▶ Smaller vehicles should be incorporated. The large vehicles travelling through communities is inappropriate and inefficient use of resources.
- ▶ Smaller, more distributed electric transit vehicles
- ▶ Speed controlled communities, speeding through neighborhoods is a big problem, specifically in Barrington rd area.
- ▶ “Spend money on connecting up scattered pieces in one big project, then do nothing else for several years vs. doing a little bit every year.  
OR start with completing the active transportation zones around every elementary school, then every high school, and then expand the zones outward”
- ▶ “Spend taxes on road improvement, not more bike lanes! You are ignoring the necessary movement of goods and services!  
”
- ▶ “Start a planning process in areas by use. Seniors do more walking in areas with fractured or no sidewalks.

There is no common sense planning only those who complain the most gets 50 feet of sidewalk that needs others to pay the costs. Try taking a walk down hammond bay road or better yet crossing it in many areas.

Oh I almost forgot there are other areas in nanaimo than downtown.

What is point of this survey.....one of many in all the years I have lived here most of the walking I can do is on the road without sidewalks."

- ▶ Start connecting bike routes
- ▶ "Stop catering to the vehicle. The Boxwood Connector is my favourite example of something that is not necessary - make the land into a park instead. Put left hand turn lights at the intersection of Northfield and Bowen. Reducing traffic congestion only works for a short while.

Actually make transparent and logical plans for filling in missing pedestrian infrastructure and making walking safe. When the plans are made, actually implement them. We don't need sidewalks on every road in Nanaimo BUT we do need them many places where they currently don't exist. Yes, it is expensive, but add up all the money that has been spent on vehicle infrastructure over the years. Let other modes catch up. Even more crucial is allowing pedestrians the ability to safely cross a road at a crosswalk by putting in pedestrian activated lighting systems. This is even more crucial at crosswalks where people have been killed or seriously injured, despite what your lawyers might tell you.

Everybody walks\rolls at some point in their journey.

As an aside, I disagree with the scale being used in question one. You're going to end up with 99% of respondents saying they drive often because they use a car more than once a week. Then you can justify spending money on vehicle infrastructure. Is that what you are going for? My neighbours across the street get in their vehicles numerous times a day and drive short distances (never saw them walk until the pandemic). I may use a vehicle once or twice a week to take a senior friend out to an activity or go to the North End of the city for something I can't carry on the bus or go out at night because I don't feel safe walking. There is a big difference. "

- ▶ Stop installing vertical curbs at the edge of "narrow" streets - deadly to cyclists. Stop installing sidewalks one lot at a time on bike commuter routes, ie Uplands Drive - deadly to cyclists. Consider cyclist safety when trialing traffic calming measures, ie Departure Bay Road new narrowments - deadly to cyclists. The new speed bumps on Bay Street are great, maybe try those on D Bay Road instead
- ▶ Stop making it harder for the 90+% supermajority of people who travel by car! Fuck off with bike lanes, stop giving the idiot on opal road special treatment by providing them a taxpayer supplied private road with public money etc etc. Set up traffic light timing to not have enormous volumes of traffic stop at each light in succession. What a huge waste
- ▶ Stop procrastinating and start building more connected active transportation infrastructure of all kinds for all ages and abilities. Too much talk and not enough action.
- ▶ "Stop trying to impose a socialist agenda on us. This is not Venesuela"
- ▶ "Stop wasting tax dollars!  
People are lazy.....look how few people use the bike lanes we have already!  
We have too many bureaucrats wasting tax dollars!  
Look how many city vehicles there are. And on the roads....start getting rid of that huge cost first! And the City employees use city vehicles for their coffee breaks, trips home during the day, for lunch, and to and from work...on our dime!

“

- ▶ “Thank you for this exercise: I see there is a lot of effort to improve the situation but I still see near misses almost every time I ride or walk in the city. There is a lack of connections between bike path, walking path and too often no choice but to use high(er) risk routes where fast moving traffic is constantly moving. Bowen Road is a good example, Boxwood Road is another good example of new upgrades that missed the opportunity to integrate better cycling and walking path. Walking along East Wellington to the new park from Dufferin is a high risk exercise when with a child (or even as an adult.) – especially on the hill coming back from the new park – motorists tend to cut the white line without seeing what is in front of them – it is an accident, probably fatal, waiting to happen. There should be a physical separation like I saw elsewhere in two. Better connection between Jingle Pot /Westwood area and Buttertubs area (moving towards downtown) would be very much used. In another area, the E&N trail should extend all the way to Nanaimo North to avoid having to ride on busy roads from Mostar/Rutherford area while stopping at Canadian Tire mall area. The Parkway is great but it is far if you live on the other side (east) of the highway. The connection to north end of town is a must in my opinion. Roundabouts are great when you drive but if on a bike route, connecting bike paths for example, they create a hazard for cyclists and pedestrians too. New bike paths should be separated from cars as much as possible and the design well thought. The new upgrades on Waddington, in front of the hospital are good but they created other hazards where motorists often don’t see cyclists coming because of parked vehicles. I have had near misses there. I have had near misses on Bowen of course which I try to avoid as much as I can. I tend to ride in the alleys and use Boxwood – Boxwood is safer.

Crossing the bridge on East Wellington over the highway heading toward Westwood is also very high risk. Many motorist insist on passing to gain 1 second – why not make it one at a time, just like the old blue bridge in Victoria – make motorists wait a bit, like I say just a second or two, really.

Pedestrian crossings are often unsafe – for instance the crossing near the Christian School on Holland Rd. Motorists don’t stop. There should be a light.”

- ▶ “The active transportation network is seriously underdeveloped. It’s unsafe for pedestrians and cyclists. Transit has exceptionally poor service and is uncomfortable. Roads are designed to encourage speeding and considering their traffic load are over designed for volume.

Also, this section is represents an incomplete survey, designed to give you nothing more than a confirmation of your own biases. You need to ask things like: How do you typically get to work? How do you typically get to shopping? parks? events? etc. You might want to know how much of their budget they spend on transportation, how many cars and bikes are in their household. How many kilometres do you walk in a day? Ask as though you are interested in what people know and not what they think and feel.”

- ▶ The addition of more bus routes. More buses and less wait time if you miss a bus.
- ▶ The bike lanes start and end all over the city – this is not an active transportation network. We need safe, dedicated, fully-connected routes that provide space for multiple forms of active transportation.
- ▶ The biking corridors are sporadic, with some good ones linking to dangerous ones. Try taking an exit off the Parkway Trail east on Rutherford. No thanks – I ride on the sidewalk because it’s safer. In the opposite direction to Jinglepot, there’s very little room for cyclists and the road edges are often in serious disrepair.
- ▶ the bus fare needs to bring back transfers. The 5 day pass scenario is ridiculous. It would cost me and 2

kids 15 ...even if one way.

- ▶ “The city buses are way too big! In Europe buses are smaller and make more frequent trips. I see these buses in Nanaimo that have only one passenger all the time! If the buses were smaller they would be more efficient, make more quick trips, etc.

Why aren't the sidewalks and bike lanes level with the street? Meaning, sidewalk is up higher than bike lane.”

- ▶ “The current system of bike routes is very good for a city of our size, and current plans (boxwood connector) seem to target key shortcomings. Improved cycling access in the south end and Hammond Bay would be beneficial.  
The state of sidewalks is much worse than the state of the cycling network. A focus on contiguity of sidewalks and walking routes (instead of a piecemeal approach based on development) should be taken, as there are lots of sidewalks, but very few of them connect up.  
In the north end community park infrastructure should be developed as many lands intended to provide easy pedestrian access between long, curving suburban street networks were not developed.”
- ▶ The cycle lanes and routes do not connect to each other. At least two new curbs have recently been placed on busy roads with no shoulder allowance, for pedestrians or cyclists.
- ▶ The cycling route from Lantzville towards south Nanaimo is in horrible disrepair, with blackberry brambles obscuring half the path and tree roots lifting the concrete by up to 4 inches in places. In addition, the one bus route through Lantzville comes less than once an hour and at inconvenient times for commuting. The sidewalks in the city are not cleared in winter for days at a time, causing big problems for anyone with mobility issues. Nanaimo should invest in sidewalk ploughs such as those used in Quebec.
- ▶ The few times that I have used the bus system in Nanaimo I've always been amazed at how inconvenient it is. Routes that zigzag all over without much progress. (sometimes it's faster to walk). Poor connections.
- ▶ “The lists above seems short-sited; I carpool and use transit daily, walk a lot, and have a Modo membership. There was contemplation about permitting electric golf carts on roads (like Qualicum) which should be reconsidered (multiple restrictions are fine). How about a well-trained city horse? (Not kidding) The city is walk-friendly only to a point; north end can be tricky to get from place to place. The city should promote the benefits (health, financial, environmental, community) and encourage residents to rethink their commute and their car.  
Minor transit improvements are noted, but needs work (and I know this is a regional thing) but will still mention it here. Why do almost all buses go the full length of the city weaving in and out of their “designated areas”? These are milk runs and pricey on fuel with low ridership and high emissions. And the only “true” express bus (#50) is near empty likely because it seems to run on its own separate schedule. More lean line runs on major roads and more use of “shuttle buses” (like the Handydart) to service multiple community areas and more minor depots where some buses meet. Also, possibly a free volunteer tourist shuttle that operates on tip donations during festivals or to Old City or wherever.”
- ▶ The questions about Active Transportation in #3 are meaningless! What are “reasonable distances”. Why not ask if stores etc were within 15 minutes of your house ... would you walk to them? The other sector questionnaires were pretty weird but this transportation one is the weirdest.
- ▶ The state of Nanaimo for cyclists is appalling. Coming from biking paradise the Netherlands I know how important designated cycle lanes and walkways are. Most of our streets are wide enough for designated lanes. There are a few in Nanaimo but for instance Mostar Rd the paint is not visible anymore. My wife is an avid commuting cyclist and takes the Parkway hwy shoulder because the parkway cycle lane is bumpy, bendy and up and down. Whoever came up with that idea?? You had money and time to

construct the hwy on a grade but you made the cycle lane next to it bendy and with hills and dips; and now the roots make it bumpy as well. So my wife cycles an extra 3 kms on Jingle Pot to avoid the hwy drive. Furthermore, as a cyclist you try to be part of traffic but when you have to wait for a traffic light the electronic detectors do not work when no car is beside you and have to wait another turn; as an alternative you have to cross the lane and press the button for the pedestrian light, how dangerous is that. Not to mention that most people in Nanaimo have no clue how to deal with cyclists on the road; plainly they can't drive because they can't deal with complicated situations. Not for nothing did the City have to create a video on how to use the Rutherford roundabout, rest my case. So biggest message: CREATE MORE DESIGNATED LANES for cyclists and walkers. Nanaimo is a great place for other means of transportation, especially now e-bikes are becoming more popular. And educate people about traffic regulations and behaviour, don't have them learn how to drive from parents anymore, go to a designated driving school and get your license. Secondly, create more areas with small commercial stores, we focus too much on the big malls. Our area here has nothing on a 15 min walking distance. I have to drive to go shopping for everything. I know it is hard to turn that around but the City very much missed the boat here. Demand from developers to not only diversify housing and build more affordable housing but also integrate small commercial areas.

- ▶ "The transit system here is the worst in the world. After being to 74 different countries, I believe that I have experience on a thing or two of many things...hiking/walking trails, sidewalks, busses, bike routes, etc. There needs to be more lights on the roads...lights on BOTH SIDES OF THE ROAD...

During winter, if we have snow, a storm, etc...the sidewalks can no longer be used as there is no city snow remover gear. Also, no one is forcing the bylaws to get the sidewalks cleaned of the snow. (I saw that City Hall are was clean of snow every couple of hours, how about the rest of the city).

I rely on busses, waiting for a bus once every 30 to 40 minutes...in the middle of the day? Why? Less and less people take the bus because it sucks. Ending service early on Sundays? Are you kidding me? No Sunday night movies (once we allowed to).

Busses:

- 1) more routes
- 2) more service (ie. every 10 minutes)
- 3) a proper transfer system (you pay 2.50, you get a transfer that lasts 70 minutes).
- 4) more stops on many routes
- 5) better signage along routes
- 6) better overall street lighting

I've been living here 3 years, this city seems like it's in the 1950's/1960's with transit and other ways of getting out (other than allowing the car culture rule everything)."

- ▶ "There are so many neighbourhoods without sidewalks, it is appalling and worrisome – get this fixed ASAP. Make it a priority to keep neighbourhood schools open to reduce cars on the road– Rutherford should not be closed."
- ▶ "Theres a real lack of bicycle parking anywhere, (especially away from the town centre) planning controls requiring this for any commercial renovations would be great. That said I'd still have concerns about my bicycle getting stolen even if it was locked up. Parking with cameras would be ideal, at least I'd know who stole my bicycle.

I selected this answer ""The feeling of safety from traffic when using active transportation (walking, cycling)"" because although I'd be comfortable cycling along highway 19a, most people are not. Ofcourse finding suitable cycling routes through nanaimo's hilly terrain is also difficult.

"

- ▶ This city really needs more sidewalks! Crossing the inland highway is also a serious issue and an additional overpass would be very helpful (for me at least!) I think cycling should be encouraged, and this could be helped by promoting e-bikes (hills in Nanaimo are no joke), improving cycling infrastructure, and educating drivers on the rights of cyclists and how to drive safely around them.
- ▶ This is going to impact my family's ability to stay here. we need improved transportation options
- ▶ "This survey is very biased towards younger people. For seniors like me, shops are too far apart to use public transportation. Electric bikes are dangerous and the people who use them can be very inconsiderate of pedestrians. We can't afford electric cars and most of us do not need mobility devises. Skateboarding is out of the question."
- ▶ Too many cars on the roads. Intersections and main routes (highway, Bowen Rd. For example) are too congested at peak times. Need safer bike and walking options connecting neighborhoods to the bike paths along the highways!
- ▶ transit to duke point, transit from southend to northland Nanaimo more frequent
- ▶ Transportation from ferries and airport
- ▶ Try to link up the alleyways and backstreets as bike routes by using some well-placed connector bike trails - Victoria has this and publishes maps to encourage backstreet bike routes (with the hills marked). For example, getting from the VIU area to Chase River and beyond can be hairy on a bike. Giant pickup trucks roar by inches away on Bruce (despite the white bike lane lines), or you can take the highway 19 bike trail and then bushwack illegally over the train tracks. This could be solved with a real trail near the Country Grocer parking lot.
- ▶ Uber, please. And affordable, convenient and frequent transit to Duke Point and Departure Bay ferries.
- ▶ Update bylaws and plan the city to develop people-scale neighbourhoods that incorporate residential, retail and services thus reducing commute time and allowing residents to walk or cycle to destinations, which would help the city reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve quality of life!
- ▶ Use mini buses to loop through subdivisions which connect up with optional transfer onto larger buses on more major roads. The population is aging and Nanaimo is very hilly making it difficult for seniors to walk to many present bus routes from their homes.
- ▶ Use more roundabouts instead of traffic lights. Install over/under passes on the main highway.
- ▶ Use of smaller buses during off-peak hours.
- ▶ Use smaller buses that loop in contained areas. A bus service needs to be no more than 15 minutes between buses. Stop using left turn advance, left turn lanes ok but "through traffic" must have priority over nuisance traffic turning. Stop using the Nanaimo Bypass as a city street.
- ▶ Use the existing railway for light rail transit. Change the transit planning so it is oriented for daily activities instead of VIU students and woodgrove mall. Add lighting to walk ways and bike paths so that people feel safe when using them. Chose routes for bikes and pedestrians that make sense, we live in a hillside community and bike paths should reflect that.
- ▶ Use the train tracks to run LRT. Reduce speed limits in neighborhoods.
- ▶ "Walking along roads such as Hammond Bay Road is dangerous in places. Even getting to bus stops is problematic. And, this isn't the only road with these issues. An inventory of arterial and collector roads with poor walking and cycling configuration, minimum standards for pedestrian and cycle traffic use and a prioritized and funded plan is needed to support active transportation. Upgraded cycle lanes, such as

along Front St. may not be the highest priority.

The City should close many downtown streets to all traffic except service vehicles and those of residents. The success of the Thursday night market in being a vibrant attractor shows that the public loves the ability to browse safely. Savvy merchants are taking advantage of the increased foot traffic to promote their businesses. Every city that I know of that has closed commercial streets to most traffic has had a positive experience, overcoming reluctance of commercial and residential tenants alike. The benefits are more than I can cite here."

- ▶ We have an unused resource in the E&N Rail Line that could be utilized for light rail transit within the city. It runs nearly the length of the city and could provide the spine for more public transit. Electric trolley cars with small, frequent platforms along the corridor could make it very convenient and inexpensive. A light rail line could be a secondary line running beside the existing line to allow for commercial use of the existing line.
- ▶ We have enough bike lanes catering to small number of people. More emphasis needed on walking routes.
- ▶ We need more vehicle lanes not fewer. The population of Nanaimo is increasing and this means more vehicles on the road not less. Developers need to be providing more parking spaces per unit not fewer. Despite the intentions of our current city council, cycle lanes do not solve traffic congestion. Uplands Drive from Turner Road to Hammond Bay Road is a prime example of what not to do. The road should have been widened to two lanes in each direction and not turned into on street parking for an apartment complex. Once again, these companies that make money from the citizens of Nanaimo need to be forced to provide more for the community and not less.
- ▶ when cycling along north south paths the main intersections are very awkward to cross and sometimes dangerous to manoeuvre. easier to use traffic lanes than bike paths at these locations. i.e. bowan rd, northfield
- ▶ When looking at active transportation you also need to look at the environmental tomcat not just green house emissions. What happens to the electric batteries, all the bikes which are chopped up for parts and then discarded.
- ▶ When upgrading existing roads, PLEASE incorporate designated biking lanes that are physically separated from motorized vehicles.
- ▶ "Why is this survey IGNORING the role of the CAR especially your last question of asking for 5 favourites? The CAR is a useful means of transportation and I am sorely disappointed that this survey is so extremely biased AGAINST THE USE OF CARS  
"
- ▶ Wider roads and sidewalks. There are areas where I can see difficulties posed to those less able bodied or whomever may be pushing a cart around. I really love the E and N trail, it's great for cycling. I would love to see more trails for cyclists and paint on the road to separate cars the bikes
- ▶ With aging population many cannot use the existing structures. More services like handidart.. often street ramps are hazardous though well intentioned.
- ▶ With aging population, the elderly need personal vehicle transportation. Routes and parking are just as important or more important than bike lanes.
- ▶ ""With no money concerns...
  - have more bus stops identified properly (with signage and route time cones) ie: as they do at the bus depots.
  - have buses running more often (if population permits the need)

- consider more bus benches to help with wait times and weather conditions
- better transit website, more user friendly
- have bus service go to Duke Point ferry terminal (even though it is more of a trucking terminal, this terminal will more than likely become more used for ""tourist season,"" as well as help with the overload of the tourist traffic at Departure Bay ferry terminal.
- I had never owned or needed a car before while living in Vancouver, but have bought a car to be able to go around here in Nanaimo or elsewhere, as it is much more spread out here and taxis nor transit is suitable.
- increase bicycle access to safe road conditions (as they have tried successfully in some parts of Vancouver)
- increase walking, disability access to safe road conditions (better sidewalks, ramps, road dividers etc). Especially vulnerable on some parts of the highway!

- ▶ With the high costs of bikes both leg powered and electrical, we need lock ups available throughout our city. I would love to see volunteer organizations associated with cyclists to work with the city in making these available through the use of fundraising, grants and city donated space for them.
- ▶ With the transition to electric vehicles, infrastructure needs to be improved. The closest charging station from my home is 8-10 km away as South Nanaimo has no chargers at all (I am fortunate because I can afford my own charger). With respect to changes over the past 10 years I cannot answer as I have only lived here for 5 years. In general, increasing congestion is making travel slower and less safe. Speeding is rampant with almost no enforcement at all.
- ▶ Would appreciate either a bike lane on Bowen Road or another safe route (along the railway?) to cross town from Harewood to the Island Highway.
- ▶ Would it be possible to increase frequency of public transportation with smaller buses?
- ▶ Would love to see more bike trails like the Galloping Goose in Victoria.
- ▶ "Would love to see rail line operating."
- ▶ Wow, 27 years to double sustainable travel mode share. Are you sure about this? How about a cargo e-bike bike-share system? (You can't ignore that Nanaimo is extremely hilly and that you will probably fail to increase ordinary bike travel.) How about planting trees along E&N trail to create visual barrier to highway and make that path inviting? How about green ferries rather than LNG, and a foot passenger ferry from downtown Nanaimo to downtown Vancouver?
- ▶ "Yes, make the bike lanes continuous and well connected, especially for Hammond Bay. Also if you encourage employers to have bike lockers of some sort that could be a good thing. When I worked for Island Health (Royal Jubilee Hospital) they had a card system for opening the bike room, and I felt safe locking my bike inside the compound. I'm not sure if that could be a possibility or whether it would be a good thing to encourage employers to support.

On another note I would say that in Departure Bay there have been a few near misses lately with power boats and kayaks. There are three jetskis that are parked on a dock (Departure Bay Road /near the Biological Station) and they are pretty reckless when they go out on the water, same with boats towing waterskiers on occasion. Driving very fast around the Islands in the bay cutting it real close to unhappy kayakers. I'm not sure if that applies to Nanaimo's Active Transportation network but if the Nanaimo Harbour Patrol could do a slow loop of the bay in the evenings on a hot summers day when there are a lot of people kayaking I think that could be beneficial to encourage water safety for all users, just my

observation. Happy to see so many people out on the water this weekend, (thousands I'm sure). "

- ▶ "Yes, more dedicated bike lanes, wider sidewalks, more traffic calming of residential and commercial streets. The creation of shared road infrastructure, such as ""woonerf"" and ""Home zone"" initiatives.

What is being advertised as a bike lane is pathetic! Riding by sketchy chainlink cut-off areas north of downtown (Brooks landing area) and only giving a shoulder for cyclist along many parts of the old Island Highway. If we are going to make a complete street, let's do it downtown, not on Metral drive. No one will want to bike or walk on that ugly piece of roadway, no matter how ""safe"" the bike lanes and sidewalks are. "

- ▶ "Yes, see the following YouTube channel covering the planning of Dutch cities such as Amsterdam for further information about how to design a walkable, livable city.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOintLFzLaudFG-xAvUEO-A>

- ▶ Yes. An overpass at Nanaimo Golf Club. More roundabouts at major intersections.
- ▶ Yes. Stop with the 200 yard bike lanes already. eg. Estevan Road. A perfectly good 4 lane road that was shared quite easily with cyclists. Now a vehicle is squeezed between a center boulevard and a cyclist. Please don't make the same mistake on Front Street. Metral Drive where it actually goes somewhere for a distance makes way more sense.
- ▶ You are doing a good job and the changes over the last decade is positive. Unfortunately, I have to use my car and the questions are limited to the alternatives (which is good ). Traffic lights not synced enough and quite brutal wait times, encourages people rushing to lights.
- ▶ You must realize that not everyone will use active transportation due to the rainy/ cold winter climate, mountains/ hills in most residential areas, age or health of your population and long distance from many neighbourhoods and services.
- ▶ "You need bus transfer tickets. It often takes two buses to get somewhere, one fare should cover that. A refillable ""Compass Card"" for people who don't use the bus every day, would be fantastic. Buses from the ferry should be more user friendly. If there were transfer tickets, a refillable Compass Card, and a more user friendly way to get to the ferry, I would take the bus more often. I'd like to see a Sky Train idea run along the train tracks with a train route up to VIU. Have the buses feed up to the train."
- ▶ You're on the way to fixing some of the problems with walking & cycling issues. Keep up the good work!

## HOW WE CONNECT & PLAY

Q12. Do you have ideas that would help Nanaimo's Parks, Recreation, and Culture programs and services be more accessible and inclusive to everyone?

- ▶ indoor racquet facility for Badminton and Pickle Ball
- ▶ '- The North Nanaimo Mall has a lot of vacant space that could be very well utilized as indoor sports facilities and supporting businesses. It could be an athletics and recreational hub for the north end, which is currently very underserved in terms of facilities. Most facilities are in the Bowen or South Nanaimo area.
- ▶ Desperately need LOTS more gymnasium infrastructure both within Nanaimo and in our neighbourhood. There is only Oliver Woods now which has huge demand and is at the far end of town. Sorely miss Franklyn Gym!! The only alternative is our neighbourhood ""gym"" facilities, which are woefully inadequate (elementary school, community hall). They are unsuitable for any level of sport beyond beginner: they are not proper gyms (ceiling height problems, overlapping basketball hoops, stage lighting hanging from ceiling, cramped courts, no availability during summer for elementary school, improper lighting).  
Offer more sports w/instructions at levels beyond beginner. Offerings are diminished because focus seems to be more on children and seniors. Need to keep adults active year round--they are squeezed between demands of work and family life. We have great community volunteers, but they move away and generally speaking, are volunteers which means they may or may not be available. So, progress in a sport can be a real problem, which means ppl don't progress, get frustrated and quit, or in the case of me, travel (which is no longer makes sense since Franklyn closed).  
\*\*For city run sports (eg: badminton during the week), need someone to manage the activity to ensure accessibility for all players. There is a Major Problem with cliques forming and excluding players from play.
- ▶ 1) Walking trail and forest park maintenance, no smoking and no dumping bylaw enforcement.  
2) Public indoor tennis for year round play
- ▶ "1) Some of the existing parks and trails are becoming very busy as Nanaimo grows--the city definitely needs more walking trails. Parking is also an issue at the more heavily used parks such as Neck Point. 2) Neck Point should be a NO Dog park. It is an environmentally sensitive area and used to have a lot more wildlife than it does now because of the increasing number of dogs present. 3) When planning new trails, paved trails are often used to accommodate bikes. However, as people age, walking on such hard surfaces is hard on the legs and back. A softer walking trail beside the pavement would provide a nicer walking experience. As an example--there are upgrades planned for Bowen Park with the sewer upgrades--a parallel walking trail beside the paved bike trail would be a good idea. 4) The city needs a Wildlife co-ordinator--I appreciate the amount of tree cover and green spaces in Nanaimo and with that comes more wildlife. Recently two owls have died at Buttertubs and one was tested and found to have died from rodent poisoning. I would like to see the city become rodenticide-free as is being done in some other BC cities. The city could work with the SPCA on this issue. 5) Since the city has allowed the homeless to sleep in some of the parks there has been an increase in garbage and drug paraphernalia. I know one resident who walks at Bowen Park regularly and has told me about the amount of garbage that she removes on a daily basis. The city needs to encourage more volunteers to do this if this situation

of people sleeping in the parks continues. While homelessness is a complex issue I don't agree with the policy of allowing sleeping in the parks unless the city is prepared to deal with the results such as more garbage. 6) I know that the city has been planting more trees but it would also be good to see bare areas planted with native plants that attract pollinators. 7) Culture:

I would like to see more public art in the downtown. The public art along the waterfront could be continued to the downtown and Old City Quarter area. What I could envision is the Nanaimo could become the Sculpture capital of the Island. Chemainus has murals and Duncan has totems, so if Nanaimo had sculptures it would create a cultural driving tour for residents and tourists. If you would like an example of how the addition of sculpture has transformed a city's downtown check out the City of Castlegar's Sculpture Walk. 8) When I moved here I was looking forward to attending concerts at the Port Theatre. However, I was shocked at the ticket prices and have only gone once in 5 years. It is not an affordable place for many people. 8) Recreation Facilities: The gym at the Aquatic centre is too small for Nanaimo's growing population. Another city gym in the south end is required and this could be combined with a community complex which is also lacking in the south end."

- ▶ a community art centre accessible to all ages and abilities
- ▶ A community arts centre is lacking in the city. All cities in B.C. except Nanaimo have a vibrant and well used community arts centre for residents. This space needs to offer educational opportunities, space for studios for artists of all disciplines and needs to provide exhibition and performance space. It needs to be accessible for all residents, all ages and be a feature location of the City of Nanaimo. It should highlight and partner with the existing arts and culture organizations in the city and feature First Nations culture. This facility would greatly enhance the vibrancy of the City of Nanaimo.
- ▶ A dedicated racquet sport facility. The loss of Franklyn St. Gym was devastating for badminton enthusiasts. Oliver Woods cannot accommodate the numbers of people that want to play every night of the week! Squash, tennis, badminton and pickleball are all sports that people can enjoy through their whole life. It would be wonderful to have an opportunity for there to be a ton of junior clubs! This would be self-sustaining potentially!
- ▶ A few things we feel are missing in the north end.....1. A pool or rink. It's very hard to commit to a sport or activity without committing to a significant drive. 15 mins of driving each way multiple times a week adds to the cost and time commitment to each activity not to mention the environmental impact. A 30 min swim lesson becomes 30 mins of driving for 30 mins of swimming for example. 2. Spin classes???!!!! Check out port moody for comparison and profits. Their classes are consistently booked up. Great for all adults and seniors. 3. Childcare for parents to be able to workout or join a drop in league 4. My husband found there were limited mens activities- ball hockey as an example.
- ▶ A new swimming pool/rec centre is much needed. I hope to see this conversation happen soon as it takes a long time for a capital project the size of a rec centre to come to fruition.
- ▶ A pool in the north end would be great!
- ▶ "A pool in the north end would be well used and well appreciated  
More children summer camps to meet demand"
- ▶ A public indoor tennis court
- ▶ A tennis bubble over Beban
- ▶ Access to an indoor tennis facility would be a great asset especially in the rainy winter months.
- ▶ Add a tennis bubble for indoor tennis
- ▶ Add covered tennis courts to facilities

- ▶ add indoor tennis facility
- ▶ “Add more facilities. Those that exist are often at capacity already with no room for new people to join. Seniors drop-in venues – perhaps with meals? and a variety of social activities (comforting & welcoming).”
- ▶ Add more fitness/gym facilities
- ▶ Add more pickle ball and tennis courts in the north end
- ▶ Add more spots to programs as they fill up fast. Also having them at times that don't interfere with school and people who work.
- ▶ add public indoor tennis courts
- ▶ Adding a community centre in the south end for families to have easier access to programs .
- ▶ “Additional concrete walls and lined pave surfaces at tennis courts for hitting balls against . Additional indoor courts facilities for badminton and pickleball “
- ▶ Adults only swimming pool for lane swimmers that is more spa-like and has better hours. The pools are loud / noisy / crowded / full of kids / stressful.
- ▶ Affordable Indoor tennis facility
- ▶ “All public facilities should have a well-developed, progressive strategic plan that addresses maximizing accessibility for disabled citizens, including those with mobility, hearing, sight, and sensory disabilities as well as those with neuro-diversity. Each plan should identify barriers to access in the facility with a plan to provide short term accommodations and longer term solutions to removing those barriers. As with physical access, similar strategic plans need to address barrier that exist due to cultural access and welcoming. It is not enough for facilities to simply say that they are open to everyone, when by design certain cultures have historically faced barriers to entry at public facilities. The City requires a pro-active strategy to consulting with communities who have faced barriers to entry or who do not feel welcome – start with consultations and relationship building with those communities, identify barriers to access and develop initiatives to break down those barriers. It will be different for each community and possibly different for each facility. Do the work to build long term relationships, compensate advisors and focus groups appropriately who provide you with knowledge, and be committed to learning. Take a pro-active approach to environmental stewardship and legacy. Nanaimo has lost many significant cultural resources from a lack of vision and planning for preservation. Many natural areas, such as Linley Valley, Nanaimo River, and the Harewood Plains are still at risk of being lost forever due to over a century of poor stewardship. The impact of the Douglas Treaties and the privatization of vast areas of ecological and culturally important lands affect access for all citizens today. The City of Nanaimo needs to invest strongly in the acquisition of natural lands where ever possible and also support Snuneymuxw and Snaw-naw-as in acquiring natural lands for stewardship where ever possible.”
- ▶ Allow buskers and live music! Support businesses like a pirate Chips and the Nanaimo Bar. Support all local artists and have spaces for their art to be shown/performed and enjoyed. Make parks safer and find solutions to the homeless
- ▶ Although Oliver Woods is a useful place for north Nanaimo, it would be nice to be able to have another facility at this end of town, one that includes tennis and/or pickleball.
- ▶ Always a hard pill to swallow, as money, access and availability are essential. At the same time there are different aspect and restrictions that apply to access of community centers, playgrounds compared to access to different areas of trails, and partially maintained green space that does not disrupt the natural

history of an area.

- ▶ Am interested in tennis facilities only. Live outside nanaimo but would go to Nanaimo if there was indoor tennis in the winter
- ▶ An indoor or covered tennis facility would improve year round play.
- ▶ An indoor racquet facility is needed
- ▶ An indoor tennis facility with at least 4 courts open to the public for a fee would be essential, especially in the winter season, but also at other times when inclement weather demands it or for people who cannot be in the sun. An indoor tennis facility might also attract visitors to Nanaimo.
- ▶ Another rec centre (with pool) in the north end.
- ▶ Appreciate you sponsoring programs such as science in the park
- ▶ Are they not already this? There's a lot more that can be improved than "inclusiveness".
- ▶ Arts & Culture should be separate and distinct from parks & rec, and invested in as a stand-alone driver of our economy, not off the side of a parks & rec desk. We should have experts in the field leading the conversations and planning surrounding a long term, modern and progressive arts & culture plan. The artists and creatives here are a massive resource, and that sector has the potential to change Nanaimo's downtown from a struggling mess into a vibrant and attractive place. Having an actual cultural center with art, galleries, shows, creative and interesting shops and cafes, an inspired gathering space in the hugely underutilized Diana Krall Plaza could change Nanaimo fundamentally. But so far, the city has not invested in that in a significant way. Parks & rec facilities are great, but they should be evaluated and considered from a different mindset. The people who use and value each of these things are very different, so having them ranked together, and funded together means the recreation voices will always win out because they're louder.
- ▶ "As a Harewood resident, I find some programs are only offered at Oliver Woods and that is too far on a week day for us to travel to and so we end up not registering for them. I would like to see similar programs offered central to south end of Nanaimo. (I actually prefer driving to Ladysmith over Oliver Woods).

Would be nice to have a ""Neck Point"" style park in the south end. A nice walking loop in a natural area on the ocean (none of the oceanfront parks are loops, i.e. Cable Bay, Chase River, etc.)"

- ▶ As a mother and living in downtown/harewood area its hard to let my children play in the parks due to fear of not being able to ensure the playgrounds are safe and clean, the mulch or rocks are hard to see if anything like a needle or something has been dropped and left for my child to stubble upon. Also this makes it difficult to push my infant in his stroller around, that I'm left having to carry my baby around while trying to help my toddler play as well. Leaving the only option to play at parks when my spouse is around to help or to travel to parks where they have the rubber flooring ... it would be great to have the flooring put in all parks, as it also benefits children in wheelchairs and or care givers in wheel chairs. My aunt is confined to a wheel chair and enjoys meeting us when we go to a park she can move around in. Parksville also has a swing that allows you to swing with a child opposite so you are looking at one another this would be a great addition to parks in nanaimo , also play structures that have atleast one way access to get to all slides, young children enjoy the bigger slides and as stated those with multiple children its hard to let them access those slides when juggling multiple children
- ▶ At a minimum provide washroom facilities at all city parks and maintain them regularly. Maybe even a phone number in the washrooms and/or porta-potty's that you can call to tell the city it needs maintenance.

- ▶ Bar camping and vagrancy from our parks
- ▶ Be adaptable
- ▶ Bebin Park Pool and Gym is an invaluable facility that will enhance the life of all of Nanaimo's citizens especially the older community that require physical fitness facilities and programs to stay independent and contributors to our society. This will save money ultimately in the direct medical costs and long-term care costs.
- ▶ Being an active tennis player, more covered space would be a huge deal for the city. There are a lot of regular tennis players and not all of us can afford a private membership with Westwood or justify the costs given our busy lives. Having some covered courts on a pay as you go system via the city would go a long way.
- ▶ Better advertising. I often find out about events after they have already happened or right before it is supposed to take place.
- ▶ better and larger gyms
- ▶ Better bus access throughout the town. Smaller buses and more of them.
- ▶ Better kept soccer fields for team play.
- ▶ Better maintain Parks and Rec sites and equipment.
- ▶ Better parks - keep them clean and maintained. More green spaces, more water features in parks. Connect green spaces with green corridors. Get the information out there on events. Do a better job of advertising on social media. Create hype. Do some really fun, out of the box activities.
- ▶ Better segmentation of potential users by age, location and interests as a basis for future planning. More face-to-face regular surveying of visitors could also provide useful information.
- ▶ Better transit to and from program areas. More off-leash dog parks. More covered areas, it rains 9 months of the year and limits what can be done during those months.
- ▶ Better transportation systems - walking, biking - to/from and between recreational facilities and outdoor spaces. More neighborhood parks and play spaces.
- ▶ Better upkeep. For example, the paved path through Bowen park and the Parkway trail are in dire need of re-paving. The current condition of the pavement reduces accessibility because there are so many bump and cracks that it is a challenge for many to use confidently. I really like how Nanaimo has allocated some park space for different users, for example, no motors on westwood lake, but motors on brannen. It is one Nanaimo's great strenghts.
- ▶ Bowen Park is difficult for seniors/those disabled to get to if they do not have or cannot use a vehicle. Bus service from UP Town does not go by it, without making a change to another bus.. Oliver Woods personnel has told people that it is not for Seniors though they do have a have a few Senior programs, there. Thus, there are seniors or those with disabilities, who avoid activities as they do not feel they cannot access Bowen Park.
- ▶ Bring back the mail out list of activities from Parks and Rec.
- ▶ Build indoor tennis facilities
- ▶ Build large covered year round sports facility. Real need for indoor tennis. Pickle ball, indoor soccer, basket ball, gym facilities. Smithers great example.
- ▶ Build more facilities in the north end. Arenas, soccer and baseball fields, pools. Do a far better job of maintaining existing facilities. Parents shouldn't have to be cutting grass and painting bleachers for our

kids fields to make in presentable to out of town teams

- ▶ Build pool north nanaimo or at Oliver Woods. We need another pool north nanaimo. Build more mountain biking trails that are easier for older and younger or beginner riders. Build more bike paths
- ▶ Build stands that have stairs and handrails and stadium seating on the slopes beside the main peewee and bantam baseball diamonds at 3rd Street Fields. There is only grass on these slopes right now resulting in unsteady lawn chair seating and slippery walking conditions (easy to trip and fall). I have witnessed elderly fans fall and hurt themselves while watching their grandkids play ball because of the sloped seating and lack of sturdy stairs, seating and handrails.
- ▶ Can't think of anything off the top of my head.
- ▶ -child-care for fitness classes
- ▶ Community facilities ( north end has no facilities at all)
- ▶ Complete a waterfront trail system. Something to make our waterfront attractive and accessible from Departure Bay to Bastien. (If something could be done moving south of there and still be attractive, that would be nice. Parks and Rec programs are affordable, excellent and accessible. I am very grateful for the city's work to create such varied and interesting programs.
- ▶ Complete links between rec areas for easier cycling and public transit access.
- ▶ Connect the parks up for long continuous running and cycling trails!
- ▶ Consider spreading out the recreational facilities to the north and south ends of Nanaimo (ie: a pool)
- ▶ Continue advertising the different options being offered. Also it is disappointing Franklyn Street Gym has been ruined. Not sure if that's a City or School District property, but it was great to play badminton in without having to drive to the north end. Oliver Woods is a great facility but it's a bit far from the south end.
- ▶ Continue surveys like this.
- ▶ "Cost is always going to be a prohibitive factor, is it possible to get some of these activities sponsored by businesses?  
VIU is a large facility which seems underused in the summer - do we take advantage of this and use their facilities?  
More services (get-togethers) which bring young and old together to create engagement and cross generational. understanding."
- ▶ Could courses offered in Harewood be offered in Oliver Woods by creating another gym?
- ▶ Covered tennis facility
- ▶ Create an indoor tennis facility that's open to the public!
- ▶ "Create Indoor facility for racket sports like Indoor tennis, squash or pickle ball.  
Victoria has many to choose from that are city owned and Nanaimo still has no city own Indoor tennis facilities. "
- ▶ Discourage drug use/sale/debris through regular and thorough enforcement.
- ▶ Don't forget about the Southend of Nanaimo!
- ▶ Don't let people drink, do drugs and/or pass out in them
- ▶ Due to lack of staff and budget, I presume, natural areas of parks are getting overrun by invasive plant species, such as the ivy slowly weakening majestic valuable trees in Bowen Park. Too much dog shit and

urine and inadequate buffers between urban development and ecologically sensitive areas are ruining the latter. Noise and light pollution also cause harm. People are still washing their cars in their driveways and polluting the creeks and wetlands. Park trails are eroded from overuse. More parkland is needed. Shuttle service to and from trailheads can reduce car traffic. Tax dog owners for all the problems and expense their uncontrolled animals create. Human population control is also needed.

- ▶ Encourage city-funded arts organizations to keep ticket prices and registration fees affordable. Provide funding for outreach to diverse communities. Pursue lower-priced events at the Port.
- ▶ Enforcement of animal control in parks.
- ▶ ensure information comes out in a timely fashion. I understand that NAC opens on the 10th with new guidelines but we are less than a week away and no info re: Covid protocols or use of facility have come out. Fall registration for Harbour City Seniors programs was a mess – difficult to get membership and then impossible to register online for many people
- ▶ Ensure parks are clean; reduce drinking and smoking in parks;
- ▶ Ensure that the recreation facilities and programs that are in place now are protected and not threatened by over development in our neighbourhoods that would put extra demand on those resources. Don't give our city away to the developers. Those recreation resources will become inaccessible if the population grows too quickly and new resources are not developed and planned for.
- ▶ Expand the off leash dog pen on the bluffs at north field tourism place. City owns all the property along bluff. Just needs fencing to have a great dog park.there is already a trail that runs down to Maxey rd. Won't have to put dog park in the East Wellington fields that way.
- ▶ Expand the parks and trails system.
- ▶ extend the seawall so that it is enjoyable and accessible to more people
- ▶ Extension of the E & N trail...especially across town on the viaduct above Caledonia Park.
- ▶ "Facilitate more collaboration between groups, departments, facilities & public. Replace old playground equipment in communities. (e.g., McKinnon Place Playground). Increase rehearsal space and small venue space for live performance. Use the conference centre for more Arts & Culture. Provide meeting space for artists, performers, etc. Add cafes, kitchens & cafeterias to more recreation/cultural buildings. Food and welcoming spaces nurture conversations and impactful brainstorming.

Parks & Recreation make sense together. Nanaimo is strong in this area.

Arts, Culture & Heritage make sense together. Arts, Culture & Heritage require a different focus and need more support. Nanaimo has so much potential as a healthy place to live that inspires creativity!

Arts, Culture & Heritage can positively impact and encourage education, reconciliation, collaboration, fun and a stronger sense of community/connectedness. Nanaimo is building a culture that fosters growth, creativity and economic development. Everyone deserves to belong. Everyone deserves to live a healthy life. We can offer that."

- ▶ Focus more on culture. Allow for more accessibility by maintaining waitlisted that ensure new entrants are able register. Increase space/availability in popular programs to allow everyone to join
- ▶ For those that enjoy tennis year round, the City should provide an indoor facility.
- ▶ "Free programs/services for seniors.  
Free seniors' transit passes to access recreational & cultural facilities.  
Public washroom availability is important."

- ▶ Free transportation to all venues. It is a very spread out city. It is nearly impossible to have low density housing and good access to recreation facilities. Nanaimo can either focus on great roomy wasteful properties or focus on people who want to live.
- ▶ Gender & discrimination training, for both instructors and staff. Bathrooms.
- ▶ get rid of crackheads!
- ▶ Getting involved in recreational sports leagues and teams has been a big challenge for us. Publicizing more information about how to join, explicitly welcoming or making clear a process for those who aren't already connected to teams, and including more images of people who are not white, would help to get the message out that Nanaimo's parks and recreation services are open and welcoming to people of all backgrounds.
- ▶ Great Wayfinding, signage, maps, park ambassadors, good connectivity and distribution of amenities
- ▶ Have a grants program available to support underprivileged with small grants to help defray the cost of registration fees. Have a 2-tiered pricing system where Nanaimo taxpayers who support the community through taxes pay less than people registering from other communities (e.g. Parksville).
- ▶ Have a variety of recreation facilities more evenly distributed over Nanaimo's neighbourhoods.
- ▶ Have attempted to promote interest in needs of hearing impaired with little response
- ▶ Have bus routes or shuttles from downtown to the main parks. Parking lots get full in the summer.
- ▶ Have indoor tennis facilities open to the public
- ▶ Have more publicity for the programs. As I am older and not a kid anymore, half the programs in our city I can't join. Include a more diverse amount of programs for those older than 18 years old.
- ▶ Have more variety of facilities throughout the City. Right now everything is clustered in a few areas. There needs to be public tracks, turf fields and rinks that are drop in and are for casual use. Every time I go to the turf fields, track or gyms they are always in use for organized teams.
- ▶ Have staff respond to enquires promptly!
- ▶ Having more programs offered and family rates. More facilities across Nanaimo. year round programming back to back. This would prevent waitlist. Discouraging to not be able to get children in swimming lessons and skating lessons due to the unavailability and then children losing interest.
- ▶ Having more spaces available for popular parks and rec programs. Not having swimming lessons in the leisure pool but rather having them in the pool beside lane swim.
- ▶ Having young children there is a huge need to have indoor activities during rainy season. With 100 parks in Nanaimo it would be nice if there was at least one covered play area for kids to let off energy.
- ▶ I am impressed with the services offered – the breadth and range of services. I believe areas where we target low cost housing (like Harewood and South Nanaimo don't get the same services. We need a community centre in Harewood. And if we get the housing, we need a higher level of social support services than other areas of the city.
- ▶ I am strongly in favour of the city building a purpose-built racquet sports facility at Beban Park.
- ▶ I attended a tots dance class that was held on the stage at Beban Social Centre. It was hard to get up the stairs as I had my baby with me in a buggy.
- ▶ I believe the city needs a rink in North Nanaimo
- ▶ I find a lot of the parks in Nanaimo are poorly maintained and often overrun with invasive species. I

think making parks which inspire community pride, engagement and stewardship will increase the desire for people to get involved, which increases the value of the parks and the cycle continues. So more community involvement with the maintenance, management and buy in of our parks should be happening. This same principle can be applied to cultural and heritage sites as well.

- ▶ I find some of the facilities too loud to be enjoyable for myself and my autistic children. Swimming lessons are almost impossible for one of my children as the music and other lessons going on make it difficult for him to hear or pay attention to the instructor. My other children do struggle during public swims.
- ▶ I have always thought that the Parks and Rec programs are really good. When my children were younger I appreciated all the summer camps available
- ▶ I have been a professional artist since 1990 (ie I sell my paintings and do shows). I moved to the Island thinking that there would be a lot of tourists, places to show and an interested population. Instead I have found many very good artists who have very few possibilities as to where they can show their work! We need gallery space! It would be wonderful to have a place where artists (painters etc) could work together, have studio space and above all exhibition space. Many places that are available are not of a quality for professional artists. People don't realize the artwork they are missing. If Nanaimo continues consider itself predominantly as a sports town it will miss another whole side of culture that could make it bloom.
- ▶ I have been using the Nanaimo Aquatic Center for many years. For about 4 months before the Covid shut down the air quality in the training room was either very poor or non-existent. All winter long the humidity on the windows pooled on all the window sills and the air was very stagnant. The air conditioning system was not working properly and as the seriousness of covid became more and more certain the training room felt like an increasingly unsafe place to workout.
- ▶ I have been very satisfied with the accessibility of sports and physical development services, but feel under-served in the area of artistic and cultural participation. Maybe this is due to a lack of available instructors, but given the enthusiastic arts community I've experienced I think a lack of appropriate facilities may be the issue. It would be lovely to see more display spaces integrated into our community centres and arenas. The outdoor exhibits at Waterfront are wonderful, and make the area feel vibrant and alive! Bringing some of that expression indoors, especially in winter, would make artistic expression more accessible for sure.
- ▶ I have volunteered with nature based groups for children in the past. The wilderness school for kids was based outside of Nanaimo and was expensive, the other one was based in Nanaimo, run by NatureKids and required parents to be in attendance. Both groups were not accessible to children who need it the most, low income families with no vehicle or parents who do not wish to stay with their children as they have other children they need to support also. Opportunities for children to learn about their own ancestry (both first nations as well as immigrants, European ancestry etc.) the traditional uses of plant medicines, honorable harvesting, how to read the signs of the land, how to use a map, to find the North star, to know the direction the sun travels, know how to plant a garden, how to use a knife, build a fire etc, etc:)
- ▶ I live with my grandma - she says make the pool water less cold as it's bad for her arthritis.
- ▶ I run local ball hockey. I'd love to see some netting about the chainlink in existing facilities. One more outdoor facility in the city would be great. I really enjoy the indoor facility at Oliver Woods.
- ▶ I strongly urge that indoor tennis bubbles be established as either the Beban or Bowen Park Court sites. Charging an hourly use fee of \$30 would help with maintenance and pay off acquisition costs. I would gladly pay and use such a facility several times a week. Long wet winters make the establishment of indoor tennis facilities urgent. I will strongly support any members of the City of Nanaimo Council who are in

favor of establishing indoor tennis facilities.

- ▶ I think it's been improving, – perhaps accessible transportation could be a barrier
- ▶ I think Nanaimo is doing a good job in most areas, but I would like to see some covered tennis courts.
- ▶ I think Nanaimo needs to add more facilities to meet the growing population and demands of population demographics. It is evident that one indoor gymnasium facility for almost 100,000 people is inadequate. Beban auditorium seems like a waste, not being able to house inside sports. I totally believe in multi use facilities which encourage active participation of all ages. Possibly the city should be looking into a covered facility that houses court space for year round participation.
- ▶ I think our parks should look nicer (cleaner especially) and Nanaimo to have better places for teens to hang out and feel safe.
- ▶ I think talking more about programs we have in Nanaimo in schools would be helpful for accessibility. I don't usually know when we have events or programs, unless my parents let me know and it would be nice to find out on my own.
- ▶ I think that are town needs to clean up it's look because I moved here a few years ago and I have never thought this town had options, if it was with cinemas or even with places for teenagers to hangout so they were not making the bad choices they do. Due to having not many options where kids can explore there selfs
- ▶ i think that making more edible gardens would help the homeless along with making a nice space for teens to hang out
- ▶ I think the Activity Guide is awesome!
- ▶ "I think the City adapts itself well to a changing community.  
As an outdoor enthusiast I believe the growing number of parks and trails will enhance our lives and destination for tourism, and I cannot wait to see a seaside trail from the old #1 Esplanade Mine area to Departure Bay Beach.  
As A Tennis player I would like to see a few more Quality outdoor courts, and would love to see a public indoor tennis facility built at Beban Park.  
As a Pickleball player I like how the city has responded to the growing need and think that once the two Beban Pickleball courts are removed for the Bowen Rd./ Northfield Rd. upgrade, more outdoor courts (6) could be built on the unused land between the existing court (next to the Golf facility and trail) and Hazelwood's storage yard."
- ▶ I think the city is doing a great job. I wonder if our parks, lakes and other natural amenities could qualify for carbon offset credits/funding in some way to support the city budget.
- ▶ I think the lack of an Arts Centre is a real disadvantage to Nanaimo's cultural atmosphere. We need a home for the Arts Council, which could include a community gallery but also dance or music practice rooms. Many B.C. cities, with lower populations, already have great cultural facilities like this that provide a hub for local talent and a fabulous draw for tourism. Nanaimo needs to catch up!
- ▶ I think there has to be more advertising- like at the park perhaps have a sign at the entrance with updates about what is happening durning the week/month or on fb/social media. A lot of stuff I miss because I didnt know about it or where to look for it. Thanks. The city workers I want to say do a good job of trying to keep the parks clean and safe for everyone to enjoy – its a tough never ending job, so thank you.
- ▶ I think there should be a high priority placed on a building a second indoor recreational facility like Oliver Woods. We would encourage the city to support researching a dedicated indoor racquet facility for

## Badminton and Pickle Ball

- ▶ I think there should be a high priority placed on a building a second indoor recreational facility like Oliver Woods. We would encourage the city to support researching a dedicated indoor racquet facility for Badminton and Pickle Ball.
- ▶ I think we can continue to dig deeper into healing our settler /First Nations relationship by highlighting the stories of the land and the meaning of places of cultural interest on the land. I think acknowledging and empowering Snuneymuxw and Snaw-naw-as and Stzuinus presence in parks programming will aid greatly.
- ▶ "I tried to sign up for tennis program through parks and rec but it was full every single time i tried. Eventually, I gave up.  
Was at Diver's Lake tennis court yesterday and it was in terrible condition, grass growing up through the concrete, etc. Needs to be updated and tennis players would use it.  
Partner or outright buy the tennis bubble and offer more tennis to everyone, indoors and out throughout the year. There are lots of players (and potential players) here, not all of them can afford the private club."
- ▶ I used to live near the university and that was a fantastic area to access facilities (like the aquatic centre), shopping (university village), and parks (colliery dam)! Now that I live in south end however, the closest area for me to go is downtown. There are numerous building that have been left to decay for years on Haliburton and downtown. I wish something could be done with these buildings. As a young person that doesn't drive, I walk everywhere. I wish there were fitness facilities within walking distance, or something I can run on nearby that isn't concrete. In terms of the arts, I do think Nanaimo appreciates its artists and musicians. I would love to see more markets (like the summer street market on commercial street) where musicians are hired at an appropriate rate. I love the artwork that is displayed outside. I think there should be more opportunities to commission artists to create more. Create opportunities for professionals in the arts to not only make art and be creative, but to be paid for their work.
- ▶ "I would like to have an indoor tennis stadium in the North side of Nanaimo. West wood Lake tennis courts are too far away from us, so accessibility is concern.  
The Oliver Woods gym needs to be improved with more facilities provided, so that we do not have to pay so much to private gyms as Fit4 less OR planet Fitness.  
Thanks"
- ▶ I would like to see a public indoor tennis facility in Nanaimo. Not only does tennis have physical, psychological and social benefits, it is a safe and accessible lifetime activity. It can be played by people of all ages (6 - 80+) and requires little equipment. We need a public indoor facility to make it more accessible year round.
- ▶ I would like to see an indoor tennis facility. This community is large enough to support this and the private club that exists is cost prohibitive for many. Our weather does not permit tennis year round and this could be a valuable asset to Nanaimo.
- ▶ I would like to see more tennis courts.
- ▶ I would like to see recreation areas populated with bee friendly plants etc. For example the walkway along the seawall and by the Nanaimo Yacht Club could be home to many many plants.
- ▶ I would like to see safe bike parking at the community centers (lock-ups) and I would like to see Westwood DND firing range closed, moved, or shared times. Pickleball is becoming a huge sport and more tennis courts could be converted to accommodate the huge numbers. The parks are all lovely and seem to be very well used. Staff at the office are always helpful.
- ▶ "I would love to see a new facility with Indoor Tennis courts so there is year round access to the sport for the entire community. Tennis is a life-long sport and it would encourage year round fitness and sport

involvement for everyone (all ages and backgrounds) It can be used by community groups, individuals, clubs, and schools to play and teach tennis. A new indoor facility would be an logical expansion to our current neighbourhood outdoor courts.

More affordable water based programs like kayaking, sailing, etc.

There needs to be better and safer access to our beaches and marine environment especially along Hammond Bay Road which has a lot of traffic. Every neighbourhood should have beach access that is safe and accessible. "

- ▶ I would love to see a Racquets centre in Nanaimo that incorporates Tennis (bubble and outdoor), Squash, Badminton and dare I say, Pickle Ball. The pending closure of Westwood Tennis Club would be a good incentive to create the Racquets Centre. Also, on-line scheduling of tennis courts would be a be a huge plus without much effort. Thanks very much. Great survey!
- ▶ I would love to see the City of Nanaimo join forces with the Nanaimo Science Center (NS3) for an indoor space of educational fun for all ages. It rains here a lot and indoor fun options are very limited.
- ▶ I would really like to see an indoor tennis facility
- ▶ I've heard that attendance has been poor at beban pool in the past. I realize funds may not be there right now, but I believe, through talking with others who use the facilities, that a big reason for this is the undersized hot tub. A new larger hot tub could breath new life into the facility resulting in more fares coming in. Just a thought, love the chance to provide feedback, thank you!
- ▶ Ice rinks need proper bathrooms with doors in ALL change rooms.
- ▶ If one is low income, it is embarrassing and then there's the stigma when having to register with a copy of disability income and there are people behind you lined up. If you could register online it would be less embarrassing. I'm talking about taking classes offered and being low income.
- ▶ "If there will be a new pool built at some point, it would be wonderful to have something in the north end as it is all central/south.  
The registration for children's programs is brutal - parents all over town have to wake up early on registration day and race to try and get a space for some programs."
- ▶ If you want people to get more involved, one idea is to offer a program that helps new residents get connected to others and build a stronger sense of community here. I noted that in an earlier post and not sure if it belongs under "culture" or in a completely different area.
- ▶ I'm satisfied with what I saw, before COVID at facilities -- old, young, different nationalities and abilities and disabilities and all were treated respectfully!
- ▶ Improve evening classes, improve website to find classes
- ▶ In general accessibility for people using wheelchairs or walkers is terrible in Nanaimo - on the streets, and in the parks.
- ▶ IN my opinion, this has been the strongest department in your organization. The people from coordinators to clerks and instructors are have been great.
- ▶ Include more tennis courts so all players can benefit, advanced or beginners. Have an indoor tennis facility would also improve the practice and provide more months of practice.
- ▶ Increase diversity of parks and environmental access in all areas of Nanaimo. Have access to recreation centres in north end. Oliver woods does not cut it. Considered a gym and police located there often.

Police unintentionally create barrier to accessing gym for certain people. Keep environment impact priority when designing new technologies areas and trails. Bring back learning course to public for lower price to learn skills (how to cut hair, cooking classes)

- ▶ Increase indoor sport facility for tennis
- ▶ Increase security on the trails, in the facilities, in the parking lots
- ▶ Increased parking areas and accessibility for parks and outdoor recreation areas. More facilities across the city. Increased capacity for indoor facilities.
- ▶ Indoor covered tennis courts
- ▶ Indoor public tennis courts owned by the City would add another element to the city's offerings. I play with Nanaimo friends but mostly outdoor in the summer. They also come down to Cowichan Valley in fall/winter/spring as there is a pay to play bubble (privately-owned). In Nanaimo, the only indoor courts belong to a private club but the public cannot play there only members with an expensive initiation fee. The City of Victoria has City-owned indoor tennis courts that are pay for fee and spread across the city. Would be great if Nanaimo could do the same
- ▶ Indoor Tennis
- ▶ Indoor tennis
- ▶ Indoor tennis
- ▶ Indoor tennis courts !
- ▶ Indoor tennis courts are needed that are open to the public.
- ▶ Indoor tennis courts at Beban park, Please!
- ▶ "Indoor Tennis courts for fall, winter and rainy season. Victoria has 3 facilities already and with the growing population in Nanaimo we need at least 1 with 3 courts "
- ▶ Indoor tennis courts would be a great asset to the city. Victoria has several and can hold year round tennis clinics/lessons and competitions. Tennis in Canada has grown in popularity over the last few years and will continue to grow with juniors and adults alike taking up this sport.
- ▶ Indoor tennis courts, not just for residents that can pay a hefty monthly membership fee and court time.
- ▶ Indoor tennis courts. I guess there Could be pickleball courts in there too.....
- ▶ Indoor tennis facilities
- ▶ Indoor tennis facility
- ▶ Indoor Tennis facility
- ▶ Indoor tennis facility
- ▶ Indoor tennis facility would be welcomed!
- ▶ Indoor tennis please.
- ▶ indoor tennis would help me keep active year round
- ▶ Indoor tennis year round
- ▶ Indoor tennis []!

- ▶ inform the public about available programs such as LEAP
- ▶ Inter-connect the city with trails accessible by bike, wheelchair, and scooter
- ▶ Interested in seeing a public covered tennis courts in Nanaimo in the near future, as the private one at Westwood isn't cost effective for many to use. Victoria has many indoor, public facilities and the public players are well served.
- ▶ involve those who are most impacted by this deficit to have an advisory role in addressing it
- ▶ Is it not possible to use school gymnasiums in the evening for recreation programs?
- ▶ It would be great if Nanaimo had an indoor tennis facility
- ▶ It would be great to have a tennis bubble that was accessible to everyone in the winter/rainy season. Also, we need more parks in general, especially along the water. Places like Neck Pt. and Pipers Lagoon are getting so busy that it is difficult to find parking, and they are getting too crowded.
- ▶ It would be more accessible to me if I could use parks where dogs don't contaminate them!
- ▶ "It would be nice to see more community gyms like Oliver woods to encourage more recreational activity for adults. It would also be great to have some field facilities with covered / enclosed spaces for social gatherings.

I would love to see a city squash court.

As a wedding photographer I see how much tourism goes to Parksville and Qualicum because we lack ceremony venues. Bowen park is ok, but the reception space is not memorable. It would be nice to market the port of authority building or something like it that overlooks the ocean, has a that great west coast feel and could offer covered or uncovered space for a reception and ceremony. "

- ▶ I've e experienced great instruction and lousy instruction; nice facility and dirty old run down facility.
- ▶ keep delivering the paper version of the Recreation Guide - there are people who don't have computers
- ▶ Keep doing what you are doing our parks and grounds are great and there are lots of them for people to use
- ▶ Keep parks clean and not locations of makeshift camps that create huge damage and dangerous situations
- ▶ Keep the grass field grass. That is, don't convert more grass fields to artificial turf. Grass fields are much nicer to run and play on, compared to artificial turf which is hot in the summer, hard on the body, and not environmentally friendly.
- ▶ Keep up the good work.
- ▶ Kids programs are filled up very quickly like summer camps and swim lessons. Pools are often so full with programs that it's hard for the public to enjoy all the pools amenities.
- ▶ Language barriers for new immigrants, mobility barriers for seniors and people with disabilities, and psychological safety barriers (i.e., walking alone in parks, gender-specific bathroom signs in facilities, etc.) are a few that come to mind that may prevent people from using parks, facilities, and programs. Inviting and actively working alongside people who identify as part of these groups would lead to collaborative solutions.
- ▶ Larger outdoor swimming pool in the summer. More First Nations public art and a museum dedicated to First Nations culture, which would be good for tourism. More toilet facilities in our parks. Finally a dedicate

day children's park in one of the parks so that little norn houses etc. are not nailed onto trees where we are trying to preserve a natural, beautiful state.

- ▶ Larger universal change rooms, putting an elevator in at Beban Park to make access to the gym easier or move the gym to a different location that does not require climbing stairs.
- ▶ Less autocratic behaviour from the Oliver Woods staff vis a vis Pickleball players. Show some respect. We are not children
- ▶ LISTEN !!!
- ▶ Love the new Maffeo-Sutton playground which includes easy access to all ranges of ability.
- ▶ Maintain trail heads and major trail network in linley valley. I'm not saying pave it. I'm saying bring in the grator and move the huge unstable rocks off the trail.
- ▶ Make Parks safe by removing garbage left by homeless. Remove homeless and drug using people from Parks and Downtown plazas/streets. Drug using people and homeless are everywhere, psychopath are running naked, screaming too often in Downtown. I do not need to see it. Have better spread over City Yoga classes available for Seniors with GOOD quality, inclusive Instructors. Install free outdoor fitness machines in many places in City, like they have them in Europe: near plazas, in Parks.
- ▶ Make parks wheelchair accessible. Make playgrounds more like Parksville beach playground. Add more parks all throughout Nanaimo.
- ▶ "Make Pipers Lagoon park wheel chair accessible  
Allow free access to Newcastle park via pickle boats  
Make better use of the Dianan Krall plaza for open theatre and music events  
Complete the waterfront walkway from the yacht club to Brechin Point "
- ▶ Make some public indoor tennis courts
- ▶ Make them safe. People won't come out if they don't feel safe -this has to be a top priority-we need to be able to enjoy our parks. Keep them clean.
- ▶ Make Yoga more accessible, for all ages and levels, with more impact on Seniors. Make swimming more available (hours) for drop in Seniors. Make Tai Chi and Qi Gong more available for Seniors. Make sure QUALITY of Instructors are BETTER.
- ▶ making parks safer for users by removing homeless people would be a start. In terms of facilities, Nanaimo has a lack of good quality soccer pitches. Disallowing bikes on trails like westwood would go a long way to improving accessibility as they present a danger to the majority of users.
- ▶ Many of the gravel walking trails in the Parker's need better maintenance so that they can be safe for older people.
- ▶ Many, if not most, activities for seniors are scheduled during the day and on weekdays. For those of us who still have day time commitments, the options for evening activity are very limited. Is it possible to have more offerings during evenings/weekends?
- ▶ Maybe more classes for toddlers? Always seems to be a mad dash to register when the programs come out :)
- ▶ More free outdoor concerts to introduce citizens to different music styles and artists, especially orchestral and symphony concerts to familiarize people with classical music, and more cultural demonstrations, like ethnic dancing, indigenous song and dance etc
- ▶ More 50 m swim times a time NAC. The staff are very organized during COVID and the pool facility is

very clean. But their constant nagging and micromanaging make the experience very stressful. Everyone who goes to the pool during COVID is extremely happy to be swimming and are going out of their way to follow the rules as best they know. But the staff constantly nag. I have suggested to the lifeguards to post the rules and put up more clocks. They also need to take a deep breath and round realize it high function adults they are dealing with. If I talked to some of them the way they speak to me I Mayne Ben asked not to come back for being belligerent. Some of them to take a deep breath.

- ▶ “More access to lighted tennis courts. The courts at Bowen Park are great but only the upper courts are set up for night playing even though there are lights on the lower courts???
- Also, we really need to act like a real city and provide a public bubble for playing winter tennis. Thank you!”
- ▶ More access to winter pickle ball gymnasium time!
- ▶ More adult art programs will be great. (not for just retired population but for people aged 30–50).
- ▶ More artificial turf fields, ideally indoor.
- ▶ more availability
- ▶ More basketball indoor basketball courts
- ▶ More beautiful, safe and interconnected walking paths
- ▶ More classes/services to suit the needs and interests of newcomers
- ▶ More community Center’s programs in the downtown area. There is no gym available other than Oliver’s woods. Lack of ice time limits the ability for adult women’s to play hockey because ice time is too late for women with families not that’s work( Monday nights). More swim lanes available for other programs than riptides throughout the year.
- ▶ More community gyms
- ▶ more diversity in hiring and more consultation, focusing on people with diverse needs.
- ▶ More education and enforcement of on leash and off leash areas. Dogs off leash in on leash areas can make areas less accessible to vulnerable people like the elderly and small children.
- ▶ More encouragement for Community pride and engagement
- ▶ “More exercise rehab programs for individuals with chronic illness – eg. post heart attack, stroke, obesity – once medical rehab completed.  
Fitness activities for seniors – easy to register and access  
Better integration with Island health to increase ease of access for marginalized population / mental health ”
- ▶ more facilities in the north end
- ▶ More facilities in the south end, bigger beach area at Westwood lake and departure bay
- ▶ More facilities–especially ice rinks/indoor lacrosse boxes.
- ▶ More ice sheets.
- ▶ “More kids programs available on weekends. Almost no music dance art  
Sports for toddler preschool age on weekends means kids with working parents can’t experience these things. ”
- ▶ More locations for programs; make promotional materials more available via sources other than the internet. Less confusing website, pre-pandemic I have been frustrated in trying to find out about events

ie. free concerts, talks and workshops.

- ▶ More mountain bike trails for beginner to intermediate riders
- ▶ More North end facilities and parks. Other than Oliver Woods, everything is Central or South end
- ▶ more off-leash parks available
- ▶ more opportunities for badminton
- ▶ More options for folks who work 9–5 M–F & can't skip out for lunchtime.
- ▶ More outdoor events in Bowen park. It's an amazing space that is underutilized
- ▶ "more parks throughout the city – more access to nature (FREE medicine!!) free public transit more free outdoor concerts and events"
- ▶ More parks, safer parks, more bylaw officers ensuring dogs are leashed and doggie bags are used and deposited in garbage bins – homeless overnight in the parks leaving all their garbage and needles behind.
- ▶ More private lessons for swimming. I watched my best friend unable to register her special needs son for private swimming lessons as the quantity was so low. He would be unable to participate in group lessons due to his special needs, so he simply did not get to participate. I watched my girlfriend cry as she explained to her son he didn't get a spot. Perhaps some should be allotted to special needs children.
- ▶ "More protected parkland. I would say I value the outdoors and natural spaces much more than funding more facilities, like I'd rather go learn about forage for native camas in some of our remaining natural landscapes and learn about actual indigenous practices than go to a museum, though I do value museums too. I just really enjoy ecologically sensitive areas and being outside (not astroturf please).

On the topic of astroturf please do not copy Langford. I have been told by civil engineers that his astroturf boulevard project is a total nightmare for drainage, something about "Stew Young replacing all the grass adjacent to the roadway with his own company's astroturf". Don't do that. "

- ▶ More public spaces/parks/plazas/common-lands are needed, and they need to be better connected so walking/biking between them (and through neighbourhoods) is easier.
- ▶ More sheltered, and monitored bike parking please.
- ▶ more spots and class options at varying times
- ▶ More swimming lessons and registration process needs improving
- ▶ More thorough cleaning of outdoor parks, eg. the trails at Beban. Safety has become a huge concern on our trails throughout town. Also, the first part of this questionnaire insisted a postal code had to be selected but none of the few that came up were in our area of town.
- ▶ "More time slot options for kid programs that account for working parents. The online registration system is very frustrating."
- ▶ More variety of programs not the same old
- ▶ more welcoming hours of operation(s)...costs are very high...
- ▶ More wellness programs available outside working hours, or accessible during a lunch hour. Things are improving and I appreciate that ... when I first moved here 15 years ago it was very difficult to find a City yoga class offered after 5 pm!
- ▶ More wheelchair accessible ramps, and playground structures.

- ▶ Multi-lingual signs
- ▶ My family income is fairly reasonable, but after housing and food costs, we just cannot afford to do a lot of parks and rec stuff. I would love to have my kids in more swimming lessons (during non-covid times, i mean), or even other types of programs, but food and housing is more important (and we don't spend a lot on things other than that). We do a lot of less expensive things (swim at Westwood, hike), but I wish my kids and I had the opportunity to explore more arts, music, and organized sports programs. Our income is too high to qualify for free programs, but we still can't afford them, and I struggle with the idea of going into debt to take soccer lessons or kindermusik.
- ▶ Nanaimo could drastically use more facilities for court sports...pickleball, badminton etc. Nanaimo drastically needs a large venue facility such as large hockey arena for larger venues which would drive all sorts of arts, concerts, sports and economic benefits.
- ▶ Nanaimo needs a publicly owned indoor tennis facility
- ▶ Nanaimo needs an all year round faculty for tennis like indoor tennis courts
- ▶ Nanaimo needs an indoor tennis court
- ▶ Nanaimo seems to have done well, but as I am an able person, I do not have an adequate lens to comment.
- ▶ Need a safe gym in the downtown area. The gym by the old Howard Johnson hotel May be great, but it is not a safe area.
- ▶ Need facilities in North Nanaimo - huge growth and only Oliver Wood - desperately need pool/ tennis/ pickle ball. Need some indoor racket facilities
- ▶ Need to fight the law that allows homeless / vagrants to shelter their the debris and fecal matter is absolutely deplorable ... clothing discarded everywhere (please stop free clothing donations unless absolutely necessary)
- ▶ Need viable and cost friendly indoor tennis courts
- ▶ New, modern public indoor multiuse facility...we have nothing like other cities, no public indoor tennis
- ▶ no
- ▶ no
- ▶ No
- ▶ No, I think your flyers do a good job of informing people about what is available.
- ▶ Non-gendered change room at all public facilities.
- ▶ North Nanaimo & Hammond Bay need closer access to aquatic and recreation facilities.
- ▶ Not all programs can be accessible to everyone. For instance, some programs will have costs that are not affordable by some. But there should be some programs and services that are accessible to everyone. Inclusion is important, but its level is as perceived by individuals. What I find inclusive, others may not. I think City leaders need to develop means of gathering both objective and subjective data on this so that we don't end up simply reacting to the 'squeaky wheels' or ignoring important clues.
- ▶ Not at this time
- ▶ Not EVERY trail needs to be accessible to EVERY one. Trails loose natural appeal for able bodied when made wide, flat and paved.

- ▶ not focusing on just aboriginal culture. Are has Chinese culture that no one knows the history about. Japanese and also south Asian cultures that are not included. Please include the other cultures from this area.
- ▶ Offer a free trial class to some programming, especially for kids programming, when bringing a child for the first time.
- ▶ Offer free park naturalist programs for all citizens that focus on the flora and fauna of the city parks.
- ▶ Offer programs more frequently and at different times of the day
- ▶ "Once safe and appropriate, more arts programs for children would be appreciated.

A larger facility with a pool or arena or both in the North End would be great. This would reduce traffic on the road and GHG emissions for residents of the north end to travel 15-20 minutes to get to these amenities."

- ▶ "One idea is to remove the culture aspect from the Parks and Recreation department and to create an ART, CULTURE and TOURISM department as many other growing cities have done.

When asked what living in Nanaimo is like, we often tell people that it is a wonderful place if you are a sports and outdoor-focused family, but there is limited access and opportunity to participate in other types of recreation such as crafts (painting, sculpture, pottery, woodworking, etc.) We have one facility (Bowen) that offers very limited programs which are often full or overcrowded.

It appears that the focus and emphasis of the Parks, Recreation and Culture department has been the creation and upgrade of sports facilities and outdoor parks. They have done a wonderful job.

However, the definition of RECREATION is an activity done for enjoyment when one is not working. Recreation does not equal sports.

An ART, CULTURE and TOURISM department could better focus on these recreational needs of our community."

- ▶ Online arts hub
- ▶ Open up the entire waterfront to pedestrians and cyclists at least from Duke Point to Lantzville. Tourism for all Vancouver Island might be improved if lengthy sections of bike path like this were linked up island-wide and overnight hostels built.
- ▶ "outdoor cinema area like Parksville's movie nights (not drive-in); improve the quality/cleanliness of Beban pool and install an infrared sauna at a public rec centre in Nanaimo (like the one at Ravensong which is now too far away to access regularly); police, security, or volunteer patrols or dog walkers in parks; evolve the formats of the famous festivals in order to encourage annual participation and have more quality festivals and events (differentiate between them with different vendors; different draws) and a bit less hokey-ness (enhance quality while still focusing on fun not just for families)."
- ▶ Outreach programs to attract minorities (immigrant population, LGBTQ, First Nations, Disabled).
- ▶ Partner with other agencies already serving people with disabilities to find out what they would like and how to deliver.
- ▶ Personally my bias is toward parks and wilderness areas and trails which are actually a little sparse in my neighbourhood. The river estuary is the most important feature where I live but that environment

has been abused. In the last few years church activities have been my main focus. I might point out that St Andrew's United Church which I attended regularly until Covid is at risk due to shrinkage of the congregation and a future plan for that building could be of service to Nanaimo.

- ▶ Physical accessibility needs to be addressed and MAINTAINED so many door openers don't work. Many of the beautiful playgrounds and most waterfronts are not accessible at all for people with mobility aids
- ▶ Please add in door tennis courts as there is a real shortage of courts and with Westwood potentially closing there will be no tennis 7 months of the year.
- ▶ Please build a space that people can go to participate in stunting in their vehicles. The recent enforcement at Duke Point shows a need for a designated, safe space for people of all ages to participate in events like that. There are little to no opportunities for Motorsports on the island. Both Saratoga and soon Western Speedway are closing. Giving these drivers fines will not stop the activities. Think about skateboarding. Fines and skate stops being placed at skate shoes didn't stop the activities, it just moved it. Building a simple pavement place, well designed to keep accidents low (again, think skateboard parks) would control the activities and keep them off the streets. Hold drag races, etc, in controlled environments.
- ▶ Please build indoor public tennis facilities. We only have 1 private facility and cannot play tennis from October–April without having to pay 100 monthly membership fee hourly court fees.
- ▶ "Please consider putting programs and recreational services out here in the South Wellington area.

Example. There are no outdoor pickleball courts south of Nanaimo. The nearest one is Beaufort Park. I live out by the airport. That is a fair ways to go to play pickleball.

Perhaps consider utilizing the empty school in our area: South Wellington School. There is a field and part of a playgrounding that is not being used. "

- ▶ Please cover the metal stands at Caledonia Park!!!!!!!!!!!!
- ▶ Please get rid of drug addicts and homeless. I do not take my kids or dogs to many parks anymore. Feels like I cannot enjoy the City that I pay my taxes in.
- ▶ Please place more focus on removing invasive plant species in the local parks such as Bowen Park. Ivy and blackberry bushes currently dominate the natural plant species in many parks.
- ▶ Please provide indoor covered tennis courts
- ▶ Please Reopen Beban Pool
- ▶ Please see my comment above. I truly feel that if Nanaimo had a more focussed advertising approach of all it has to offer, it would not only allow people to access and attend enriching events and programs but it would contribute to a sense of community by bringing people together more often. I have found that Nanaimo does indeed have some great events and programs but this has taken me time and a gathering of some very disparate resources to discover.
- ▶ Please take better care of the beach volleyball courts and add more
- ▶ Please, no more crappy murals or painting crosswalk intersections. Put the money into beautifying downtown, add flowers, flower baskets, parks and trails throughout Nanaimo. Adding coffee shops, restaurants and some things to encourage tourism downtown and Departure Bay. The south end could also use some recreational outlets. It would be nice to see some amazing bike-walking trails along our water ways for families

- ▶ Pls keep Caledonia field a grass field. Would like the indoor pool water temperature to be a degree or two warmer than they are now.
- ▶ Poll the public to see what kinds of opportunities are wanted.
- ▶ Program costs and facility user fees have been very affordable for us, but I would happily pay more property taxes to have the programs and facilities free of charge.
- ▶ Program mini bus transportation pickup and drop off from main transit loops to venue.
- ▶ "Programs are focused on non working parents and seniors. The number available to anyone outside of 8-5pm are almost impossible to get in. Swimming pools also senior centric, staff won't turn on slides or all the expensive (tax payer funded) water features because the instructor needs to lead the 8 people doing aquasize in the other pool, which is ridiculous.  
Add fitness pass for 6 months at corporate rate to encourage a healthy and fit Nanaimo. Re-instate the pro-rated corporate passes which were removed with a short sighted decision with zero public input."
- ▶ progress waterfront trail initiative
- ▶ promote multimodal transportation and walkability of neighbourhoods by focusing on smaller community parks and trails.
- ▶ Protecting natural areas from contamination, littering, and providing safe trails free of homeless and drug users. Having doggy bags and trash cans more available and well-tended. Manure trails that have fallen to disrepair. Offer programs that people can afford- I promise, attendance will do up. Make it easier as a local vendor to rent community space or offer programs.
- ▶ Provide a city run indoor tennis and pickle ball facility.
- ▶ Provide a year round arts/culture centre for show-casing local artistic endeavours such as existed for some months in the downtown area across from the Library.
- ▶ Provide an indoor tennis facility for the general public. Pay per usage would be the best option.
- ▶ Provide indoor tennis.
- ▶ Provide senior friendly program schedules that are not during working hours.
- ▶ Providing a publicly-funded indoor tennis facility would enable more people to become involved in this 'sport for life'. The membership and court fees at the current private facility make the sport inaccessible to many.
- ▶ Public indoor tennis courts would be great
- ▶ Reach out to some of the minority populations specifically. Ask them what they would take part in. Ask them if they have teachers in their population that would teach for Parks and Rec: Native drumming for beginners, Chinese mahjong for beginners, Middle Eastern cooking, Spanish conversation etc. Partner with settlement workers at the Immigrant Welcome Centre to find ways to include people of diverse backgrounds in activities together. Oh, I heard that Edmonton had one night a month at a swimming pool where only women would be at the pool (not even male staff), so that women from cultures who can't be seen by men in swimsuits, could enjoy a swim :) :)
- ▶ Reach out to the indigenous communities, offer programs Friday nights for the low income families.
- ▶ Recreation is laly focussed on health and wellness and sport...very little interest in providing for the arts which attracts people to the island
- ▶ "Reduce rental fee for Com non-profit associations giving free public service to provide accessible inclusive programs. Give door to door bus service in evenings. More outdoor toilets. ""Spend a day

with a wheelchair etc"" Event. Improved target education signage – better level for short people using wheel chairs, children – larger print. Improve weed control. Cut down oaks, holly, hawthornes – open sun corridors. Level out paving so walkers and wheelchairs are useable. Ask the public more not young, inexperienced ""professionals"". Consult with lunch sessions. Hire support workers with experience – deaf, blind. Changerooms/washrooms etc can be improved.

CULTURE: Support the library – it does an excellent job. The museum looks to need more space. Ask Culture-related questions about how they relate to the solution to climate crisis, ie helping or hindering, what %? How do we compare to other cities (budget for facilities).

The env. landscape original ecosystem island life are fundamental values ignored."

- ▶ Regular maintenance of public spaces. Open spaces that are well developed and welcoming. Enforcement of city park bylaws.
- ▶ Remove the homeless and needles and people can use them!
- ▶ "Renaming the family change rooms takes away accessibility to families. I am constantly waiting for a change room for my family and seeing a single person walking out and taking that space away from families.  
Having an adults only swim in the middle of the day is NOT inclusive or accessible to families. I don't even understand how it's legal to discriminate against families. "
- ▶ "Re-open the pools lol  
Having dealt with PRC staff in conjunction with non-profit volunteer activies, I have found in the past that staff are very helpful in person or when listening, but rarely does anything change or get improved. Huge bureaucracy problem with the City Staff organizational structure. Individually the staff are first rate, but I think the bureaucratic processes need streamlining."
- ▶ replace playground that was removed from our neighborhood due to end of life
- ▶ Revamp the program – the current one is stale – lots of new faces in town – as participants and teachers. Get them involved. Review and revise your assumptions about "target groups" and "communities" in your programming. Diversify staff as well.
- ▶ -Second Oliver wood Facility for indoor sports to have more space and accessible time for players especially racket sports.  
-Advertise more in social media (instagram or fb) about events. More pictures and detail on the captions.  
-Have a free one day trial so new people would get to know if they might like to continue the activity.
- ▶ Security walk throughs in all parks to stop the homeless and drug users from messing up them.
- ▶ See above re: segregation of programs, so integrating arts programs with other events and inviting public participation in creating community based events representing various culture and heritage.
- ▶ see my comment in #10
- ▶ Self guided education through parks to promote environmentalism. More home economics as city programming from how to raise plants and animals, to how to cook and build things.
- ▶ Seniors are starved for things to do. Pickle ball is the fastest growing sports in North America lets make Nanaimo pickle ball grow with the rest of North America.
- ▶ small city parks such as the Nova Park would be desirable in all new subdivisions
- ▶ Some roads are lovely, such as the bridge over the Millstone River downtown. Others are grim, dirty, weedy and embarrassing -- Nicol Street and Terminal Avenue, in particular. It gives the impression that Nanaimoites take no pride in our city.

- ▶ South End waterfront park
- ▶ “Specifically in the arts community, we need more young voices (Teens, twenties, thirties, even forties). Lots of older people involved in the arts community seem to be of the opinion that “no one makes a living on art” and “no one buys art here” (I’ve been told this personally – thought I do sell art and make my living here). These opinions are tired and need to be changed by the people who do make a living with their art, so they can help support the next generation of artists, and to keep new artists working and living here.

The downtown core needs a lot more support too. It’s such a vibrant area, and has so much potential, but it needs full support and an advertising/maintenance budget to make it a tourism hotspot, like downtown Chemainus or Victoria.

- ▶ Spend more money on natural space parks and trails and less on turf
- ▶ Staff accountability
- ▶ Start by repairing the bike paths. Parkway trail north of Brannen Lake is a death trap. Then maintain them. Then add more.
- ▶ Stay out of expensive programs that should be provided by private conscription. If, due to cost, a facility is only available to a few, don’t tax all to pay for it... let those interested and able to pay do so.
- ▶ Summer programs don’t often provide times that match with work schedules making it so that drop-off and pickup are challenging. It would be great if they could start at 8am or finish at 4-5pm so that, at least, one drop off/pickup time didn’t take me out of work.
- ▶ swimming at Beban pool for seniors. I have not been back since COVID-19. It was getting very crowded. I think more time slots were needed.
- ▶ Take over operation of Westwood Tennis Club and open to public
- ▶ Tennis bubble owned and operated by the City of Nanaimo.
- ▶ “That’s a big question, but I think in general policy related to improving accessibility and inclusivity doesn’t include people who are differently abled in the process.

Here’s an example. People with diverse abilities are disproportionately impacted by technology barriers, so asking questions about inclusivity and accessibility using technology (like this survey) is (not by intention, but by circumstance) inherently not inclusive, or accessible to the people who most need to answer that question.”

- ▶ The 5 acre farm in Harewood is so important...I would urge HO housing other than perhaps 2-3 units that are used exclusively for those working/managing the farm
- ▶ The addition of arena ice surfaces with viewing areas would be great!
- ▶ The City does not offer very good gym facilities compared to other regions. For example the Panorama pool in Sidney provides a much better gym facility than Nanaimo and serves a much smaller population. The Beban Gym is so small, but is the one I access the most due to it’s location further north. Too much is in the south end of Nanaimo
- ▶ The city needs more exhibition space. It needs more affordable rehearsal and studio space. It also needs to improve its festival and performance infrastructure at Maffeo-Sutton Park
- ▶ The city needs to build a community arts space that caters to artists/musicians etc. It needs to provide learning opportunities for all ages, studio space, exhibition space and performance space. It should also

highlight social diversity and be accessible to all. The artistic community is a large one in Nanaimo. It is the only city in B.C. without a dedicated community arts portal. This will support a healthy economic and tourist base.

- ▶ The City of Nanaimo should include an Acknowledgement that the City is located on the traditional lands of the Snuneymuxw people in all publications. An example of an Acknowledgement is: "The City of Nanaimo acknowledges and recognizes these homelands and the stewardship of the Snuneymuxw people it is with humility we continue to work toward building our relationship."
- ▶ The City's website could include a page for each neighbourhood that situates it in the City and describes the features and amenities (incl. its parks and recreation facilities).
- ▶ The front desk clerks of community centres here are often unfriendly, especially Beban Social Centre and Bowen Social Centre. Not sure why. Places like Departure Bay Activity Centre should be re-built with proper heating and HVAC/HEPA systems. Departure Bay needs its own community centre. All city facilities need to be retro fit with high end HVAC/HEPA systems.
- ▶ The homeless needs to be removed from parks , my kids play soccer and literally have homeless people go right thru the field as kids are playing , or they are clearly under drug use and shouldn't be in kid zone areas . I do not go to the new park down town Sutton because of homeless people sleeping in bushes right by the children's park Its not that I think these people are bad people but they can be unpredictable and that scares me with little children . Best to avoid those areas all together . Last time I was a Sutton park I watch one person get arrested with my children seeing that persons behavior , and atleast 3 people sleeping in bushes right beside park . That was last time I went and I have not returned . I want my kids to play not be afraid or worried about an unpredictable person who may or may not be under the influence. This needs to be fixed in our community.
- ▶ The new waterfront extension is looking great, I would like to see a public market, park space, outdoor performance space, a beach, etc downtown. These places have to be safe and appeal to everyone. Social services have a large role to play.
- ▶ The north end has no aquatics. For a city the size of Nanaimo we should have more aquatic facilities to support more participation and jobs in the area. We move from Vancouver which seems to have large pools everywhere outdoor and indoor. Also, Nanaimo has no large theatre space similar to Duncan. One that can encourage arts to develop in the area. It is ridiculous that our only public stage is Beban- it is pathetic.
- ▶ The online registration search feature is frustrating to use. For example, the list of swim kids classes cannot be easily organized by level. I would like to see more programs offered at Bowen that are only at Oliver Woods.
- ▶ The overall quality of the many facilities in our city has fallen. Asset management is going to catch up with the places we have and the cost to replace them are extreme. Council needs to leave the asset mgmt funds alone so they can increase with investment. Using asset mgmt funds to finance our Fire Halls & Arenas for example with the payback put into future asset mgmt funds will give us money to build future buildings. Dept Bay and Chase River halls both need replacement.
- ▶ The programs are already quite a and inclusive
- ▶ "There are many sports programs that could benefit from having an indoor facility during the wet and cold months which is more than half of the year. Creating a indoor facility to allow people participate all year round for the following sports would be great for our community and especially the children's growth and development of the sport:
  - tennis

- basketball
- track"

- ▶ There are many tennis players who cannot afford a private club membership in order to play indoors. Indoor racquet courts extend play throughout all seasons, weather conditions, and beyond standard daylight hours. The demand is there so the city should make this investment.
- ▶ There are so little number of places for strolling with baby stroller in Nanaimo. This situation does not reflect the size of the city and its growing population.
- ▶ There is no indoor basketball court or multi sport facility like a ymca - the basketball time for ages 9-13 lack at Oliver woods and seems to cater to seniors and their badminton
- ▶ There is too little access to pools and no decent facilities close to us for use in the far south. Too few drop in classes and none in my area of the city.
- ▶ There needs to be better playgrounds and parks in the North as well as an arena.
- ▶ There needs to be more indoor sport/activities facilities While Oliver Woods is a start, the impact from the loss of the very old and decrepit Franklin Street gym showed how dire the facilities in Nanaimo are for indoor pursuits.
- ▶ Too many of the services Nanaimo Provides are from Central Nanaimo to the south end. I would like to see more facilities in the North End so people do not have to drive so much.
- ▶ too many playgrounds etc being trashed and covered in graffiti and drug paraphernalia. Makes them feel unsafe and dirty
- ▶ Train and encourage the staff to be more warm, friendly, helpful and welcoming and bring in fresh youthful energy. More multi-cultural programs and events.
- ▶ "Transit coordinated  
School outings so that children can recognize and tell their oarents"
- ▶ "Update the buildings/equipment, they are often dingy and old.  
Not every activity, festival, etc. Has to be focused on kids. Its nice to have family activities but adults need stuff to do as well that isn't just drinking at a crappy old bar."
- ▶ Use provincial standard for walkways in all nature parks so they do not impact the surrounding environment
- ▶ Use school gyms for pickleball - not enough places to play indoors for this rising sport
- ▶ Variety of locations maybe some in the south end
- ▶ Waterfront walkway to departure bay!
- ▶ "Waterpark in the North end  
Swimming lessons times are super frustrating - especially as kids move up through the lessons - there aren't many options and if they don't work for one set you're out of luck for the entire catalogue and hope you have better luck next time "
- ▶ We came from Campbell River where the recreational programming for young children was phenomenal. The cost was also significantly lower for instance, open gym (for preschooler/toddlers) was offered three days a week and was free.
- ▶ "We desperately a small performance space appropriate to professional as well as community performances, such as the studio proposed by the Port Theatre  
We also need more gallery / other space in support of local painters and visual artists to complement

the great work of the Nanaimo Art Gallery “

- ▶ We need a designated racket facility as we are turning people away at Nanaimo Odd Fellows Badminton Club, a local community run, drop in, intermediate level club.
- ▶ We need a public indoor tennis facility, especially if Westwood tennis club is sold. Please do not touch the six courts at Bowen park or the six courts at Beban park as these are busy courts for summer and winter outdoor tennis.
- ▶ We need a rec center and pickle ball courts in the south end similar to Oliverwoods and Beaufort Park.
- ▶ We need a space for local visual artists to gather, work, and exhibit.
- ▶ “We need a venue like the white room again.

Probably the city should give us funding to do many micro pop up events in unused spaces. Without being an impossible bureaucratic nightmare.

Real Nanaimo Arts and culture has already gone underground. In the years to come I believe it will go even further underground off the radar because of rules and restrictions being irrational, expensive and difficult to navigate. This is a shame because most people involved in local art and culture really would like to include everybody. “

- ▶ We need an indoor public tennis facility in Nanaimo
- ▶ We need an indoor public tennis facility in Nanaimo.
- ▶ We need an indoor tennis complex! Please
- ▶ We need indoor tennis
- ▶ We need more facilities in the North end of nanaimo, a pool and rink space. it is near impossible to get space in either type of facility with the population we have now.
- ▶ We need more indoor public tennis facilities
- ▶ we need more indoor tennis facilities for our long, wet winter
- ▶ We need more tennis courts and a system for reserving court time to allow time for playing a tennis match. Also with the imminent closure of Westwood Tennis Club we need indoor facilities to allow for year round play and play on wet summer days. Tennis is the sport that I play and it has for far too long been the forgotten sport compared with the money lavished on ice rinks and pools.
- ▶ We need public indoor tennis courts.
- ▶ Welcoming of gender diverse people. (washrooms and change rooms)
- ▶ Westwood lake would benefit from a covered picnic area. Mountain biking is amazing yet DND has limited access to some amazing trails. Waterfront walkway along the entire oceanfront.
- ▶ What programs?! That might be the first issue. There is little to no inclusive programming that doesn't have significant barriers.
- ▶ When I first moved here I took a number of programs (Pilates, Yoga, Fitness) but felt unwelcome as I was often the youngest member of the class. Perhaps more programs tailored to 20 somethings? I found a lot of the rec programs were made up of retirees who tended to only talk amongst themselves.
- ▶ “While we have invested strongly in accumulation of parkland, the City has not increased budgets to allow for work being done on parks. While this is not the time to spend the money, we could use more

volunteering and transparency of that option.

Community engagement into increasing the use of our parks and cultural spaces would really be a benefit.”

- ▶ Why are we involved with school board property
- ▶ Wish there were more evening options for beginners yoga, deep water aquasize and adults only skating sessions.
- ▶ With a large community of tennis players, more indoor tennis courts are definitely needed.
- ▶ “With the increase in use of our outdoor areas, our hiking trails are coming under a lot of pressure, causing environmental degradation, e.g. Mount Benson. We need to develop more areas and protect them better.  
Our facilities for high-level hockey and football are lacking.”
- ▶ “WTF is up with Diana Krall Plaza. This has been a known eyesore in the heart of our downtown for years. Please choose some quick wins and turn this into useable space. Ideas?
  1. Mural on the back of the Port Theatre – part of next year’s Mural Festival.
  2. Food trucks
  3. Seating
  4. Covered areas.Who cares if homeless people sit there? At least it would be used! Do something!”
- ▶ Year-round tennis facility. Indoor tennis courts. Programs for young people
- ▶ Yes it would be great to have an indoor tennis facility.
- ▶ Yes, offering an affordable all year-round tennis facilities.
- ▶ Yes.
- ▶ Yoga programs at Oliver Woods RecreationCenter are too expensive.....ex, do like at Lifestyle... 35 per month for unlimited classes and use of equipment.
- ▶ you could open your facilities
- ▶ You have got to have washrooms in parks that are open and clean. Spend the money so washrooms can be used safely. People need to use washrooms throughout the year. If you lock a park washroom then you may as well close the park

Q14. Do you have thoughts to share for what EXISTING Parks, Recreation, and Culture facilities, programs, or services in Nanaimo should be improved? Please explain.

- ▶ Signage could be improved in outdoor trails. The trails are very well used and some of the signage is very old, dated and hard to read.
- ▶ Always trying to offer additional facilities/programs to engage our teenage population. Possibly working with the teens to come up w8th new ideas.
- ▶ “- I would like the seawall to be extended/connected to Departure Bay and south of downtown.  
- I think many trails in Nanaimo, especially the less popular ones, could benefit from improved signage.”
- ▶ indoor racquet facility for Badminton and Pickle Ball.
- ▶ 1.More programming for adults, esp. in the sports department, beginner to advanced. 2.Oliver Woods gym lighting--can anything be done to improve it for racquet sports? 3. Please regulate play in city run indoor sports--cliques are a problem prohibiting people from playing. 4. Once Covid is over, please offer cash payment for drop ins again it helps maintain sense of community. 5. Review use of precious gym time: eg: have observed small children classes in gym that could be delivered in a room upstairs at Oliver Woods.
- ▶ 6 more outdoor Pickleball courts at Beban Park (behind existing Tennis court)
- ▶ A bigger art space to hold collaborative workshops, inviting community into learning about different types of art from the conception of art pieces, or performances, stories, styles all the way to public exhibition and performance of art where people of various cultural backgrounds can share their talents and knowledge.
- ▶ “A continuous park from Maffeo Sutton to Bowen.  
More set up outdoor concert space.”
- ▶ A dedicated Arts Centre
- ▶ A long walking trail along our waterfront. A bigger arena for concerts and sporting events.
- ▶ A new bigger hot tub makes began a new pool, and brings in more fare money for the city
- ▶ A pass that includes all fitness and yoga programs for drop in.
- ▶ “a) The conflict between the DND and responsible users of the Morrell and Westwood Lake area trail systems needs to be resolved.  
b) More picnic tables.  
c) More garbage cans.”
- ▶ Access to guides that show all of Nanaimo’s trails and parks.
- ▶ Access to parks and linking parks via bike lanes and sidewalks.
- ▶ “Accessible bathroom at Stevie Smith that is open during the daytime hours  
Lights at Stevie Smith “
- ▶ Add a bubble for indoor tennis
- ▶ Add a indoor tennis court plus a field house of sorts, where seniors or any one who is interested, can walk indoor plus that area can be turned into an arena.

- ▶ add a pool to Oliver woods
- ▶ Add more arenas and artificial turf fields. Perhaps some of these in the north end. Also do a far better job of maintaining our existing outdoor sports fields. The condition of the grounds, bleachers etc is appalling compared to other cities. Parents more often than not are forced to take work on ourselves to prevent our city from being embarrassed when visiting teams come here to play.
- ▶ add more pickleball opportunities
- ▶ Additional programs (dance, swimming, skating) on weekends for toddler age
- ▶ Adult hockey drills and skating lessons
- ▶ Affordable indoor tennis facility
- ▶ All community centres should have a gym (room with weights and cardio machines).
- ▶ All inclusive pass for weight room, drop in sports and fitness/yoga classes.
- ▶ Allowing families equal access to the pool, not having "adult only" restrictions in the middle of the day
- ▶ An indoor tennis facility
- ▶ Another arena! And another disc golf course.
- ▶ Are there currently cooking classes being offered? If so, please advertise more.
- ▶ art in city, bike paths
- ▶ Art programs for children.
- ▶ As a newcomer to town I though the program of events was excellent in terms of quantity and coverage, I can't say anything to the quality really as I have not engaged. This is not something offered to this extent in other countries.
- ▶ As above, indoor tennis public tennis courts
- ▶ As previously, stated, varying times during evenings/weekends, in addition to day time offerings, for seniors throughout the city.
- ▶ As stated before we need better advertising. I follow all the cities' social media and I do not often see posts about upcoming activities. They should be better advertised.
- ▶ At least some parks should have all weather pavement for baby strollers
- ▶ Audit all park areas currently in the city real estate system and utilize those spaces or dispose unused spaces to generate revenue to improve other spaces.
- ▶ Bar camping, vagrancy, pan handling, or at least increase enforcement
- ▶ Based on the higher price points we pay for tickets at the Port Theatre and the often low quality we encounter in a musical/artistic production, we have assumed that the rental structure at the Port Theatre may result in acts having to charge more for tickets than their quality would otherwise dictate.
- ▶ Be able to rent a court
- ▶ Beban - the gym facility is getting old and in need of sprucing up. The tennis dome and outdoor tennis courts needs to be retained and maintained.
- ▶ Beban Park pool needs improvements. That hot tub is terrible. The weight room is inaccessible to me because of my disability.

- ▶ “beban plaza–everything is rundown bowen pool”
- ▶ Beban Pool is rather old and the hot tub is small. Would like to see the pool moved to the north end.
- ▶ Bebin Park Aquatics and Gym is an invaluable facility and city asset that positively affects numerous city residents especially seniors (and people with disabilities).
- ▶ Better and more welcoming performing arts/theatre/concert venues so that more diverse bands and performers can be brought to town (the Port theatre is very unwelcoming and “stuck-up.” Myself as an Indigenous person have been treated quite poorly there.)
- ▶ Better communication with some sports groups. Pioneer tennis/pickleball courts are in terrible condition. Nets badly need replacing, presently held up with Zap Straps and Twist Ties. As well the lines need to be re applied or 1 side repurposed with pickleball courts. We should be encouraging seniors to stay active with outdoor low cost activities. Compared to the costs of maintaining numerous sports fields and indoor facilities, pickleball courts are cost effective and low maintenance.
- ▶ Better maintenance.
- ▶ Better online service options. I was doing drop in pottery classes at Bowen Center, after attending a registered pottery class. There were many hurdles. The drop in classes didn’t align with office hours which resulted in multiple issues, not being able to purchase the drop in or clay. This could have been avoided with an online purchase option.
- ▶ Better quality and accessible off-leash areas are needed.
- ▶ Better space for outdoor groups to meet (ie. Scouts and guides)
- ▶ Better trained lifeguards. E.g. able to recognize and address situations that could lead to injury, able to recognize signs of concussion and to react accordingly.
- ▶ “Better washrooms and storage facilities at Merle Logan Fields.”
- ▶ Bicycle paths should be expanded to make cycling safer in the city and parks.
- ▶ Bigger beach area at Westwood lake
- ▶ Blank walls should house rotating arts exhibits for students, professionals and hobbyists. The coordination challenge these programs bring could perhaps be delegated to an existing arts organization, like the NAC or the Nanaimo chapter of the FCA.
- ▶ “Both the Nanaimo Art Gallery and the Port Theatre have thoughtful well–developed plans for facility expansion; these plans should be supported by the City of Nanaimo. The conference centre is currently underutilized but with certain adaptations or investment into equipment, it could be a viable option for alternative arts and community space in the short term.”
- ▶ Bowen Park Clubhouse is too small overall, kitchen is too small and not functional. Social interaction for seniors is an integral part of lawn bowling membership (which is mostly seniors) and it is often impossible to accommodate all who wish to attend social events.
- ▶ Bowen Park Is very well used. It is a great place and location but it needs a new look, it’s looking a bit sad.
- ▶ Bowen Park should be conserved and enhanced as an easily accessible place for people to visit and wsee examples of west coast river and forest habitat. The Millstone River provides habitat for salmon, owls, herons, otters, beavers and many birds and animals. It is a thrilling experience for people to see these creatures right in the city. The Douglas fir and cedar forest is threatened by climate change, invasive species and significant wear and tear from visitors as well as from homeless camps. Expansion

of the park paths along the Millstone to the waterfront would be a great asset.

- ▶ Bowen Park: the large foot bridge is in need of repair.
- ▶ Bowen seniors complex seems to be bursting at the seams. Gets heavy use already. Art groups are overcrowded for example.
- ▶ Build proper, safe seating around the Third St baseball fields (on slopes). Offer more drop-in volleyball sessions (the ones at Oliver Woods are great but are most often sold out).
- ▶ Bylaw enforcement regarding smoking and dumping and pet droppings.
- ▶ Cameras to prevent vandalism.
- ▶ Camp Sunation or other similar supported programs need to be greatly expanded. Like options for pro D days, Christmas, Spring break. Options for adults with disabilities. True inclusion!
- ▶ Chase river has a beautiful park but it is hard to find and has terrible access. It has so many possibilities do something with it before someone gets hurt there.
- ▶ child care options.
- ▶ "Classrooms in Bowen lack natural light and parking and entry feel unsafe. Facilities should in general be more physically integrated with neighbourhood and broader community. (Ex: Public Library at Country Club is located where people are through their day, it animates and adaptively resuses underutilized malls, crowded multi-use spaces feel safer than isolated park locations.)"
- ▶ clean it up and stuff
- ▶ "Clean up and renovate the downtown wading/swimming pool at Maffeo - a bit embarrassing would love to see the space for VIEX redone with ideas from the last Community Plan (currently underutilized)"
- ▶ Clean up and widen the seawall walk through the shops area. More busking there, and downtown. Parks such as Bowen, Beach Estates, and others need more cleaning and monitoring for homeless camping and drug use, which I don't care to be around, don't feel safe.
- ▶ "Clean up parks. Get rid of excessive dead trees. Clean up streams of dead wood or logs. Make the beauty spots more photographic. Put garbage cans in less conspicuous places. If dead tree has fallen down or is cut down please remove. Don't leave sawed logs laying around or stacked like fire wood. This is not natural or beautiful."
- ▶ Clean up the garbage in Bowen Park and Maffeo Sutton park and make them safer... Maybe some sort of warden in Bowen to add security there, to police squatters, stop drug use in the parks and sexual harassment. Add more access points to Bowen Park. Connect Maffeo Sutton and Bowen park with a trail along the river... Extend the trail to Buttertubs and then into the Jingle Pot Valley. Have more formal garden beds - Victoria is beautiful for these. Host more events at Bowen Park. Beaufort park should have more care taken to it on a maintenance aspect - maybe some more formal gardens too and a pond would be nice. Parks with water features are so much more inviting.
- ▶ Cleaner and updated.
- ▶ Compete against fitness facilities, add more comprehensive gym facilities, develop more waterfront wide pathways
- ▶ Connecting parks and open spaces through an extensive trail and corridor network, so that people can actively transport through the city along greenways and off the roads.

- ▶ Consult with the tennis community before replacing tennis courts with pickleball courts, or before creating multiple-use courts (there are ways to minimize the impact on tennis players).
  - ▶ Continue stocking lakes, my family does go fishing and are happy to have the fish in their freezer to contribute to their groceries. Some free classes for seniors would be nice and appreciated with our low incomes.
  - ▶ Continue to develop free accessible recreation for all by maintaining and extending the walking and cycling paths in town.
  - ▶ Continue to support natural spaces for people enjoy
  - ▶ Could we put in a Bubble at Beban Park tennis courts?
  - ▶ Cover Beban tennis courts with a bubble.
  - ▶ Covered tennis courts
  - ▶ Creating a schedule and structure to allow drop in for the classes you do offer, particularly for fitness. Increased diversity and options for arts programs. Even one-time workshops.
  - ▶ “-Cull the geese at Departure Bay Beach Park. There is goose poop everywhere. Would be a lovely place to have a picnic but the feces and aggressive birds leaves the space largely unusable.  
-Upgrade the departure bay beach playground. It is one of the busiest in the city, yet one of the worst. ”
  - ▶ Cultural and community “ambassadors” a regular item at Downtown Seawalk and larger community parks to ensure appropriate use and user safety
  - ▶ Currently the park at Long Lake Lakeview Park” is in desperate need of regular maintenance and enforcement of bylaws. The park is plagued with alcohol, drugs, garbage and anti-social behaviour on a daily basis
  - ▶ Decrease need to cut playing fields so often. Use sustainable concepts. Better no park than dead biosphere.
  - ▶ Departure bay
  - ▶ Departure bay activity centre and kin guy need some investment and more activities
  - ▶ “Departure bay beach park is unusable because of all the geese and their feces. This should be a premier attraction of the city and should be treated that way.
- Linley valley is a great resource, but better signage off the main trail and some segregation of bike vs hiking trails (especially on the steep areas) will keep things safer for all.”
- ▶ Dept Bay and Chase River halls need to become similar to Oliver Woods.
  - ▶ directional and difficulty level signage in Linley Valley Park e.g. You are here maps
  - ▶ do a better job with making them look tidy
  - ▶ Don’t know
  - ▶ Don’t understand what male/female shared washrooms and showers are all about. Sounds too intimidating so I just stick to the men’s showers.
  - ▶ Dover, as a new area, has regrettably few parks and natural spaces, and our football and soccar fields get counted as “parks” which is ridiculous, they are devoid of natural growth and trees. Take a look at the map you provided, and see how few green spots are in the Dover area!! All we get is high rise developers, apartment buildings, etc, hardly any communities linked by walking trails, natural areas, etc. Take a look at

South Surrey Morgan Creek, with miles of walking trails beside golf courses, housing developments linked by quiet treed walks, mosaic art work in the sidewalks, low rise housing etc. Is our waterfront accessible? in Lantzville, maybe. in Dover? hardly unless you can climb 6 flights of stairs. Do we have view points? Historical markers? Very few except for Neck Point and Pipers, two gorgeous areas that are subject to overuse, simply because they are the only available areas...

- ▶ Easier access to pool with improved change rooms.... feel old and sweaty.
- ▶ Evening lights for McGirr Complex
- ▶ everything in the south end needs to be cleaned up and kept safe
- ▶ Excellent
- ▶ Existing parks are reasonably fine as far as they go.
- ▶ "Fix up the tennis courts in areas other than Beban and Bowen to spread out some of the usage. Beaufort (or is it Beaumont? I'm fairly new here) is now pickleball, which is great they have a hub, but other than B and B, there don't seem to be other choices for tennis. I'm glad you are investing in a new clubhouse for Long Lake. Paddling here deserves support. "
- ▶ Funding for low income kids to take part in programming by the city or private activities.
- ▶ Get rid of the Dandelions, Yellow Hawksbeard, Broadleaf Plantain and other weeds and bring back the grass, current sports fields and picnic areas are a disgrace. Get rid of the rabbits which are turning fields into potholed pastures. Have open washroom facilities at all parks including Neck Pint and May Bennet.
- ▶ Given our weather, rain and climate, we need more covered paved area for people to play basketball, volleyball, pickle ball and tennis. The greater Seattle area has many of these covered areas.
- ▶ Great programs, love receiving the Activity Guide each time it comes out and think the staff are fantastic.
- ▶ Gym at Frank crane is inadequate ---crowded, not enough equipment, no room for floor exercise, no windows, dim and dingy!
- ▶ Have an indoor facility for practice of tennis and pickle ball during winter time
- ▶ Have food trucks and washrooms available at all parks.
- ▶ Having an indoor tennis facility.
- ▶ Having more spaces available for popular programs. It can be disappointing if you don't register right on registration day for a program that is interesting you may not get an opportunity to try it.
- ▶ High end HVAC/HEPA systems and at least one dedicated, sterile exercise room, also can be used by instructors to provide ZOOM classes, which the city can provide going forward.
- ▶ Hikers need to learn not to braid the trails so more info might help out
- ▶ "Hockey arena  
Football stadium"
- ▶ How about combining indigenous culture, physical activities and tourism.
- ▶ Huge need for indoor tennis facility and multi-use trails connected within the city. Biking, strollers, walking. Paved and safe. Ebikes are coming in big time and they will change city transport, we need to accommodate them.
- ▶ I deeply envy Ladysmith, Parksville and Qualicum for their access to visual art center, visual art exhibit and support of local artists. Nanaimo has several visual artist groups that total in the hundreds with

absolutely no venue to show, sell or support local artists. the Nanaimo Art Gallery supports obscure, eclectic and very few shows per year with no local participation or very limited local interest. Funding should favor local artists and support local interests.

- ▶ "I do not attend the public pools in Nanaimo as the womens change room is absolutely disgusting. As was the pool the last time I was there, spittle and snot in the pool, it was gross. "
- ▶ I feel they could be made more inclusive for neurodivergent people and people with other disabilities.
- ▶ I have been impressed by what the City offers. And I have been too busy to take advantage of everything available. I
- ▶ I have previously stated that upkeep to our existing outdoor playing fields is poor.
- ▶ I just want to thank you for your hard work during COVID-19.
- ▶ I really would like to see more opportunities to launch paddleboards and kayaks. I usually paddle in Departure Bay and Westwood lake, and can be limited by park being overcrowded. Perhaps Kayak launches in other parts of the communtiy?
- ▶ I think increasing public spaces is of higher priority than improving existing ones. Generally I think a basic level of cleanliness and usability are needed but fancy/expensive facilities and landscaping are low priority.
- ▶ I think increasing the types of outdoor spaces, and communicating how they might be used by reaching out to existing organizations, and encouraging them to use the spaces. I'm not sure I've ever seen the Bowen Park amphitheatre used for theatre, and as a playwright, I think that's a missed opportunity.
- ▶ I think parks should look nicer by being cleaner.
- ▶ I think there should be a high priority placed on a building a second indoor recreational facility like Oliver Woods. We would encourage the city to support researching a dedicated indoor racquet facility for Badminton and Pickle Ball
- ▶ I think there should be a separate permanent Designated Arts Centre for local artists that offers all types of art classes, rental of studios for artists, a gift shop, performing arts, theatre performance, workshops, pottery classes, digital art and an art gallery that 'local artists' would be allowed to showcase their work. The Federation of Canadian Artists really don't have a place to hang their Art like other communities. The Art Gallery in Nanaimo caters to artists from Ontario or Vancouver, not local artists! Most communities on the island have their own Art Center. Parksville, Ladysmith (Waterfront), Qualicum Beach, Duncan, Victoria, Comox, etc on the island all have their own city helping local artists with an Arts Centre.
- ▶ I think they're pretty good and inclusive. I love the Leaders-In-Training program!
- ▶ I think we need more help for those who can't pay registration or don't have the proper equipment to participate, and to have those services easily accessible to everyone.
- ▶ I understand that we need to share our public spaces with the homeless however, parks need to be cleaned up. The homeless (even if just a few of them) do not appear to be cleaning up after themselves so the City needs to be expend resources to tackle this so the green spaces can be used by ALL
- ▶ I utilize the Colliery Dam off leash dog park every day. I would like there to be signage there suggesting non dog people, runners without dogs in particular, utilize the other part of the park. I continually meet non dog people in the off leash park. There are hundreds of places for non dog people to walk and run in this town, they should leave the dog park to dogs and dog people.
- ▶ I wish there was a space similar to oliver woods in the downtown/south Nanaimo area. Many youth

programs are offered there, but it is quite far away for people in the downtown/Southend.

- ▶ I would like an indoor tennis facility
- ▶ I would like to have more covered tennis courts for year round use.
- ▶ I would like to see an Arts Centre, for Artists.
- ▶ I would like to see more resources dedicated to maintaining parks spaces for ecological integrity – creating areas that are off limits to people/pets, and continuing to remove invasive species and replant with native plant species. Also, there are many neighbourhood green spaces that are nothing more than lawn with a bench or picnic table. I'd like to see these areas restored to a more natural state by planting trees and native shrubs, and providing complex structures for children to play on and around, as well as the existing infrastructure to support outdoor community picnics, etc.
- ▶ "I would like to see us as a city try to maintain the natural beauty of our land and try to develop more environmentally friendly facilities, such as building more hiking trails and pathways or having community gardens, instead of things like clearcutting large wooded areas to create more soccer fields, or paving over what was once beautiful farmland or wetlands to create parking lots. And if we can maintain we focus on upgrading and reusing space and facilities that have already been developed and urbanized in the past, such as old soccer fields and buildings and parking lots. That being said, I do appreciate the facilities, and programs and services City Parks and Recs has provided over the years, and have made use of them, special mention goes to the Nanaimo Aquatic Centre (it is awesome!), the beautiful landscaping and trails of Bowen Park, and the special role that Devril Park has played in helping The South End build its community. And to the Port Theatre, which was built after I moved to Nanaimo, but is so worth it. And I also like feeling that I can look forward to future opportunities of fun and learning through offered services and the Leap program, at least after Covid. "
- ▶ I would LOVE to see a brochure or map with all the existing parks for a local or tourist to explore or a map with all the bike routes.
- ▶ If you could connect the waterfront from downtown to Departure Bay it would be even better.
- ▶ I'll need more time to think about this question. Perhaps more in-park activities such as nature walks would be welcome.
- ▶ I'm not sure
- ▶ "Improve beach access  
Improve the walking and biking trails with signage, lighting, trees, and benches to rest. Beautify and paint the paths with colour to make them stand out and increase visibility.  
More benches at Bowen Park Tennis Courts and an easier and less expensive way to use the lights at night."
- ▶ improve concerts venue in Maffeo and perhaps have other locations that outdoor entertainment could be watched.
- ▶ Improve facilities, many are run down and need refreshing. Let's make what we have top notch before getting new buildings and amenities.
- ▶ improve registration system
- ▶ Improve the gym facilities
- ▶ Improve Trail maintenance at diver lake park! Conversion of low use tennis courts to pickleball
- ▶ improved school parks

- ▶ Improved waterfront accesses to reduce crowding and driving to more popular locations.
- ▶ Increase art, dance classes in evenings
- ▶ Increase frequency/size of day camps for working parents
- ▶ “Increase size and capacity to meet population growth. Increase accessibility by creating more avenues to enroll people in programs”
- ▶ ‘-Increase trail connectivity to encourage commuting via bike and foot
- ▶ Increase walking routes. Finish the Great Trail bridge over Nanaimo River.
- ▶ Increased access for pickleball indoors and indoor tennis.
- ▶ Increased parking
- ▶ Indoor pickleball court times for drop in is too limited
- ▶ indoor racquet multi sport
- ▶ indoor tennis
- ▶ Indoor tennis
- ▶ Indoor tennis
- ▶ indoor tennis
- ▶ “Indoor Tennis courts for fall, winter and rainy season. Victoria has 3 facilities already and with the growing population in Nanaimo we need at least 1 with 3 courts “
- ▶ Indoor tennis courts that are affordable. Most cities the size on Nanaimo have them.
- ▶ Indoor tennis is what we would travel to nanaimo for
- ▶ Indoor tennis PLEASE
- ▶ indoor tennis t
- ▶ internet connected Cameras on outdoors Facilities would help in checking if facilities are free and what weather conditions are like
- ▶ I’ve lived in a lot of other cities and they seem to do a much better job of having community centres with weight rooms. Nanaimo has one small one that I can find at NAC and another a Bowen park, but there is no community centre within walking distance of downtown and the quality of the gyms seems to suggest that the city has abdicated responsibility for fitness facilities to private gyms which all seem to cluster in malls and the north end. Downtown and the south end are severely underserved in terms of facilities.
- ▶ John Barsby Park needs serious attention, including remediation and connecting it to the rest of the downtown waterfront area and on the other side, to the pathway that skirts the track oval adjacent to the curling rink. It is out-of-the-way and, at least in the past – not sure about now, has been a hang-out for street/homeless people, and therefore not conducive for a walk in nature along the Millstream River. With all the multi-family housing construction at the park’s doorstep, I would think that new residents would welcome a well-cared for Barsby Park.
- ▶ Just that they should be open. The facilities are fine in Nanaimo, they just need to open. I believe there is a lack of ice surface per capita and we definitely require two pools. These are expensive facilities to run but we pay for these facilities through our taxes so we expect them to be open.

- ▶ “Keep beban pool open.  
Expand interest classes.  
Expand playgrounds and splash parks.”
- ▶ Keep the summer and school break day camps for kids. Our grand daughter participated this summer and the program was flexible and fantastic.
- ▶ Keeping the washrooms open more often (baseball field on 5th) would help pedestrians in need.
- ▶ Language programs, particularly French.
- ▶ Learn to swim/ kids swim program should be reconsidered. Instruction quality could be better and I don't think it's the instructor's fault, it's their minimal training. Swim instructors should have more advanced training, not just the basics.
- ▶ Less car-centric. Could use some of the fields at Beban for outdoor event venues. Making smaller city-owned venues more financially accessible to a range of arts and culture groups.
- ▶ Lights at more of the grass fields so they can be used more especially shoulder seasons.
- ▶ Like the newly built Lacrosse box at Harewood Centennial, it would be great to have some outdoor activity spaces that are sheltered from wind and rain; for sports, tai chi, children's activities
- ▶ Linkages in trails and pathways and more signage to indicate this.
- ▶ Looking forward to development of a community centre in the south end. Some kind of gym facility like Oliver Woods would be welcome. It takes 45 mins by bus to get there from my home.
- ▶ Loudon Park – playground, add more welcoming picnic areas, boathouse and washrooms improvement or replacement. In general for parks – more washrooms, picnic shelters, tables, benches.
- ▶ “Maffeo Sutton Park washrooms – update, return to regular 6:00am–9:00pm hours and provide increased security presence.  
Esplanade Gardens has huge potential but currently feels unsafe & unwelcoming.  
Plant more trees for shade in the summer.”
- ▶ make it more affordable for passes to join gym for adults and seniors
- ▶ Make registration easier. More awareness about the programs available.
- ▶ Make them accessible by bike with lanes and special bike paths
- ▶ “Make them feel safe again ie duck pond, allow live music and creativity, have a better bus system so that people can get to them.  
Thankful for the disc golf courses, they were a huge help during COVID19 ”
- ▶ Make them look more welcoming. Old and date signage makes it look like you are about to enter a homeless camp. The same equipment at some parks has been there since I was a kid.
- ▶ Making drop in hockey more available, there are so few available time slots for it that it is really inaccessible. Also, a nordic sauna and bathhouse would be a huge improvement on the pretty sorry excuse for a sauna at the pool now.
- ▶ Many amazing programs are scheduled during times that make it difficult to attend as they are in regular business hours. Some programs are expensive when you have multiple kids.
- ▶ Many of the tennis courts in Nanaimo are in appalling shape (e.g., Diver Lake). If some of these were improved and surfaced with an appropriate tennis court surface (not just asphalt), it would take some of the pressure off the courts at Beban and Bowen.

- ▶ Many playground facilities are old, run down and broken. When I first arrived in Nanaimo (2017–2018) and took my two young children to different playgrounds, I was deterred by broken equipment (Barney Moriez, Maffeo Sutton (resolved), Centennial, Departure Bay). Many playgrounds could use serious modernization and upgrading.
- ▶ Many program offerings are targeted to seniors, retirees or people who stay at home. There is high demand for pool classes but not enough times. There are very few options for drop in exercise classes that can substitute for pool classes that don't cost you extra and require registrations. The far south has no options -- Cedar, Cinnabar, etc.
- ▶ Maybe more bike safety courses, encourage people to start cycling? Really if you build the infrastructure people will go. There was a lot of push back in Victoria, even I was skeptical for the first year. I'm an accountant so I don't have enough time for recreational activities, I just want to bike to my job for some exercise on the way and sell my car. Cycling infrastructure is awesome.
- ▶ Maybe to add more classes for the most popular programs?
- ▶ Mentioned already, but I'll add, expansion and re designing of Departure Bay waterfront and park. A beautiful waterfront area wasted.
- ▶ Mix indoor tennis facility with a climbing gym...both need high ceilings....put the climbing pinnacle around the periphery or a central climbing column
- ▶ "Money to support and fix up places like Harbour City Theatre.  
Funding to support making Nanaimo Community Archives more accessible to citizens, perhaps by relocating it to Nanaimo Museum site and having longer hours and more funding for digitization."
- ▶ Monthly membership fees of 35 for Seniors for yoga classes.
- ▶ More accessible pricing for weekend events using city property. Ice ball hockey tournaments. Let's encourage more family friendly events
- ▶ More bicycling paths along the sea-front. There was talk of a seawall from Departure Bay to at least the ferry terminal and even on to beyond Cameron Island but this seems to have died. I love the seawall for walking but it would be amazing if there was a bike path too. I am an older individual who likes to bike but bike lanes on the road are too scary for me the way people drive. Electric bikes are becoming more popular with older people and it would be nice to have more safe areas to ride them.
- ▶ More community centres in the South end.
- ▶ More cultural facilities at Departure Bay, Maffeo Sutton Park and on the harbour-front would bring more people downtown and make it a more vibrant, safe place to live and visit.
- ▶ More development in north Nanaimo. Improve means of transportation to from facilities.
- ▶ More evening classes. Deep water classes
- ▶ More frequent cleaning of parks, ensuring litter and potential drug paraphernalia is removed
- ▶ More ice time for women's hockey, more swim lanes for other programs. Oliver woods is the only drop in gym that I know of. Need more gym for drop in sports in the south end. More community outdoor basketball courts.
- ▶ "More kayak launch sites.  
More natural parks  
More protection and maintenance of parks and ecologically sensitive areas.  
Ban the sale and growing of invasive species such as holly and ivy and Daphne.

Larger buffer zones around ecologically sensitive areas and wetlands.

Education around noise, water and light pollution and human impact on our parks.

Enforce the ban on fireworks.

Get neighbourhood volunteers to help clear forests of dry woody material and invasive species. Or create paid jobs to do this.

Manage and protect the urban forest and wetlands. "

- ▶ More maintenance (garbage removal, cleaning, weeding) and more amenities at places like maffeo & Westwood lake, like concessions, food trucks or markets, clean washrooms, tables.
- ▶ "More off road bike/walking paths.  
More off leash dog areas."
- ▶ More off-leash dog parks
- ▶ more opportunity for drop in aquafit, lessons, and swimming
- ▶ More outdoor classroom space, such as the plans for Linley Valley that have never been implemented... also safer parking areas at some parks, specifically Linley Valley off of Rock City Rd.
- ▶ More outdoor concerts in summer - not this year, of course.
- ▶ More park, playground and picnic spaces for outdoor get-togethers throughout the year. Currently there are a lot of restaurants without indoor seating, so more outdoor picnic spaces are needed!
- ▶ More parks, trails, and facilities in the south half of the city
- ▶ More pickleball courts made on non or little-used courts originally for other sports
- ▶ More seats in parks especially where there is something to look at e.g. a flower garden, a water feature or just somewhere to rest. Public toilets!
- ▶ more separate pickle ball and tennis courts in the north end
- ▶ More signage indicating the use of spaces before European contact
- ▶ More spaces and times to play Pickleball
- ▶ more sports facilities and improving facilities at Deverill park. Improve the basketball park. provide a volleyball play area.
- ▶ More squash courts
- ▶ More swimming lessons. It's so hard to book and there are so few times. It's hard for families with a few kids to get kids in lessons. Also skating lessons - it would be nice if there was sometimes an option to have kids in the two age groups at the same time
- ▶ "More tennis courts: Existing courts at Beban and Bowen Parks are good with the new surface. They can be completely occupied which would indicate a need for more courts. Other Parks and Rec courts do not have a quality surface for playing on, ie Departure Bay, and the north end or Hammond Bay school.

Cover or Bubble needed: Covered tennis courts are sorely lacking for Nanaimo Parks and Rec and our community. The addition of a roof or bubble is very much needed to keep our tennis community active and safe during the rainy months.

Lighting: The only courts with lighting are at Bowen Park, which has just 3 courts on the upper box. At minimum the 3 lower courts need to have an option to use tokens to light the courts. Add lights at Beban too.

**Maintenance:** The Bowen courts are in a lovely location but that comes with debris from the surrounding trees. It is common that the players bring their own equipment to clean the courts prior to use, the Parks and Rec team should be cleaning the courts regularly. Accidents can happen with slippery wet surfaces. Puddles, leaves and cones can be a hazard.

**Hitting Wall:** the only wall is at Bowen Park. Consider adding more walls and improve the height, surface and maintenance. Puddles are not great for tennis. Don't put walls inside the courts as this will use up court space.

**Converting tennis courts to pickle ball:** Please create new courts for pickle ball. We don't need a reduction of tennis courts, we need more."

- ▶ More trails, safe walking areas
- ▶ More trash cans in parks and trails – I've never seen dog waste bags flung into trees until I moved here. More benches along trails. Complete links in TransCanada trail.
- ▶ More undercover ball hockey facilities
- ▶ More variety in age groups.
- ▶ More variety.
- ▶ More Yoga with good Instructors, inclusive for Seniors, in mixed groups (all ages). Better hours for swimming for Seniors.
- ▶ Most parks and recreation facilities could be improved by encouraging people to get there by walking, cycling, and public transport. In other words reduce the parking and other amenities that encourage people to drive everywhere they go. I read somewhere that there are something like 3 parking spots for every car in Nanaimo. This is indicative of what is wrong with our society in general. Car use is much too heavily subsidized.
- ▶ Mostly I'd be interested in seeing more programming overall -- there is little programming for adults.
- ▶ Mountain bike lessons
- ▶ My daughter took an awesome woodworking course, but it was only 6 weeks long. Too short to really develop skills. Would like to see extension of times for these types of skills based classes. In addition, I always find the timing for kids classes set for right after school which only works for families with a stay-at-home parent or a grandparent who can help out. Saturday or Sunday would be great. Also, in terms of facilities, please don't ever paint a room as green as the room the KidsKlub in Bowen rents. What a horrifying colour to have to work/play in.
- ▶ NAC is a beautiful facility and only 50 m pool north of Victoria. I would like to see it kept at 50m all the time like the Vancouver Aquatic Centre. There is the warm pool for non swimmers plus it would save a lot of money to not have staff constantly changing the lengths from 25 to 50m. Furthermore, the pool should be kept at a constant 25C/80 not too cold, not too hot, just like the Vancouver Aquatic Centre which is also a training pool,
- ▶ Nanaimo aquatic centre has terrible water quality for today's standards. Locker rooms need renovating as well
- ▶ "Nanaimo Art Gallery has shown us memorable exhibits and introduced us to amazing creators although the exhibition space and, I'm told, the storage facilities need to be larger. The Art Lab learning space is always busy and producing precocious and interesting shows but it too seems small and crowded.

I should add that the lighting in the exhibition space is not very good, compared to galleries such as Courtenay/Comox.”

- ▶ “Nanaimo Art Gallery provides many inspiring encounters with art, but it’s physical location is too small to accommodate all of the diverse cultural needs of Nanaimo.

The renovated bank building on 150 Commercial Street houses 5 cultural organizations in sub-par office spaces with poor ventilation and lighting. The limited exhibition space and educational programming space restrict the expansion of cultural learning opportunities that the organization can provide for our community. “

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- ▶ Nanaimo has the only indoor tennis facility north of Mill Bay. This private club at Westwood Lake is slated to be sold to developers. Nanaimo and the central region desperately needs such a facility for year round recreation as well as to continue the valuable junior teaching programs to advance the sport.
- ▶ Nanaimo needs a dynamic and vibrant arts centre where we can come together and take courses (eg. watercolour painting, sculpting), exhibit our work, and have visiting artists to stimulate and provoke us. Meeting and rehearsal space is needed. More community gardening space is needed in various communities throughout the city. Here in the north slope where I live there is no community garden. I travel to Beban – across town everyday in the summer.
- ▶ Nanaimo needs a indoor tennis facility that is affordable. It would draw many participants from the central and north island and give Nanaimo new dollar business from non-residents coming to Nanaimo for tennis and while there shopping , eating, and visiting tourist attractions and parks
- ▶ Nanaimo needs an indoor tennis facility to get us through the winter season
- ▶ Nanaimo should consider applying to host an ISU Junior Grand Prix figure skating competition.
- ▶ “Nanaimo’s parks and green spaces are one of the things we (and our dog) love the most about the city. We hope parks and green spaces continue to exist and be maintained (some have a lot of garbage and broken glass in them).

Although COVID-19 understandably changed the ability of the night market to operate this year, this was a great addition. We look forward to supporting it when it returns. “

- ▶ Nanaimo over the years has cut back on flower displays to the point they hardly exist. Smaller communities like Qualicum and Port Alberni (which is suffering from a lower tax base) have many more flowers, showing a community pride lacking in Nanaimo.
- ▶ Nature connection programs for adults and children – 8 shields model from the Wilderness Awareness School based in Washington. <https://www.wildernessawareness.org/>
- ▶ need a permanent drive in movie instead of just the occasional family movie night
- ▶ Need more ice sheets available. Nothing in north end of Nanaimo for services.
- ▶ Nets above chainlink for outdoor ball hockey
- ▶ New lighting installed at Oliver Woods needs diffuser under at least one set of lights to reduce glare!
- ▶ No
- ▶ No

- ▶ No
- ▶ No improvements are needed. We are lucky to have such exceptional facilities. We should focus time, money and energy on actual problems our city has.
- ▶ No overnight “camping” in ANY public space – attention to cleaning up debris and graffiti– increased opportunities for busking.
- ▶ No thoughts
- ▶ No thoughts... too far away to use on a regular basis.
- ▶ North end tennis courts could use some grooming.
- ▶ North Nanaimo needs more access to recreational areas that are accessible
- ▶ Not at this time
- ▶ Not at this time
- ▶ Not enough arenas. 100k and 4 sheets of ice. This limits accessibility and programming that could be incorporated with more ice.
- ▶ “Once this pandemic is under control, there will be an absolute need for at least 12 to 16 outside Pickleball courts capable of hosting tournaments . In one central location. Rather than spread out”
- ▶ Online registration for seniors/harbour city seniors programs
- ▶ Open Frank Crane arena right now – this surface will be needed come fall for appropriate programming.
- ▶ Organized programs are expensive for facilities and operational costs. More passive recreation (walking/ hiking, cycling, stakeboarding, etc.) are less expensive and should be emphasized.
- ▶ Outdoor concert space with tiered seating
- ▶ “Outdoor tennis courts besides Beban and Bowen need resurfacing. Basketball courts be built in proper dimensions and level ground. Creating children’s size basketball courts would also be beneficial.”
- ▶ Overall I’m quite satisfied with the existing Parks & Rec facilities. Nice work!
- ▶ Parking at most Parks and Rec facilities is poor.
- ▶ Parks and Rec doing good job – just maintain and plan for future.
- ▶ Parksville community park is a great example of a community gathering space with something for everything. We need much better biking infrastructure and ways to improve environmental stewardship and protection.
- ▶ Please work to preserve and solidify the network of trails surrounding Nanaimo, from Westwood Lake to Mt Benson, the Abyss, Doumont. Please try to halt logging and development in these areas. They are already widely used by people in our region, and as more areas are threatened by development on the mainland, will become a source of tourism if they stay unified.
- ▶ Please add an indoor tennis facility
- ▶ Please bring back the extra benches to the Bowen Park Tennis courts. They were recently removed, so now the middle courts do not have a bench to use. It is very awkward. The moveable benches were perfect, as you could also move them into the shade when it was sunny. Even though they installed permanent benches, they could have left the other ones. Thanks! (Or please install permanent ones for the middle courts.)

- ▶ Please consider bringing Recreational and Cultural programs to the South Wellington area! There is an infrastructure there that is NOT being utilized.
- ▶ Please put a cover on the metal stands at Caledonia Park!
- ▶ Please put resources and dollars into Bowen Park! Fix the picnic shelters, benches, horse shoe pits, basement of the community centre, offer picnic cooking areas, maintain trails, signage
- ▶ Please Reopen Beban Pool
- ▶ Please update the Bowen skate park behind the curling club.
- ▶ Port Theatre programming (more dance!) and creating partnerships in the downtown business community (restaurants, small business sponsorship, involvement of local artists) to increase engagement. The theatre should also be able to access some of the \$ from the parkade as most theatres in urban centres do. Development of more waterfront and beach access in Downtown and South Nanaimo. The more park space that is saved and developed, the better.
- ▶ Preserve older facilities (Bowen, Beban) for at least the next twenty years. ;) (That includes architecture, histories, rooms, areas, etc.)
- ▶ Prioritize keeping natural spaces and increase signage that educates about environment.
- ▶ Programs and facilities will need to be modified to mitigate COVID19 and future pandemics.
- ▶ Programs to improve, expand and promote our local talent so that they can become sustainable professionals would help a lot.
- ▶ Proper maintenance of aesthetics. Painting of buildings, curbs, etc. adequate cleaning of all facilities on their exterior. So much looks and unmaintained, ie. benches, garbage cans, etc.
- ▶ Provide an indoor facility for playing tennis during the winter.
- ▶ Put a bubble on current tennis public courts for the non-summer months.
- ▶ Put chain nets on the basketball hoops
- ▶ Put events steaming online
- ▶ Put grass back in off leash area at Beban park.
- ▶ "Quality of Instructors, and variety of indoor fitness has to improve. Outdoor fitness machines can be installed all over the city."
- ▶ Quit gentrifying Westwood Lake, and for God's sake stop allowing housing to be built on the lake shore.
- ▶ Recreation center in south end
- ▶ Reduce costs. Why do other services charge less, create more involved community? Recreation can do better. Build less. Useless. Be Island aware. Partner with community organizations, support more local initiatives. Why are these expensive facilities mostly empty? Earth overshoot day - August. Climate crisis focus. Use EV not ICE.
- ▶ Reimagine how existing parks can be best used in neighbourhoods that are experiencing intense densification. Expand existing parks whenever possible to offer a wider range of uses.
- ▶ retrofits to McNabb arena change rooms, benches and bleachers
- ▶ Routine maintenance especially pools
- ▶ Safety and security. Management for discarded Needles and homeless loitering.

- ▶ School playgrounds should be updated.
- ▶ "SECURITY"
- ▶ See above regarding safety of outside places.
- ▶ See comments above.
- ▶ See earlier comments re: upkeep of paved trails. For example, Bowen park and the parkway trail. Similarly, the mount benson trail is in such poor shape that it not accessible to any but the youngest and fittest. There is no reason for that. It is not far.
- ▶ See prior comment.
- ▶ Seems to be a real lack of indoor gyms suitable for badminton, pickelball and other racquet sports
- ▶ Shade at wardropper dog park
- ▶ should be able to play tennis year round
- ▶ "Signage is confusing sometimes.  
More artificial turf needed.  
Maffeo Sutton Lagoon improvements. Make it more inviting to swim and spend time here. "
- ▶ Some building are in rough shape
- ▶ Some facilities could use some 'modernizing'.
- ▶ Some more history about the parks. Some signage about plants that are native or protected. Interpretive walks.
- ▶ "Some of the natural ball fields need work to be in better condition and to be more affordable. Our ball league used to rent ball fields and had to stop because they were too expensive and the outfields were dangerous (uneven ground, large holes, etc.)"
- ▶ South end community centre for programs, rentals and services such as running track, gymnasium or court use, more options for indoor/covered outdoor floor hockey/basketball, etc.
- ▶ Speeding through Parking Lot at Oliver Woods / going the wrong way was still a problem .f
- ▶ Staff that isn't so angry...lol. Specifically Oliver woods.
- ▶ "Steam  
Sauna "
- ▶ Stop the proliferation of informal trails. We need bigger spaces between trails to allow the natural world a respite from frenetic human contact.
- ▶ Student discounts on programs
- ▶ Swim lessons fill up so fast for kids.
- ▶ Tennis courts at Dover /Schook Rd need resurfacing. Please cut a few trees down so not so dark on courts. Please schedule more frequent removal of pine cones/debris and cleaning of Bowen Tennis Courts.
- ▶ Tennis facilities - bubble over Beban
- ▶ The addition of concrete to waterfront parks, some intended to increase access, is a disturbing trend.
- ▶ The adult group gym lessones are very expensive. It is hard to participate with this pricing.

- ▶ The aquatic in the city has gone down hill
- ▶ The artistic community in Nanaimo needs a dedicated hub for classes/events related to arts and culture, a city built community arts space.
- ▶ The basketball court at Maffeo-Sutton isn't level. This should be corrected.
- ▶ The Beban pool should be maintained for residents of Nanaimo. It meets specific requirements for seniors that the Aquatic Centre lacks. This is a very important resource in our city.
- ▶ The Centennial Building could be used more often in relation to food sustainability, food security and support for local agriculture.
- ▶ The city of Nanaimo should enforce its leash bylaws or repeal them. What's the use of a law that invites people to flaunt it?
- ▶ The city really really needs a smaller accessible theatre. About 200 seats. I believe firmly that it would be booked enough to justify its viability.
- ▶ The conditions of the arenas is embarrassing: rubber matting with persistent holes and bathrooms without doors and warm water
- ▶ "The dismantling of the City's Cultural Committee has left a hole at the center of the arts and culture community, one that needs to be filled either by re-establishing the committee or providing another mechanism for ongoing, public input to the City's arts and culture policies and funding decisions. Staff should have sufficient community support."
- ▶ The exercise trail in Beban park is unsafe to use. It's filled with needles, stolen property and addicts. The brush needs to be cleared out so they can't hide out in there
- ▶ The existing outdoor nature parks (ie. Colliery Dam, Bown) need to be cleaned up. The prevalence of people camping in the areas and discarding garbage or unwanted stolen goods is terrible to see if you look 5 feet past the walking paths. I don't know what can be done, but drug-use (specifically THC products) has poisoned our dog twice this year, and we're starting to fear going to the off-leash parks now.
- ▶ the gym at NAC needs to expand
- ▶ The indoor space for sports is sorely lacking, so people are unable to have meaningful fitness programs because they cannot secure enough slots per week.
- ▶ The major park facilities are centralized (Bowen and Beban parks) more facilities should be considered for outlying areas
- ▶ The mountain bike trail network at Westwood Lake could be improved/expanded. It has gained popularity in the past few years next steps could include putting in a flow trail for intermediate riders and a beginner route for those just starting out in the sport. The Nanaimo Mountain Bike Club has a plan for a connected network of trails that could attract a considerable number of tourists to the area, as having more than one network is key.
- ▶ The murals downtown (the new otter one, and the ones on the derelict building on the corner of Commercial and Wallace) are... not great. When deciding where to move, it was one of the things that made me place Nanaimo lower on my list. That sounds bad of me to say, but I really think that that might be a factor for other creative professionals contemplating on moving cities. I've come to find Nanaimo to be a city with great artists and those murals do not reflect that. It negatively impacts the overall image of the city. The mural on Victoria St is beautiful.

- ▶ The Nanaimo Ice centre/ 3rd street park area should have a small playground. There is space near the rink.
- ▶ The pool locker rooms are notoriously dirty and unsafe to store your belongings. Alos there is no space available to privately teach children to swim with all the registered swim classes going on.
- ▶ The pools are wonderful. Love that we can plug in our car. I only hope there are enough skate board parks for the young people who love that sport.
- ▶ The pools at Beban should be better maintained. Facilities are outdated and often dirty. Water is often too chemical-saturated rather than changed. Instructors should have some leadership skills and incentives to show up... last year I paid for 3 courses only 1 of the instructorstherr actually RAN the course... the others cancelled. Those courses were also very expensive, and I had to try extra hard to save for them. There is NO reason to use public parks right now. They have been taken over by the homeless and more often than not, private junk removal groups are tending to the growing garbage when it becomes clear that after many months of inaction, the City doesn't care. Parks are not safe anymore. You can't run in them; needles everywhere. Needles at the beaches, too.
- ▶ The pottery studio needs upgraded facilities, more drop in
- ▶ The presence of crime and drug use is a deterrent for our family.
- ▶ The programs we have participated in have been well organized and great instructors for the most part. We struggle to continue to register because of the distance to the pools and rinks from the north end.
- ▶ The south end waterfront area could be improved with parks
- ▶ The water in the big pool at NAC could be a bit warmer.
- ▶ The web system seemed to make everything harder and more complicated after its "upgrade". Hold the company who did that to account and make it more user-friendly.
- ▶ There is a need for a dedicated tennis indoor facility as it becomes clear Westwood tennis club will be closing. There is no indoor tennis facility north of Victoria and our weather is such that we need it. There is a need across all ages and abilities.
- ▶ "there is nothing in the downtown core in recreational facilities "
- ▶ There is very inadequate parking at Long Lake, and Westwood Lake in the summer. More people in apartments require outdoor space. We are flooded with people who want to take a simple swim in the summer and no where to park.
- ▶ There is very limited access to off leash dog areas that are appropriate. The convenience of saying the power line area off the back of Westwood is off leash is inappropriate. It was terrible access and the road has been filled with rough blast rock. The field off East Wellington has been designated for remote airplane use which is strange, given that one only sees dog walkers wading through the flooded field.
- ▶ There needs to be more parking at Neck Point Park.
- ▶ They need to offer the same programs at all of the facilities. Day camps that are suitable for my son are only ever available at Oliver Woods, too far from our house.
- ▶ This survey is too long, I think like me many people do these things with snippets of time in our busy days. This one is beyond the length where my mind wanders, patience is stretched and am no longer feeling committed to take further time to answer this questions 15 or 16
- ▶ Through the regional district the city needs more parks and recreation areas around the Nanaimo River. We also need more indoor space for year round racquet sports

- ▶ Time to update Beban Park facilities, especially the gym. The gym is too small and inaccessible.
- ▶ Timely notification of registration windows for seasonal activities and classes. As new residents, we don't want to have to keep checking the user unfriendly website for updates. As environmentally unsound as it is, paper catalogs are the most helpful.
- ▶ To purchase the existing Westwood tennis indoor bubble
- ▶ too hard to join soccer/rugby/hockey/rowing/etc
- ▶ Took a class late last year really enjoyed the quality of instruction would like to see more
- ▶ "Trails and parks along publicly accessible sections of rivers and Streams (ie along the chase river).  
Raise revenue by charging for parking.  
Greater use of user pay for expensive infrastructure (arenas, covered courts, etc)"
- ▶ Turn on waterslides and water features. keeping these off for a small number of seniors aquasize classes is not reasonable.
- ▶ Unsure.
- ▶ Upgrade and replace old playground equipment in existing parks. Add more picnic tables to parks. Especially during Covid, families are encouraged to congregate outside as it's safer.
- ▶ Upgrade old existing parks
- ▶ Utilize the existing covered multi-use for more sports opportunities, eg. tennis
- ▶ Walk way from Departure Bay to Downtown Swyalana Lagoon
- ▶ Walkway/Cleanliness of park on south end that goes into estuary More public open skate that we can bring kids too
- ▶ Washroom facilities at Neck Point. Increased gardens and trees for habitat and visual appeal, pathways, picnic tables throughout parks. More picnic tables at Bowen Park in the lower grassy areas and near the upper playground. This would allow for people to enjoy the park when the lower shelter is in use by a large group.
- ▶ washrooms clean and open at all times
- ▶ Waterfront trail is amazing, should be extended to departure bay
- ▶ We are about to lose our private indoor facility. The city should buy it or create a new indoor tennis facility.
- ▶ "We need a designated raquet club facility to be shared with pickleball and badminton."
- ▶ We need a lot more colour and texture in our existing parks. Compared to other cities, we are BORING! The downtown harbour isn't the only park space we need. The North End is sadly VERY neglected. It seems only designed for utility, not style. All 'engineered', no imagination. Look to Langford for ideas. Even Duncan has now surpassed us for planting.
- ▶ We need an indoor public tennis facility in Nanaimo
- ▶ We need far more recreational areas in South Nanaimo
- ▶ We need indoor tennis courts to play in during the fall and winter months
- ▶ We need more drop in time for indoor pickleball by adding a day or two to the Nanaimo Senior's Program - currently only offer badminton which many seniors cannot play.

- ▶ We need more tennis courts and an indoor facility of 4 courts!
- ▶ We need places that let people create an experience. Something different from the everyday. All levels of artists. It would be great to have a place that had lots of materials in one half, then a big open space in the other half. Sort of a huge "maker space". Take shows and creations and make many micro shows. Have room for about 20 or 30 ppl to be in this main space safely and then branch out to unused spaces indoor and outdoor as well.
- ▶ we need to clean up are home less environment
- ▶ We really need a park in Nanaimo that's indoor or under cover as it rains here a lot.
- ▶ westwood lake park – acquire tennis club for park, increase parking to accommodate increasing population, continue to improve trails to accommodate cyclists and pedestrians. Improve trail connection to morrell sanctuary.
- ▶ Whenever there is a day or 2 of rain there are large impassible puddles in the gravel path around Buttertubs Marsh. This is a concern for th3 many seniors living in the area.
- ▶ Would love to see the Departure Bay Area walkway and downtown harbour walkways expanded.
- ▶ Would really like to see the city take some initiative to discuss the ongoing issue with the trails in behind Westwood Lake that Dept of National Defence are using. This land is thoroughly developed for trail running/mountain biking and hiking. Would like to see it turned back over for that use.
- ▶ Yes, indoor tennis facilities
- ▶ Yes, plan swimming lessons so that children spaced two years apart are in the pool at the same time (specifically preschool ages)
- ▶ You could fix the floor in Franklyn Gym.

Q15. Tell us your NEW ideas for Parks, Recreation, and Culture facilities or programs in Nanaimo (i.e., what we don't currently have, but need). Where should it go?

- ▶ indoor racquet facility for Badminton and Pickle Ball.
  - ▶ ""- More indoor facilities for soccer, basketball, hockey, indoor tennis (private indoor clubs are too expensive), indoor ultimate frisbee.
    - The North Nanaimo Mall could be turned into a recreational hub for indoor activities and supporting businesses (gymnastics, yoga and fitness studios, pubs, golf simulators, etc) instructional space for outdoor pursuits (avalanche training, boot camps, meeting rooms for volunteer organizations such as mountain bike clubs, backpacking groups, etc)."
  - ▶ ""- Would love to see a small aquarium or something similar with information about local sea life, etc.
    - I think a cultural centre/museum which celebrates the history and culture of local Indigenous peoples would be wonderful."
  - ▶ Our region needs a new, purpose-built home for Nanaimo Art Gallery with expanded exhibition and programming space. A fully equipped professional public art gallery is essential for Nanaimo's development as an island hub for culture. A new Nanaimo Art Gallery, with operating support from the City of Nanaimo, will enable the organization to create more quality opportunities for accessible, inclusive, and innovative programming for emerging and professional artists, youth, families, adults and the entire community. A waterfront location will be an asset for the city, a draw for tourism, and a benefit to local business.
- I have just moved here from a community of a similar size to Nanaimo. That community's art gallery is about four times the size of Nanaimo Art Gallery and is funded largely by local government. The art gallery has done wonders in connecting community and engaging families. I want this for Nanaimo. "
- ▶ "1 - Linking the trails from Extension over the extension ridge to colliery dam, the morrell sanctuary, westwood lake up to mount Benson, down to Witchcraft lake, to the Ammonite falls and finishing at Brannen Lake. With a location to pitch a tent. The ultimate Nanaimo adventure :)
    - 2 - passive, permanent outdoor equipment like outdoor gyms (cfr Parksville beach) or ping pong tables, with a picnic table. That is possible even in the very small neighborhood parks.
    - 3 - building small points of interest to connect neighborhoods (as an encouragement to pedestrians to keep exploring)"
  - ▶ "1- A smaller theatre- 200 seats.
    - 2- Also, limiting encroaching development on existing trail systems.
    - 3- And make the riparian zones wider off existing waterways. It's terrible how close building is happening to these sensitive ecosystems and how natural water paths are being diverted from landing in existing streams to drainage systems. Walley creek is a very visible example. Although some sections are designated green spaces, human invasiveness comes right up to it in others. "
  - ▶ 1 Port Place would be a great showcase for a downtown park. With a nearby transportation hub.
  - ▶ 1) More oceanside sandy beach parks for family enjoyment of the ocean. 2) Bandstands at more parks where artists can be provided with space to perform for public enjoyment. 3) Swinging benches at Maffeo Sutton Park to accommodate the many seniors who use that park and to then also compliment that park's fine new children's playground. 4) Seasonal food concessions or food trucks at Neck Point & Pipers Lagoon, and to be more frequently found at Departure Bay Beach. 5) A new lawn bowling park facility

created somewhere in central to north nanaimo. 6) A manicured floral garden park (like Queen Elizabeth Park in Vancouver) for local and tourist enjoyment. 7) Public art dispalye din more green park spaces.

- ▶ 200 seat theatre and artist studios – in downtown core.
- ▶ A better, larger performing arts/theatre/concert venue
- ▶ A bike trail between Departure Bay and downtown, and a better community centre in Departure Bay
- ▶ A centre for Pickleball only
- ▶ a community art centre
- ▶ “A community arts centre is lacking in the city. All cities in B.C. except Nanaimo have a vibrant and well used community arts centre for residents. This space needs to offer educational opportunities, space for studios for artists of all disciplines and needs to provide exhibition and performance space. It needs to be accessible for all residents, all ages and be a feature location of the City of Nanaimo. It should highlight and partner with the existing arts and culture organizations in the city and feature First Nations culture. This facility would greatly enhance the vibrancy of the City of Nanaimo.”
- ▶ A community centre in south end offering cultural and artist studio spaces for all ages .
- ▶ A community food forest
- ▶ “A continuous waterfront pathway, circular routes, and places to bike with the family that aren’t on the road... More pathways and connective routes throughout the south More arts and culture facilities, with more access to art classes, galleries etc.”
- ▶ A covered/indoor tennis facility would be a valuable addition to the Parks & Recreation program. I would gladly support/patronize one.
- ▶ A dedicated Arts Centre
- ▶ A dedicated facility for like minded sports, (pickleball, badminton, and maybe even volleyball) together would be great. Two are court sports, and two require high ceilings. All 3 would benefit from walls that make visibility of the white ball/shuttle easier. Lighting should be similar for badminton and volleyball as well, and having just a few sports in a facility stops the over-stripping of floors where everything becomes a blur.
- ▶ A deep investment into arts and culture facilities is required by the City of Nanaimo including an a community-based applied arts centre (Similar to TOSH in QB or Ladysmith Waterfront Gallery), affordable performing arts facilities, community and neighbourhood centres, and outreach centres for homeless and addicted populations.
- ▶ A downtown and south side outdoor gym park!
- ▶ A facility for LOCAL VISUAL ARTISTS to gather, work, and exhibit.
- ▶ A farmers market more than one day per week at Beban Park. Either using a new purpose built building or in a repurposed and furbished Centennial Building. That would be a local food services facility.
- ▶ “A gallery/store/gathering space for Nanaimo Arts Council.(If we still have a Nanaimo Arts Council) You

would think that with all the empty buildings downtown, or in the South End, close to downtown NAC could find a place cheap enough to rent and not get ousted because a Pot Shop can better afford it. Use some of that recently accessible waterfront space by the Gabriola Ferry Terminal to hold outdoor markets and festivals, carnivals, live music etc at least until they figure out what to do with the broken pavement.

Also when that waterfront area gets fixed up, the city should keep that Wier as a heritage site and maybe have it built into some historical tours and attractions. Actually the train yard can be built into this as well. I think the city is really missing the boat if they don't consider using the trains as a way to link up with the Gabriola Ferry and offer transportation to humans. Why do we still have trains travelling around on the island and Nanaimo but they don't offer transportation? "

- ▶ A gymnasium the size of Oliver Woods attached to ice centre or aquatic centre or in the general area.
- ▶ A hockey rink on the North side of town. More Baseball diamonds in North End.
- ▶ A ice rink in North Nanaimo. Better park space and playground in North Nanaimo. Waterpark in North Nanaimo
- ▶ "A indoor multiplex ( indoor courts for basketball and tennis, an indoor track, gym, pool and turf fields for football and soccer). They do this in other provinces ie. Regina:

200m oval track with 6 lanes (Impact-absorbing synthetic floor)

4 indoor tennis courts

5 badminton courts

Strength and conditioning area with accessible weight lifting machines

Cycling area

1 basketball court

2 classrooms available for booking

2 Olympic size swimming pools

2 Whirlpools

Sauna

have options for the winter months "

- ▶ A major arena downtown at old Tally Ho site. Another 2 rink facility in the north end and an artificial turf facility with lights and suitable for baseball and other sports in the north end.
- ▶ A major arena events centre at tally ho site. Multi sport artificial field baseball capable in north end ie Dover Bay. Twin ice centre in north end. Indoor baseball facility. Partner with private investors to make this happen
- ▶ A more extensive biking system around the city.
- ▶ A new facility similar to OWCC in the Southend
- ▶ "A new indoor tennis/pickle ball facility at Beban Park.  
New and better signage in Departure Bay to indicate tennis courts, basketball court, waterpark, dog park, soccer field, etc...  
Signage for beach access along Hammond Bay Road.  
More biking paths with signage throughout the city, especially downtown and along the water. "
- ▶ A new large dedicated racquet sport facility would be amazing.
- ▶ A park for kids undercover.

- ▶ A pool in the north end.
- ▶ A public indoor tennis facility and pickleball facility
- ▶ A public outdoor pool – on the waterfront! (like New Brighton Pool in East Vancouver)
- ▶ A rec centre similar to Oliver woods in the downtown/Southend/hardwood area.
- ▶ “A recreation centre in South Nanaimo is overdue!”
- ▶ A roof cover over half the Beban Tennis/Pickleball courts Similiar to that installed at the Harewood Centennial Park covered Lacrosse court.
- ▶ A second Oliver wood facility. We need to have more time for racket sports. Two times a week of games for a club is not enough.
- ▶ A small concert space. The Port Theatre is amazing, but too large and too costly for some events. Venues that seat ~200 are currently church facilities, which often are lacking in necessary infrastructure for the arts (lighting, backstage area, clear stage area, etc). Locations could be: downtown, or other central area. Preferably located near nice locally-owned restaurants.
- ▶ A squash court at at least one of the larger facilities (Beben or the Aquatic centre) would be nice.
- ▶ A survey was done at Pioneer Park that identified the need for changes to the tennis courts to incorporate dedicated pickleball courts. This survey was initiated by Parks and Rec Dept and carried out by Nanaimo Pickleball Club members. Results showed pickleball was hugely more popular but the facility has been allowed to fall into disrepair. Instead dedicated courts where installed at Departure Bay without any consultation with the pickleball community and are lightly used if at all. Pioneer Park is a sports complex, baseball, football, soccer, skateboard park, and rundown pickleball/tennis courts. Repurposing one of the courts to 2 or 3 dedicated pickleball courts, perhaps in a joint venture with the Nanaimo Pickleball Club would be a welcome addition to the area.
- ▶ Accessible weight room at Beban Park. Another publicly operated weight room elsewhere. Opportunities for active play for preschoolers (where they can run and get exercise) outside or inside. An informal drop-in science based program for kids – outside or inside (or register if you like the theme that day)
- ▶ Add a bubble for indoor tennis
- ▶ Add a leash optional area on the back side of Westwood lake that connects the existing area to allow water access for dogs.
- ▶ Add an indoor tennis facility
- ▶ add pool north nanaimo and more bike lanes
- ▶ add to Beban? remove one steam room? there is no public infrared sauna in Nanaimo. I was a skeptic, but the benefits are definitely noticeable – good for muscle pain, joints, skin improves circulation and overall movement and thus results in a feeling of well-being and health. Also, no breathing issues as there are with steam saunas.
- ▶ Additional amenities at Westwood and other parks – more washroom facilities, expanded trail networks. New parks that protect the environment around Nanaimo for recreational use – the current land use management is atrocious with land all around the city used for military, logging, human waste disposal and illegal dumping. The city should expand its parks to protect the beauty of the city, protect the resources and grow tourism & economic development.
- ▶ Additional badminton dropin would be fun. Something to replace Franklyn Street Gym would be handy.

Or a stronger partnership with the schools to use their leftover gym time to provide volunteer-run activities. In the City of Prince George, the Activity Guide includes all the drop-in activities for kids and adults throughout the city. Often they would take place in the elementary or secondary schools. Putting this information in the Activity Guide gives you one place to provide all activities. In Nanaimo, it feels like every club has its own website with its own information.

- ▶ "Additional badminton, pickleball , squash, washrooms, shower and change rooms facilities at south end of Nanaimo.  
"
- ▶ additional ice surface, more inclusive playgrounds, more playgrounds, better shared pathways, more private swimming lessons for special needs, brand new community center (like Oliver woods) for south end, could use a new pool in the south, programming for teenagers, additional walking trails, mountain biking trails, water activities, better parking at most outdoor spaces.
- ▶ Adult only skating evenings and weekends instead of weekday mornings
- ▶ affordable spaces to rent for groups doing art shows, classes, life drawing, etc.
- ▶ Allow dogs to be off-leash at some parks on particular days/times, e.g., allow off-leash at Westwood on Tuesdays and Thursdays up to noon. Need a dog park that allows dogs off-leash access to water in the summer months.
- ▶ Allow performers to be on parks, singers, musicians...
- ▶ An Arts Centre for local artists in Nanaimo! Please! The Art Gallery doesn't support local artists. Other communities support their local artists by giving them a permanent space for visual and performing artists.
- ▶ An Arts Centre.
- ▶ An expansion of the hiking trail networks, complete with interpretive educational signage would be neat. It seems like someone had a great idea with part of Colliery Dam at one point. It's actually a real treasure for the area! It would be cool to have that network expanded up and out to include more walks with history about the local Indigenous groups, or the mining history.
- ▶ An Indoor tennis facility ideally located in the central to north end of town because it will draw players from the north
- ▶ An indoor tennis facility is highly desirable. It could be in Beban Park. The City could also acquire the existing Westwood Lake tennis facility.
- ▶ An indoor tennis facility would be an option I would appreciate
- ▶ An indoor tennis facility!
- ▶ An indoor tennis facility. I was a family doctor in the Okanogan and had several new patients who moved to our area due to the tennis facility and would suspect the same would happen here. We presently drive to Arbutus Ridge to play indoors.
- ▶ Another gym and community complex in the south end. More walking trails in the south end. To cut down on car use and parking issues at the parks consider a "Parks" shuttle bus that could run to the various parks all day long. People could access the bus from designated parking areas. There might need to be south end and north end shuttles.
- ▶ "Another ice arena!

Our family uses the parks in the city but does not use the programs. More park amenities would be excellent (bathrooms, water fountains, improved parking, use technology to have apps with maps etc) “

- ▶ “Another Turf Field similar to Merle Logan. There is a huge demand. Add a restaurant/pub to the facility at Merle Logan. This would give parents a better place than just sitting in their cars.”
- ▶ Anything with music
- ▶ aquatic center in the north end
- ▶ Aquatic centre in the north end. More outdoor pools. Large proper theatre anywhere!
- ▶ Aquatic programs for seniors such as enhanced aquafit and group exercise classes.
- ▶ As above, an outdoor skating rink would be great. With benches, music, skate rentals, a place to buy hot chocolate, etc.
- ▶ as above. Cycling ( ebikes) are coming. There is a need to encourage and support in a safe way.
- ▶ As development continues, I'd like to see parks corridors prioritized, to prevent isolated “islands” of plants and animals that don't have enough space to thrive.
- ▶ As in downtown Linden, WA, have a development centre which also showcases creativity. Rooms for training, workshops, and skill-building.
- ▶ As mentioned before, covered Tennis courts would be huge. I'm pretty confident it would be very actively used. As well, more big arena (Swim/skate) up north would be nice.
- ▶ As noted, I think an “ambassador to newcomers” program would be great for this city ... and I would be happy to help the city develop it. However, I'm not sure which department it belongs in since it goes well beyond parks, rec, and culture. Not sure whom I would even talk with at the city about this idea.
- ▶ As referenced above, indoor public tennis courts, pay for play, or register with acceptable monthly fee for those players that want to play almost daily.
- ▶ Ball hockey rinks
- ▶ Better access for non-profit groups and youth (ie. Scouts and guides)
- ▶ Better connection for Parkway Trail to 10th Street (Southgate area to Haliburton). Current fragmentation along Extension/Cranberry/Highway is confusing and dangerous, even for longtime residents and confident cyclists. Maybe a thoroughfare from Cranberry Connector?
- ▶ Bike lanes, sidewalks on EVERY STREET! Make it safer to use other transportation!
- ▶ “Bike trails are not connected, or if they are, they are not well signed. The parkway trail needs to be resurfaced due to root-caused asphalt heaving. Existing trails need to be cut and swept to remove blackberry thorns.

Better access to waterfront for pedestrians throughout the city.

Note places to put in kayaks.

Safe places to park bicycles at no cost. “

- ▶ Bowen Park needs more modern programming. More social media type classes, ( teaching programming, Facebook or Twitter), less crafts.

- ▶ Bubble over Beban
  - ▶ Build a skate/bike park in Departure Bay, in the empty lot beside the gas station.
  - ▶ Build the new waterfront trail from Departure Bay and south.
  - ▶ Can we get a better partnership with SD68 to turn schools into community centres after hours. Gyms need to be more accessible to the public.
  - ▶ Can't think of anything.
  - ▶ Chip Running trails ( well lit and safe). Community pool. Improved beach facilities ( change room/ washrooms/ parking- neck point/ blueback/. Leash free park - fenced - what's the point of the dog park with no fence along Dickinson rd?
  - ▶ City must keep up with sporting facilities to accommodate growing population, assess Saanich area for typical ideas for growth!!!
  - ▶ City should negotiate with Green Thumb new owners to include a visually and emotionally stimulating dedicated passive leisure publicly-owned green space park. Nature preserve parks are nice and essential but BORING! City is spending ALL its money developing Maffeo Sutton and NOTHING north of Terminal Park mall. We need a Van Dusen or Bucharth professionally designed show garden park for both residents and tourism.
  - ▶ Climate change adaptation groups. Latin. Beginner dance classes for twenty-somethings.
  - ▶ Community centre for Departure Bay or re- build Departure Bay Activity Centre. More safe outdoor exercise areas. Beban has become unsafe due to drug use in the Participark. : (
  - ▶ Community policing that is enforceable, garbage removal and manicuring of deteriorated parks. Prevention of encampment and IMMEDIATE response to clear encampments from parks. Make the Rec classes more affordable, and update the Beban pool. Make it easier for vendors such as Island Roots Market, Bacon Bevy Bash, and other small vendor gatherings to assemble- facility fees are too much to contend with.
  - ▶ Comprehensive Bike paths connecting Neck Point and Pipers Lagoon from Parkway Trail
  - ▶ Conservation areas secured for habitat and as refuges for species from climate instability. The postal code finder, below, doesn't work so I was forced to pick an incorrect postal code to participate in this survey.
  - ▶ "Consider putting pool in the north end of Nanaimo. Reconsider how the conference centre is used - give it back to the community as a community centre. Make downtown core more vibrant by encouraging development. "
  - ▶ Continue the path on the waterfront down south so it connects the south with downtown
  - ▶ "Convert the upper Colliery Dam (that has recently been drained) into a skate, bike, rollerblade park.
- Build more running, walking, biking trails in forest areas around town. Sanction the current trails that have been build by private groups.
- "
- ▶ Coordinated development and access to the forestry lands in and around nanaimo. The city can play a role in ensuring the wilderness on our doorstep is accessible.
  - ▶ "Couples dance classes.

Workshops about our natural environment such as native plant identification, mushroom picking, growing your own food/community garden space, rainwater harvesting.”

- ▶ “courses on circular/doughnut economy  
more community agriculture courses and spaces  
edible gardens”
- ▶ Covered and lit / indoor tennis facilities for year round tennis.
- ▶ Covered indoor tennis courts
- ▶ Covered open air gathering spaces. More picnic tables, cultural celebration beyond indigenous and LGBTQ. More diversified ethnic cultural art and programs. More parking availability. More touch less and hands free bathroom access
- ▶ “Covered Outdoor pickle ball courts.  
Connecting trail systems  
Connecting bike trails (not on the road)  
Kayak or small boat access  
Free access to protection Island “
- ▶ “Covered tennis courts are needed. Putting a roof or a bubble on the Beban courts could be a solution, however building a new structure and courts would be even better. We need more quality courts. Purchasing the Westwood Tennis Club could be an option however the membership and fee structure must be completely revamped to be more accessible and inclusive. The Westwood courts are good quality.

Community Gardens: more of them in all neighbourhoods with proper deer fencing.

“

- ▶ Create a new indoor racquet facility to house the following: tennis, pickleball, badminton, squash & table tennis.
- ▶ Create beach volleyball courts on the waterfront. Provide secure bike parking at parks and facilities.
- ▶ Cycling/hiking trails that are interconnected and allow those that choose to to access not only all of Nanaimo but to safely travel to other areas of the island. Increase cycling access on buses.
- ▶ Desperately need 1 - 2 more gymnasium facilities a dedicated racquet sports facility? These need to be placed in central and/or south Nanaimo.
- ▶ Don't know
- ▶ “Don't know what you have.  
Volunteers to help keep parks clean.”
- ▶ Dover has a number of small neighbourhood parks but no large walking/recreational areas.
- ▶ drive in theater
- ▶ Drive-in theatre.
- ▶ Drop in gym time for school aged kids/families on the weekend. Like gym pals but maybe drop in basketball or floor hockey for families
- ▶ “Encourage outdoor independent activities such as walking routes

in various neighbourhoods, trails and walkways throughout the city and include some type of story boards markers to explain the history of that particular area. ”

- ▶ Expand existing parks and/or create new parks along the ocean front
- ▶ Expand programming for parents with young children. Open gym, toddler soccer, baby song and play, toddler music and dance, etc.
- ▶ Expand the Port Theater so that it could host more theater productions instead of just music.
- ▶ Expand the waterfront walkway. It's Nanaimo's focal point and crown jewel.
- ▶ Expand the waterfront.
- ▶ “Extension of waterfront walkway south and to Departure Bay would be welcomed by many. Nanaimo Arts Council needs financial support to maintain a permanent exhibition space – it is sorely missed.”
- ▶ facilities at hiking trails like Anomite Falls and all of Mt Benson area.
- ▶ facility for indoor tennis
- ▶ Family programs where parents and kids can join an activity together.
- ▶ Fitness/Gym, central location, easily accessible
- ▶ Formalize trails buy more parkland!!
- ▶ Free Outdoor fitness machines well spread over city, in plazas, Parks, near stores. Marine Science center. Botanical garden/Park with native plants. Food forests/community gardens: more, better.
- ▶ French language classes
- ▶ Gallery space for exhibiting the works of local artists. Affordable studio space. A tool library
- ▶ Gardening classes, healthy food prep, sustainable living classes. Qi Gong classes for all levels. Local Indigenous wisdom classes (local natural healing plants), basket making, ceremony, etc. Halkomelem language classes. Local Indigenous festival to celebrate, honour and share their culture and traditions.
- ▶ Garry Oaks Meadows Legacy (9,000 years). Future climate savannah, Oak Meadows. Choose to grow Garry Oak Meadows future now. Plan a new regenerative native ecosystem. Budget major project with measurable goals. Hire a landscape ecologist, biogeographer to design, monitor. Vernal pool system for Lotus Pinnatus and associated invertebrates (butterflies, spiders) and plants, sedge, onions, acorns for kids. Seek funding partners, work to educate staff. Demonstration project, food project. Native peoples garden with Nancy Turner and helpers for CAMAS past present and future. Nanaimo Butterfly Garden – Gogarryoak. Advice: Ask Oregon State.
- ▶ Greater variety of programs for pre school aged kids or younger, outside of traditional business hours.
- ▶ Growth is surging in the Nanaimo region and pools and indoor recreation spaces are already full many days of the year. The crowding not only makes it difficult to produce plays, exhibits and other events – it also discourages creative people here from developing new ideas and events. The art gallery also needs more room for a wider scope of exhibits and more opportunity for emerging and established artists. The current space in an old bank building has been polished to a high shine but is simply too small for our needs.
- ▶ “Gymnasium to replace Franklyn Street. Downtown”
- ▶ Harewood could use more community spaces (rec centers). I don't tend to participate as much, knowing

it's a bit of a drive to get to those amenities.

- ▶ Have fitness opportunities for youth
- ▶ Having a child care center for when parents are wanting use gym facilities. Having a bigger gym and classes in one facility.
- ▶ Home economics in raising plants and animals, making food and building things. Grow the maker space.
- ▶ I believe we need an indoor tennis facility. Ideally it would be located centrally, possibly close to existing facilities (Beban Park, Aquatic Centre/Third street arenas and fields
- ▶ I believe we need more indoor sports facilities that are usually played outdoors in the summer, especially an indoor tennis facility that is open to the public. Indoor volleyball and indoor pickle ball would also be nice. Beban would be a fantastic spot for this as it's quite central and open!
- ▶ i don't know
- ▶ I don't know what they would be, but programs that would help in-comers new to Nanaimo to appreciate Nanaimo's rich history and the links between that history and the community today; encourage volunteerism; help connect different parts of the community; etc.
- ▶ "I enjoy tennis and play regularly. We have one private facility with a covered dome (Westwood). It is presently for sale. I think the city should consider such a facility ensuring year round use. It would be a great asset for all."  
"
- ▶ I feel that NS3 should be housed in a permanent space in a city building. PRC programing lacks fun, science-based learning and they could do so much if they could have access to develop in a permanent location.
- ▶ I have volunteered with nature based groups for children in the past. The wilderness school for kids was based outside of Nanaimo and was expensive, the other one was based in Nanaimo, run by NatureKids and required parents to be in attendance. Both groups were not accessible to children who need it the most, low income families with no vehicle or parents who do not wish to stay with their children as they have other children they need to support also. Opportunities for children to learn about their own ancestry (both first nations as well as immigrants, European ancestry etc.) the traditional uses of plant medicines, honorable harvesting, how to read the signs of the land, how to use a map, to find the North star, to know the direction the sun travels, know how to plant a garden, how to use a knife, build a fire etc, etc:)
- ▶ I is my opinion that diver lake tennis court is under utilized recently! Pickleball is a rapidly growing sport! Diver lake court appears to be ideal for conversion into , up to , four pickleball courts! I'm looking forward to meeting, at the courts to discuss how to best use the facility!
- ▶ I like the idea of Food Forest community spaces throughout the city like the one at Beaufort Park. As priorities change as we are faced with this pandemic and food security increases in value, we should be embellishing our parks in food production varying in levels of intensity from high-intensity annual bed gardening to less intensively managed food forests.
- ▶ "I personally find it frustrating to take part in a number of at Oliver Woods. I prefer not to drive my vehicle out there and using a bus would add at least an A downtown facility would greatly improve access for many seniors in the downtown area two hours to the outing."
- ▶ I think a disc golf course and arena could fit in nicely in north Nanaimo.
- ▶ I think Nanaimo really needs a space curated by local artists that works on a multimedia level. Blank walls

for art and a venue for music/performance. Ever changing. Affordable to everyone.

- ▶ I think the far north end is in need of an ice sheet and pool. again, don't know how you came up with these postal codes..none apply so just selected the first one
- ▶ I think there should be a high priority placed on a building a second indoor recreational facility like Oliver Woods. We would encourage the city to support researching a dedicated indoor racquet facility for Badminton and Pickle Ball. I cannot play as often as I would like because of the lack of space or facilities.
- ▶ I think we need another rink in the north end and I would like to see departure bay and Stewart ave connected with a water front walkway.
- ▶ I think we need to find more teen-based programs. When ever I see publicity for programs, it's usually aimed at little kids or adults, and not at the 13-18 age group. I know that T.A.G (Teen Advisory Group) with the library tries to organise special events but these don't often happen. It's hard to find common ground for teenage activities because everyone has a different taste in what's fun or not, but even having the option to do something after school that's low in cost would be nice.
- ▶ I was pretty disappointed when I moved to Nanaimo with the lack of prenatal fitness classes and prenatal and postnatal social meet ups or support services. There is sooooo much more in Vancouver and Victoria and really nothing in Nanaimo
- ▶ I would like to see a publicly-funded indoor facility in Nanaimo, similar to the 3 facilities in Victoria. There is a large tennis-playing group of individuals in Nanaimo, and the sport is growing, so I think this facility would be well used. I think the facility should be located at the north end of Nanaimo, as the existing outdoor facilities (Beban and Bowen) are located at the central/southern end of town.
- ▶ I would like to see indoor public tennis.
- ▶ I would like to see picnic areas (such as the two at Bowen Park) in other parks such as Neck Point, Pipers Lagoon and Colliery Dam, if we have funding grants available from sources outside the budget we currently have projected for the next 5 years.
- ▶ I would like to see the city invest in indoor tennis facility if Westwood Tennis Club ceases to exist. Tennis is a very big part of my recreation/social life. I play 3-5 days per week.
- ▶ I would love to see a dedicated arts centre in Nanaimo. As a professional artist who brings clients to Nanaimo from Victoria, Vancouver and the Lower Mainland a local arts centre where visitors can see where I participate in community events, offer classes, or show work is incredibly valuable to me to build my reputation and a sense of place for my studio.
- ▶ "I would love to see a workshop on vegan cooking.  
I would also love more offleash parks - Cable Bay is so good - is there any way Linley Valley could become offleash?"
- ▶ I would love to see better seating along our waterfront walkway close and higher to see over the railings. With the current seats away from the waterfront, it allows those walking to enjoy but I would like to sit and watch the boats move around our waterfront without looking through the railings.
- ▶ I would love to see more arena facilities with viewing areas for spectators and believe further development of our beautiful harbour front for walking, running, biking would be an extremely beneficial addition to our City
- ▶ I would love to see the City of Nanimo partner with Nanimo Science for a Science Center!
- ▶ I'd love to have an indoor tennis facility

- ▶ "I'd love to see the trees brought back to Diana Krall Plaza. A water feature and viewing platform at the east side of the plaza would be lovely too. Some cities partner with community organizations to fund street improvements. Small signs are placed in flower beds that are funded by the clubs. If Nicol Street goes from 4 lanes to 2, I would love to see this idea happen. Nanaimo's problem is not a lack of Parks, Recreation & Culture; our biggest problem is homelessness and a lack of pride. If I were a tourist, I would be afraid to get out of my car in the casino area. Until these actual problems are addressed, it doesn't matter how many ice arenas and walkways we have. I appreciate the City asking for opinions. Thank you."
- ▶ "Identify the special needs in Harewood and South Nanaimo."
- ▶ "If done well, I favour the Departure Bay walkway project."

By "done well" I mean the city in close partnership with the Snuneymuxw pulling out all the creativity stops to do everything it can to maximize the project's social and financial return.

For example:

What can the city do to encourage retail development shops, restaurants, treats, watercraft rentals, etc. along the pathway and especially at Departure Bay?

- A series of First Nations cultural exhibits distributed along the pathway from end to end would be appreciated by many, I believe. The totems at Departure Bay beach are a perfect example.

Walking from Cameron Island to Departure Bay and back will be challenging for many. The level path would be ideal for the pedalled, rickshaw-like conveyances one sees around the Victoria harbourfront. Segways or similar? Bike rental?

- How about public art installations regularly distributed along the pathway in concert with plenty of green space mini-parks.

Visitors could be engaged, I think, by an appropriately placed exhibit on BC Ferries' history and its quite impressive operations (4,500 employees, 35 ships serving 47 locations!).

- An interesting, retired vessel moored in Newcastle channel offering tours could enhance the project's overall appeal.
- This one's especially ambitious, but exhibits and demonstrations centered around and in an authentic (meaning built by Snuneymuxw) Coast Salish people longhouse on the vacant land adjacent to the Legasea strata across the street from the Departure Bay beach would be a big draw, I think.

No doubt some of these ideas are totally impractical, if not hare-brained I'm merely brainstorming, not pretending that I've "thought through" any of these I have not. My aim here is not to propose these specific projects but rather this: I do not favour a pathway if the city adopts a "build it and they will come" philosophy. Before investing millions of dollars in the Departure Bay pathway, I suggest that the city engage with citizens in some serious brainstorming, then chose some key tools and methods from among the ideas generated to help assure that Nanaimo's citizens get the most benefit possible from this costly project."

- ▶ If downtown and OCQ are to reach any sort of potential, there needs to be a sense of cultural hub and not just once a year. Downtown street festival was a great start. OCQ noon hour festivals also good. More busking or other street performance.
- ▶ I'm not a heavy community centre user, however I love using outdoor spaces. Nanaimo lacks good public spaces (apart from sport fields), such as large enjoyable parks for having a picnic or BBQ (which is almost

non-existent in Nanaimo).

- ▶ “-Increase trail connectivity to encourage commuting via bike and foot  
-Increase parks in neighborhoods that lack that infrastructure”
- ▶ Indigenous tourism, indigenous leadership and public speaking.
- ▶ Indoor active recreation for young people like bouldering walls.
- ▶ Indoor covered tennis courts
- ▶ “Indoor Pickleball courts rather than shared as at Oliver Woods. P.B is arguably the fastest growing racquet sport in the world and it is here to stay. Should be included in all school sports activities “
- ▶ Indoor public tennis courts!
- ▶ Indoor public tennis courts. Central Nanaimo. Do not touch Bowen park or Beban park courts as they are needed for outdoor tennis.
- ▶ Indoor racquet sports (e.g. squash - no drop-in available).
- ▶ Indoor soccer fields
- ▶ Indoor tennis
- ▶ “indoor tennis in a central location”
- ▶ Indoor tennis and pickle ball are necessary as we can’t play for almost 6 months.
- ▶ “indoor tennis and racquet sport facility better connected bike trails”
- ▶ “Indoor tennis at Beban park!

Another tennis practice wall somewhere. D Bay would be good for me, but maybe Beban would be better? “

- ▶ Indoor Tennis Courts
- ▶ Indoor tennis courts

- ▶ Indoor tennis courts
- ▶ "Indoor Tennis courts for fall, winter and rainy season. Victoria has 3 facilities already and with the growing population in Nanaimo we need at least 1 with 3 courts "
- ▶ Indoor Tennis Courts for the large and increasing number of tennis players young and old in the city. The Beban Park and Bowen Park tennis facilities are excellent – covered courts at either of those sites would be tremendously welcome additions to the city's sports facilities .
- ▶ Indoor tennis courts to be used year round in the middle of Nanaimo.
- ▶ Indoor tennis courts would be nice
- ▶ Indoor tennis courts. Or a bubble over existing ones.
- ▶ Indoor tennis facilities
- ▶ Indoor tennis facilities
- ▶ Indoor tennis facilities
- ▶ Indoor tennis facility
- ▶ indoor tennis facility (lessons) year round
- ▶ Indoor Tennis facility at Beban Park
- ▶ Indoor tennis facility is needed. Location could be Beban Park area , NDSS area, or buy Westwood Tennis club.
- ▶ Indoor tennis facility would be welcomed
- ▶ Indoor tennis facility, cover outdoor courts with a bubble in the winter season.
- ▶ Indoor tennis facility. Westwood Tennis Club's membership consists of doctors, lawyers and the like. It would be nice for all residents of Nanaimo to have the ability to play tennis in the fall/winter.
- ▶ Indoor tennis for all year round play at Beban Park.
- ▶ Indoor tennis is NEEDED. Ideally, it will stay where the bubble currently is, as it's accessible from the north and the south. If that's not possible, I would probably drive wherever to play.... but there are more rec facilities needed in the south end of town, and the land down here is probably cheaper too. Here, we have a current bubble that is aging. I used to live near Yakima WA and their indoor facility was quite good I thought. It is aging as well, but it is basically a big old warehouse with 8 courts in it and a really high roof. Kind of like a big airplane hanger – barebones, without style points, but sturdy and lasts longer than a bubble and would be easier to take care of. It works for them because they have very cold winters, which we wouldn't have to worry about as much, ours just needs to be waterproof, have good changerooms and a small social area.
- ▶ INDOOR TENNIS PLEASE

- ▶ Indoor tennis please
- ▶ indoor tennis year round ,Beben or Bowen parks
- ▶ Indoor tennis!
- ▶ Indoor tennis!
- ▶ Indoor tennis,
- ▶ Indoor tennis. Accessible location.
- ▶ Indoor tennis. Outdoor tennis with the ability to book a reserved time.
- ▶ Indoor tennis. Beban
- ▶ Interpretative walks with signage. Show off nature
- ▶ Into the harbour... boating, paddleboarding, kayaking, canoeing, fishing and stewardship with education programs, skills training, boat licenses, as well as First Nations run programs sharing responsible practices and traditional practices and story telling
- ▶ It would be nice to have a small professional soft seat performance space for music, theater, and dance. The Port Theatre is much too large for many events and the small spaces run by local not for profits are really starting to show wear and tear.
- ▶ It would be nice to have the waterfront walk go from downtown to Departure Bay.
- ▶ It's probably RDN territory, but lately people have promoted a zipline or funicular up Mount Benson. What an awesome tourist draw that would be!
- ▶ "Lakeview park is a fabulous Place for families and Individuals to swim however it needs much in the way of development. Thinning trees so that users can be easily visualized to remain safe. Ease of access, picnic tables, garbage bins and, as stated before, maintenance and regular enforcement of city bylaws. It is currently a 'free for all' that is filthy, unwelcoming and unsafe"
- ▶ Leadership programs for youth and stewardship programs for high school students to develop community pride, management skills, work experience and school credits
- ▶ Live steam feed for ppl with accessibility issues
- ▶ Longer seawall
- ▶ make a full size basketball court in harewood
- ▶ make an area where people can enjoy look out at the lake or water
- ▶ Make northern third of current Green Thumb Nursery into a public park, retaining the existing trees, adding trails, picnic tables, playground, event-friendly, so that it becomes North Nanaimo's largest and most central public park.
- ▶ "Mapping population density to match -- perhaps south Nanaimo? Matching programming to the population using facility. "
- ▶ "Martial arts options for adults would be great. I loved Hapkido (a Korean martial art) in Vancouver, but have been unable to find something similar in Nanaimo

The vacant land on Howard between 3rd and 4th, could be a very nice area to walk dogs, but currently

fenced off and full of invasive Hawthorne trees.”

- ▶ Mix indoor tennis facility with a climbing gym...both need high ceilings....put the climbing pinnacle around the periphery or a central climbing column
- ▶ “More about healthy lifestyles for families. More for disadvantaged children. More to connect Nanaimoites to Snuneymuxw and help us understand the cultural significance and history of this land. “
- ▶ more access to music groups for seniors
- ▶ More accessible and outdoor theatre spaces, and creative theatre spaces. On the waterfront, or at the Five Acres Farm for example. There are plenty of examples of where both have been successful (Bard on the Beach, farm theatre programs throughout BC).
- ▶ “More aquasize classes  
Checking the change rooms every 30 minutes for cleanliness “
- ▶ More art classes that are actually interesting. Attract more at risk youth by offering more exciting programming.
- ▶ More artificial turf fields. South end and north end.
- ▶ More artificial turf soccer fields in the North end of Nanaimo.
- ▶ More arts programs for adults.
- ▶ More bike paths, more moderate level, longer hiking trails – I usually have to go out of town for variety as we only really have Mt. Benson Linley Valley and Lantzville for longer hikes.
- ▶ More connectivity between parks, better planning from the start. Too many areas with no sidewalks, make for unsafe travel for children and elderly populations.
- ▶ More cooking programs please :) More nature-based education. Encouragement of new folks to Nanaimo taking classes & meeting like-minded people. Opportunities for young demographic to take skill building courses (20-30)
- ▶ More cooking programs, sewing programs etc.
- ▶ More courses that encourage connection and socialization between participants.
- ▶ More covered exercise space in north/central end of town (like in South end) that could be rented by groups.
- ▶ More craft based courses that fall on week nights versus weekends.
- ▶ More cultural programs, e.g. cooking, languages, etc. More organized and drop-in sports. Chase River is a fast-growing area and is full of young families with middle and higher incomes. There is little here in terms of access for this part of town.
- ▶ More development of fun mountain bike trails suitable for all ages in town. Currently have to drive to Englishman river or nanoose for family friendly mountain biking. Small jump lines incorporated into the trails keep kids outside and entertained. Stevie smith is a huge success but v crowded and need to move from the park into the trails!
- ▶ More drop in gym space downtown, for basketball, badminton, pickle ball. It would have been great if the NAC or the NIC has gym space like Oliver woods
- ▶ More facilities of good quality for dance/theatre/arts programs (workshops & presentations), located

throughout the city. Support for rehearsals and performances, ie. discounted rentals.

- ▶ More faith based activities as this is a neglected heritage in the public sphere.
- ▶ “More Futsal please.  
Once Covid is over. More indoor soccer league during the winter.  
Drop in”
- ▶ More green cycling trails which are not single track in the Westwood Lake area, a great cycling network, a beautiful sea wall from Departure Bay Beach to the south Nanaimo boundary, a 50 m pool that is kept at 50 m and is 25 C, more pools, community centres, parks and libraries to accommodate the growing city.
- ▶ More hands-on science and inter-cultural experiences. Elder-led programs for various ages sharing language and skills such as woodworking, leather craft, unique knowledge in danger of being lost, cultural history through stories and crafts, etc. Encouraging links with the Bowen senior centre and wider community. Links between seniors and local schools. I understand this is not possible except for online during covid.
- ▶ More ice in the north end.
- ▶ More ideas like the skating in the dark nights!
- ▶ More indoor facilities in the downtown and Newcastle area.
- ▶ More multi-use long distance trails. The E&N and parkway are amazing. I would love to see a connection to Ladysmith, where there is another multi-use trail that goes for a long ways towards Chemainus.
- ▶ “More off leash dog parks that are grassed. Thought the city.  
Updated pool and fitness centre in central Nanaimo.”
- ▶ More off-leash dog parks and enforcement of no-dog parks.
- ▶ “More off-leash dog parks throughout the city. Living downtown I would love to have one at Mafeo Sutton, the grassy area south of Swaylana by the fishing pier and crab statue I think would be a good spot. I’m not sure what the status of the open art wall at the a&b sound building is after the whole CHAP incident but it would be nice to have more open art walls throughout the city.”
- ▶ More park maintenance and stewardship. Guided hikes. Educational tours. Responsible dog ownership. Plant identification. Ecology tours. Kayak tours. Ocean and beach life. Why you shouldn’t feed or harass wildlife. Stream and wetland ecology. Ecological sustainability. How our lives depend on fungus. Bird identification. How to live with a smaller individual footprint on the earth. How to build your own tiny home. How to live off grid more.
- ▶ More park makeovers like the one at Muffeo Sutton, all Nanaimo parks should be inclusive to all. More water parks so water play is made accessible to all. Nanaimo is so spread out, it’s easy to feel disconnect from what’s going on in North Nanaimo if you live in the South. I think it’s important for Nanaimo neighbourhoods to have their own identity so that people can feel more connected. Marketing for the specific areas can help people to recognise when something is happening near them and not on the other side of town. Somewhat similar to how Vancouver has Strathcona, EastVan, Gastown etc.. I think it would be helpful to make these distinctions to our neighbours in order for people to take more ownership and get involved.
- ▶ More Pilates registered programs.
- ▶ More programs like exercises for seniors that are affordable to all incomes especially for seniors that have health problems like heart, diabetes etc.

- ▶ More programs that are age-inclusive, allowing babies and older kids together. Better programming at Oliver Woods and in the North end
- ▶ More public art, but better ones!
- ▶ more senior's program that focus on arthritis or lack of mobility strength training
- ▶ More sidewalks in the community would be lovely. Also seeing the waterfront path completed so we can bike more
- ▶ More skill division among programs
- ▶ "More small performance spaces - indoor and outdoor - to provide affordable entertainment and venues for small local bands to play.  
More rec space in north end. An indoor - outdoor pool?  
A place that could be an arts hub like Granville Island somewhere downtown like the old A&B sound."
- ▶ more trails
- ▶ More trails - we should be taking back more areas near the city from logging as use them for recreation. Hockey arena. Football stadium.
- ▶ More turf fields for the huge demand for adult co Ed soccer leagues
- ▶ more turf soccer pitches. the old elementary school downtown is being demolished as I understand it. I know there is discussion of affordable housing, which is important, but some thought should be given to including a community centre in any development on that site.
- ▶ "More variety of languages would be great - seems like only Spanish lately.  
More options in the north end would be appreciated, and as mentioned, if new facilities such as a pool are eventually considered, north please!"
- ▶ More water parks. Canoe/kayak club.
- ▶ More waterfront walking trails
- ▶ more, smaller (in neighbourhoods) community centers for different communities to be able to use, in smaller groups.
- ▶ Mosaic making, more craft making, indy rock choir, board games meet ups, signs of hope, community involved public art
- ▶ motorcross track
- ▶ Motorsports. Stunting, 4x4 off road, auto cross.
- ▶ Mountain bike programs for youth
- ▶ Mountain bike trail system and another gymnasium facility
- ▶ Mountain bike training in Water District lands
- ▶ MUCH LESS paper used for receipts. One page is enough, surely!!!! Less money thrown around.
- ▶ Much needed facilities for indoor tennis, badminton, pickleball, and table tennis.
- ▶ "Multi use fiels house for indoor track & field, soccer, volleyball, basketball, gymnastics.  
Check out - Kamloops and Richmond"
- ▶ Multiplex
- ▶ Municipal Indoor Tennis Bubble, Beban Park

- ▶ Nanaimo definitely needs some sport facilities in the parks
- ▶ Nanaimo is sadly behind other Island Communities in supporting the visual arts. We need an Arts facility, such as Parksville's McMillan, Ladysmith's Waterfront Gallery and Qualicum's Old Schoolhouse. There should be display space, classroom space and creative space ( studios). It should be relatively central and since we have identified the Old Quarter as the Arts District, this would seem logical. Parking needs to be available as well as some outdoor space to use for summer arts events.
- ▶ Nanaimo needs an ice centre in the north end of town. We have one in the centre of town and south end but nothing north and with the growing population we don't have enough ice for all the teams and recreational activities. We could also use an outdoor theatre stage to host outdoor live concerts and performances.
- ▶ Nanaimo needs an indoor shooting range.
- ▶ Nanaimo needs an indoor tennis facility. Either in the Beban Park area or purchase the Westwood Tennis Club.
- ▶ Nanaimo needs multi-use art centre to meet needs of local artists - both performing and visual
- ▶ native and food plant gardening
- ▶ Nature inspired play space in nature and neighbourhood parks for families and young children, 2-5, and 5-12.
- ▶ "Need a recreation center in the south end of town"
- ▶ Need a recreation Center with pool for North Nanaimo. Also more trails and signage developed in Linley Valley city property. A museum (something like the Aboriginal Center in Whistler) for the downtown core that highlights aboriginal arts and culture.
- ▶ Need more arenas, and swimming pools. Having a multi-plex/ convention centre just as planned previously. Indoor spaces such as a track for elders to walk in the winter where it is safe. Daycares for people with young children.
- ▶ Need more community gyms in the North and South. At least 1 dedicated to raquet sports. Need to have lights for Bowen tennis courts be accessible on both courts and free. Need more land protected from development.
- ▶ Need more venues/opportunities for live music that are not strictly associated with bars/restaurants- indoor & outdoor, scattered at various locations throughout the city.
- ▶ Neighborhood pocket parks with little playgrounds, picnic tables, bbqs for community parties.
- ▶ New multiplex for this city is needed
- ▶ "New rec centre is needed. A turf field some where in North Nanaimo is overdue. "
- ▶ New tennis indoor facilities.
- ▶ No new money to parks until debt from pandemic gone.
- ▶ None at the moment
- ▶ non-indigenous and non-religious spiritual activities accessible to everyone
- ▶ "north end complex.... ice / pools ect

## NORTH"

- ▶ North End of Nanaimo
- ▶ North end rinks and pools. Not certain of available spaces for large facilities such as that.
- ▶ North end water park, North end pool.
- ▶ North Nanaimo and Hammond Bay deserve better access to aquatics and recreation facilities
- ▶ Ocean access in south end of the city
- ▶ Ocean sports: sailing, paddle boarding, canoeing, etc. Private organizations provide some of this but the City should help coordinate and provide facilities.v9r
- ▶ Of prime importance to me is the extension of the waterfront walkway completely through from Departure Bay through to south of the Gabriola ferry terminal
- ▶ Oliver woods recreation centre need more programs for seniors due to the high density of seniors in the area, ie, more card and board games, a weights room, more stationary bikes that are suited for seniors,...
- ▶ Online/digital access to help maintain social distancing and serve those who prefer to work/learn via self-motivation, but with a chance to digitally connect with others in the same community.
- ▶ or build another indoor tennis bubble
- ▶ Our city needs a concert hall that would seat around 250-300 with good acoustics and would be available for bookings by community choirs, instrumental groups, dance groups but not theatre groups (which monopolize the space with sets and long runs).
- ▶ Our region needs a new, purpose-built home for Nanaimo Art Gallery with an expanded exhibition and programming space. A fully equipped professional public art gallery is essential for Nanaimo's development as an island hub for culture. A new Nanaimo Art Gallery, with operating support from the City of Nanaimo, will enable the organization to create more quality opportunities for accessible, inclusive, and innovative programming for emerging and professional artists, youth, families, adults and the entire community. A waterfront location will be an asset for the city, a draw for tourism, and a benefit to local businesses.
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- ▶ Outdoor cafes in parks, a beach area that looks more natural than Maffeo Sutton park, a launching area for small paddle type boats, ocean education centre, an amphitheatre with public performances
- ▶ "Outdoor concert space downtown (Maffeo Sutton)  
More pedestrian focus in connecting green spaces."
- ▶ Outdoor fitness machines can be installed all over the city. Educational gardens: teaching about Nature, plants, pollinators. Educational Marine Life Center. Science Center.
- ▶ Outdoor performance space, outdoor classrooms, outdoor permanent market infrastructure. More attention to City facilities, development of Diana Krall Plaza. Refurbish shabby spaces and buildings with designers and architects leading the way. Look to other cities for best practices on parks – No more plastic and rubber tires.
- ▶ Outdoor programs learning about indigenous history? I remember when I was at Departure Bay Elementary some First Nations Elders came and talked about their history, Departure Bay as a burial ground, they showed us how to make a few dishes, etc. It was really cool and I remember that 20 years later. Not sure if that falls under Parks/Rec/Culture programs but I value that sort of experience.
- ▶ outdoor safety programs, more dance and gymnastic programs for kids (post COVID). Good work on activities for seniors during COVID
- ▶ Outdoor sport court recreation facilities...possibly covered so activities can be maintained throughout the winter months.

- ▶ Parent and infant swing, rubber flooring at all parks
- ▶ Parkour!
- ▶ Parkrun! Hopefully though I am going to organise one for Nanaimo when COVID-19 allows :)
- ▶ Parks map or Lakes map or maps (on-line or in print) so someone who wants to explore more of Nanaimo's nature has a list and knows where to go. Most of what I have explored comes from word of mouth or looking on-line.
- ▶ Pickleball
- ▶ "Pickleball courts, Tennis Courts, Minor baseball programs, Youth and adult soccer. Outdoor farmers market - the area has lots of people who grow their products (Fruits, vegetables, flowers, shrubs) Mini Music concerts. The area is rich in culture. "
- ▶ Picnic areas with fire pits anywhere near the water.
- ▶ "Play boxes (boxes of equipment available to neighbourhood residents). Naturalized playgrounds Play streets (allow streets to be closed temporarily and turned into play spaces)"
- ▶ ""-Please add progressive half pipe features to the Bowen skate park. -Please provide one city skate park that is open air, but covered by a roof. This is especially important in the time of covid when we can't recreate indoors -Please provide an outdoor/open air option for ice skating"
- ▶ please bring indoor tennis facilities to either Be an or Bowen Park tennis areas.
- ▶ Please consider donating a building like old library for specifically arts programs and studios shop etc...
- ▶ -Please install a beach-access ramp at Departure Bay beach to make it inclusive for everyone. Parents struggle lifting their strollers down the stairs to get to the sand and those with mobility issues may not be able to use the stairs.
- ▶ Please please consider following through on the plan to extend the waterfront path from the ferry terminal to downtown. It would be magical. I don't know any other waterfront city that makes such incredibly poor use of its shoreline. The area beside Port Place is so awfully industrial and is a baffling waste of potentially gorgeous real estate that could be enjoyed by the city. A playground, a welcome for guests, markets, picnic and lawn areas.....
- ▶ Please provide covered tennis courts
- ▶ Please put a cover on the metal stands at Caledonia Park!
- ▶ Please see answer to question 15.
- ▶ "Pool in North Nanaimo. Indoor tennis/pickle ball courts"
- ▶ Population has grown in the north end however facilities have not. Oliver woods is only available facility. Consider turf fields pool/arena in the area. outdoor venue for cultural events
- ▶ Potential of a ball hockey league.... Maybe another Oliver Woods type facility in South end?
- ▶ Programs about learning of our eco system/being eco-friendly. Programs that teach people with less of an income to shop and cook at home. Programs that help those with disabilities to enjoy activities.
- ▶ Programs that bring different cultures together. Nanaimo is fairly diverse however, not a lot of cultural

mingling occurs as POC people and White people are living in different demographic regions. Like most cities. Creating programs that fuse cultural backgrounds together would be beneficial.

- ▶ Programs that support community, food security, health and citizen engagement in conservation and stewardship
- ▶ “Programs which make the backcountry more accessible, like mountain biking, hiking and rock climbing. These activities are already super popular here and would make Nanaimo more attractive to people with these interests. The city could also make agreements with Mosaic to gain access for these activities where private citizens might be restricted in doing so. There are already plenty of private outdoor clubs who could probably benefit from support from the local government.

I also think the city could benefit from cultural education programs with local First Nations to facilitate understanding and right relationships with our first peoples. (ie: blanket exercises, protocol ceremonies, First Nations crafts, interpretive tours)”

- ▶ Provide a small performance venue (Studio Theatre at Port Theatre or repurposed City Owned Conference Centre) with class rooms, workshops, studios for artists of all disciplines, rehearsal space, share admin space. LONG OVER DUE here.
- ▶ Provide facility for indoor tennis
- ▶ Public Indoor Tennis courts!
- ▶ Public Indoor Tennis, year round.
- ▶ Purchase the private facility at Westwood Lake and offer public access to the public for playing winter tennis.
- ▶ Purchase Westwood tennis club and offer it to citizens on an hourly basis, without yearly membership
- ▶ Purchase Westwood tennis club or build an Indoor tennis facility at Beban park
- ▶ “Re-instate pro rated corporate passes  
Add more programs for working parents, after 5pm programs or saturday morning  
Add 6 month corporate pass, encourage fitness don’t discourage with poor past decisions”
- ▶ “Rinks or multi-plex, great job on Turf behind NDSS but keep going. You built it, and look at the programs there (Field LAX, baseball, Soccer). You cannot do it if you do not have it. I remember driving for a LAX game in Duncan and see a field hockey’ turf, also seen in my hockey trips to the mainland. More rinks, more multi-use facilities. My kids do not play field hockey’ and maybe will not, but to have access essential. Our population is too great and growing. So much development, you need cultural activities and sports facilities to keep people, to enrich people. The model and process for Libraries is commendable.

In Sociology classes you rate the quality of living by services such as libraries, sport facilities, school. Do not get me started on school boards (not your jurisdiction I know), but the cornerstone of ‘community’. 1000 students is not community, small schools where everyone walks and is part of that community IS community.”

- ▶ roller coasters, more ice cream stores, indoor basketball courts
- ▶ Rotary is sponsoring a new Centennial garden at the corner of Maffeo Sutton Park, which is upgrading that area. If the city could improve the sidewalks surrounding it and perhaps add steps or some access to the water from there, it would make the area even more vibrant and useable.

- ▶ “Same as above.  
I don’t use the sports facilities so can make no comment.”
- ▶ Security patrols
- ▶ See 15 above.
- ▶ See above
- ▶ See above.
- ▶ See above. Indoor tennis is a must.
- ▶ See my written answer above about a north end facility.
- ▶ See prior comment.
- ▶ See what Ladysmith is doing for their artistic community. See what the Old School House does in Qualicum. there is nothing like this in Nanaimo.
- ▶ Seniors programs are often duplicated – often because the “funder” has some prerequisite, but truly unessential demands of the program. The City should therefore try not to duplicate but offer alternative programs.
- ▶ “Separate bike trail at Westwood. Far too many mountain bikers creating a safety hazard for people on foot.

Language classes for kids. More language options for adults. “

- ▶ Signage at the corner of Maffeo Sutton park indicating what events are being held in the park such as concerts etc..Covered picnic areas at parks and oceanfront parks such as Pipers and Neck point.  
Benches on the RNR trail
- ▶ Since homelessness is a growing problem and will continue to grow any good idea would include dealing with this growing problem. It would be nice to have a place where people could have a place to sell hand crafted items and food vendors in the downtown core located along the river would be nice.
- ▶ “Skateboard park in downtown area.  
Water park in downtown area.  
Off leash dog area downtown.”
- ▶ small group performance and rehearsal space
- ▶ “Small park-ettes with benches to encourage socializing & meeting the neighbours.  
Benches set at an angle so people can sit across from one another & see to whom one is speaking. “
- ▶ “small theatre 50-100 seat) for smaller group performances  
more art exhibition spaces  
more art studio spaces (like TOSH in Qualicum)”
- ▶ Smaller scale performance, exhibition, gallery and workshop in the downtown core. The downtown is ripe to become a thriving arts & cultural hub; in fact with most of old school Nanaimo completely refusing to enter the downtown these days, the arts community is probably the saving grace for that part of town. With Commercial Street or Main Street in Vancouver as inspiration, Nanaimo has the opportunity to nurture a creative, gritty (we already have that part) downtown core full of live music, dynamic art exhibition space, an amazing open outdoor exhibition & cafe space (Diana krall) and then cool restaurants and cafes & bars will open in response. Investing in a comprehensive and forward thinking art & cultural plan and giving our creative leaders some influence over it has the potential to create a

Downtown that is actually alive and vibrant and attractive, and that has a unique perspective. Pretending downtown is going to be posh and fancy is just not realistic. But a downtown with soul and colour is.

- ▶ smaller venues for theatre, music, comedy. Bigger gathering places like plazas or outdoor auditoriums. These venues should be throughout the city not just in the downtown core and south end.
- ▶ So many cities have a designated mountain bike park. Just look at the growing number of bike racks that you see on cars/trucks travelling around the city. It is the new golf!!!
- ▶ Soccer class for preschoolers? Call it lil kickers and Make it fun with smaller balls, small nets, fun games for preschoolers
- ▶ "South end ocean front park.  
Greater use of natural assets like cat stream and chase river for parks and trails close to the water.  
Use of city boulevards for food forests.  
More parks and formal public access along the Nanaimo River.  
More Greenways connecting neighborhoods.  
Landscape architect design for large parks (ie Harewood centennial and Beban).  
Active transportation connections to major amenities (waterfront parks, Westwood lake, etc).  
Consideration of water treatment feasibility for accessible freshwater swimming areas which suffer from  
There seems to be a lot expensive parks and rec facilities.  
"

- ▶ South end recreation centre
- ▶ southend
- ▶ "Southend Community center  
"
- ▶ Spikeball tournaments
- ▶ "SPINNING!!!!!!!!!!!! (With optional child care)  
Men's ball hockey.  
Early morning classes- 615-7am or 6am -645am usually gives people enough time to get home to get kids to school or changed and off to work.  
Child minding options We used to sign up for an annual 5km or 10km run where the CC offered childcare for the duration and then a kids run at the end. Great community event."
- ▶ "Sports programming for busy toddlers - soccer etc.

I was disappointed to find out that your community centers don't have gyms. I'd rather support city based gyms. "

- ▶ stop paying social scientists, academics, archivists and makes sports free! (organized sports). Like rowing, rugby. Kids are bored. Their parents are broke. Then they do drugs.
- ▶ Tennis bubble!
- ▶ That waterfront walking/biking path from Duke Point to Lantzville would just about do it.
- ▶ The City has amazing park and facilities. Parks and facilities are placed in very good location. You need to work with all the stockholders to make them feel safer, reduce vandalism, and petty crime.
- ▶ The city needs to build a centrally located Community Arts Space that offers classes/workshops for all artistic disciplines. Performance and exhibition space should also be highlighted. Studio rental space for artists would be a source of revenue. Nanaimo is the only city in B.C. without a dedicated artistic portal.

- ▶ “The existing parks were a major draw for me when I moved to Nanaimo 9 years ago. I’m satisfied with what we have. We have more important priorities like climate change, homelessness, addictions, and economic/social integration of immigrants and refugees. We can’t do it all. We have so much already and people with means can pay for their own recreation (I’m one of them).

“

- ▶ The growing trend seems to be for developers to cram as many units they can into as little space as possible with one goal in mind, maximize profits. This takes away from the aesthetic nature of neighbourhoods and turns it into urban sprawl with no character. More emphasis needs to be placed on sustaining the natural aesthetic of these developments (more green space, protection of the natural areas, especially waterways etc). Rather than always relying on taxpayers for the development of Parks, Recreation and Culture facilities, more demand needs to be placed on developers to improve the overall aesthetic of this city instead of maximizing profits and destroying the land. With an ever increasing population we need more green space not less.
- ▶ The Port could resurrect the idea of a mobile wall that pulls through the centre of the space, to make smaller-scale performances requiring a more intimate atmosphere possible there. This was originally part of the design for the Port, but dropped in the early going. As well, Harbour City Theatre needs continued upgrading, perhaps especially, in light of Covid, to ventilation there. The City should also consider acquiring the Nanaimo Entertainment Centre next door, and perhaps linking the two buildings, and also creating a small rehearsal, performance space in the former Kismet Theatre Academy, which also neighbours HCT. There is an urgent need for more rehearsal space generally in Nanaimo.
- ▶ The small parks space on Chesterlea street might at least be identified, mowed, perhaps a seat...
- ▶ The south end needs an indoor center similar to Oliverwoods. With our aging population look at Winnipeg’s Seven Oaks Wellness Center which also doubles as a heart rehab center.
- ▶ The waterfront walkway was such a great idea
- ▶ “There are very few recreational facilities in the north end of Nanaimo. It would be nice to see more pickleball courts, indoor and outdoor a fitness center that included weights etc. And squash and racquet courts. There are only 2 tennis courts which are at Pioneer Park. With the density increasing in the north end the facilities are extremely inadequate.

Would like to see bike trails for walking/biking etc. There is the parkway trail and the E&N trail which I have used but I do not want to ride and hear all the traffic noise. We generally go out of town to the trails in Victoria and Duncan area which are fantastic or up to the Qualicum river trail We make it a day and always have lunch or dinner, go shopping etc. I would love to have similar trails in Nanaimo. There is nothing like that here. Whenever we vacation bike trails are a must. They must be scenic, quiet and easily accessible. I don’t bike to “get” somewhere, I bike to get exercise and be outside. (For enjoyment). A bike lane on Bowen Rd. Is something I would never use because it is just way too busy and congested.”

- ▶ “There has been talk in the past of arenas etc. I know we have a new minor ball team coming. I think it would be so great to have a small ball stadium downtown on the water where residents can enjoy a snack, beer on a summer evening while looking out to the ocean. The excitement in the park would hopefully create some life outside of the stadium and thus a buzz. Additionally it would help the many local downtown businesses.

On another note it would be great to have a field facility that can offer a social space for after games. There is a hunger for adult activities and facility availability is an issue. This includes fields AND indoor gyms. “

- ▶ There is a major need for a recreation center in the Harewood area
- ▶ There is a need for a dedicated tennis indoor facility as it becomes clear Westwood tennis club will be closing. There is no indoor tennis facility north of Victoria and our weather is such that we need it. There is a need across all ages and abilities.
- ▶ There is a strong need to animate public spaces and places so that they are more interesting, attractive and welcoming of residents and visitors. Some cities, like the City of North Vancouver, are doing an excellent job of this. Go, and learn.
- ▶ There is private previously industrial land at the end of Maki Road and adjacent to Living Forest Campground which already receives heavy recreational use and could perhaps be cleaned up and improved. Personally I have often carried or wheeled kayaks from my home to launch onto the estuary there. I welcome plans to provide trails and green space in the Sandstone development project but would rather not add the expansion of urban sprawl that comes with it.
- ▶ There needs to be a pool in the north end, chase river needs a community Center
- ▶ There should be more programs in community areas where generally the citizens have less money and less mobility – especially aimed at children and families. Maybe in schools
- ▶ There was a 25 year plan created which took a lot of people’s time and gathered a lot of ideas, how come that is not being used???
- ▶ Three words: Ocean Discovery Centre. We need to do this right and not cheap out on something common and boring. We have the best cold water diving anywhere in the world. Let’s make it epic for all the right reasons.
- ▶ Turn playgrounds wheelchair accessible. more water fountains at parks, more dog parks, more parks in the south end of nanaimo.
- ▶ Turn unused developed park space into community gardens
- ▶ Turn Westwood Tennis Club into a public tennis centre
- ▶ Two new all weather fields at Beban park with change rooms and concession
- ▶ Variety, modern and trendy courses, ie rock painting, furniture refinishing, power tools for women, journaling, art therapy type of courses, social media courses
- ▶ Walkway to departure bay!!!
- ▶ water polo, spring board diving lessons, first nations language and culture lessons,
- ▶ Water walkway over a greater distance, like a seawall ie: planned extension.
- ▶ Waterfront trail connected & more access to nature, more places for dogs to swim and be off-leash. City ownership of the military gun range – to allow access for hikers. Bike trails that are for bikes only (no motorized vehicles)
- ▶ Waterfront walkway.
- ▶ Waterfront. There should be a place to access the ocean. We are The Port City yet there is no city waterfront recreation facility. Should go in Departure Bay near the boat launch where the old Market building is. Or in Maffeo Sutton park. Can use the lagoon for learning and then have a launch spot.
- ▶ We could really use a centralized commercial community kitchen that could then be used by the community to provide better food sustainability, possibly be a social enterprise or at least give community members purpose, learn new skills, canning, preserving etc. I’d love to see a space built for

inclusive community to come together, an artist hub. Studio space.

- ▶ We do not have any indoor tennis facilities. Purchase Westwood tennis club or bubbles on some of our existing tennis courts.
- ▶ We need 4-8 indoor tennis courts. More dog off-leash areas.
- ▶ We need a community centre in the south end like Oliver Woods so drop in yoga, tai chi, low impact exercise options are available and not just during the daytime for elderly people.
- ▶ We need a pool/splash pad in the north end. All new developments (homes) should have to create a safe walking area to a playground. Playgrounds/parks should NOT be the after thought. They should be built to our surrounding area. Keep the trees, build around them.
- ▶ We need a tennis bubble for indoor tennis in the winter/rainy season. This would also expand the tennis capacity, so that we would have more courts for the summer, when it's busy. New parks would be great. Please preserve Linley Valley. Expanding the waterfront walkway all the way to Departure Bay would be great. The more water access there is, the better. Any new waterfront parks would also be appreciated, as the current ones are getting too busy.
- ▶ "We need an Arts Centre along the line of the old School house in Qualicum Beach, except bigger and more dynamic involving people of all ages and walks of life.  
We need a community garden in the North Slope area.  
We need more facility space for badminton and pickle ball, as well as exercise classes, yoga, etc.. (Oliver centre needs to be expanded, but very limited space there.)The city needs to cooperate with the school board and use the big old schools that are just sitting idle. We need to use what we have in our community and cooperate. "
- ▶ We need an Indigenous People's Place of Culture.
- ▶ We need an indoor facility for tennis.
- ▶ We need an indoor public facility for tennis
- ▶ We need an indoor public tennis facility in Nanaimo
- ▶ We need an indoor space for tennis preferably 4 courts. Purchase existing private bubble or build beside or near Nanaimo Ice Centre or Aquatic Centre or Beban Park.
- ▶ "We need an indoor Tennis Courts.  
We need another indoor gym like Oliver Woods.  
We need a real gym facility in central or north Nanaimo (Beban is a very poor gym)"
- ▶ We need an indoor tennis facility
- ▶ We need an indoor tennis facility. I would use it regardless of its location within Nanaimo
- ▶ We need another arena!!
- ▶ We need facilities to encourage cycling - paths to facilities and safe lock up at each. I would also like to see a pedestrian/cycling bridge to newcastle island and sidewalks around all recreation spots.
- ▶ We need indoor tennis courts so that we can play tennis all year long
- ▶ we need more indoor court space. I encourage the city to build a purpose-built racquet sports facility at Beban Park.
- ▶ We need more libraries in remote areas that are used as a tourist location. Many countries have old buildings to visit but we do not. Building Libraries with a Café would create a welcoming atmosphere and

a location to get to when travelling local.

- ▶ “We need more off leash dog areas, not fenced in parks for dogs – they are too small.

An indoor tennis facility is greatly needed in Nanaimo. Affordable indoor tennis for all.”

- ▶ “We need more tennis courts, esp an indoor facility centrally located. More pickle ball courts are needed in the north end.  
More tennis courts are needed or resurface Dover/Schook Rd courts.”
- ▶ We need more turf fields for fall/winter play in the city
- ▶ we need more unique parks and indoor facilities
- ▶ We need public indoor tennis courts
- ▶ We need recreation facilities In Chase River area
- ▶ We need small, affordable performance rehearsal spaces for musicians and singers.
- ▶ We needs more accessibility for older folks at places like Bowen Park, etc.. When I think of elder accessibility, it’s really Departure Bay and Maffeo Sutton that come to mind only.
- ▶ We really do need indoor tennis – perhaps a bubble, perhaps a structure currently not being used.. It would be easy to adapt land at Beban for this.
- ▶ We really need an indoor tennis facility, or racquet sports facility that is available to the public, or is a club that is supported by the city.
- ▶ We should have an indoor tennis facility so that people can continue playing throughout the winter.
- ▶ we should have parks with a lot of room to run and play with out every thing all together, We should have people to help keep the park clean
- ▶ Wheelchair matting at beaches.
- ▶ WHL Hockey would be great in this region. Hockey must be celebrated. A New BCHL/WHL arena is definitely needed. More soccer turf fields are needed.
- ▶ Work out a long term agreement with local landowners / timber rights to ensure environmental integrity and recreational land use (please protects water supply) similar to what Cumberland did
- ▶ Would it be feasible to introduce a large annual art and cultural festival that takes place over a period (i.e., a week) across the city in different venues and attracts tourists?
- ▶ Would like a monthly pass for yoga classes at i.e. at Oliver Woods Recreation Centre which I live nearby. Before Covid, I went to Lifestyle ( membership was of 30/mon) for unlimited classes and use of equipments and pool. I would like to see something like that at Oliver Woods. Due to the increasing high density population on Uplands, it would be great to have more classes, especially for seniors and at a lower cost.
- ▶ Would love to see an enclosed/indoor tennis facility in Nanaimo
- ▶ Would love to see public indoor tennis courts
- ▶ Would love to see the City invest in a year round tennis facility. The existing Westwood Tennis Club would be a wise investment to enhance the City’s Parks Recreation and Culture opportunities.
- ▶ YMCA style facility, times of programs like cooking that are later on in the evening – times can sometimes be too early when things work

- ▶ You need a larger gym at the Beban location and the Aquatic Centre needs to expand the gym to allow people to stretch and do ab exercises
- ▶ Your own stats say that my Dover area and others have in the last few years had a 15% decrease in forest cover. Think ahead a few years, if this continues, we will be paved over. New development should be strictly required to respect the wild areas that survive and provide tree cover and replacement to a high degree.

## HOW WE ADAPT & STAY GREEN (OUR ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE)

### Q2. What are your ideas for addressing environmental and climate change impacts in Nanaimo?

- ▶ “- Bigger recycling warehouse for those that want to recycle their broken housewares/returnable bottles.
  - Include composting in apartment buildings as we only have garbage disposal areas.
  - Include all parking lots to have a rechargeable electric area for electric cars. As I have only seen about 2 places that has this. If more people get a chance to see these everywhere, there will be a higher demand for electric cars.
  - Clean-up groups at parks, beaches, trails, highways for picking up the waste and getting our city clean.”
- ▶ ““- Building standard that meet Step 5 of the B.C. building code (i.e. passive house).
  - Adopting district energy.
  - requiring retention of natural tracks of land that are connected to one another “
- ▶ ““- Create and implement a bold plan for Nanaimo to be carbon negative by 2035 (we draw more carbon from the atmosphere than we release into it) and be recognized as one of the greenest cities in Canada
  - Invest in natural infrastructure (wetlands, forests, healthy soil, etc.) to increase carbon sequestration and mitigate climate changes
    - Support policies, programs and projects that increase carbon sequestration including:
      - regenerative agriculture and other initiatives to increase carbon sequestration in soils
      - ecoforestry/agroforestry
      - aquaculture
      - industrial hemp and other plant-based materials/crops, etc.
    - Support policies, programs and projects to rapidly reduce our GHG emissions including:
      - active transportation
      - protective barriers along shared roadways to protect cyclists from drivers
      - incentive programs for bicycles and electric bikes
      - encourage RDN to explore making public transit free of charge to boost use
    - EVs and EV infrastructure (including requiring all current and new stratas and developments to have EV charging stations)
      - purchase electric buses when current transit and school buses are replaced
      - require that all new city vehicles be electric
      - zoning changes to allow floating homes in designated areas, especially those at risk from flooding or sea level rise
      - accelerate adoption of the Step Code and actively promote greener construction practices (use of Cross Laminated Timber instead of steel/concrete, green alternatives to concrete, insulation, etc.)
      - ban harvesting of all old growth forests and explore ways to make forestry more sustainable (agroforestry, creating programs for forests to qualify for carbon offset funding)
      - set a goal that 75% of our food will be locally grown within 20 years and implement programs and incentives to support this
      - work with other communities to support Vancouver Island’s ability to grow and refine most of its own

biofuel

-- explore the feasibility of creating a Nanaimo Community Development Bank (NCDB), with the city as shareholder, to fund these programs/projects (city would be both borrower and lender)"

- ▶ "'- Educating and promoting best practices to Nanaimo citizens
  - Policy changes and enforcement for large industry
  - Creating community pride in how "'green"' Nanaimo is/will be"
- ▶ "'- electric charging stations for condo owners
  - incentive programs for those who wish to conserve energy"
- ▶ "'- Ensure adequate fast charging structures to facility the soon exponential growth of electric vehicles. They could be city-owned, and revenue generating facilities.
  - Secure more parkspace within the city limits and develop them into spaces with trails and services to provide natural beauty within our city limits for generations to come.
  - Work with the RDN to help lease or secure land in surrounding areas to permit the building of sanctioned mountain biking and hiking trails by volunteer organizations to attract new residents and tourism, and help people enjoy our unique and beautiful natural surroundings"
- ▶ "'- Firm and strict limits on residential and industrial development.
  - Aggressive curtailing of speculation on housing and development. More comprehensive cooperation with Snuneymuxw, Snaw'naw'as, and Stz'uminus Nations in regards to land management and environmental protections.
  - Public purchase of the watersheds feeding Nanaimo and surrounding district."
- ▶ "'- Free & mandatory professional development opportunities (any sort of systemic change starts from grass roots) for businesses and educators to integrate knowledge of greenhouse gas reduction and environmental initiatives; visits to the recycling depot, with indigenous wisdom keepers, biologists, local organic food growers
  - "
- ▶ "'- Localized food resiliency, local farms, etc.
  - Net-zero (or net-positive) energy building requirements.
  - Waste elimination strategy, ie garbage must be recycled rather than buried.
  - Plan (and implement) streets (and trails) to increase walkability & bikability. Learn from other innovative cities around the world.
  - Openly state and track objectives using open data systems. Allowing the city (and public) to learn and adapt.
  - Responsible systems (aka removing externalities), as an example the garbage dump should be wound-down over time while a 100% reuse/recycle system is implemented - this should increase fees for non-reusable/recyclable materials and therefore eliminate garbage over time."
- ▶ "'- More cycling lanes in city of Nanaimo and outlying areas.
  - More tree planting in parks, neighborhoods, and along transport corridors.
  - New housing developments should include their own power generators (e.g. solar collectors on the roofs of each house and be used collectively). Any excess power can be sold to BC Hydro.
  - We should be developing and using more renewable energy options such as wind generators and solar generators.
  - All new housing developments, such as subdivisions, should include green spaces (with trees) such as parks and playgrounds. Re-development of existing areas should also be required to include green spaces with plenty of trees.
  - Rain Gardens should be included in all new housing developments and also be incorporated into older neighborhoods.

- many people (such as myself) would love to use an electric car, but can't afford it. They are way above the cost of an economic car, which is all I can afford. What can be done about this predicament?  
 - Nature/environmental areas, such as Buttertubs Marsh, need to be managed and protected more. Dogs (leashed and unleashed) and people on bicycles are constantly in this area. They have a big impact on our protected areas."

- ▶ ""- support businesses to go zero waste (compostable takeout containers, use compost and recycling in the store, etc)
  - create resilience by strengthening local food systems (community gardens! especially in schools)
  - better bike lanes
  - stop old growth logging!! and clearcutting!
  - free public transit"
- ▶ "
- ▶ "education"
- ▶ "> discourage the typical grassed lawn approach & encourage replacing with natural vegetation using native species suited to Doug fir, Garry oak, arbutus ecosystems
  - manage green areas to reduce summer wildfire fuel build-up and reduce invasive plant species
  - > capture carbon by requiring all vacant lots (private & public) be planted to fast-growing alder - which will also detoxify toxins left behind by previous users;
  - > plant more trees & shrubs on boulevards;
  - > discourage removal of large trees on private and public lands.
- ▶ "
- ▶ "0) urban transit ropeway interconnecting urban nodes
  - 1) permit no new R1 zones.
  - 2) Permit no new condo SFD
  - 3) Permit no new natural gas installation or appliances
  - 4) Form based zone for urban node and corridor requiring street oriented stacked mixed use with 3 storey minimum, and no lot coverage permitted for parking (require under building, multistory garage etc)
  - 5) each new residential unit to require 2 secure bicycle storage per bedroom, with charge facility
  - 6) Stop building new connections from eavestroughs to storm sewer
  - 7) require R1 renovations and driveway paving to use permeable pavement, rainwater cistern/barrel for irrigation, rain gardens, etc
  - 8) Set deadline for removing underground hydrocarbon storage tanks where the bottom of the tank is less than 4m above current sea level
  - 9) Fire Dept staff person to advise residents on BC firesmart program
  - 10) Parks and Rec to host education program for new cycle commuters
  - 11) businesses with parking lots to require swales or permeable pavements and conversion of some

spaces to bicycle/ebike parking upon resurfacing.

12) Parks & Rec and public safety to host and train organized emergency/disaster response volunteer networks, including first aid training, emergency communications, what to do to help neighbours evacuate or shelter in place, prevent snowmelt or flood damage (for actual probable emergencies, not ""SHTF""/paranoid preppers)

13) Parking lot designs including swale or infiltration basin to include raised perimeter so entire lot can act as holding basin for severe rainfall or snowmelt without endangering buildings or people (with overflow to storm sewer)

“

- ▶ “1) An incentive and assistance program to help home owners move to solar energy in their homes and to electric or hybrid vehicles with help from provincial and federal sources.
- 2) Stop the continued urban sprawl from unethical developers that clearcut all trees and destroys wetlands.
  - instead build moderate high rises/residential complexes on already designated major traffic routes.
- 3) Stop allowing more and more development in residential areas that clearcut trees, and adds an increase in cars traveling on small residential streets creating more pollution and unsafe neighborhoods.
- 4) Stop allowing steep slope building. With climate change, increased storms and rain and the fact we are living in active earthquake territory – there is a disaster in the making. Look at the some of the homes built (in the past) along Hammond Bay. Trees were leveled, the banks are not secure and if those homes slide the entire road will be blocked and no emergency vehicles will be able to get through.
- 5) the old long lake city nursery location could have been a residential complex, close to shopping and easy access to the highway – instead permission was granted for a car dealership – that already has a good location to move there.
- 6) The Nanaimo Recycling Exchange on Kenworth was a great easy to access location for most residents – yet it was not supported by the city in time. It should have been.
- 7) More parks full of trees to give wildlife a place to live and to help mitigate climate change. When we moved to Nanaimo there were so many more green spaces it’s been heartbreaking to see so many little spots of green being decimated and houses being squashed in.
- 8) The massive housing complex Linley Valley destroyed not only trees but a natural wetlands area. Should have been made into a park.
- 9) More housing between downtown and Mount Benson in the form of build up rather than sprawl. Close to highways with easy access to main connector routes.
- 10) Only allow green development.

“

- ▶ 1) Continue development of safe cycling and walking trails in order for cyclists and pedestrians to go anywhere in Nanaimo safely. 2) Work on a system for apartment buildings and condominium buildings to compost. We were shocked to find that composting does not exist when we moved into an apartment ( a new one at that) three years ago.
- ▶ “1) Fine-tune the basics of waste management in the interim. For example, we have been waiting for over two months to have larger/additional green and blue bins delivered when we added a legal rental suite to support access to housing. Upon following up, we were told there is a backlog and it will get done when it gets done. Waste management and the 3Rs pose a particular challenge for people with mobility, time and transportation barriers. This results in items such as glass jars and plastic bags being thrown in the trash.
- 2) Look at new ways of managing waste, such as circular economy approaches to reduce extraction of

natural resources, as well as waste-to-energy facilities (currently in engineering design) to divert garbage from landfills into new fuel sources.

3) Consider mixed energy solutions. Although renewable energy and electric vehicles catch many people's attention as a lower carbon solution, major mining projects are required to supply these technologies. Further, many greener energy sources are more expensive, which causes concern for increased energy poverty. We need mixed energy solutions that consider people living across all income levels. "

- ▶ 1) I live in the south end and when I do have to go north I try to batch errands to reduce the trips that I make north. 2) New development should not be built as close to wetlands as is being done now even though it is within current guidelines. As an example—the marsh behind Oliver woods community centre used to be rich in waterfowl—now, other than mallards, it has virtually disappeared 3) Plant more trees and native vegetation to replace what is lost through development—especially add more flowering native plants to attract and support pollinators. 4) Current plans mention to protect environmentally areas—this could include parks like Neck Point where the increasing number of dogs is impacting the wildlife. Parks like NP should be NO Dog areas with dogs allowed on less sensitive trails.
- ▶ "1. Accept glass recycling in curb side recycling program  
2. Improve bus system to point where it is convenient. Currently the routes and times are so poor that most people prefer to use a car. "
- ▶ "1. Bylaws that help promote sustainable behaviour (ex. restricting the types of packaging permitted for take-out food, mandatory organics collection for restaurants and places serving food, renewable energy requirement for new developments, communal space requirements)  
2. Stricter restrictions on habitat loss and destruction  
3. Greater resources expended on controlling invasive species (including enforcement mechanisms for private land)  
4. light-rail or something similar to connect neighbouring communities "
- ▶ "1. For every household to have the facilities to recycle their waste, including composting of food and garden waste. This needs to be supported by collection and management of recycled waste along with a cultural change of how we shop and use our food (education).  
2. Nanaimo is renowned for having your bikes stolen, so there needs to be better facilities to secure your bike at various locations. Also are you able to have a scheme where employers provide vouchers for bikes, or they are tax deductible?  
3. Community gardens where people are able to take allotments and grow their own vegetables. This is more important when considering food consumption and the number of apartments being built where you do not have access to gardens."
- ▶ "1. Provide incentives for reducing traffic flow in Nanaimo such as "park and ride" shuttles to big box stores with follow-up delivery services to homes. (Reference to shuttle service used in Zion Park, UT.)  
2. No private vehicles in downtown Nanaimo (shuttle services and deliveries to parking);  
3. Watering restrictions during summer months supported by City landscape management advisory and information services for healthy yards (e.g. website with advice like Brian Minter);  
4. Community-based incentives to upkeep neighbourhood safety and cleanliness (e.g. support for Neighbourhood Watch) "
- ▶ A better bus service. Making streets safer for pedestrians by adding sidewalks, or in some cases, wider sidewalks – narrower roads.
- ▶ A big opportunity lies in more public transportation and bicycle use. Encourage e-bikes, encourage more bike parking that is dry, and supervised (theft!). Provide more busses in the rainy season than in the dry

season.

- ▶ A major pull to moving into this city is its wild and natural landscape. Instead of clear cutting trees to create large uninteresting condos and warehouse style stores, create infrastructure that is sustainable with its energy use and interesting to look at. By interesting infrastructure I mean that buildings should incorporate green aspects and the outdoors as the grey, concrete buildings and roads are major factors in anthropogenic climate change.
- ▶ A universal understanding what it means to work towards a notable green and sustainable city
- ▶ "A viable charging network to facilitate the switch to electric vehicles.

Tax rebates for solar use.

Increased focus on recycling programs; ensuring the materials actually end being reused rather than sent abroad.

Denser housing in the downtown core. "

- ▶ Accountability in City Hall for real protection of riparian areas, and upholding the values stated on the Nanaimo City Hall's web page. I am still shocked the variance was passed for 3258 Stephenson Point Road, and I think a lot of people in the neighborhood are. Promoting density is also important though it cannot come at the cost of highly ecologically sensitive areas. The assessment should have been completed by a third party that is removed from the developer, not hired by the developer. One of the oldest arbutus trees on Vancouver Island is about to turn into a driveway. Be accountable for principles and protect ecologically sensitive areas while they still exist.
- ▶ Add a tax to property taxes that would allow items to be properly disposed of at landfill rather than dumped into the environment.
- ▶ Add glass and styrofoam recyclables to curbside pickup
- ▶ Add more electric vehicle charging stations, make more bike routes (and more bike-friendly bike routes), conserve existing green spaces (e.g., Linley Valley and the surrounding forests should be protected), promote access to green spaces so that people use them (e.g., Dumont mountain bike area, Linley Valley, Westwood ridges).
- ▶ "Adding density in places can support it. Example. Build condos, townhomes, etc in places where people can walk/cycle for daily activities. The olympic village in vancouver was once thought of as a derelict warehouse district. Today it is filled with families and people and amenities. People do not need a vehical to live there, there are schools, shops, entertainment, recreational centre, doctors offices and much more. At one point it was hard to convince businesses to move into that area, but the city offered reduced rents for commerical tenants. 1) build ""up"" downtown 2) offer reduced rent for prime businesses 3) increase security 4) give tenants the ability to create change. THIS will reduce the amount of people on the road.

In neighbourhoods where there are not schools, shops, amenities within walking distance..... do not increase density, this will only lead to more cars on the road. Build infrastructure. Invest in sidewalks, use by laws to enforce sidewalk clearing, increase sightlines (along roads from over grown shrubs). With sidewalks, busy roads such as LOST LAKE RD, could become walking/biking mecca. With safe access to the trails in linley valley we wouldnt need to drive to the trail head, families could meet with each other instead of DRIVING to oliver woods community centre or our CLOSEST playground in linley valley. A sidewalk would allow people to move safely. "

- ▶ Adding safer options for various modes of transportation
- ▶ Adding sidewalks to ALL neighbourhoods. This could also increase social interaction on a micro level.
- ▶ Additional incentives for green building technologies, eg. passive homes, net-positive buildings. Incorporating vehicle charging infrastructure into street parking.
- ▶ Aggressively build safe, connected, complete active transportation infrastructure, city wide. Drastically reduce the city budget towards car-centric mobility, in other words, make it less desirable to drive and more desirable to ride a bike/ebike/escooter or walk. Quit giving into car-centric improvement pressures.
- ▶ “all civic infrastructure projects attempt to use/support green technologies  
demolition of private/public sector “
- ▶ “All future development should be based on village concept.  
Services provided in neighbourhoods will reduce vehicle use. “
- ▶ ALL land use decisions must be taken through the lens of reducing the causes and effects of climate change. There must be a watershed scale of protection of natural areas -- forests, streams, wetlands, foreshores ... and the like. Development cannot continue unabated in Nanaimo... we must design with nature and leave FAR MORE of nature in the design. The attitude of build more and “they” will come, has been combined with: they are coming, so build more. This is not sustainable, and a disastrous philosophy for coping with climate change. Natural areas , forests, streams, ground water recharge areas, native trees and the like must be considered inviolate, and protected at all costs. They are the best means of coping with climate change, and assuring natural resource assets required are kept intact. Design with Nature, first and foremost. Build in the necessary adaptations to account for warmer temperatures, longer drought periods, increased variability and intensity of weather events, and sea level rise. The emphasis should be on a green economy, green infrastructure, green building codes and greenways. It can be done; it must be done, if we are to preserve our liveable region.
- ▶ All levels of government need to take action on these issues and hopefully make it a top priority before it is too late!!
- ▶ “All of the above plus growing more food.  
Heat pumps rather than gas heating”
- ▶ All of the above. Planting more trees.
- ▶ “All of the above.  
Don’t allow 5G wifi only fibre optics.  
Save the winter water somehow for use in summer.  
”
- ▶ Allow more incentives to renovate homes new construction under current building code is extremely carbon heavy
- ▶ allow more people to work from home thereby reducing carbon effects of commute and decrease city infrastructure needs for offices
- ▶ Any new developments for business or residential should be mandated to have underground parking to reduce the amount of public space devoted to cars and parking. As a knock-on effect, reduced parking would encourage more public transit and would free up more space for bike lanes and walking space.
- ▶ Anywhere else I would favour investment in bike routes for urban transport, but much of Nanaimo is too steep for bikes to be useful, so use the money elsewhere.
- ▶ As a driver of an electric car one of the limitations is the small number of level 3 chargers on the Island.

Usually when I travel on the Island I end up waiting about 45 minutes for a stage 3 charger and have to charge for at least 30 minutes.

- ▶ As a major source of both pollution and GHG emissions comes from the transportation sector (motor vehicles) providing greater access to active transportation and transit is a must, especially as our population ages. This will also attract younger adults.
- ▶ As a senior I need my car to get basics like groceries and will not have the \$\$ to buy an electric car. I support the concept of lowering gas emissions but living where I do and hoping to stay in my home for as long as possible I have to be able to drive my car.
- ▶ As more and more people begin to commute or telecommute to and from Nanaimo, I think it is very important to work with the province and BC ferries to develop a passenger infrastructure to and from the lower mainland that works, rather than the car intensive ferry, or being relegated to an afterthought as a foot passenger traveling for work.
- ▶ "As much green space as possible.  
Educational opportunities for sustainable yards and gardens that encourage wildlife.  
Zero cost permits for roof-top or yard solar electricity installations.  
City wide or neighborhood plastic cleanup days from roads, parks 4 times a year."  
"
- ▶ Assist or support with the start up of a bio-diesel station in Nanaimo. Bio-diesel is carbon neutral.
- ▶ Ban on burning wood, stricter restrictions on water usage, plant trees
- ▶ ban plastic bags, make littering a fine and have a better program for keeping streets clean, tax people who do not use their green bin, develop a store of all the stuff people want to recycle and charge minimal amounts (like they had at the old Recycle centre), develop a program for collecting clothes that end up in the land fill and giving them to a Thrift store, pick a stream or 2 to remediate every year, examine the areas that flood and mitigate it with flood channels and move people on the flood plain (done over time and with the RDN), work on removing fire load under trees where they are close to residential areas - ie Colliery Dam area is fuel-loaded next to homes, build more reservoirs to hold water
- ▶ Ban single-use plastics, ban restaurants from using styrofoam packaging, improve bike lanes in Nanaimo to reduce vehicle traffic, offer businesses incentives to reduce their carbon emissions, do not develop in or near vulnerable ecosystems and consult local scientists and Indigenous knowledge-holders before allowing development, encourage ecological restoration projects throughout or parks and even in our city to support biodiversity and resilience, have university biology and chemistry students support in the creation of infographics outlining the importance of certain actions (to mitigate climate change) and of the importance of certain local ecosystems and animal/plant species.
- ▶ Ban styrofoam packaging, plant trees along E+N and in mall parking lots, do something about the noise from the inland highway, it is so loud it feels like living at the end of the runway in Vancouver, maybe put up more noise fences and encourage electric cars and bring back the train to replace transport trucks, but make sure there is a bicycle path alongside the train track like the one from Chemainus to Ladysmith, encourage liberty veggie gardens in every home and in mall parking lots, make water usage conducive to beautiful gardens and veggie patches, create a vast offroad cycling network around the city that is pretty and safe, charge huge fees for SUVs, pickups, trucks and large vehicles through ICBC or some other organization, enforce idle free BC and enforce these laws. Landscape Nanaimo, it is such an ugly town with too many ugly roads, plant lots of vegetation to make it pretty and put CO2 in the atmosphere, ban logging, make the sea wall extensive for bicycling and walking from Cedar to Lantzville and make it pretty with gardens. Institutionalize homeless people who can't look after themselves and provide basic income and housing for the homeless who can look after themselves, frequently assess these people so there

are no more homeless, make houses with garages at the back so the entire focus is walking and bicycle in general not vehicles, plant trees everywhere possible. Ban plastic bags, encourage local shopping that one can walk to, ban subdivisions, don't allow anymore land to be clear cut or turned into subdivisions or townhouses or malls, stop development on the Greenhill Nursery lands and the Cedar development, Nanaimo does not need another mall or big store, it needs local stores that people can walk to or ride their bikes to. Make all buildings lead, encourage retrofitting of old buildings so they are green. Nanaimo is in a beautiful location, it could be a beautiful place to live but it is really ugly, most neighbourhoods are ugly. Encourage people to turn off the TV and plant gardens. I am 65 and still ride my bike everywhere when I Need Vancouver but I ride on the sidewalk in Nanaimo as it is not safe on the roads.

- ▶ Banning or limiting plastics use e.g. grocery bags, Encourage green entrepreneurship: incentives for green buildings, transport, etc. Banning pesticide and other chemicals in the city.
- ▶ "Become less car centric. More walking, more cycling, more public transit."  
"
- ▶ Becoming carbon neutral
- ▶ Better and more bike lanes. Better access to recycling. Disposable plastic ban. Plastic bag ban.
- ▶ Better and more comprehensive recycling opportunities both from door to door collections and variety and number of depots
- ▶ Better bike lanes. More EV charging stations.
- ▶ Better building codes, and take care of our forests and wetlands.
- ▶ Better bus system
- ▶ Better cycling options
- ▶ Better education through the city of nanaimo app on what people can recycle and where eg styrofoam plastic bagels and batteries at return it depots
- ▶ Better public transit system
- ▶ "Better public transit.  
Better bike lanes, and safer bike locking areas.  
Encouraging homeowners to retrofit their houses making them more energy efficient through home-owner grants.  
Densification: City wide laws that encourage homeowners to build suits, and carriage houses. Allow more than one dwelling on a piece of land (especially if it's family.) Co-housing initiatives.  
Local food hub (smaller carbon footprint, better food security, jobs)  
City builds a recycling centre (the NRE was amazing - Nanaimo could be a leading community with a state of the art centre that incorporates waste management, recycling, reusing and education)  
City owned and operated farms (food security and education)  
City run biochar facility (carbon sequestering)  
Encouragement from City for urban farming and food production  
Free trees  
Free rain barrels  
More food forests"
- ▶ Better public transport needs to be implemented before people will change from driving their cars. As Nanaimo is set to expand considerably in the next couple of decades I worry about encroaching on the surrounding nature which makes Nanaimo so appealing.

- ▶ Better public transportation and bike routes
- ▶ Better public transportation, non motorized transport trails, reduce waste,
- ▶ Better transit and cycling infrastructure to pull ppl away from vehicle use
- ▶ Better transit. Preservation of parkland.
- ▶ Better walkability, not allowing the walking/running corridors we do have become areas that are not safe to use. Ie. Rock City area of E&N, very nerve-wracking when alone, at times.
- ▶ ""-bike lanes or trails
  - more charging stations for electric cars
  - complete curbside pick-up including GLASS
  - ban clearcut developments or give developers a kick back for keeping OLD/large trees
  - sidewalks everywhere including industrial areas (boxwood rd for example)"
- ▶ Bike lanes!
- ▶ Bike lanes, WAY more effective/efficient transit, local, sustainable and regenerative food sources.
- ▶ Build hydrogen production and distribution infrastructure. Nanaimo is the distribution hub for Vancouver Island, located right on the ocean, so is a natural spot for that type of infrastructure.
- ▶ Build more high density multigenerational housing near mobility hubs and discourage urban sprawl and car dependence. Expand our cycling infrastructure. Continue to protect our parks and natural green spaces.
- ▶ Build the connection between downtown harbour trail and Departure Bay Boardwalk.
- ▶ "Building a comprehensive green public transportation system
  - Refrain from building on sensitive natural habitats. Instead use empty, already used lots within the city. Do not cut down mature trees, to make room for new neighbourhoods!
  - Attract more green industry to this city - especially in the areas of recycling and alternative energy sources (like hydrogen energy)
  - Nourish and increase existing salmon and other fish stocks
  - "
- ▶ "Can new multi-residential building permits be mandated to include electric vehicle plug ins? This may increase the awareness of and availability of more people having access to charge their vehicles. Have city vehicles be electric vehicles
  - Could sun panels be installed on city owned buildings?"
- ▶ change building code. don't allow fireplaces, garages, or buildings over 8 stories. think human scale & sustainability
- ▶ change zoning restrictions - neighbourhoods that are mixed use ie. commercial, residential, industrial will decrease the need for longer drives in a gas guzzling vehicle. WALKABLE. stop building sprawling neighbourhoods that are inefficient for public transportation and laying infrastructure.
- ▶ City councillors should join the BC Climate Caucus ([climatecaucus.ca](http://climatecaucus.ca))! I would like to see stricter building codes for new builds to be more energy efficient (such as Passive House design), more safe bike routes, and more incentives for local food production. I would also like for the city to set a rule that residents cannot be prohibited from doing things to help the environment such as hanging their laundry to dry or growing food in a front yard garden.
- ▶ City fleet and buses should be transitioned to electric. Better transit schedules to enable people to get

to work on time.

- ▶ city lending money to home owners to retrofit homes to be greener'
- ▶ City to purchase development sites that are close to riparian zones, creeks or parks that should not be developed but should remain green spaces.
- ▶ Clear out the local forests of dead branches, etc.
- ▶ "Climate is a global action and is mainly controlled by the sun earth relationship. Nanaimo cannot control climate change; what we can do is control our local environment by not densifying housing and maintaining green yards. The reason the Island is surviving COVID better is less density than Vancouver and the Fraser Valley centres."
- ▶ Community control over all aspects of our environment.
- ▶ Community engagement and education.
- ▶ community food gardens, natural asset management, corporate carbon tax, plant trees, buy-in & support from senior management on climate change action & resilience building
- ▶ Community involvement in clean up and education. Incentives and programs. Paying those who do the work, not relying on volunteers. Why volunteer when money is being spent how it is.
- ▶ "Complete key strategic cycle and walk links that minimize topography constraints. Provide at least one side of each arterial with a wide, safe, pedestrian area."
- ▶ Compost program for rentals and multifamily dwellings
- ▶ Consult with scientists and professionals who know more about how best to address these problems and which areas it is most important to make changes in.
- ▶ "Continue and improve on waste management. Encourage home owners to either xeriscape or landscape their properties by providing incentives. Develop the south corridor with shopping so one doesn't have to travel from the south to the north for groceries (superstore, costco, etc), as that will cut down on vehicle emissions / carbon footprints. Continue to create subdivisions with protected habitats and nature, as the trails here make one feel like they are out in wilderness even though they are in the City."
- ▶ Continue as we are with a community engaged in conservation
- ▶ Continue building bike lanes so people can get from north to south safely. Initiatives for those who bike or take transit. Keep up with charging stations.
- ▶ continue to build active transportation routes to connect neighborhoods and make it easier, more convenient and safer to bike / walk - connecting culdesacs etc.
- ▶ Continue to innovate green initiatives
- ▶ Continue to reduce, reuse and recycle as much as possible. This creates a better lifestyle for all of us.
- ▶ Continue working with Streamkeepers and other professionals to protect our harbour, estuary, and watersheds as best we can.
- ▶ Continued work on artificial reefs to mitigate storms. Better food security by increasing and diversifying small gardens and farms throughout the area. Smarting building designs that are eco friendly and add energy back into the system by using green alternatives. Having more walking space is a viable option for travelling, as well as biking. Having more green space that can naturally act as protection (e.g. shade for the summer, or absorbing more floodwater).

- ▶ Continuing to encourage the growth and development of our urban forests and programs that assist residents to plant additional trees should continue.
- ▶ Control/manage increasing development that threatens to turn Nanaimo into mini-Vancouver.
- ▶ Convert all municipal vehicles to zero emissions. Convert all buses to zero emissions. More bike lanes and sidewalks.
- ▶ Costs of the use of private automobiles (pollution) and their storage on public roads or other property (parking) must be increased to full cost level to cover the full extent of public subsidies to private auto use.
- ▶ Create a connected active transportation network and make it easy to use for all abilities. Ensure developers are not encroaching onto environmentally sensitive areas. Help property owners combat invasive plants.
- ▶ Create a facility that 3D prints marketable items from recycled plastic. Sell in a retail location shared with other eco-friendly businesses, like repurposed items, lending libraries for borrowing instead of buying etc.
- ▶ Create bicycle / ebike / skateboarding paths and make it easier for people to get around without cars. Work with high rise buildings to provide charging stations for owners who want to go electrical.
- ▶ Create dozens of community gardens across the city, to teach and grow food which can be consumed by the community, as a not-for-profit. And/or in partnership with small businesses like a neighborhood fruit / veggie stand. Reduce the energy / transportation / food waste involved in the huge grocery stores. Also this can help with local job development. I find food very expensive here and quality is poor after shipping here. Majority of our food should be from the island. Fish, meat, eggs, and dairy too! More sustainable fishing, small farms with chickens, goats, cows, pigs, etc. Thank you.
- ▶ Create higher densities that create more efficient land uses and allow for multiple activities in one spot, ex: street that also doubles as a play area, like the dutch "woonerf" streets. This creates shorter distances to travel between amenities and allows for access through active transportation and reduction of vehicle traffic.
- ▶ Create initiatives for green businesses, create a culture that supports local products, fund green infrastructure projects (bikes lanes), redesign building codes to be more green.
- ▶ "Create more active transportation routes and link existing ones.  
Create incentives for building conversions to include heat pumps, solar panels, become more energy efficient"
- ▶ Create real incentives for people to reduce energy usage. Create real incentives for people to reduce the amount of trips they make by car. People won't change their ways unless it is convenient to do so. Control the sprawl, stop building wide spread low density suburbs into forested areas. Continue to encourage people of all ages to love and engage with nature, but also to understand our impact on it.
- ▶ Create, support and encourage mixed-zone neighbourhoods. If every person could access necessities, facilities, amenities on foot we reduce the need on cars. A commercial area should be within 2km of every home.
- ▶ Creating/maintaining sustainable development while minimizing virgin forest loss. In departure bay, create infill in R2 zones lots. Add EV charge points in our neighbourhood to encourage ownership. Make our public transport system more environmentally friendly by adopting EV buses.
- ▶ Currently its difficult to get around the city unless you have a car. If there were more sidewalks, bike lanes

on the street, and bike lanes off the street, people may be more inclined to walk, bike, or ebike, especially during the months without rain. It is also difficult watching forests be removed for new developments, like those beside Collairy Dam and further along Nanaimo Lakes Road. Perhaps new developments could have a green space requirement, where x% of the land has to remain untouched? I am not sure what incentives the City could provide to encourage ebike and electric car purchases. Free parking passes? More charging stations?

- ▶ Cut all roads to 2 lanes. Ban all left turns. No vehicles of any type in city core or old city dawn to dusk.
- ▶ “Decrease overall energy usage (utilize passive alternatives)  
Increase electrical usage over fossil fuels  
Increase generation of electrical energy from solar, wind, tidal, hydroelectric sources”
- ▶ dedicated bike and walking paths along major thoroughfares – ie Hammond Bay and Departure Bay Roads and connecting to the current bike path to downtown.
- ▶ Definitely we need more charging stations for electric cars all over town. We don’t even own an electric car but we see the need.
- ▶ “Deforestation has serious impacts on the global climate, including the release of CO2. Loss of trees also means the loss of “evapotranspiration”, a process which cools the air due to the slow release of moisture into the air like a swamp cooler.

Shade, evaporative cooling, wind mitigation, erosion prevention, species habitat, CO2 sequestration... trees perform vital environmental functions that we are ignoring. Development guidelines need to be put in place to maximize the preservation of the urban forest.”

- ▶ “Densification, smart development – limit sprawl. This is one of the biggest things a local gov’t can do. Be a champion for carbon taxes and other provincial/federal level policies.  
Rainwater management and drought management.  
Watershed protection.  
Increase ecosystem resilience and biodiversity thru protected areas and active restoration.  
”
- ▶ Develop land that needs improvement rather than destroying green space. Reduce the need to go to either ends of the city for groceries, shopping etc. Initiate the redevelopment of energy deficient housing. Use the knowledge base at VIU to jointly assess changes that address these issues.
- ▶ Develop public space with consideration for pedestrians and cyclists instead of cars. Improve bus service and bus depot design to improve user experience and reflect the value we place on those who take the bus. Create incentives for those who wish to use renewal resources and conservation methods. Do more to protect natural environments.
- ▶ “Diet is neglected in this survey. Nanaimo’s agricultural lands are mainly used for animal fodder. Is there a way to support a lot more local planted-based food production and associated local businesses? More than 5acre Farm! Fishermen are finally selling more harvest locally vs shipping to Asia/usa because of covid. Yay, support them! BC is self sufficient in dairy and then some, but the great majority of this is raised on grains which causes increased gas emissions from bovine digestion. Encourage grass fed dairy. Support local food production at the lower end of the carbon footprint scale.  
Focus on reducing waste, especially plastics which emit greenhouse gases as they deteriorate over time. Most people do not understand this yet! ”
- ▶ Do not allow LNG as source of energy for new construction. I know that Fortis lobbies to keep this but LNG is just as polluting as coal. It is NOT a clean fuel as they would have us believe....

- ▶ Do not have wood burning stoves in city limits! VERY IMPORTANT
- ▶ Don't allow developers to clear lots of trees. Try to build around as many trees existing on a building site as possible, on taking down ones in within the footprint of the building
- ▶ "Dramatically increase property taxes for car dealers, but refund a credit based on the percent of sales that is electric or other zero-emission vehicles, to create a local incentive to make electric vehicles available and affordable.  
Improve building standards to eliminate new fossil-fuel and resistance electric heat in buildings, and develop incentives for replacement of all fossil-fuel and resistance electric heat sources.  
Establish (or re-establish) bus routes between neighbourhoods and their nearest shopping area or transit hub, e.g. between North Slope and Nanaimo North mall."
- ▶ "E-bikes are making cycling accessible to far more people, but few feel safe biking in Nanaimo. I know this is a RDN issue, but transit should be free, imo.  
Facilitate the growth of carsharing  
Add many more electric vehicle charging stations"
- ▶ economic benefits
- ▶ economical options for adding solar panels to your home
- ▶ educate community members about the impacts and how they can assist
- ▶ '-Education and awareness raising - improved translation from science to the general public -Regulations that limit the use of low-efficiency combustion vehicles (i.e. individuals who seek to drive a large truck are required to prove the need for this type of vehicle).
- ▶ Education and concentrating on positive and hopeful solutions that individuals can carry out with enjoyment. "Natures Best Hope" Douglas Tallamy - the Homegrown National Park. Very inspiring. Conservation starts in your own backyard one hummingbird at a time.
- ▶ "Education!!  
Incentive programs for using transportation or fuel alternatives. "
- ▶ Efficient public transport, electric car charge points, and built out cycling and walking networks. One of the suprising things is where I live in Harewood when I moved here in 2018, there were limited sidewalks to go to VIU. While that's more or less fixed now, it was a suprise especially coming from a smaller community where sidewalks were on every road.
- ▶ Efforts to address this should be balanced against the convenience, affordability, and quality of life of residents of Nanaimo
- ▶ Electric buses rather than LNG, even more electric charging stations for cars, plant only things that can survive under climate change
- ▶ Electric rail powered by green sources like solar and wind.
- ▶ Electric train
- ▶ Electric Vehicle charging for new construction, especially multi unit. As in Saanich
- ▶ Electric vehicles and bicycles need to be the transportation of the future.
- ▶ Electric vehicles are worse for the environment. The lithium mines have a huge negative environmental impact. The batteries have a short lifespan and hazardous to dispose.
- ▶ Eliminating gas in city vehicles. Propane or electric vehicles. Getting strict on standards of those who build here

- ▶ Embrace changes that are annoying or inconvenient, because these things that slow us down and frustrate us are good for us socially and environmentally. For example, street design like curbs that narrow in at intersections cause us to drive slower, which is annoying, but also good for us socially (fewer accidents), environmentally (slower speeds are more fuel efficient), and push us to make different choices (driving is annoying with all these speed-reducing designs, so I'll bike instead) that can get us closer a tipping point as a city (ie a less car-centric city). So when you consider a change, and you get push back because it will make life less efficient for some people, don't automatically dismiss the change – consider also embracing the less efficient (which is probably actually not less efficient – it's just less efficient for some – for those who have been so heavily subsidized by our current systems that they don't even recognize the subsidy and the increasing inequity these choices cause).
- ▶ embrace the BC Step Code, hire an energy and sustainability manager
- ▶ Encourage alternative ways of transportation. Electric bikes paying through online app on phone. No need for loose change. Electric scooters for younger population. Again online app through phone. Pay, Tap, and Go. Used in larger European city's such as Sweden. Include climate change in elementary school. Help children learn how to grow own food on roof tops. Provide education to lower class families.
- ▶ Encourage changes in buildings to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by streamlining the building permit process and adding grants to encourage owners to retrofit and repurpose buildings. Encourage alternate forms of transportation to cars by improving transit and making the bike a more practical form of transportation. Recreational bike riding is ok, but using a bike for commuting has a long way to go to compare with cities like Vancouver. Forcing densification of development is very important in creating more sustainable housing, improving the efficiency of public transportation, encouraging alternate transportation like bikes, and reducing the risk of wildfire by reducing the amount of interface between the urban and natural landscapes.
- ▶ “encourage electric car usage – include recharging opportunities at all new apartment buildings and other developments – schools, businesses, – assuming the city has a say in the building codes?  
add bike lanes in new road developments  
encourage residential building within walking distance of shopping and work sites  
encourage new developments to plant low-water need plants or native plants “
- ▶ encourage EV adoption, rezone downtown for 30 floors
- ▶ Encourage more tree planting along streets as well and residential homes. Require developers to create more green space of commercial buildings, rooftops le: Singapore as an example. Also for residential developments to plant diverse trees and plants surrounding homes and neighbourhoods.
- ▶ “Encourage people to use public transit or other modes of transportation and leave their cars at home  
Instead of building more highways and parking lots we should make the roads and streets more pedestrian and peddle biker friendly  
Develop neighbourhoods and communities where people don't have to travel great distances to get to basic goods and services, eg. grocery stores, schools, doctors office, good restaurant, parks, recreational places, places where people can get jobs close by  
Gardens in schools and communities, ways to learn how to plant trees, natural wildlife spaces  
Recycling places close by  
Organizations, businesses and individuals learn ways on how to implement environmentally helpful ways in their life “
- ▶ “Encourage the building of neighborhood communities e.g. neighborhood centers. Promote gardens that allow pollinators to thrive vs pavement or grass.  
Encourage low impact industry to relocate here by incentives.

Recognize that many people will retire here and use that human power to help with park maintenance and recycling.”

- ▶ “Encouraging citizens to use either electric vehicles when they are more accessible and affordable .

Increase focus on bicycle riders safety as many are now using electric bikes and more would if shown interest in making it safer.”

- ▶ Encouraging things like Uber and car sharing options. Encouraging use of bicycles and public transportation by improving connections.
- ▶ “End the urban sprawl.  
Use zoning to tie max permitted floor area of dwelling units to the number of dwellings permitted.  
Ei: 3000sqft max floor area for sfd. If more floor area is desired, they must add a secondary suite, which then permits up to 4500 sqft max between both units.

More than 4500 sqft? Must have be an apartment of no less than 3 dwellings.

And Loosen up the number for dwellings per residential lot per the above. Carriage homes permitted on any lot, with no additional parking requirements.

“

- ▶ “Enforce more sustainable development practices. Natural habitats are being destroyed everywhere and noise pollution has become a major factor for humans and wildlife.

Create a strategy that aligns housing development with other services, such as transportation rather than just letting developers re-zone wherever they want. We have witnessed very bad construction practices. Ensure they type of development is aligned with the needs of the population, not just developers wants.

“

- ▶ Environmental concerns are most essential, to have a livable city, food security, physical, mental, emotional health of the citizens, and biodiversity of the environment
- ▶ Environmental concerns are very high on the agenda, but to solve these problems one has to pay close to attention to the continuing economic growth. Right now electric cars cost way beyond the means of most people. Switching over to satisfy environmental concerns can be very expensive.
- ▶ EV adoption and rezone downtown for skyscrapers, rezone waterfront asap
- ▶ Ev rideshare services and additional chargers like implemented in Sacramento CA
- ▶ Even if Canada disappeared from the world, it would have zero impact on global rising CO2 ppm levels, so the idea of spending money in Nanaimo on initiatives to slow the rise of CO2 is not thought through. “Every little bit helps” is fine when you are talking about a local problem like salmon spawning, but is meaningless on the global scale.
- ▶ Everyone needs to stop consuming so much. Smaller homes. More services located closer to homes. Preserve agricultural and undeveloped lands. Smaller cars. Higher fees and consumption taxes to discourage thoughtless consumption. Move away from destructive capitalism. Better ecological literacy and education and how our modern lifestyle is killing us and destroying our mental health.
- ▶ expand bus service to Rutherford road and Linley Valley

- ▶ Expanding bike lanes to Cedar, Ladysmith and Lantzville
- ▶ Extend harbour walkway to Departure Bay
- ▶ “-Faster issue of building permits for innovative housing  
-funding or tax relief for alternative energy projects (residential, commercial and industrial) and/or supporting PACE financing  
-bike lanes and lockers  
-”
- ▶ “Firstly; stopping outward developments. Encourage inward and upward developments. Secondly; encouraging active transit. Suggestion; maybe some tax breaks for cyclists and pedestrians who commute to work. Make people feel safe when they commute to work with bike lanes that don’t cross over into parked car/gutter territory.  
If people feel they can’t commute on foot or bike, they should feel enticed to take public transit. This means buses need to come every 15 minutes during rush hours in the day. This also means bus routes should be expanded.

#### NOTE

Out of my workplace of 13 people, I am the only person who doesn’t drive to work. I’m the only one who cycles everyday. My workplace is located DOWNTOWN. That goes to show how poorly incentivized alternative transit options are.”

- ▶ Focus on reducing waste and cleaning up the oceans/lakes/rivers more than reducing CO2 emissions. Our air quality is very good. Enforce industry to become cleaner. Definitely stop 5G from coming to Nanaimo: it will hugely increase energy consumption and damage human health, wildlife and eco systems. Encourage biking, walking, electric cars. Encourage home gardening and buying local farm produce. Maintain the beautiful parks, beaches, trails and natural spaces that we are so lucky to have.
- ▶ Focus on sustainability. We are far from a major contributor in climate change from around the world. Focus on what we have and enhance it.
- ▶ Focusing on waste management issues with local businesses and corporations. Single use plastics need to be discouraged as much as possible. Encourage businesses that focus their mandate on sustainability rather than resource depleting and polluting industries. Neighbourhoods can be built around older trees, for example or grocery options that focus on locally production and bulk (no packaging) that operate all year not just seasonal markets. Neighbourhood cleanups done annually and coordinated by the city to remove garbage from our communities with teams of volunteers from businesses and community groups. You provide the supplies and pick up the collections. Calgary does this every spring very successfully and is one of the cleanest cities as a result.
- ▶ “Food Security. The more food that is grown on Vancouver island, the more we are resilient Transportation would be much less and therefore GHG emissions would be reduced. A nice Win-Win, not even including the fact it would create jobs.  
Vancouver Island is vulnerable to having our food supply knocked out by many things due to us being dependent on the ferries. Food security should be a major initiative for every City and Region District on the Island, and coordinated effort should be something to strive toward. We live in a unique environment, where we are probably the only regions in Canada where we have the ability to grow and raise food year round. So food security would not only make us resilient, it would reduce GHG emissions, create jobs, create more green spaces and contribute to a healthy environment”
- ▶ For Nanaimo, our transportation modes is likely the biggest opportunity for shift and improvement in the short and medium term. Supporting complete streets, active transportation, and land use development

that supports efficient transit are priorities. Property-level education and changes for managing storm water on-site, instead of drainage to outfalls is a great opportunity – though challenge as it involves individuals and not just policy. Due to the lay of our land, it should be a priority to protect the ravines, and small streams and their adjacent areas to help with the natural water systems and functions here. Stream daylighting and restoration should be done where past development has covered these areas.

- ▶ Free-at-use public transportation, better bicycling infrastructure, end development planning that encourages suburban sprawl
- ▶ “From now on have any big building, whether office or apartment/condo complex to follow LEED specifications. Offer incentives (i.e rebates) for installing solar panelled roofs or buying an electric car or buying a bus pass or even buying a bike. Switching to environmentally sustainable means is expensive which is a deterrent for making the switch. Make it accessible.

Convenience is good. Single-use plastics are not. Ban single-use buy having materials be for sure re-cyclable or re-usable. Use plastics which can actually be re-manufactured if we put them into the blue bin. There are also items that are compostable that are food options. There are compostable bags if you forget your reusable bag. Compostable cutlery for fastfood, skip the dishes, or etc instead of plastic. There are straws that are edible and don't lose shape like paper straws. Convenience isn't the problem but the tools we dispose of from said convenience is.”

- ▶ Get people out of cars! Provide opportunities for walking and cycling all over the city, preferably linked. Add electric charging stations, not just for cars... but for electric bikes too. Add bike racks on buses. Provide safe places to lock up electric bikes! Green roofs! Wildlife corridors, linked to undeveloped lands. Stream restoration. Invasive species removal!!!
- ▶ get the people who are tenters/ camping, out of our parks, they are contaminating all of them with feces, drug paraphernalia and garbage. \* enhance the transit system
- ▶ Greater commitment to public transit, more frequency in buses. Large buses are not always the answer. Smaller vehicles or even van shuttles for lower frequency routes and added to rush hours for busier routes.
- ▶ HAVE the city accessible to safe biking lanes everywhere like other cities , provide charging stations for electric cars , preserve forested areas as much as possible for future generations to enjoy. Decrease big box stores and encourage development of neighborhood bakeries, butchers and fresh produce within walking distances to homes
- ▶ Have a strategy.
- ▶ Having a more effective recycling program.
- ▶ Having more accessible and connected walk & bike pathways.
- ▶ Heavy carbon tax, very light or no tax on electric vehicles including e-bikes. Build a LRT infrastructure. Radar cameras to stop speeding, limit large vehicles speed to achieve economy. Use building materials that do not contain cement.
- ▶ “Housing: Toughen building codes to ensure green buildings that reduce heat loss. Transit: Redesigning the transit system might work to get people out of their cars (and gigantic trucks). Would more routes and smaller buses work? Habitat (carbon sink) preservation: I applaud any attempts to densify with zoning, rather than sprawling towards the natural areas or Mt. Benson and surrounding woodlands.”
- ▶ Hybrid Gabriola ferry, electric Harbour Air seaplanes

- ▶ “I am all for the recycling efforts that Nanaimo is doing, although I am saddened to hear that as a whole that only approximately only 30% gets re-used or recycled! This seems to me a disservice and certainly a discouragement in our efforts to curtail landfill. I would hope Canada do better, and demand that we deal with our own wastes and not send or sell it off to other countries.  
I see places like Sweden that use netting ““sock”” a the end of sewer pipes to catch garbage that has made it’s was into the water linking to the harbour. We do not want to become a sewer cesspool like other water front City’s.”
  - ▶ I am concerned that the City says that it is “concerned” about environmental factors but continues to provide building permits that include significant alteration of riparian zones (e.g. Stephenson Point area development along Cottle Creek). There has also been significant loss of tree canopy in Nanaimo due to building. Tree canopy is important for temperature management in urban areas. My idea is protect riparian areas (land beside creeks and rivers) and tree canopy in Nanaimo before it is too late.
  - ▶ I believe that Nanaimo should work on the areas where they currently are responsible for. I don’t want our city to take on the responsibilities of Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (BC) nor Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Canada. Our RDN has responsibility of waste both liquid and solid. The City can work on vehicle along with parks and community structures strategies.
  - ▶ I don’t believe electric cars are going to save us. We must reduce our consumption of goods and our travel expectations and cap population growth worldwide. Close to home this means improving quality of life locally and dropping the mad rush for growth.
  - ▶ “I don’t believe there’s a climate crisis.  
I do believe in recycling.”
  - ▶ I live in rural part of Nanaimo and due to forest canopy there is a risk of forest fires in my area some mitigation of trees back from home is essential to assist in avoiding loss of family home especially to recreational trails usage by Motorized vehicles – atv’s and motorcycles Without having to pay a deposit to remove and replant trees on private property
  - ▶ I see transportation as the area where we can have the most positive impact. By making public transit more accessible (more routes, more often), and making cycling safer (more bike lanes and trails) we can improve community (more interactions) and our health.
  - ▶ I support the ideas in the Overview sheet.
  - ▶ “I suppose this is less about addressing impacts and more about mitigation options: Better active transportation networks would be helpful (separated bike lanes, not just painted arrows with bikes, and public transit). And prioritization of transit oriented development. Also, more secure storage for bikes. I just bought an e-bike but I’m kind of anxious to take it out except for short trips because it might get stolen. Perhaps major commercial developments should have incentives or requirements for actively monitored bike concierges so people feel comfortable leaving their bikes for more extended periods of time? It would be cool if there were e-bike chargers as well! Or at least more secure bike racks that thieves can’t pull out of the ground. E-bikes are a lot more affordable (and sustainable) than EVs so infrastructure to support/encourage that would be great.
- Regarding buildings, more rigorous implementation of step code would be great. ”
- ▶ “I think best effect would be to have all of us working together. We may not be perfect, but a whole lot of us being imperfect is better than nothing. I would like to see our community support individuals making efforts to plant beneficial plants in vacant lots. Remove invasive ones. I would like to see more markets instead of malls, and shops that fix electronic devices of all kinds. I’d like city support for mending workshops of all kinds and support for community gardening in vacant lots.

Also, we need some way to recycle cheap plastic wrap and plastic bags while we work on reducing this type of plastic and shrink wrap. What can be done about this?

For profit recycling is a problem. We need lots of alternatives to this.

I am concerned about fires in dry weather. Yes, steps should be taken to prevent the entire sky from turning red and apocalyptic feeling like has happened in the past."

- ▶ I think that city planning is important for reducing car culture – decentralization of shopping. Neighbourhood culture, rather than a 'woodgrove' culture. Downtown is a dead zone, and it isn't going to pick up until it feels safe to go down there. I also think that there should not be any housing on potentially agricultural land, we need to improve our local food production
- ▶ "I think the more we can focus on neighborhoods becoming oriented as villages, where people can get their social/emotional/material needs met within a walkable distance is super important. Converting our single use suburban neighborhoods into a more diversified use space will be critical. Converting single family homes neighborhoods into more low rise apartments/co-housing, building upwards and then making more land available for green space/food growing space. I think retrofitting our malls into village centres is key. Really helping the malls adopt of village-y feeling and not a massive desolate parking lot with the shopping centre in the middle. More akin to European esthetics which developed in an era pre-automobile. We need some legit Piazza's and Rambla's for people to congregate in an outside /covered gathering spaces.

I think converting our ornamental landscaping into foodscaping is critical as well. Mangia la tua vista = eat your view ie. Growing food wherever we are helping on the climate change front within the local food security and plant coverage department.

"

- ▶ I think we need to educate our youth on how to help locally, without putting them down. Starting more community or locally grown gardens, as well as encouraging teens to take local transport (by possibly giving high school students free or cheaper bus passes) are good initiatives as well.
- ▶ I wish I knew some good solutions!
- ▶ I would like to see a vast improvement in our resource management on the Island. We could lead the world in new green technology and more environmentally friendly forestry, lumber milling, fisheries, fish farming, mining, and shipping. There are many creative alternatives to our current practices that would make these industries more sustainable and we could be ground zero for implementing these alternatives. I would also like to prioritize better protections for parks, wildlife and threatened species. Preserving these not only makes Nanaimo a more beautiful and biodiverse place but attracts jobs and tourism as well.
- ▶ I would like to see more pedestrian and bike connections, as well as secure bike lockers/storage in the downtown core. Having recently completed a massive rebuild and deep-energy retrofit of my older house, I can also say that the city's building inspection department seems to be hell-bent on making it excessively difficult and expensive to improve your house. I think if we can empower home-owners to energy retrofit, by relaxing the bureaucracy, we'll have a more efficient city.
- ▶ I would like to see Nanaimo become a model city in taking a comprehensive, but cost-effective approach to reducing green house gases and also offsetting green house gasses by investing in international rainforest preservation in a way similar to the government of Norway.

- ▶ “I would like to see something (financial help) to encourage people to grow their own food/ less lawns. This can be cost prohibitive as water bills go up based on consumption. Perhaps a rebate for home grown food or something of the type.

Along with this would be more urban food planning, adding fruit trees to parks etc.

Also, protecting parks such as Linley valley from encroaching developments.

Another thing I would like to see is densifying of urban areas to protect parks from sprawling homes. Encourage new builds to be taller buildings or secondary suites and carriage houses on existing properties. “

- ▶ “I would love to see more places where we can shop bulk and bring our own containers to fill for everything from soaps to grains to whatever else. I also would love to reduce the plastic usage in grocery stores and take out places. I know most grocery stores now charge a small fee for plastic bags, but I often see people in the produce section putting a single vegetable into the small clear plastic bags. I had mentioned in a previous survey the need for better bike lanes throughout the city to encourage different modes of transportation. “
- ▶ “I would suggest that the City of Nanaimo have more balanced and scientific outlook rather than the fear invoked Climate Emergency. I would suggest expanding your research to include but not limited to:

<https://friendsofscience.org/>  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCprclkVrNPls7PR-nHhf1Ow>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1s4vWrHw3WY>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eq6OW2pRk84&t=111s>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tUOLrSadkg>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xM4pBmZ9fTU>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=otsJno55JOG>

The Kyoto Protocol is a political solution to a non-existent problem without scientific justification. Dr. Timothy Ball, former climatology professor

Until a continuous climate observing system is established, both climate models and observations will remain uncertain. Wielicki et al. Science June 21, 2002

We only understand 10 percent of the climate issue. That is not enough to wreck the world economy with Kyoto-like measures.  
Henk Tennekes, former research director, Dutch Royal Meteorological Institute

I would freely admit that on global warming we have crossed the boundary from news reporting to advocacy.  
Charles Alexander, Time magazine science editor

Some people will do anything to save the earth . . . except take a science course.  
P. J. O'Rourke, author, journalist

We have to offer up scary scenarios (about global warming) ... ..each of us has to decide what the right

balance is between being effective and being honest.  
Stephen Schneider, Stanford University environmentalist

Mike, Can you delete any emails you may have had with Keith regarding the latest IPCC report? Keith will do likewise. ...Can you also email Gene and get him to do the same?  
Phil Jones, Director of Climate Research Unit, UEA, UK

The fact is that we can't account for the lack of warming at the moment and it is a travesty that we can't.  
Kevin Trenberth, National Center For Atmospheric Research, USA

We are nowhere close to knowing where energy is going or whether clouds are changing to make the planet brighter ... We are not close to balancing the energy budget.  
Kevin Trenberth, National Center For Atmospheric Research, USA

If I were on the greenhouse deniers' side, I would .. focus on the wide range of paleoclimatology results and the differences between them as an argument for dismissing them all.  
Tom Wigley, University Corporation for Atmospheric Research

Observations do not show rising temperatures throughout the tropical troposphere ... This is just downright dangerous.  
Peter Thorne, Hadley Centre, Met Office, UK

Weighting the solar irradiance more strongly in the models, then much of the 19th to mid 20th century warming can be explained from the sun alone.  
Rob Wilson, School of Geography & Geosciences, University of St Andrews

It will not be models or theory, but observation that will provide the answer to the question of how the climate will change in many decades time.  
Andrew Watson, School of Environmental Sciences, UEA, UK"

- ▶ If the waterfront is to provide a walkway as planned then the mills need to be relocated to allow for clean air, less noise and beautiful vistas.
- ▶ I'm aware of things being done...Hooray...and keep on with....electric car plug-ins, walkable downtown (keeping cars away), added parks, tree planting, prohibiting building in high risk (mudslide) areas..perhaps even in close to sea level areas
- ▶ Improve alternative transportation options make SAFER neighborhood in Downtown and Old City Quarter (must be a high priority)
- ▶ "improve bike/walking routes throughout city"
- ▶ "Improve Biking Infrastructure  
Support local fabrication of goods  
Support Farmer Markets"
- ▶ improve bus transit!! and make the transit website more user friendly!! If I want to go from my house near Costco, to my hairdresser near Country Grocer on Bowen Road, it is almost impossible to understand the transit website, and would take nearly 2 hours one way.
- ▶ Improve cycling and pedestrian infrastructure. Manage our natural green spaces actively like bigger cities do including invasive species management and fuel loading. Invest in urban forestry.

- ▶ Improve cycling infrastructure to make it safer to cycle and easiest to lock up a bike.
- ▶ "Improve cycling routes and infrastructure. Other than that no specific ideas other than considering environmental costs in everything that we do."
- ▶ Improve density within city limits. Prevent urban sprawl. Make recycling mandatory and improve methods.
- ▶ Improve the infrastructure by more walkways and bike lanes. Improve the bus service. Have new housing developments go green by providing solar energy.
- ▶ improve transit and provide safe bike or alternate routes
- ▶ "Improve transit routes and times, extending hours of operation and frequency of busses. Make separate bike lanes for biker safety and to encourage cycling. Protect sensitive habitats immediately. Halt any development at or near wetlands, old growth, and environmentally sensitive areas. Prioritize the planet over human gain. Encourage housing to be built up, not out, with ecofriendly materials. Green incentives."
- ▶ "Improve walkability and bikeability of neighbourhoods, to reduce dependence on single cars.

Put a moratorium on greenfield development until land within the city is utilized to its fullest extent.

Implement a twice a year or quarterly free streetside pick up of large waste items (mattresses, etc) to reduce dumping in our environment (City of Surrey has this)."

- ▶ Improved cycling network; green buildings; stop clearcutting of properties
- ▶ "In April, 2019 Council unanimously passed a motion to ""declare a climate emergency for the purposes of identifying and deepening our commitment to protecting our economy, our eco systems, and our community from global warming"". I suggest that should be a filter through which all actions of the City should be considered.  
In Zoning Bylaw No. 4500, the City provides for leave strips (or riparian areas) beside watercourses. On the Millstone River, Chase River and Cottle Creek that area is 30 metres from the top of the bank. The benefits of riparian zones are well set out in the present Official Community Plan, para 7.4. However, it seems that in practice, when there is a conflict between an owner obtaining a development permit to build in that area and protection of the riparian zone, the owner wins every time e.g. recent decision of Council to reduce the riparian zone at the bottom end of Cottle Creek from 30 metres to 6.9 metres to enable the construction of a single family home. The process by which an owner can get that variation needs to be changed so that riparian zones are better protected. Specifically, the process for assessment needs to become more independent of the owner (who, at present, hires the ""qualified environmental professional"" who prepares the assessment) and the City development staff notice of an application should be given to the neighbourhood as soon as it is made; and all of the information relied on by the owner and City staff in making the recommendation should be available to the public on a timely basis, not just days before the application is heard by Council.  
However, I use the protection of riparian Zones only as an example of how the climate emergency motion should be used as a filter for action. The broader point is that the effect on the environment should be a primary consideration for all City actions. I would suggest, for example, that it should be put on the cover of the new Official Community Plan."
- ▶ "Incentives for buildings to be more energy efficient like using alternative power sources. Eg reduced taxes, reduced costs of building permits, relaxing of some building codes when alternative energy is used.

Plant trees. Encourage new building sites to include tree landscaping. Penalise building sites that remove trees."

- ▶ “-Incentives for green technology
  - Education including more environmental teachings
  - Encourage sales of electric/hybrid vehicles over ICE “
- ▶ Incentives for solar panels and other green energies
- ▶ Incentives for using bikes and public transit. Planting more trees.
- ▶ Incentives to bike/walk/bus/carpool? Make it easier/accessible for office buildings to recycle and access composting. So much garbage being thrown into landfill that could be recycled if easier options like pick up or incentives for them to take to recycling depot at big box stores like Cabela’s for instance. Our own City of Nanaimo office buildings don’t compost! That’s not acceptable.
- ▶ Incentives to recycle/reuse
- ▶ Incentives to switch to non-fossil fuel energy sources, for research, development, production and end users.
- ▶ Incentivize good behaviour. Carrot more effective than a stick over time
- ▶ “Incorporate nature based solutions to climate impacts in city planning.
  - Preserve natural habitats and green space, near the water, along shorelines often these are natural protections.
  - Stop the conversion of green space to urban development – this is asking to protecting carbon sinks
  - stop building along shorelines, have set backs that allow for habitat migration as water levels fluctuate.”
- ▶ “Increase bike lanes – incentives for biking  
Better urban densifying. IE – no more dodds/lazyboy with no condos above.  
Glass recycling options offered”
- ▶ “Increase charging stations for electric vehicles  
Improved pedestrian and cycling routes from suburban areas – particularly along Hammond Bay from North Nanaimo to Departure bay -- need continuous safe walking  
Walking access / trail from Ferry Terminal to Departure Bay  
Improved public transportation & routes to/ from North nanaimo  
Creation of hospital campus with better walking routes, food and service options, electric charging stations & cycling access plus storage facilities”
- ▶ Increase density downtown and other high use areas (the university and hospital), rather than spreading growth across the city or into undeveloped areas. Urban sprawl isn’t just a problem for the environment, which it very much is, but it’s also going to increase stress on our infrastructure. One of the things nanaimo has going for it is the manageable traffic. One of the worst things is its lack of public transit. It would be easier to increase transit between hubs rather than into every pocket of the city.
- ▶ Increase green spaces at the same time maintaining them to avoid forest fire situations. Living close to Bowen park is sometimes concerning in dry summer periods.
- ▶ Increase in safe bicycle lanes especially to and from and around downtown. Green recycling from residences and parks could be returned to resident once composted down, if desired to encourage gardening, food raising, beautification and air quality (at no cost to homeowner etc.) Subsidise the cost of rain barrels for home owners encouraging collection of rain water to be used during dry summer.
- ▶ “-Increase seaside resiliency by incorporating wetlands into future seaside developpement projects  
”
- ▶ Increase the number of charging stations for electric vehicles. Continue to expand bike lanes along busy

streets so that cyclists are safe. Require developers to leave mature trees on property wherever possible. Make use of existing commercial buildings before adding new ones. Limit future development and add to the existing park in the LinleyValley. Having that large natural area within the city is one of the unique and best things about Nanaimo. It helps clean the air, provides habitat for many species of plants and animals, and allows easy access to nature for residents. People come to live here because of proximity to the natural environment. We do not need to become like other cities with nothing but concrete and buildings.

- ▶ Increase use of electric cars – household charging stations, other incentives; Bylaws or tax addressing excessive CO2 producing vehicles/household Sound bylaws
- ▶ Increased bike lanes, improved transportation system
- ▶ “Increasing the number of transportation alternatives in our City. Adding transit services and cycling infrastructure.”
- ▶ infrastructure for more human powered transport; electric vehicles including buses; more protected green areas; denser neighbourhoods but with close by neighbourhood centres; more community gardens;
- ▶ Installing more round-abouts to reduce GHG emissions. More no idle signage. Work with fast-found drive through sites to find a way to reduce emissions. More electric charging stations at civic facilities.
- ▶ introduce VTOL flights to Vancouver, add two or three Hydrogen Stations in Nanaimo and put the Nanaimo fleets on Hydrogen/battery powered cars and trucks asap
- ▶ Invest in more sidewalks to encourage walking, expand cycling trails.
- ▶ Invest in support infrastructure for electric vehicles; scooters, cars etc.
- ▶ Investing in public transportation and better bike trails in town. We have the train corridor that spans one end of the city to the other. It might be worth using this as a transportation hub.
- ▶ “Investing in transportation alternatives (safe, convenient bike routes) Creative garbage into energy solutions”
- ▶ Investing in urban farms and community growing spaces.
- ▶ It was stunning to see the environmental difference after a few weeks of COVID19 lockdown. The lesson from this is that it is possible to make significant shifts with enough political will power to significantly curb emissions from commuting traffic. Why are there significant political barriers to developing a better public transportation system between cities and within cities rather than having dollars spent on widening highways and roads, enabling through greater and safer bike corridors for both bikes and ebikes.
- ▶ Keep putting in bike lanes to encourage biking instead of cars.
- ▶ Keeping the trees and greenery are vitally important throughout the city. We need to expand our Park land. Developers need to build GREEN. New homes of all types, including patio homes and condos need to be built green. Solar energy and water conservation need to be built into the new buildings. Our built environment needs to change!
- ▶ Large improvement in public transit using electric or hydrogen buses. Bike lanes where appropriate. (I and other seniors with mobility problems are unlikely to benefit from improved bike, scooter provisions)
- ▶ leave the trees alone
- ▶ less driving more green space protect dreams and wet lands
- ▶ lets start by picking up al the garbage flying around near the casino. Garbage!

- ▶ Like many other municipalities, establish a vehicle idling bylaw. Continue to be a good example by replacing City vehicles with green vehicles -- and advertise that well. Offer incentives for residents to purchase "green" vehicles. Research other municipalities and countries to see what works. Reduce the size of buses; smaller buses are adequate for most routes.
- ▶ Limit growth, encouraging electric vehicles (more charging stations) Tree management, forest management, (fire blocks) alternative energy, (wind) tax incentives for solar, solar farms if feasible, wind turbines in ocean if feasible,
- ▶ Limit house lot sizes on new builds because when the lots are so large, everything is so far away and you need to use a vehicle to get to the grocery store, butcher or library.
- ▶ Limit urban sprawl, focus on density, increase efficiency of bike lanes and transit so people do not have to drive and can live more local in their communities
- ▶ Listen to scientists and critically examine all projects through the lens of climate change before they can move forward - make this law. Make it so we have to consider how our actions now will impact the future. Even for the small stuff. Especially for the small stuff. Sometimes starting small and having success, can make tackling the big things seem less insurmountable.
- ▶ Looking at ways to encourage people to travel using alternate transportation.
- ▶ Maintain green spaces, make public transit useful and affordable and continue to encourage paths for electric bikes, scooters, cyclists etc. Hold developers and businesses accountable for the life cycle of their resources and fine hard or revoke permits of rogue developers and non-compliant businesses. Hit them in the pocketbook hard, and they will comply. And reward those who not only meet the requirements, but exceed them, as community leaders.
- ▶ Make biking and walking safer on every street in Nanaimo! Streets are far too busy with cars to feel safe riding bikes and walking.
- ▶ Make biking around town safer and more accessible
- ▶ Make bus system more usable and convenient for people. Given incentives (e.g. tax breaks) for being more environmentally responsible.
- ▶ Make busing more easily accessible and cheaper. Rebate program for e-bikes. Expand the sea wall. While out of your control - make gas super expensive! Advertise and support car sharing.
- ▶ Make commercial flat roofs green roofs. Improve and VASTLY expand transit whilst making it affordable. Increase safe pedestrian and cycling areas. Follow European examples for recycling (honestly, no machines for putting bottles, etc. in yourself????, so much which can be recycled elsewhere ending up in landfill???). Increased cheap parking downtown so people can park and walk.
- ▶ Make compost mandatory for all apartment and condo buildings
- ▶ Make electric vehicles affordable and increase electric charging stations. Encourage reduction of waste and consumption.
- ▶ Make further development more dense and mixed use to reduce the need to drive.
- ▶ Make it financially advantageous to change to a more environmentally sustainable option.
- ▶ Make Nanaimo residents more aware of the environmental impacts they can have
- ▶ "Make Nanaimo walking friendly, there aren't even sidewalks in large parts of town."  
"
- ▶ Make other modes of transportation viable a waterfront walkway connecting to E&N trail and parkway

trail. More EV infrastructure. Better transit especially to outer areas.

- ▶ Make streets safer for cyclists
- ▶ Make stricter and more far-reaching regulations for all new homes and other buildings (not just “encouragement”) offer and actively promote programs to upgrade older homes and buildings restrict and even prohibit building on environmentally-sensitive land unless strong mitigation infrastructure can be demonstrated; continue Nanaimo’s tree planting program in boulevards of new and existing neighbourhoods; continue Nanaimo’s cycling and inter-city multi-purpose trail infrastructure development to encompass all areas of the City.
- ▶ Make the city more walkable by creating cut-through walking paths in neighborhoods. Protect trees, protect streams and rivers and protect all wildlife by banning all poisons.
- ▶ Make the city more walkable. Connect sidewalks. Develop trail systems that offer a transportation mindset for safety and practicality. Make public transportation FUN and easy. Cluster services so people don’t have to travel as much.
- ▶ Make work and home closer.
- ▶ making areas of shopping and living more walkable. I don’t even mean from your house, but from store to store. You have to take your own life in your hands to walk between Woodgrove and Costco. Fences are all around Costco so you can’t get to the neighbouring stores. Please place parking in the backs of stores and put store fronts near the road – like in Vancouver to promote ‘closeness’ of more stores and walkability between them.
- ▶ “Making the right decision the easy decision for residents is the best way to go. That is make pedestrian and biking corridors safe, attractive and available.

Make public transit a priority. Consider transit hailing in low volume areas, particularly with the advent of self driving vehicles. Transit availability needs to allow people to get to work early in the morning and leave after the last shift. Transit users are often low income earners who will not be as interested in participating in this type of opportunity for input.

Denser communities and development is entirely appropriate to reduce energy needs. “

- ▶ “Making use of rooftop spaces (and other parts of building envelopes) for gardens and trees/shrubs to mitigate carbon footprint  
Incorporating more renewable energy into our grid  
Incentives for buying locally  
Incentives for sustainable food producers  
”
- ▶ Mandate all business/plazas/malls,ect in Nanaimo have a plan for PROPER recycling and waste management. Cardboard and Garbage bins are not enough.
- ▶ Meet UN set goal. Zero emission 2035
- ▶ Mitigation: electrify everything. Adaptation: maintain and improve ecological function – protect and expand greenways, remove invasives, expand and protect riparian areas and floodplains. Fight dumping. Consider ecological reserves. Promote native gardening and local food growing.
- ▶ More access to local food! More out reach programs for schools (field trips, presenters, interactive presentations to be brought into classrooms) kids are the future!
- ▶ More access to variety of transportation options. More green space for walking.

- ▶ More active transportation infrastructure! No more malls in the north end that force everyone to drive to. Create communities that are walkable and cycleable within town. Urban infill development.
- ▶ More active transportation within and out of the city
- ▶ More affordable reusable energy sources for the public. Such as, solar panels and wind turbines. As well as, more green spaces and less deforesting.
- ▶ More bicycle friendly roads, more walkable downtown core
- ▶ “-more bike and walking paths
  - incentives for e-bikes
  - neighbourhood planning to prioritize walkable cities (I see that it’s in the planning documents!!)
  - free transit for youth and those living in poverty
  - electric buses
  - covered bus stops
  - more electric vehicle infrastructure
  - zero-emission ferries where possible
  - doughnut economy/circular economy
  - avoid aiming for infinite growth as business model
  - protect more natural spaces
  - agriculture hubs/local agriculture
  - library of things/tool co-op
  - more farming in SD68 schools
  - implement more rigorous building/development/renovation codes/bylaws/incentives for green initiatives
  - encourage heat pump installation
  - discourage fossil fuel home heating (ban natural gas on new builds)
- ▶ more bike lanes and make it easier for people to bike and lock up bikes safely.
- ▶ More bike lanes with barriers from cars, more green spaces
- ▶ More bike lanes. Affordable Hybrid cars. More effective Transit system.
- ▶ More bike trail systems
- ▶ More bus stop shelters
- ▶ “More compact construction in downtown core.  
Ban freighters from off shore moorage “
- ▶ More convenient public transit especially outside of the downtown core.
- ▶ more cycle ways and COMPLETE THE CYCLE WAYS YOU HAVE STARTED THERE IS NO NETWORK COME ON
- ▶ More education on using non polluting transportation. More bike trails. Finishing the waterfront walk way asap
- ▶ More electric charging stations, more emphasis on bicycle lanes, densification of and more mixed-use construction
- ▶ “More EV charging infrastructure. I love how much there is and I can’t wait for there to be more. I also love to see bike lanes going up around town and a focus on making Nanaimo not so car-dependent!

We should use the BC StepCode to be more progressive in building requirements for new builds, and offer additional incentives for people and businesses looking to minimize their fossil fuel use (and

electricity, to some degree)."

- ▶ "More free ev charging stations  
Secure ebike lockers  
Better linked trails for cycling"
- ▶ More friendly environmental vehicles
- ▶ More garbage cans along the street would be helpful to keep things clean
- ▶ More green buildings, more farming and gardening, more bicycles and motorcycles as modes of transportation. While electric cars are very appealing I need more info on the impacts of the batteries, mining and the implication of increased hydro use if fully adopted. I think a big issue is single drivers commuting in huge SUVs and trucks. If we could wean people off that first and go to electric it would be more powerful.
- ▶ More green space and less car traffic through alternative transportation
- ▶ More green spaces, more community gardens, incorporate green spaces into future building, no zero lot line dense housing developments. Use industrial "smoke stack scrubbers" and other technology to filter the toxic waste, some even turn it into steam etc. to heat the buildings, all industry should be using this, it's been around for many years.
- ▶ More municipal regulation of residents behavior to help motivate individuals to make better choices with respect to the environment and significantly more planning, regulation and enforcement with respect to development and it's impact on the local environment.
- ▶ More natural landscaping, push to reduce environmental impacts from new buildings & new cars. Emphasis on education about natural events like annual salmon run. Cleaning green spaces & parks/beaches
- ▶ More sustainable logging practices in the forests surrounding Nanaimo; incentives to get people out of their cars and using alternative transportation; educational workshops to help people understand the importance of reducing carbon footprints and also on topics like starting your own backyard gardens, saving seeds and organic gardening practices. Solutions need to be brainstormed to get a handle on the amount of illegal dumping that is taking place.
- ▶ more trails like the E&N Trail
- ▶ "MORE TREES in Nanaimo  
less clearing of trees in Nanaimo  
less pollution in Nanaimo"
- ▶ More trees in parking lots, and city corridors. Redevelop side walks into bicycle friendly paths with deciduous nature runs and drought resistant vegetation. Shade prevents heat in Summer keeping us all cool.
- ▶ More trees. New flood maps needed - climate change makes maps obsolete in a few years. More bike paths, esp in direct links between major hubs like VIU, downtown, malls. Promote smaller lots and small houses, connected row/townhouses. Ensure traffic patterns and entrances that prevent having to drive around neighborhoods and shopping areas. Zone to add little shops in residential neighborhoods for essentials, to prevent having to drive to stores for basics. Charging stations for electric vehicles incl bikes.
- ▶ More trees. The city should work to maintain more of the mature trees as long as they are safe. There should be more difficulty for a homeowner or developer to remove healthy trees. Trees are an important CO2 sink.

- ▶ More usable public transportation, ban plastic bags, more recycling options to reuse
- ▶ More walking and biking paths and engagement strategies to get people to use them. Easier recycling!
- ▶ more walkable communities, better public transport, incentives for builders/ homeowners to switch to renewable energy/ create wildlife areas on their property, more wildlife friendly developments and building practices
- ▶ More walking and bike lanes. More clarity from the City on whether a white painted line on a road indicates a walking/cycling path or a "fog" lane, whatever that is in real life.
- ▶ "Motivation to have "car free" days  
Teaching kids the value of growing your own produce/food  
Make electric cars more affordable (that's more a provincial/federal thing but still important)  
Encourage home owners to install solar panels  
Bigger (and less restrictions) on our recycling bins. My family aims to recycle as much as possible – yet the city no longer takes everything since we have upgraded to the bins. "
- ▶ Move from car-focused to active transportation-focused
- ▶ "Much of Nanaimo was built without thought for human powered transportation. It was also built on the notion that you could separate large swaths of residential only areas from any kind of economic activity, recreation, or even school attendance. These things should be a 15 - 20 minute walk from anyone's home. Ideally we start to redevelop communities and all our neighbourhoods to allow for these things to be the new normal.

We also need to start to intensify all residential areas and create welcoming common public meeting spaces where intensity is highest.

Finally we also need to invest heavily in better public transportation. If it is not convenient it will not get used. We should seriously look for an invest in public transportation hailing apps where density does not allow for regular transit routes. "

- ▶ My wife and I are planning to buy an electric car. We walk most places for groceries and medical which is why we live in downtown.
- ▶ Nanaimo cannot have a meaningful effect on climate change. It can only respond. That said, encouraging walking and cycling has both environmental and personal health benefits, (and I could add, supports youth and the poor). And it's rather pointless to try and reduce pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from cars and houses when there's a pulp mill here. I mean, c'mon, address the few big things before you go after the many little things.
- ▶ Nanaimo has a bad litter problem and with it being a port city I'm sure alot of garbage ended up in the ocean. Have a better city clean up program, maybe incentivize the less fortunate to be able to make money from picking up trash (pay by weight) and put proper bins for recycling instead of just trash cans around town.
- ▶ Nanaimo has started by changing the way we dispose of our garbage. Much improved over the years. Fortis is setting a good example and the City is too with charging stations at the hospital etc.
- ▶ "Nanaimo is capable of creating an amazing bike path system. There is not a lot of traffic in relative terms, we have the land around the railway and if wee build a great biking environment eco tourism will also thrive.  
I would love to see a drive clean program implemented in BC. There are way too many dirty vehicles on the road.

The city definitely lacks sidewalks.”

- ▶ Nanaimo is set up for drivers. It is very difficult to safely walk or cycle anywhere. We have bike paths and sidewalks that just end. We have communities with schools that have no sidewalks so kids can walk to school. We need to make commuting by foot or hike safe and accessible in all communities.
- ▶ Nanaimo is so spread out- communities needs to be designed with urban planning –get cars off the road build neighbour hoods provide bus to school
- ▶ “Nanaimo suffers from years of bad land use planning, so moving forward the City needs to reduce it’s sprawl. If the city continues to sprawl (and the RDN)) then it becomes more costly to provide infrastructure for greener modes of transportation such as bikes and transit. Huge areas of the city have no services (restaurants, grocery stores, medical facilities) so residents living in Hammond Bay and similar areas drive large distances every day to access these things.

The city also keeps allowing large new commercial retail buildings to be constructed this in turn contributes to increased greenhouse gas emissions. This makes no sense when there are so many large retail structures empty throughout the city.

I have not seen much leadership in terms of mitigating and adapting for climate change. I have lived in the region for 16 years and in that time there has been unchecked development which has just taken off exponentially in the last 5 years.

Tying to commute to work by bike is so difficult and dangerous as the bike infrastructure has not been increased to allow cyclists to travel safely, especially in the north part of the city. This is a city where the car/trucks rule.

The city has also allowed a lot of questionable residential development to occur on sensitive ecosystems, on hillsides prone to erosion which has resulted in large retaining walls being constructed, and a loss of unique Garry Oak habitat. This will likely become a problem in the future if we continue to have more extreme weather events that bring large amounts of rainfall with them. The same can be said for development near streams and lakes in the region. Most of this happened years ago, but does limit the cities ability to protect these sensitive ecosystems, and allow a buffer for flooding, etc.”

- ▶ “Natural spaces will reduce the impact of climate change. Deforestation in the city creates heat islands which will make summer days unbearable. The current trend of bulldozing all the green spaces and paving them will make it very uncomfortable to live. I would like to see shade-providing trees either left standing or replanted in all parking lots areas. I would also like to see more projects such as the Departure Creek enhancement project take place to encourage salmon in our streams again and create a sense of nature in the city. Impacts to urban streams and wetlands related to human activities due to development is very important to me.  
”
- ▶ Nature also gives off huge amounts of CO2. This is assuming that mankind is the sole culprit in some of these questions.
- ▶ Neighborhood and building design should put an emphasis on green space and mixed use space to decrease GHG. This could look like the use of plants in building exteriors to help maintain internal temperatures, therefore reducing the need for various heating/cooling solutions. More outdoor green spaces for children to play that may also create a safe Avenue for active transportation. Mixed use buildings to reduce the need for residents to use vehicles to achieve daily activities such as going to the store, pharmacy, or cafe.

- ▶ No allowing to clearcut on private land; more enforcement of riparian area protection; incentives to homeowners to green their homes and yards; shift from current farming practices (especially dairy and horse farms) to regenerative farming; greater taxes on the biggest local ghg emitters, re-wilding the city (exposing and replanting creeks, more greenery, no more 'useless' landscaping – landscape for the future.
- ▶ No further waterfront development. All vacant and derelict waterfront in the city should be considered green space. Owners of derelict waterfront property with no immediate plans to redevelop should have them expropriated and repurposed.
- ▶ No I am not a member of the Green Party, but I do believe in being green and believe that focus on the above can have positive economic benefits. Encourage/challenge Nanaimoites to get out of their cars (so many families biking and walking together during COVID is fantastic – make it lifelong habits). There will be many that won't so YES push for a transition to electric vehicles and incentives including rebates and free financing. Same with solar. More walk friendly and mobility challenged friendly business access especially on the north. Improve transit ridership by lessening the stigma and improving routes by having more direct lines, few more connecting depots and smaller community buses for localized and tourism runs. Buy only what you need so you can spend more on experiences (local entertainment, local recreation/tourism, local and international travel) rather than garbage. Finally, keep Nanaimo lush green to help offset carbon gases.
- ▶ "No idling signs in parks and community areas. Slower traffic on streets without sidewalks reduced to 20 klm."
- ▶ No more clear cuts. Selective logging. Neighbourhood community gardens.
- ▶ no permanent housing or businesses allowed within 2 blocks of the waterfront .Implement an " Islanders first " buying and rental option , to keep housing affordable for those who have been raised here and who will soon have to leave the island because of unaffordable rents going to new comers. Bring back the small farms that used to be all around before the housing boom.
- ▶ None
- ▶ Not too sure. Every person needs to get doing their part.
- ▶ Nothing the climate has and always will change!
- ▶ Permaculture methods, planting of native species for the support of wildlife and responsible harvesting by people for crafts and medicine. Food forests which are able to sustain themselves and wildlife etc.
- ▶ Place rental bikes across the city.
- ▶ Planning for density, limit sprawl to reduce vehicle trips, more efficient transit. Make "15-minute " neighborhoods with amenities within walking distance.
- ▶ Plant more drought-resistant shade trees. Developers who cut mature trees should be required to pay for several new tree plantings for each old tree removed. Trees need to be cared for though as some new developments already have young trees dying from lack of watering.
- ▶ "Plant more trees – more shade/clearer air/animal habitat.  
Safe bicycle trails (with physical barriers from vehicle traffic)  
Sidewalks in all areas of city to encourage people to walk rather than drive."
- ▶ plant more trees ,cut less of them need more green spaces and more litter clean ups
- ▶ "Planting trees and permaculture on a municipal level  
Regenerating soil  
Creating community gardens

Master recycling

Community planning and education

Infrastructure to support sustainable activities.

Local community Centres or hubs using vacant buildings or lots to implement all these ideas and activities and to serve as trade/sorting, drop off and education centres all over the city.

Apps to direct people to their local centre or hub programs.

Etc.”

- ▶ Please consult with local P.Engs, P.Geos and RPBios to determine best and innovative practices for Nanaimo.
- ▶ PLEASE require/create infrastructure for condominiums/apartment buildings to start composting and recycling. My current building only has garbage disposal. Everything else I need to take myself to Alpine or Nanaimo Recycling center. I drop my compost off at a friend’s house.
- ▶ Please utilize our existing infrastructure to build more housing (i.e. infill vs new subdivisions). focus on creating ‘villages’ when building new subdivisions (i.e. create around a small business center where people can walk to a coffee shop, grocery store). No more large commercial spaces that rely on vehicles to get to!
- ▶ Prepare for climate change impacts in community planning, including for those who are vulnerable (elderly, homeless, poor).
- ▶ Prioritize and emphasize the importance of Indigenous wisdom, make it mandatory curriculum in our schools. Make gardens at every school and make gardening part of the core curriculum. Promote farm to table in our local restaurants. Grow more of the food we need year round- more greenhouses and indoor growing so we import less. Create a concrete plan to set up the infrastructure and incentives to become as carbon neutral as much and as soon as possible. Transition to non-carbon fueled vehicles as soon as possible. Set strict laws, high incentives and guidelines for green building and technology. Ban plastic bags and wrapping. City wide comprehensive education program about eco-friendly & green living (reduce, reuse, recycle, conserve water & energy, etc). Ban toxic chemical products. Invest in and support more co-housing projects.
- ▶ Promote active transport and and have safe bike ways
- ▶ Promoting and rewarding lower carbon usage. Encouraging electric and solar.
- ▶ “Protect biodiversity.  
Densify.  
Promote walking/biking/mass transit.”
- ▶ Protect environmentally sensitive areas from housing/industry development.
- ▶ Protect environmentally sensitive areas from urban development
- ▶ “Protect forested areas. Purchase forest/natural lands from private landowners to grow the protection of natural areas. More natural areas = better air quality, more CO2 absorption.  
Also, increase the bike-ability of the city by adding bike lanes and sidewalks for walking. Increase connections to natural areas so that cyclists and pedestrians can safely travel to natural areas.”
- ▶ Protect Gary Oak and agricultural lands and increase land use while improving building standards through retrofit subsidies. Enhance use of green electric power fo transport , heat, light. Develop local green electric power generation
- ▶ protect green space, encourage residential planting of trees to beautify city

- ▶ Protect more green space in new residential developments by passing a bylaw that specifies a certain amount of the natural habitat be preserved.
- ▶ Protect what you already have FIRST. Bike lanes are not being used while the homeless are using them, which they certainly do on the E&N Trail. Nobody can afford electric vehicles because wages are stagnant and rents are out of control. Please protect our nature. Once you mow it down, it's gone for good. If we wanted to live in a concrete city, we can move to Victoria or Vancouver. Keep our waterways and greenspaces.
- ▶ Provide incentives for renewable energy generation (e.g. solar). Encourage less car use through better transit, more cycling and walking routes. Ban single use plastics. Don't permit development on current green spaces (e.g. Linley Valley). Create a pedestrian-only zone in the downtown core. Create a community-wide sustainability initiative, to include major employers (eg. NRGH, VIU), small businesses, neighbourhood groups, to generate collaborative ideas and actions.
- ▶ "Provide services and work within a 15-min commute from home to encourage people to walk, bike, reduce carbon emissions.  
Continue to provide recycling and composting services within the City to reduce waste  
Connect green spaces and trails and create more green space as the City grows"
- ▶ Provide the infrastructure for more sustainable transport – streets good for walking and cycling.
- ▶ "Public transport and government vehicles should be converted to cleaner running methods. Private vehicles should be encouraged to used alternative methods of transport but NOT mandatory. Producing and disposing of electrical engines is problematic. "
- ▶ Quality multi family buildings that increase density. Urban sprawl is far too common. Build dense, provide transit and other options, ensure buildings are designed for middle to higher income families like three to four bedroom condos with communal playgrounds, outdoor kitchens etc.
- ▶ Question: why do condo's not recycle organic waste? The rest of us do our part. Why are they not required to also be part of the solution?
- ▶ Rampant clearcutting for new housing and commercial developments must stop. The downtown communities must be made safer to encourage development of high-rise and high density housing, so that urban sprawl is stopped, and people are encouraged to live in a vibrant and safe downtown.
- ▶ rapid transit, more frequent bus system. smaller buses.
- ▶ Really not much Nanaimo can do its a world issue. But would like to see more stations set up for electric vehicles, better bus routes to encourage people to get out of cars, and in new development make sure developers build in more green areas.
- ▶ "Recreate natural shores. Retain local landscape. Soil, trees, shrubs, animals are all carbon sinks. Buying carbon credits does not support regeneration of 150 years of depletion of native ecosystems. Increase park focus on retaining, regeneration, connectivity of Garry Oak and associated ecosystems by sourcing local planting of native plants. Stop park benches on native habitats. Support alligator lizards, butterflies, sparrows.  
Intensive education on the limitation of our finite Island geography. The demands of our city lifestyle is not sustainable. City staff must shift these plans based on 20C values. The 21C crisis arises from 18, 19 20C growth of economies. "
- ▶ "Recycling facilities are important and need to be accessible. Large organizations such as City of Nanaimo, SD68 and VIU need to be investigated to see if paper recycling is actually being recycled and waste is being properly directed properly. Larger facilities should be the focus of green initiatives such as

large building and business.

“

- ▶ Recycling!!!! Protected areas where there is high biodiversity. Education. More bike routes and lanes to make it safer for people to ride their bikes (we have the perfect climate for it). Victoria is a great example of a livable city which encourages active transportation.
- ▶ Reduce amount of plastics (like bags in grocery stores), increase knowledge & education around recycling & composting, creating safer & accessible bike lanes, provide an incentive for eco-friendly behaviour, stop development on nature areas (linley valley, lantzville foothills), switch all city government cars to electric when they need to be replaced, more education in general on climate change, improve recycling system, workshops to help people learn how to garden or more accessible community gardens, more emphasize on regenerative power
- ▶ Reduce consumption. Increase density of housing amenities and services. Meet the evolving building codes and adapt the increasing environmental technologies as they become available
- ▶ Reduce driving single-occupancy vehicles, including EVs, which still take up road and parking spaces. Make transit easy to use, with frequent buses and good connections. Put convenient passenger trains on the E&N.
- ▶ “Reduce greenhouse gases  
Provide more education and information on the subject “
- ▶ Reduce impervious surfaces, plant street trees, remove excessive road widths. Provide grants to home owners to install electric vehicle chargers, solar installations, etc. Wood stove exchange program.
- ▶ “Reduce individual transport.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/environmental-indicators/greenhouse-gas-emissions.html>

Transportation and oil & gas are the largest sectors when it comes to emissions.

The only way to do that is to stop increasing roads and road widths for more and faster cars, and instead build infrastructure for walking, cycling, and shared transport.”

- ▶ Reduce the use of single use plastics like coffee/drink cups, and straws. Add more sidewalks and crosswalks. Add more electric car chargers to parking lots.
- ▶ reducing and recycling of commercial / retail/ construction waste. For example, only household plastics are accepted at the recycling center, whereas a business has to pay to recycle-- therefore it is not even encouraged/attempted to separate garbage. I know this because (my family's) employers do not recycle anything-- it is cheaper to just dump it.
- ▶ Reducing CO2 emissions especially through the use of personal vehicles as the primary mode of transportation through increased active transportation corridors, improving the public transportation system, incentivizing electric cars, and reducing parking space. Reduce the loss of habitat and biodiversity by reducing the urban sprawl through focusing on building a compact city. Eliminate single use plastic, including Styrofoam take-out containers. Implement a green building standard and upgrade buildings to reduce their emissions and meet the green standard.
- ▶ Reducing greenhouse emissions from buildings and vehicles is key.

- ▶ “Reducing water usage in industry and residences  
Requiring energy efficient buildings”
- ▶ Regenerative Agriculture management of our soils in urban, rural and natural local environments.
- ▶ Regular park and beach clean ups. encouraging schools to be involved and young groups like cubs/  
scouts, girl guides etc. Education is very important as our young people will be inheriting our messes  
Creating more safe bike pathways
- ▶ remove the incentive to drive so much. Nanaimo is small. It should be walkable and bikeable. Transit  
is awfully slow and inconsistent. Improve those features at the same time as reducing road availability.  
Bowen road should be 1 much narrower lane in each direction. widen sidewalks and bike lanes. That’s just  
one example. Do the same to the highway running through downtown. It cuts most of nanaimo off from  
the waterfront etc. Reduce it. Tax houses on the number of cars they have. Add an additional tax on gas  
to pay for increased transit and active transportation infrastructure. Stop allowing developers to shave  
new housing developments bare of any plant life before building new homes.
- ▶ ““Removing trees is a gain not a loss. There are many smaller varieties of trees that  
are better suited to an urban environment and don’t pose the fire hazard that large  
trees do such as happened in Kelowna and elsewhere.  
Mature native trees do not belong in a city; they are a hazard to life and property.  
The city willfully puts people’s lives and property at risk through the tree protection  
bylaw as well as devaluing property and expropriating value without negotiation or  
compensation. The bylaw exists for the benefit of those who are not affected by it  
and It is a violation of a human right as it denies individuals the right to enjoy  
there property in the manner in which they choose, as is available to those who don’t  
have unwanted trees. All of the problems associated with having unwanted trees  
fall on the land owner while all benefits go to those who covet the trees and are willing  
to use the power of government to steal the tree owner’s rights.

-----  
 Anthropogenic climate change is hoax and a scam  
 so say the experts:

Following is a quote from Dr. Ottmar Endenhofer  
 IPCC co-chair of Working Group #3,  
 November 13, 2010 interview H/t Dr. Charles Battig

“We UN-IPCC redistribute de facto the world’s  
 wealth by climate policy...”  
 “One has to free oneself from the illusion that  
 international climate policy is environmental policy.  
 This has almost nothing to do with environmental  
 policy any more...” and it never did .

-----  
 And if you haven’t noticed, the rate of sea level rise has not changed and there is no  
 reason why it should in the future no matter what ‘Inconvenient Lies’ Al Gore spins.  
 ”

- ▶ Requirement that all new development include use of alternate energies.
- ▶ Requiring developments to have improve green canopy, walkability
- ▶ Resilient construction where possible (fire resistant, flood resistant, distributed power system).

Naturalising the foreshore, replacing breakwaters with marshes and retreat from the rising water levels.

- ▶ Retail is concentrated to North and (to a lesser extent) Central Nanaimo. Living in South Nanaimo, this means that we have to drive for shopping. The closest retail from where I live is 4 km, which takes 55 minutes to walk one way. The new Sandstone development may change that, but at an enormous cost as road system development to handle increased traffic has not been adequately addressed. Any accident on Cranberry or Esxtension will cause enormous problems even today. Furthermore, a lot of our trail and green areas will be impacted, e.g., a trail from Beadall Road now has a Private Property sign. Quality of life and biodiversity must be part of any development plan.
- ▶ Retain existing tracts of forests. If at possible make more parkland and don't let landowners cut down all the trees with the promise of planting more in the future. Trees in the future don't help now.
- ▶ "Retain mature trees and plant more. We need many more trees fir shade and to clean the air."  
"
- ▶ "Retain trees before planting, reduce vehicle traffic, promote foot/pedal and public transportation, promote wind and solar energy (grants, etc.), ban burning & fireworks and reduce woodstove emissions."  
"
- ▶ "Reusing existing, empty properties instead of clearing land to make new buildings.

If new land is needed for development, don't allow developers to cut down every single tree in the property. Require that they leave older growth trees intact. Require landscaping that captures rainfall instead of clearing all the vegetation and putting in rocks and hard pack soil that repels all water. "

- ▶ Reward low emission practices with credit, discount incentives, bins for bottles like Vancouver for bottle collectors, glass recycle for home pick up if possible. Preserve nature and wildlife through education.
- ▶ Robust transit system including cycling/rolling/accessibility, support local food systems, indigenous leadership on land stewardship and development, move away from cruise ship industry / tourism and pulp/paper/logging.
- ▶ See today,s article in "LinkedIn" the 15 min City. Unfortunately, I don't have much confidence in the City of Nanaimo management team. They are too preoccupied with their own interests i.e. higher salaries . Little imagination
- ▶ Small farms
- ▶ Smaller busses that run more often. Busses that are free for an extended period of time to promote use. Encourage environmentally green buildings. Encourage alternate transportation options.
- ▶ "Spend serious financial energy to enable safe bicycle travel that is separate from walking traffic and car traffic. Reduce speed limits in residential neighbourhoods (to 30) and inter-neighbourhood roads (to 45). Car and truck traffic generally travels 10km or more above posted speed limit so they will go the present speed limit. There are very few safe travel lanes for bikes. The hierarchy of disrespect has to be dealt with - cars/trucks disrespect bicycles bicycles disrespect pedestrians and dogs. European style bike lanes and traffic control deal with this hierarchy.

Lobby government financial assistance to help people to refit their houses and businesses to reduce energy waste; and to move away from fossil fuel by augmented BC hydro electric costs with solar panel installation. This also helps self-sufficiency. "

- ▶ Spending more on active transportation infrastructure.
- ▶ Start by trying to make it more bike and pedestrian friendly. Have better planned communities so people

don't need to drive everywhere i.e. think like a city

- ▶ Start small- put more garbage cans downtown, pick up the trash on the ground, organize stream cleaning, shore cleaning and wilderness cleaning outings. Worry about the big stuff when the small stuff is under control.
- ▶ start with more bike paths and improved bus system
- ▶ Stay out of my utility room...its not up to you how I want to heat my house.
- ▶ "Stop all use of drive throughs for food pick up. The industry will say - look how important they are during COVID-19. So, like airbags in a car or fire escapes, you only use them in emergencies. It's crazy to sit in an idling car to get a cup of coffee. Enforce anti-idling regulations, e.g. delivery people always leave their truck or car on while making a delivery."
- ▶ Stop building out, build up! Nanaimo is simply become a plethora of strip-malls and unconnected neighbourhoods.
- ▶ Stop clear cutting North Nanaimo. Sign still up saying "Tree sensitive area" while area being clearcut. Stop building high density housing. Stop building huge homes on small lots. Stop cutting down all the trees. Stop allowing variances to builders/developers. Why do we have bylaws and regulations? Why is my postal code not in your system? I live and pay property taxes to The City of Nanaimo.
- ▶ Stop clearing forested lands for new development, use up existing spaces. Stop allowing huge houses to be built with big price tags. Encourage the development of multi level container units & tiny house neighbourhoods for low income housing. Require green rooves & green walls be incorporated into new developments. Encourage multi use of existing houses with carriage houses & suites. Make any low rise apt or condo units incorporate a neighbourhood concept with green spaces on, in & around the units. Protect & enhance water courses.
- ▶ "Stop cutting all trees, including logging outside cities. Have electric public transportation. Have train available on Vancouver Island. Stop burning wood at homes, camp sites, liquidate fire pits in yards, fire places at homes. Increase electric house heating. Stop installing bright white unhealthy lights on Nanaimo streets. EDUCATE public about respect and care for Environment, Nature, Trees. Stop using chemicals on lawns, the ones TruGreen uses. EDUCATE. Save more new space for more Parks."  
"
- ▶ "Stop cutting any trees on private and city properties: SAVE EVERY TREE. Electricity for vehicles and heating houses. Promote solar panels and roof gardens on buildings. Promote rain gardens. Promote vegetable/flour/perennial gardens instead of grass. Stop using pesticides and herbicides in whole City. Stop selling them in Nanaimo stores: yes, they have impact on climate. Promote vegetarian, healthy diet. Forbid using of gasoline powered machines: promote electric tools of any kind. Forbid use of leaf blowers. Educate, educate, educate about it, especially newcomers."  
"
- ▶ Stop old growth logging. Build/ buy modular homes for the homeless population. Improve waterfront. Move any unnecessary industry, along the waterfront. Minimize clearing mature trees. Building permits should make environmental protection a priority.
- ▶ Stop sprawl. No greenfield development!!!
- ▶ Stop urban sprawl. Densify existing urban sprawl. Urgently construct Electric light rail transit utilizing at least the existing E&N right of way. All of it, from Victoria to Port Alberni and Campbell River.
- ▶ Strengthen the tree management bylaw to reduce continued loss of mature trees from private properties

and new development. This has a significant impact on climate change mitigation, protecting biodiversity and riparian areas, minimize flooding and erosion as well as keeping buildings and houses cooler by providing shade, which in turn reduces electricity use for air conditioning and cooling costs.

- ▶ Strong protection for green spaces and parks, support for car share business, development bylaws to protect trees and environment
- ▶ Subsidize and encourage “green” businesses
- ▶ Support food sustainability, local agriculture, local food production and distribution.
- ▶ Support green initiatives with tax friendly solutions
- ▶ Switch streetlights out quicker. Safe (separated from vehicles) pathways for cycles. Sidewalks. Very few in my neighborhood.
- ▶ “Tackling plastic pollution and pursuing zero waste  
Green buildings  
Sustainable urban planning  
Making transportation sustainable”
- ▶ take a phased approach – ie replace city vehicles with environmentally friendly as they age out – insure new city bldgs comply with friendly technology – and provide incentives to companies and citizens to do likewise
- ▶ Tax carbon intensive activities; use the money to encourage low carbon activities – make the environmental choice the easiest choice for individuals to make
- ▶ Taxes for higher emissions or rebates for greener individuals / businesses / industry
- ▶ “The central, easy to use recycling depot was very important – bring it back.  
Ban styrofoam in local business.  
Improve transit.”
- ▶ The city has done pretty good with this but I think we could always improve. Things could be like having places where people could bring their used belonging that maybe aren’t ready to go to dump yet so things can be reused. If city building also created alternative ways to be powered, like solar panels.
- ▶ The city needs to do all it can to encourage energy efficiency renovations to our existing building stock, require all new builds to be built to maximum energy efficiency, encourage every building with appropriate siting to have solar pv on the roof.
- ▶ “The City needs to give consideration to alternative dwellings, including minimum square feet on new residential buildings, carriage houses, tiny houses, apartment suites, living in RVs and boats. Many citizens are looking for creative ways to live that limit their impact on the environment, and the City should be looking for innovative solutions to work with these communities. Many citizens are impeded from moving forward with these alternative living arrangements because of archaic City bylaws. I understand the need for safe waste management, fire protections and other sanitary and safety considerations, but the City should be working with these communities to develop viable solutions to living in standard housing arrangements.  
Alternative dwellings are an integral component to environmental sustainability.”
- ▶ The city of Nanaimo to own and operate a non-profit recycling facility, create more dense neighborhoods to increase active transportation, offer free public transit to encourage the use of it, more bike lanes/ improved walking routes.
- ▶ The City should develop a process to ensure that an “Environmental Considerations” lens is applied to

operations and planning activities the City is engaged in. Also, the term "Climate Crisis" is more accurate. I encourage the City to adopt his term.

- ▶ The city should plant (and then maintain so they live) more trees. Often the boulevard trees planted by developer are not maintained (watered and replaced if dead) and so they just die.
- ▶ The government and building code already has plans to restrict the carbon footprint of Canada. Our municipality should focus on what affects our community such as prevention of flooding (updating our flood map system), maintaining our drinking water and continuing to protect our ecosystems while supporting construction and development.
- ▶ The interconnected trail system that I've seen mentioned in the planning overview is great – having bike lanes completely separated from roads (as opposed to on the side of a lane) – more hybrid or full electric vehicle infrastructure – new builds must have nature around them – calmed roads
- ▶ The public areas like downtown, parks and even outside of malls should have more, better and well kept disposal bins.
- ▶ ""-The RDN used to have a rebate program for water collection systems. Please bring it back.
  - get neighbourhoods to get involved in FireSmart program
  - purchase more park lands
  - hold developers accountable who level properties of all trees and leave them vacant for years. Increased winds on neighbours, soil disrupted, tree roots impacted on nearby properties, broom grows, dumping occurs etc etc. "
- ▶ The world needs to become involved. With out everyone becoming involved there is virtually no impact.
- ▶ ""There appears very little the city can regulate to reduce the majority of the regional carbon pollution by the general public. I think one important area that can help is by increasing the communications of the issues with the public. I think it now needs to be in everyone's vision that solutions require more voluntary participation and commitment by the public. At present, one can live uninformed within this city and see no visible signs of concern. Business-as-usual seems very prevalent and normal but unfortunately this will lead to avoidable hardship. The sooner we change our ways the easier it will be. It's likely that every dollar spent on carbon emission reduction now will be a fraction of the resulting costs later. The majority of cars travelling about are single occupancy and many are large vehicles, with typically nothing in the back box or hatch. It appears to be a very affluent society with ample discretionary income. In fact, according to "Our Ecological Footprint: Reducing Human Impact on the Earth" written by William Reese in 1996, the average Canadian is living well into "overshoot" well beyond sustainable capabilities. We are living way beyond our needs and carrying capacity of our planet; we can afford to do better; it would be prudent and would help our climate debt and climate justice tensions for us to do so. Without a considerable efforts from the public, very little can be accomplished. Therefore I take the liberty to suggest some costs and efforts be spent on creating additional and appropriate communications with the public. I can see Nanaimo has great opportunity for actual roadside signage. With very few strategically placed signs a significant number of people would be exposed to ongoing reminders of the climate emergency situation. I envision a sign just prior to the intersection at the bottom of Brechin Road to be seen by all car occupants coming off the ferry and another on the Duke Point Road with others at the highways entering the city from both directions. With very few signs and therefore small expense many people would be exposed to some reminders. Here are some of my ideas of the type of things that could be presented on such signage.

Welcome to Nanaimo

A Designated Climate Emergency Area

Please participate in the efforts

-Many people in this city are working diligently to address this emergency designation



- 1) This is a no idle zone; please turn off your vehicle at every appropriate opportunity
- 2) Carpool, car-share or take transit more regularly, use an appropriately sized vehicle for the task and plan use of vehicle to enable fewer trips.
- 3) Purchase or use an electric vehicle and/or solar panels when appropriate and possible.
- 4) Enjoy the beautiful outdoors and climate by participating in active transportation; walk or ride bicycles as much as possible.
- 5) Enjoy more active sports and leisure and avoid petroleum sports. Nanaimo has very active outdoor recreation clubs such as kayak, canoe, and mountain bike clubs. Enjoy getting fit and have some adventure.
- 6) Turn the thermostat down and put on a sweater participate by retrofitting your home to reduce energy consumption and fossil fuel use.
- 7) Reduce, reuse, repair, rebuild, rehabilitate, recycle and retool as much as possible.
- 8) Think globally and act locally as others are much more vulnerable to climate change affects.
- 9) Spread the word, build awareness. Whether poor or wealthy please participate with the efforts; the larger your carbon footprint the greater the need for your participation.
- 10) Remember, if you don't become part of the solution then you're part of the problem.

Thank you for your cooperation.

This is likely too wordy for signage but it's the ideas only that I'm expressing. Like many advertisements, a larger message could be presented in other places like in the Nanaimo Bulletin and within typical mail outs such as User Rate billings. Then a simplified version could be posted as reminders. There is likely some precedent from other municipalities (likely in Europe) that have proceeded with a similar process that we could learn from. A little research would likely help.

There is likely other (possibly better ways) to communicate with the public but I think these proposed signs could have some very beneficial results. This could be considered a 10 step community program. (I remember when I was 19 and 20 years of age and travelling extensively and freely in the Middle East and central Asia. At that time (in 1976) Indira Gandhi had a ten-point-program plastered over billboards throughout India in her attempts to clean up India of pollution, corruption, begging etc. It was perhaps an affective attempt of trying to have the public participating in successful advancement).

Signage of such would likely create some controversy which could add to its exposure. I am fully aware there could be reactance from some citizens, especially those earning a good living from the status quo. The signs could be vandalized and may require maintenance. If the signage proposal was first presented in the Nanaimo Bulletin it would likely create some serious response. The actual signage could get a lot of publicity, even from media outside our city. I think it would get a lot of exposure for the money spent. The type of turning in society that it suggests is definitely not business-as-usual. I understand the political risk involved in making such statements but truly think it's time and worth the risk. This is too important, and certainly the time to act (it's an EMERGENCY!). It's time to step out and take a risk. One might be surprised at the positive outcome. I'm hopeful the majority would welcome the efforts and want to do their part. Preferably we can avoid more climate change catastrophes and can envision transition instead. There can be a huge upside to such a turning, far superior to doing nothing. It's time to stop acting like everything is normal when normal would lead straight to catastrophe.

Like all risk, if managed properly the rewards can outweigh the risks. It does appear that those in the know are realizing there is a turning or even a paradigm shift taking root finally. People are opening up to ideas that there may be a better way of living on our planet than by excessive consumption, especially carbon producing consumption. Voluntary simplicity is taking root in advanced societies. We seem to have 'excess cargo' and some want to free themselves of the shackles in a responsible way. It's reported that 'Consumer confidence is down', or is it an actual intentional reduction in consumer consumption? We may be realizing that we don't need so much stuff to be content and happy and would prefer preserving an awesome planet.

I also have recently spoken to a captain on the BC Ferries into Nanaimo regarding a possibility of

including a recorded public announcement on the ferries about the local cities designation of climate emergency and what people can do to participate. He said its likely possible but it would have to go through the management. He then started talking enthusiastically about what BC Ferries were doing to help mitigate carbon pollution and environmental issues. I said it'd be great if BC Ferries made announcements informing of what they are doing, and he agreed. We both thought people need to be reminded about the issues during our everyday lives.

A related topic is the public transportation system in Nanaimo. Vancouver has become very successful with the participation in the public transit system. I take express buses and subway system from Horseshoe Bay to UBC and it costs me \$2.40 (includes my bike) and often likely beats the time it would take me to drive a car. For me to get from Departure Bay to the end of my home block in Nanaimo costs 5.00 and takes far longer than the 15 minutes it takes me to cycle. Therefore I do not typically support the bus system as it's quicker and free (from germs as well) to ride my bicycle. I think it should not cost to transfer on a bus within Nanaimo as it probably becomes a deterrent for many to bussing in the city. Perhaps a combination of the previous zoned approach and/or a day pass would be more appropriate. Also, I agree that proposed drive-troughs at fast food and coffee shops should not be permitted any longer and the old ones should consider closing.

Sincerely,

Harvey Des Roches

"It was our fault, and our very great fault and now we must turn it to use.

We have forty million reasons for failure, but not a single excuse. So the more we work and the less we talk the better results we shall get...

Rudyard Kipling, "The Lesson," 1901"

- ▶ "There are many ways to address climate change impacts, but one of the most promising ones that the City of Nanaimo itself could focus on is switching from a vehicle oriented culture to one promoting other forms of transportation that do not produce the high volume of atmospheric CO2.

Walkable cities are important for mitigating global warming and allow for improved equity for all citizens and increased health as well. Nanaimo needs to not just focus on the development of new areas in terms of walkability but also needs a comprehensive, transparent plan for filling in the huge gaps of sidewalks that currently detract from people's ability to walk safely and easily. Most of the population does not nor will they ever live in a new development. Next let's actually implement the plans instead of having plans written 6 or more years ago that have never been implemented.

As for a specific suggestion, DON'T build the road along the land currently fenced off for the Boxwood Connector. Make the area into an extension of Beban Park, with lots of trees planted, walking paths, water features, etc. instead of moving a left hand turn lane over for the benefit of drivers. Indeed, this benefit will only last a short time anyway, and congestion will go back to what it was. A park, on the other hand, will help with the environment and be a solution to climate change. "

- ▶ There is no recognition of the impact of animal agriculture on the environment within the "stay green" document. City sponsored events should be plant-based (for example). Animal agriculture is the #1 contributor to greenhouse gas emissions (more than all forms of transportation combined).
- ▶ There is only so much you can do. This needs to be addressed at the Federal and UN-level. Don't waste your time and money on gimmicky, low-impact platitudes. Most of us see right through them as ineffective, superficial and pandering.
- ▶ This is not a matter of the cities time or effort.
- ▶ This not part of your job running the city. This is not why we pay taxes.

- ▶ To keep doing these types of initiatives is great. I would like to see more action items when safe to do so,
- ▶ Tourism and unaffordable housing on the mainland is leading Nanaimo to grow excessively fast which is affecting the area which is a tourist destination as well as a port to the rest of the island. Development is rapidly increasing and is taking away fragile areas that are close to rivers, streams and ocean coastlines. Also creating more pollution to the entire ecosystem of Vancouver island along with fishing, crabbing, prawning, shellfishing and natural habitats that are being destroyed by overpopulation. Development needs to slow down
- ▶ Transition city buildings from fossil fuel heating to renewable energy sources, electrify our Bus fleet, develop adaptation plans to deal with severe weather events and inform the public about them, insofar as possible work with the logging industry to ensure sustainable forestry practices.
- ▶ Transportation and buildings are the largest contributors locally to GHG emissions. Make a list of the things that the City can do about both, and identify the corresponding cost/benefits. Pick a few 'low-hanging fruits' from each to get some 'quick-wins' -- use these to educate the public about some of the more challenging investments.
- ▶ Transportation infrastructure, zoning, building standards oriented towards green and passive buildings
- ▶ "Tree retention is so important for many reasons including carbon sequestration, reduction of peak flows and mental health. Make tree retention a priority in city decisions regarding development, park planning and maintenance, public land acquisition, city infrastructure projects, etc.

Ensure the long-term health of our Green spaces by improving homeowners access to yard waste disposal. The single small bin that is picked up weekly is not large enough to keep up with the food scraps and yard waste that a house generates in a week, particularly in the spring and fall. As a result, homeowners are required to haul their yard waste to a regional facility periodically. However, many people do not take the time and effort to dispose of their yard waste correctly and simply dump their waste in natural areas. This releases invasive plants into natural areas along with residual chemicals from herbicide/pesticide/fertilizer application. The City could offer to pick up bags of yard waste set out at the curb, two or more times throughout the year, namely in the spring and fall to help combat illegal dumping in natural areas."

- ▶ TRUE RECYCLING AND REDUCTION IN PACKAGING WHICH END UP IN LANDFILL
- ▶ Try leaving more trees when you build new sub. divisions. Contractors have too much power over that.
- ▶ Unlimited curbside recycling and compost/yard waste as well as taxing/ticketing those that don't compost and recycle
- ▶ Urban forestry. More gardening - especially food for bees and for human food security. Protect agricultural land and nature areas. Better buildings using greener materials (building codes/bylaws?) and building to last. Diverse communities where you have all of your daily needs close to home. Better recycling. The current recycling model makes it inconvenient and having bins collected only once every two weeks means that they fill up and more goes to the garbage. It would be nice if the City picked up all types of recyclables. We need green manufacturing start ups here in nanaimo.
- ▶ "Use concrete that locks in CO2. <https://www.douglasmagazine.com/carboncure-technologies-cuts-down-on-concrete-carbon-emissions/>  
Larger green bins.  
Law enforcement (including developers) for harm to trees, wetlands, riparian zones etc. Paths for bikes/scooters.  
More electric car stations.

Education/incentives to fire safe yards. How about contest aimed at school children and university students (kids can teach their home owning parents) to perform a song or dance (dancing after covid obviously) around making yards less combustible like was done around hand washing in hospitals: [https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-d&ei=6WHEX6q1DvPi9AOqy76oBQ&q=hand washing flashmob &oq=hand washing flashmob&gs\\_](https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-d&ei=6WHEX6q1DvPi9AOqy76oBQ&q=hand+washing+flashmob&oq=hand+washing+flashmob&gs_)

- ▶ Use incentives to encourage the behaviours we desire. Incentivize building improvements and retrofits grant credits for keeping trees, rather than penalties for removal use influence at RDN Board to build a more efficient and effective transit system provide incentives for residential builders to install heat pumps rather than electric baseboard heating; begin restricting vehicles in certain locations, favouring alternate transportation modes instead recognize the fact that low CO2 life is more costly, and create a surcharge to taxes (similar to 1% for infrastructure funding, but perhaps at a higher rate) to support climate change initiatives and the incentives offered. On this latter point, if you surcharged municipal taxes by 5 , but offered incentive programs that most residents could recoup much of this, it would provide the motivation to shift in desired behaviour.
- ▶ “Use of solar panels on all city of Nanaimo buildings  
Some sort of encouragement for people to use green energy and not use combustible vehicles for transport”
- ▶ “Use policy to protect sensitive habitat and green space.  
Incorporate green space minimum requirements for large development areas and currently in developed Land.  
Adopt Greenshores for shoreline development.  
Use environmental risk analysis tools to support decision on allocation of funds/ effort. Also a good communication tool for internal and public.  
Look to other communities for what is working or not.  
Focus on moving people in fewest solo trips and alternative transit (bike, walk, bus) rather than moving away from combustible fuel.  
Public education and outreach. Could use billing cycle to homes to include new / education pamphlets. Really impressed with this initiative! ”
- ▶ “Using city-owned land to sequester carbon by planting out diverse ecosystems for insects and other wildlife. Diversifying city parkland and creating city-led jobs for urban agriculturalists, city permaculturalists, and transitioning neighbourhoods into agrihoods.

We all eat for a living – looking into the future, our food sources may become harder to come by. Let’s adapt by revitalizing our local food systems in Nanaimo!

The city could own a green belt that surrounds its city limits. With trails and camping – this could be a world-renowned tourist attraction.

Nanaimo river park and watershed protected area.

East Wellington agricultural corridor.

Nanaimo spearheading electric rail revitalization.

Increasing urban canopy AND urban food growing.”

- ▶ “Utilize green energy sources in the development of new buildings and insist that all new projects and developments have plans to create park space, active transit routes, or environmental boost by planting

trees or native plants.

Maintain and protect our current natural spaces, watershed and ecosystems. Build owl boxes or structures that attract species to the area again. "

- ▶ Vehicle reduction and increased infrastructure of walkways and bike paths for safety. Reducing and reuse needs more emphasis, it's too easy to just forget about things that we recycle, the focus must be on the source.
- ▶ Very very good transit, encouraging car pooling
- ▶ walkable neighbourhoods!
- ▶ We are drowning in plastics. We need to urge governments at all levels to require industries to find environmentally safe alternatives.
- ▶ We do need to reduce GHG emissions, but should prioritize climate change adaptation and leverage natural assets.
- ▶ "We must look at our soil and carbon. We can improve our environment so much if we look after this. I would love to see a lending library far beyond books. Many other cities have lending libraries for things like tools, sewing machines, punch bowls, camping equipment, yard/gardening supplies, many things that someone doesn't need often. It could be a social enterprise empowering our community to be inclusive as well as reduce waste and enable others to give back, explore or tackle tasks they maybe can do but just don't have the tools needed.  
I would also love to see better food sustainability in our community. I would love to see a centralized commercial community kitchen that could bring together many organizations and community to come together to better utilize volunteers, process food and produce into true healthy meals and then have it distributed to the community. Much like the Nourish program in Cowichan. A more holistic approach to community is needed.  
"
- ▶ We need better recycling facilities. Larger more capable ones. To recycle soft plastic is a nightmare or styrofoam, glass. Come on, it is 2020. Please figure this out.
- ▶ "We need massive electrified public transit, paired with more active transportation. Right now it is nearly impossible to live in Nanaimo without a car. We need to make it easier and cheaper to not have a car than to have a car. This means having busses going on more routes every 20 minutes, no more additional traffic lanes, no more parking spots, creating private vehicle-free blocks downtown, no more car dealerships (especially luxury lines), increased density for construction, no more single home zoning, and phase out existing single home zoning. A good idea would be to phase out all gas stations with zoning. Increase property taxes on certain industrial uses relating to high GHG emissions.  
Also, and this is critically important, stop just setting goals for your successor to be left with. Make aggressive, measurable goals that are the timescale of 1-5 years. "
- ▶ "We need to be proactive and take the necessary actions to follow the Paris accord and even go beyond to ensure global warming is stopped.  
Protect the environment, it should be zero sum process, you damage environment in one location you have to fix up an equivalent area elsewhere."
- ▶ We need to continue to improve the public transit system, provide more publicly available/free transportation to those facing challenges to using public transit. I appreciate the efforts the RDN is making with the composting and recycling programs in place. Walking more should be encouraged.
- ▶ we need to find a way to deal with all our garbage and recycling here in Nanaimo. We should not be exporting garbage material of any kind outside of Nanaimo.

- ▶ We need to focus on our local environment and water resources. Global climate change and carbon schemes should not be considered.
- ▶ We need to have stronger riparian area protection to allow our watersheds to slow down rain storm water and promote infiltration into ground water. Flood protection, drought mitigation. Your postal code finder, below, isn't working correctly and I will have to input an incorrect postal code to continue.
- ▶ "We're fortunate enough to live in a part of the world that has not yet seen the drastic impacts of climate change. But we won't be spared, so we ought to listen to scientists to better understand what changes we can expect. And we must start preparing for those now.  
We should also be planning and developing a city that leads the way to a more sustainable, carbon neutral future. We have the means to take charge in reducing our carbon and environmental footprint. Reducing waste, encouraging alternative modes of transportation, protecting ecosystems, etc. are all pieces to the puzzle. I hope the city prioritizes these efforts as we make our way out of the pandemic – we have a moral obligation to do so."
- ▶ "When addressing environmental and climate change impacts in Nanaimo, a balanced approach should be taken so that other issues are not negatively impacted. Too great a focus on environment and climate change without considering other factors may have adverse impacts to the economy, personal and business financial well being and outlook, and either bankrupting the City or raising taxes too much. What ideas might address these environmental and climate change impacts?...
  1. Perhaps various pedestrian and green belt zones throughout the commercial and residential areas of the City that do not hinder flow of vehicular traffic or commerce near them.
  2. Additional development incentives for projects that employ various 'green' components and alternate sources of energies.
  3. Promote ""positive energy"" homes and buildings that produce more energy than they consume, and which can be resold to others.
  4. See where it is feasible to to exchange heat from one municipal building to another thereby reusing and saving energy. ie. arenas send heat to pools.
  5. Are there opportunities to do this with private companies partnering with the City?
  6. Convert downtown rooftops to solar energy producers and suppliers. Convert commercial mall and plaza rooftops similarly."
- ▶ When developing new neighbourhoods, allowing for mixed use residential and commercial to create places residents can live and work and play in without having to drive. In existing neighbourhoods, allowing for businesses to open up in existing residences and/or allowing for renovations (while maintaining the look of the neighbourhood). I think this will go a long way in reducing the amount of cars on the roads if people are not forced to drive to drive almost everywhere.
- ▶ "When we create new developments they need to be designed as communities that are more self sufficient. Like the European style communities where you can get groceries, go to the doctor and get basic essentials within walking distance.

We need to have more creative and thoughtful ideas with future development to work with the natural landscape and leave more of it intact instead of taking down acres of trees. "

- ▶ Where to begin...The most important issue is transportation GHG. Unfortunately, Nanaimo is a highly car-dependant city. So two major pushes required – encourage moving away from combustion engine vehicles to electric (or hydrogen, when available) ASAP. The second push is adopt strategies toward having more walkable neighbourhoods with complete sets of services and amenities, encourage walking/ cycling instead of cars. This might take longer but will be worth it in the long run.
- ▶ Workshops to engage people; booths at all community areas to catch the people that wouldn't attend



workshops.

- ▶ Would love to see improved public transportation as well as continued development of bike lanes. I love the parkway/highway trails! More charging stations for electric vehicles would be great.

## HOW WE WORK (OUR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, BUSINESS, AND EMPLOYMENT)

Q4. Please provide any further comments you may have, including strengths, weaknesses, or opportunities for Nanaimo's economy that you feel are important.

- ▶ “– Identify sectors that have greatest potential to help us address climate change and prioritize support to those sectors (including agriculture, aquaculture, forestry, construction, and transportation)
  - emphasize localization: partner with other island communities to develop regional and island-wide economic plans (for instance, what would it take for VI to grow and refine most of its own biofuels? to grow most of its own food? to generate most of its own electricity? to manufacture most of its own products? to grow, harvest and manufacture local materials for construction? how could trees harvested on VI be processed and used on VI? Localization increases community resilience and reduces GHG emissions from importation)
  - explore mandating Passive House standards for new home construction (this would require additional training programs to increase the number of Passive House certified contractors and working with local custom window manufacturing company to manufacture windows to Passive House standards; currently windows need to come from Germany)
  - prioritize existing local businesses over importing big box stores (studies have found that Walmart and other big box stores often result in a net loss of jobs and drive down wages)
  - explore/expand ways residents can invest in local businesses (local stock exchange)”
- ▶ “1.) Nanaimo needs to improve the quality of life and economic possibilities of it's --working-- residents ( those who pay the bills and property taxes) FIRST, before attracting ""foreign investors"" and new residents...and also lower the property taxes for residents (= for PRIMARY residences, and for people who do not own more than one home-- which could be an extra add-on on the existing home owner's grant) . A big weakness is the unaffordability of housing. For example, it is practically impossible for an - employed- Nanaimo-raised couple to buy a home)  
2.) Nanaimo has to increase the police force to protect it's residents, businesses, and their property. The amount of theft is appalling! Instead of attracting more ""homeless"" drug addicts to town from all over Canada, by providing handouts and free housing, an afford needs to be made to get those who are mentally unstable/ drug addicted in treatment centers, instead of enabling them to harm others and themselves. There has been a 600% increase in crime in several residential areas.... Working in retail, I had to witness theft on a daily basis- without any possibility to prevent this. This is RUINING local businesses. Before planning 3 steps ahead, THE EXISTING PROBLEMS HERE NEED TO BE FIXED FIRST, by enforcing the law and showing a zero tolerance towards drug related crime and theft. Make treatment for drug addicts mandatory-- not a choice-- if you want to see any changes. The current system of enabling does obviously not work, is harming existing businesses, and won't attract those who we depend on for future quality economic development “
- ▶ A foot ferry service to Vancouver would expand business opportunities for people living in Nanaimo. There is opportunity to increase sports tourism (tournaments, eco tours, biking). Connect the protected bike trails up and down Vancouver Island (ie connect Nanaimo's existing trails to create a continuous trail from Ladysmith to Parksville through Nanaimo). Get a nice hotel in place and improve downtown to make Nanaimo a weekend getaway spot for Vancouverites and others.
- ▶ A weakness in Nanaimo is the concentration of new/expanding business (especially retail) development is in North Nanaimo, and soon to be in South Nanaimo, and the Downtown consists largely of businesses/

services that are discretionary and require disposable income (i.e. family spending that gets cut in uncertain times). There needs to be more to attract people from all over Nanaimo to the downtown. The perception persists among people who don't live in proximity to the downtown that it is unsafe due to the homeless and street population.

- ▶ Addressing emotional issues (“mental health”) in a meaningful way will provide a more diverse variety of people back into the workforce.
- ▶ Affordable housing and recreation to attract workers who can now work online most of the time is what we need to work on.
- ▶ Affordable housing is very important to future growth. People are fleeing the Lower Mainland because of its high cost of housing. Providing affordable housing depends on grants in the form of land and money from all levels of government with emphasis on federal and provincial and local government has to work hard to access it. The other source of affordable housing in repurposing existing housing which is not addressed with strategy to encourage it in the “Affordable Housing Strategy”. Encouragement could be offered in making the building permit process more straight forward and transparent. A source of public land for affordable housing that has not been accessed are schools that are underutilized and the land could be shared with housing or sold for housing. Schools are public lands and should remain in public hands not be sold at market value for development. Neither should they sit unused.
- ▶ After cleaning up the city encourage more tourism and cruise ship visits
- ▶ Arts, culture and entertainment jobs are clean, workers are highly educated and have a small environmental footprint. Having a vibrant arts scene makes the City attractive to high tech workers, health and public sector workers who have stable jobs and disposable income
- ▶ As a remote worker (company based in Vancouver) a big challenge for me is the lack of cell service along Hammond Bay. This is a big challenge for people like me who might take a job in Vancouver hoping to telecommute.
- ▶ As someone on the younger side, I feel like there's not a lot of opportunities for me in Nanaimo for work. I have a Masters Degree from VIU, and there are almost no jobs in my field in the City. I will end up leaving once I have a full-time job, which is too bad. I feel that if you're here for VIU, you rarely end up staying.
- ▶ As the Hub City we have a prime location for many new businesses, particularly tourism and recreation. A concerted effort must be made to capitalize on our beautiful waterfront. The planned hotel developments never seem to materialize. Are we, as a City, doing everything we can to facilitate these opportunities? The technology industry is booming at this time. We need to capitalize on the opportunity by contacting tech companies to see if there are opportunities for Nanaimo.
- ▶ “Attract more residents and retailers to downtown. Help the fast foot ferry to get up and running”
- ▶ “Ban raw log exports to protect local mill jobs. Start to allow infill, carriage homes, tiny homes, etc to provide low cost homes for people. We can't run a decent city when we have people unhoused causing so much worry and havoc. Downtown will not recover if we have homeless people everywhere trying to survive.”
- ▶ Become the true hub of Vancouver Island... grow food in the region and distribute from here, include more provincial and federal employment servicing the island from within the city, Support and promote expansion of VIU, Increase the use of the harbour and port
- ▶ Being a cultural/artistic alternative to the high cost of Vancouver and Victoria. This applies to health

services and business.

- ▶ build a downtown campus for viu to solve the biggest issue of people working downtown
- ▶ Building multigenerational housing in mobility hubs will provide good construction jobs and support walk ability and cycling in local neighbourhoods. Moving away from building more single family housing and creating further urban sprawl is very important. We'd also like to see more support for the development of home based business and work from home opportunities. Designing buildings with generous common spaces to encourage community connections is important to help people thrive socially. Check out Pacific Gardens Cohousing as an example in Harewood.
- ▶ Businesses need to build stronger ties with students coming out of VIU to ensure these educated individuals can find good paying/suitable jobs in the community many of them wish to stay in.
- ▶ City should stop pushing tourism as there are few (if any) attractions in Nanaimo that would attract visitors. The cruise ship dock fiasco is a prime example of the folly of trying to turn a coal-mining and logging town into a tourist destination when there are no cultural, architectural or historic sites that would attract visitors even if you include such world famous Nanaio attractions such as the "Harbourfront Mall" or the "Bastion."
- ▶ "Close to Vancouver and international transportation corridor  
Maritime trade potential and under developed incl. movement of people "
- ▶ Creating a destination attraction for tourism - connecting bike paths to water features(both natural and manmade(fountains, lagoon) in our city (Lakes, oceanfront, rivers, estuaries). Tourists could rent bikes and cycle or walk the interconnected trails to enjoy both nature and shops/eateries/markets along the way. We have the opportunity to develop as a real destination.
- ▶ Develop, expand and highlight food and nutrition literacy and access utilizing more city spaces, community neighborhoods and public-business areas to grow food for education and provisions
- ▶ Diversification is important.
- ▶ Downtown Nanaimo has huge potential as a tourist destination form Vancouver. The fast passenger foot ferry is needed.
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Enact policies that support the development of a circular economy, i.e. one that designs waste out of the system by reducing, reusing, upcycling materials and regenerates natural systems.
- ▶ encourage partnerships; networks of young, small companies for synergistic opportunities; link tech companies and expertise with schools; support high schools to get involved with apprenticeship type activities - esp. manufacturing and construction
- ▶ Encourage the trades & have courses here. Manufacture products from raw materials locally instead of shipping them out of the country (i.e. logging). Speed up permits so things can get built in good time.
- ▶ "Expansion of Airport  
Expansion of Port development and initiatives  
Creating a ""safe"" city that will attract businesses and residents  
Adding positive transportation links to the mainland including passenger fast ferry  
"
- ▶ "Expansion of our art gallery & museum, and more garden walks close to all neighbourhoods or quiet treed streets for tourists.

Science museums. Archeology & geology museum. “

- ▶ Food security and affordability is becoming more vulnerable and is the basis of everything else
- ▶ For food security I think diversifying and supporting local agricultural, urban agricultural and local food producers
- ▶ Get building permit response time vastly improved. Currently it takes MONTHS to get anything through City of Nanaimo, it is shameful. I know many contractors who will no longer build in the City of Nanaimo because of having to deal with the obstructionism of the Nanaimo City Hall. Uncalled for—maybe talk to the Mayor of Esquimalt, Leonard Krog, ask him how he did it as you obviously don't know how to make it work here.
- ▶ Harbour location provides opportunities for tourism as well as industry. Need to do more to encourage young creatives in the tech sector to come to Nanaimo, Real Estate Webmasters is a great start.
- ▶ Have noticed a strong decline in the business and development climate over the recent years. Delays and constantly increasing regulations has increased costs of being in business. City needs to figure out a way to approve permits and development projects in a timely fashion to not further drive up costs of housing and the cost vs benefit of any new regulations need to be factored in before being brought into place. More consultation with the business community is needed, without successful businesses in town the citizens do not have the jobs or quality of life they desire.
- ▶ Having local markets where local vendors can promote their business is an amazing way to help the community shop local and support those around us.
- ▶ Helping businesses expand should be a medium-to-low priority. We need more startups and more diversification to draw more creative and talented folks to start small & innovative businesses. The ones poised to grow in local, provincial, national, and global economies will do that. Nanaimo can grow as the gateway to Vancouver Island like a miniature Vancouver to the Asia Pacific Circle.
- ▶ Housing prices are too high for average income earners.
- ▶ I am really hoping that we can strengthen the agricultural aspect of our economy, maintain our farms and rural areas and protect our environment. I also think that if our resource industries are managed in a way that they are value added, eg. logged trees are manufactured into lumber at local mills, and made into houses or furniture, etc. by local construction workers, crafts workers etc. instead of being sold off as raw exports to foreign countries and that all aspects work together to develop more sustaining methods that benefit everyone while helping to sustain the environment and preserve certain ways of life. As well I am passionate about the arts and have seen how they have enriched Nanaimo's economy and way of life.
- ▶ I believe Nanaimo needs to celebrate arts, culture and tourism, acknowledging their economic benefits to the community.
- ▶ I believe that our downtown core will struggle until we again focus on developing spaces, both for housing and business in the downtown area rather than this rapid development here in the north end.
- ▶ I believe we already have a high quality of life here. We just need to communicate to young families the positives of living in this city. I think we also have the possibility of attracting more people who enjoy outdoor pursuits such as paddling, sailing, fishing, hiking, mountain biking, climbing etc.
- ▶ I believe we need to indulge on Nanaimo's rich culture. An expansion to the Port Theatre to attract and book larger music bands touring companies and the like are definitely needed. It would also be ideal to expand on tourist and local events. A touring boat around Nanaimo much like a harbour tour in Seattle would attract others. I think a tour or an easier access to Mount Benson would also be attractive. Nanaimo has a lot of resources that could be tapped into but no real way for locals or visitors to

access them. More advertising as well for exactly what tourists things Nanaimo has to offer – by radio; newspaper; or tv commercials !!

- ▶ I disagree with resource extraction in principle. I think we need A LOT more emphasis on local food production in our region. I disagree with tourism as a goal. I think arts should move to being a conduit for understanding and cohesiveness, not a 'sit and be entertained' function
- ▶ I do not agree with “streaming the municipal development approval process” if that means sacrificing the environment – which seems to be the case with our riparian zones.
- ▶ “I don’t really want any more “Retail and wholesale trade” so I gave it a 1. There are too many malls and too much mall culture, or at least that’s the common stereotype and it would seem to appear that way, (perhaps not in terms of \$ output), I think that’s going to rapidly decline as well with online shopping, so I think the focus could shift away from that.

A lot of people on Gabriola complain about Harmac, the smell, sight etc. But the mill employs a lot of people, I see the pulp industry as being sustainable and making visible improvements in their production and systems, and they were a great place to work while I was a student in university. “

- ▶ I feel if we stop allowing one community to take on the burden of residents that flock to our city for all the free handouts, our economy would soar. No business wants to move into a city that is run/dictated by junkies!! Enough is enough. We’ve lived here for over 30 yrs and my husband for over 45 years and are thinking of moving. Nanaimo we once knew is surely NOT the Nanaimo we are being forced to live with or are proud of today.
- ▶ I feel that Nanaimo should help support local and sustainable businesses and economic growth. Nanaimo should prioritize local businesses over chains (reduce the number of Starbucks, Tim Hortons, Cactus Clubs, etc). Nanaimo should shift it’s culture to supporting local.
- ▶ “I have heard from many sources that this City is recognized as being a most unfriendly place to start a new business or recognize development opportunities. Constant in fighting, legal hassles does nothing to improve our imagery  
Ce “
- ▶ “I really feel that the downtown has to be a number one place to start. We need businesses down there and for it not to feel like a closed down, burnt out area.  
North Nanaimo mall should close as a mall as such and instead have recreation, a library and an arts attraction.  
We should encourage businesses to locate downtown.  
We could then have more residential opportunities downtown.  
I just love going to small cities with a downtown! It’s a lot more fun than going to a mall.  
I would love to see a chairlift/gondola up Mt Benson with a restaurant up there. It could be like Grouse Mtn where you can choose to walk up or take the chair. This could be something the locals use as well as a tourist attraction.”
- ▶ I strongly feel that we need to protect our natural resources and environment. While logging, fishing, and other resource extraction has potential, I believe we need to protect our natural areas rather than destroy them. Nanaimo is/can be a jewel in a beautiful natural setting and I believe we need to proceed carefully to retain or enhance that.
- ▶ “I talked elsewhere about the following. I would like to see Nanaimo develop affordable housing not only for Nanaimo residents in core housing need, but also with a vision of poaching artists from stunningly unaffordable Vancouver. I’ve already mentioned the idea of intentionally developing an arts community to economic development officer Amrit Manhas and to leaders in Vancouver’s arts community --

everyone I spoke with expressed interest. I envision a sort of tourist-magnet Sausalito that would still have ties to Vancouver as the central arts marketplace, at least at the beginning a magnet that would attract provincial and out-of-province tourists, and also day-trippers from Vancouver, particularly if a downtown-to-downtown foot passenger ferry were in operation. I also really want to see the entire waterfront opened up to bicycles, at least from Duke Point to Lantzville. Tourism for all Vancouver Island might be improved if lengthy sections of bike path like this were linked up island-wide and overnight hostels built.

To add to that statement, I think sustainable agriculture should become a strong area of focus. Fruits and vegetables are virtually unaffordable in Nanaimo, and this is only going to become worse as populations increase and productivity in California decreases. "

- ▶ I think it is important to focus on the sustainable strengths that Nanaimo has economically (tourism/recreation/arts/forestry) while still balancing free market forces.
- ▶ I think it's important to keep diversifying Nanaimo's economy. As a whole, the logging industry is struggling and we can't count on that moving forward. It's also crappy for the environment. While tourism took a big hit this year, there is more potential there. Expanding more into education, health and technology will be difficult but I think beneficial in the long run.
- ▶ I think Nanaimo has large opportunity for growth in a sustainable fashion
- ▶ I think Nanaimo needs to take advantage of it's hub location. We should be a place for people to stay for a night on their way to Tofino, not just a shopping center for an hour. There's also an opportunity for more growth in tech and manufacturing, but the city should lower the taxes for these sectors to encourage growth. My business taxes are out of control and way too high on Boxwood and we don't even have sidewalks.
- ▶ I think our agriculture, trade, and resource industries are present but need a lot of strengthening and modernizing. What I think we need to attract here is more Tourism and Technology jobs.
- ▶ I think there are some industries that we have to build up more for security reasons. For example, we are not endowed with prime nor vast Agriculture areas (Harewood has great soil don't get me wrong) but I think we still need to invest in Urban agriculture for the sake of ensuring more resiliency when faced with an uncertain future. We have a lot of maturing to do as a community to deepen the ecology of our economy. I think we have a lot of reconciling to do with the E&N Land grant that first stole land from the Local First Nations and then privatized the land so that our community has a limited sense of ownership of our hinterland resources. I think more partnerships with Snuneymuxw, Snaw-naw-as and Stz'uminus Nation in articulating economies where we can all benefit is important, and working with their deep-rooted cultural identity and practices to highlight the uniqueness of where we live. I believe we should continue to strive for a Green Economy, circular economy, where we are able to cycle resources within our community, to do more in-house recycling, repurposing, so our landfill doesn't overflow and we are able to make better use of all the materials that move through our lifestyles, and that we aren't reliant on far distant recycling centres to deal with our waste. I think we should get on board with BioChar Production as a way to further engage in the Carbon Economy. It has so many spin-offs, I hope you take a look at the Biochar industry that is growing worldwide to address fossil fuel reduction as well as mitigating climate change. Additionally, I think Seaweed farming is another industry that we could establish in our local waters that does wonders in supporting our fishing industry, mitigating climate change hazards, as well as producing local seaweed that could compete with all the imported seaweed that is grown in polluted harbours in Asia.
- ▶ I think tourism could be a huge economy boost for Nanaimo

- ▶ I think we live in the most beautiful place and tourism could really grow. We need to make downtown safer, more accessible and more walk/bike friendly. Economic development needs to be a major priority for the city.
- ▶ I was sexually harassed and bullied in the local Island ops program. No one will hear my complaint and investigate how training is handled in nanaimo.
- ▶ I would like to see more local food production... close to the city. So we do not have to rely on American food.
- ▶ I would like to see Nanaimo (and the region) become more resilient & sustainable in its base needs (food, energy, affordability) and we will need to encourage projects/businesses that meet these goals.
- ▶ I would like to see us looking at development through climate lens – reduce GHG's. Retrofits. High quality construction. Recreation industry. Innovation on Green business opportunities that we could export as well as enjoy the benefits of. Energy storage. Support industry to transition. Logging has to be value added and not old growth. Mining has to reduce pollution to be successful.
- ▶ I would really like to see careful, sustainable resource development and tourism that focusses on protecting the environment – particularly forests, rivers/streams, and the ocean.
- ▶ If COVID has taught us anything, it is that the Island needs to support local industries and depend less on the mainland for our goods and services. Seeing local Agriculture less restricted by our municipal government and better rewarded for providing residents with essentials should be top of the list, as well as cleaning our city up so that tourism dollars can be a viable option right now. We need to help our already struggling small businesses before we lure in new ones, and help our existing population with quality of life and better household income before expecting others to live here.
- ▶ "If the city provides the correct environment for business and fair and equitable access to newcomers business will come. The City should not try to push who and what types of businesses there should be. I tried doing business here in the past and it was a frustrating and unprofitable to say the least, mainly due to biases and obstacles from City departments. I would never try to develop a business here again, I am doing fine elsewhere."
- ▶ "If you fix the so called homeless issue properly instead of providing bandaids, and cleanup the thieving problem, then with a little luck Nanaimo will get cleaned up and attract more business. Until that happens, Nanaimo will just keep on deteriorating.  
"
- ▶ Imperative for existing retail is street cleaning, garbage pickup. Embarrassed for guests and residents, families of our City that the our City Jewel Harbour walkway sidewalks from Pacifica condos to Port Place Mall, and all the shops and restaurants in between have sidewalks as dirty, unsightly, stained, & littered as the sidewalks of the downtown Eastside. tragic. Dirty Nanaimo harbour quay LOOKS – IS so neglected, looks unhealthy, looks unsafe, in these COVID FACEMASK times, and generally speaking. please please please address this. Even if every shop would just clean their storefront sidewalk, sweep, wash it down weekly. Nanaimoites, and I, are so proud of Nanaimo, otherwise. Also, increase or enforce the NO DOGS sign in our new childrens playground at MaffeoSutton park. really bad that children play on ground that dogs defecate, pee. Family brings the dog into the wonderful park with them, ignoring the sign. SO wrong  
□
- ▶ "Improve on outdoor tourism, learn from Whistler and more relevant, Cumberland. Utilize and improve access to the vast trail network available.  
Work to buy out or trade lands through grants or tax cuts to forestry to stop all local forestry within 10km radius of Nanaimo "

- ▶ Improve the look of the city, entrances are tired looking, empty buildings and unsightly downtown.
- ▶ Improving infrastructure is important – most malls and businesses along island highway look like prisons. Need to be more modern. Roadside aesthetics need to be elevated, manicured. Should dedicate part of Nanaimo to look like downtown Qualicum Beach – very attractive retail shopping.
- ▶ Inadequate number of recreational facilities—especially ice rinks. Unbelievably poor transit. Poorly developed waterfront. Inadequate space in our high schools.
- ▶ Incomes and number of job opportunities will increase as we attract more businesses and investors to the community. Supporting businesses by streamlining processes and dealing with social issues is imperative to maintain a city where businesses thrive and residents feel safe.
- ▶ Industrial growth is important for planning and creating opportunities. Without large scale industrial tax base and employment it puts a large burden on individuals
- ▶ Invest in infrastructure and amenities to attract and retain professionals.
- ▶ It is difficult for the average citizen to provide good input to economic development, as we generally lack any expertise in this. So, the results of this survey will reflect ‘common wisdom’ which has been shown to be as wrong as it is right over a wide range of subject matter. Having said this, some principles apply, notably (1) It’s easier to keep an existing business and help it grow than it is to attract a new one; (2) Trends away from bricks-and-mortar retail could impact the 1 in 7 jobs that are in the retail sector (3) There is a decided lack of valuation of education in mid Vancouver Island, reflecting historic ability to attain a well-paying union job in the resource sector. Those days are over, but the low level of education amongst native Nanaimoites is noticeable. We need to improve education to fill the jobs that are currently vacant and support the ones that will be created in the future. Attracting a new, skilled labour force will still leave many current residents on the margins. So we need to work a cultural shift that places higher value on education.
- ▶ “It is not the AMOUNT of business that is important it is the TYPE of business. Focus on businesses that improve the quality of life for Nanaimo residents! Bigger is NOT better. People don’t move to Vancouver Island for big they move to VI for nature and friendly community. The people that have lived here forever mourn the way it used to be.

PLEASE focus on safety, health, and quality of life. “

- ▶ It is very hard to see Nanaimo not taking advantage of all tourism that passes by. The Diana Krall plaza is the saddest place in town and very little to nothing is done to revitalize the downtown core.
- ▶ It seems we have a large population of people on assistance and minimum wage jobs. Creating opportunities for them to increase their income and contribute to moving Nanaimo forward, would be beneficial to everyone.
- ▶ It would be great for Nanaimo to be a sustainable green community with technological development and an improved health care system while preserving rural lands around the city. Also, we should maintain ecological practices and promote our local farms .
- ▶ It would be key to position Nanaimo from all the other Island destinations. What does this region have to offer that cannot be found elsewhere? Nature without travel; high quality lifestyle without high cost; culture without crowds; business opportunities with increasing population. A rise in young families??
- ▶ Its been very clear to me, that the city has very little influence over who the local economy benefits, and how or if the economy grows. As well, however much the majority of us might want something to happen, we must careful about what we wish for and know that wishes don’t often come true. And I hope you

understand that planning is an economic activity that requires a strong understanding of how land use effects the economy, and is nothing like wishful thinking that this overview and questionnaire seem to suggest.

- ▶ It's important to shift away from unsustainable extractive industries towards clean and renewable industries that don't contribute (or at least contribute less) to the climate crisis. It's also important to be aware that the technology sector can be very insecure for employees, so there needs to be care involved if the City is aiming to grow that sector in order to protect them from precarious living situations.
- ▶ It's important to take advantage of and build on existing strength of Nanaimo. There is much untapped tourism, education (VIU), arts (movie industry) and transportation (foot ferry to Vanc. and train/bus to Victoria) technology potential, with an over dependence on traditional resource based and construction industries. Nanaimo also has a substantial provincial government sector (not mentioned) with a growing gov remote workforce which can be expanded with both infrastructure (high speed internet, reliable hydro) and a shift in bc gov mindset which happened during COVID.
- ▶ "It's time for action not surveys!  
I've lived in nanaimo for 11 years and i've heard a lot of talk and seen very little action!  
How about building on it's natural beauty as a mecca for outdoor adventure sports. what ever happened to the walkway from departure bay to the Nanaimo river? O wait we need more research and surveys!"  
"
- ▶ "Lack of transportation is limiting on how people can become involved. By increasing density and making Nanaimo liveable and attractive for those that don't have or want a car, we could attract a lot of the workers and business that may normally go to Vancouver or Victoria. Especially with work from home being normalized, we should pursue businesses and employees to encourage them to live/operate in Nanaimo. Create workplace hubs (either directly or via private business) that can provide people a strong internet connection and a place to work (aka. working from home away from home). This really only works if there is no commute, however.  
We should work with the provincial government to increase the capacity of NRGH and other medical facilities to truly become a modern medical hub city.  
Also, let's get an Ikea nearby (probably in RDN). It would be easier for everyone on the Island (including Victoria) if there was one in or near Nanaimo.  
The big advantage, economically, that Nanaimo has is that it is a hub city on the west coast but cheaper than Victoria or Vancouver. Build on that."
- ▶ less reliance on resource jobs and increased jobs in tech, manufacturing,
- ▶ Let's grow in sustainable and green ways and invest in people, technology and sustainable business rather than continue to extract resources and pollute the environment. Vancouver Island is so perfect for sustainable agriculture, recreation, and tourism. Nanaimo has AMAZING parks and beaches and yet is not on the tourism map for Vancouverites or people from outside the province.
- ▶ Leverage our investment in VIU by providing stimulus for a R&D centre in Nanaimo. Our large senior population should be encouraged to remain active and a part of the economy. Our transportation hub is important for future growth. High tech and manufacturing (providing high paying jobs) should be encouraged.
- ▶ Local schools need improvement for a better prepared young workforce. Beware too much reliance on tourism - is a volatile industry (as Covid-19 shows) and tourist towns are often unlivable when over-run. Promote Indigenous culture, led by relevant Nations.
- ▶ Longer growing season. fresh water, political stability; talk to futurists

- ▶ Maintain ALR , before it disappears
- ▶ Make is green and sustainable!
- ▶ “Many students who graduate from VIU move away for work. We need opportunities in technology, health, tourism and the arts. We also need to start using our great agricultural land for agriculture not housing. The way the world is going we need to work towards being as self sufficient on the island as we can.  
”
- ▶ More affordable homes for working families
- ▶ “Most important: Fundamental living, clean green landscape. Native Island home basic. Earth has given land ocean sky. Sustainable Environment. Sustainable Ecosystems basis for our city. Ecosystems are the infrastructure. Solve our death wish for our island.  
Refocus : Focus small slow local give back. We live in a finite home an island there is a limit to our home. What are the inventories of local trade networks local resources. What are the costs. Earth Overshoot Day August 8. Compassion for our Earth. ”
- ▶ Municipal, provincial and federal governments need to do a much better job of demanding that companies wanting to do business in this country provide for Canadians first! (Jobs, reasonably priced goods and services, improvements to community infrastructure etc.) It has been proven time after time that the only thing these corporations are interested in is profits before people. The time is long overdue to start demanding that these companies using the raw material and labour force etc. are required to supply the needs of Canadian communities before the demands of the shareholders. (Raw log exports from Nanaimo’s harbour are a prime example). This shareholder driven structure that has evolved in our country needs to be turned upside down and provide for the people first.
- ▶ My company has opened a branch here because it is a great location and more affordable for workers, but still near Vancouver. This is something that can be leveraged in many industries.
- ▶ Nanaimo (City) Has nearly no ALR Land, but we do have potential for a co-operative of Regional smallholder farmers to improve marketing and distribution of local agricultural products, giving them a larger share of the local food market (because everything imported is money sent out of the region)
- ▶ Nanaimo being more affordable than Victoria or Vancouver could attract young, entrepreneurial talent that could contribute to the tech & cultural sectors.
- ▶ Nanaimo benefits from still being Affordable to many people, central location on the island with easy access to Vancouver and an airport. Beautiful place to live with wonderful access to the outdoors.
- ▶ Nanaimo does not appreciate or optimize its potential and prime location as part of a broad regional context (Vancouver Island AND Metro Vancouver AND Sunshine Coast).
- ▶ Nanaimo doesn’t need to keep growing and getting bigger. We need to work on fixing our existing community first
- ▶ Nanaimo has a bit of a paradox to deal with. there are not many good jobs here thus people won’t come. People are attracted by the lower cost of living, but are repelled by the lack of good jobs, the terrible transportation infrastructure, the complete lack of vibrancy and the rampant crime associated with a growing homeless population. I would like to see Nanaimo explore what some other cities are doing and paying digital nomads to move here. It provides increased incomes for people without the need to try to attract new employers, something traditionally done by providing tax incentives.
- ▶ Nanaimo has a lot of potential to serve as a hub for some knowledge and tech businesses as remote work grows.

- ▶ Nanaimo has so much potential! Unfortunately, poor planning in the past is haunting us now. The New Hope emergency shelter should never have been built in a downtown retail core. I'd like to see the City concentrate on its biggest problem -- making downtown safe, attractive, interesting and welcoming. Perhaps turning Commercial Street into a pedestrian mall is an idea. The Thursday night street market was WONDERFUL! Keep it up (when the pandemic is under control).
- ▶ Nanaimo has the opportunity to become a vibrant innovative city with the university but without solid innovative companies planting roots here, there is likely very little work to be had. The work that was done to create Squarespace originally, which Input Logic has thankfully continued, is something that the city needs more of.
- ▶ Nanaimo is known for its parks and green spaces. Maintaining and increasing these spaces and making Nanaimo known as a green community will attract like minded residents and businesses who appreciate this aspect of Nanaimo. The city should try to attract businesses that value this green ethic and make sure that new development enhances and not detracts from this.
- ▶ Nanaimo is perfectly located on the island – super central – and close to Vancouver.
- ▶ Nanaimo is secret gem city. It has the potential of a very beautiful and vibrant city where people, businesses would move to. We need to move forward instead of having more surveys. We need to have the downtown more welcoming and have expand the walkway to Departure Bay and to the estuary. This will attract businesses, tourists and people to come to Nanaimo.
- ▶ "Nanaimo is sitting on such potential goldmine for the outdoor rec and art and culture scene. Presently we are the city that people drive through to get to Victoria and Tofino. We need to create a culture and identity for tourists to stay. We need to promote outdoor music festival or cultural festivals. We have great musician in our city and Port Place is great for concerts.

We need to create a system that can bring people from the ferries, the harbour and airport to outdoor rec sites like Westwood lake, Newcastle, and other great parks like Neck Point. Promote tourism business that can rent bikes, kayaks and tours in our great outdoor locations. Nanaimo has such a great potential to be the next outdoor play ground such as Squamish. Cumberland was able to redesign their identity so why can't we.

- ▶ Nanaimo is the center of the Island, it geographically ideal as a drop off point for all Island related commerce. Its proximity to Vancouver makes Nanaimo an ideal get away destination for Vancouver tourists.
- ▶ Nanaimo is the perfect place for remote workers to Vancouver or Victoria, especially in the light of Covid-19. Opportunities for remote workers to mix in office spaces could be very important and make lot of remote workers settle in Nanaimo.
- ▶ Nanaimo needs an Art Centre for local visual and performing artists. Every city has one for their local artists except Nanaimo. Nanaimo Art Gallery isn't supportive of local artists. The Nanaimo Federation of Canadian Artists and many, many local artists could really use an Art Centre with a gallery, classrooms, cafe, pottery room, studio rentals, black box theatre, etc. Then we wouldn't have to enter art shows or hang our art in other communities like Parksville, Ladysmith (Ladysmith City just gave Ladysmith Arts Council \$3 million dollars and are supportive of the arts. The city also gave them a building.). It would be great for tourism here in Nanaimo too.
- ▶ Nanaimo needs to attract more retail and entertainment businesses. We are seriously lacking in those areas. If I want to shop- I don't do it in Nanaimo. If I want entertainment-I don't find it in Nanaimo.

- ▶ Nanaimo needs to take advantage of its central location on Vancouver Island and proximity to Vancouver to encourage new business to locate in this relatively low cost ( compared to Vancouver) environment
- ▶ “Nanaimo really needs to maximize its beautiful waterfront views and locations. Downtown could use more apartments/high rises which would support businesses in that area. Departure Bay has amazing potential for restaurants and shops to give it a real community feel. There always seems to be vacant lots and wasted space around Nanaimo, let’s fill them up!”
- ▶ Nanaimo’s strength is its plethora of foreign investor shopping options; unfortunately, this is also its weakness. Nanaimo’s weakness is its lack of local small businesses in the downtown core and in neighbourhoods, Covid has shown us that if we as a society were more focused on promoting small businesses, fewer people would be struggling right now.
- ▶ “Natural resources are depleted (fishing) or would ruin the environment around the city (forestry and mining). If we want tourists then we can’t be destroying the environment.

We need to reuse the buildings and cleared land spaces that we already have instead of clearing new area of land.”

- ▶ Need hotels to attract out of town meetings and small conventions/trade shows. Need to clean up the face of the city. Everybody talks about the homeless issue, but it gets worse and worse. Because it’s just talk. Take some action, even if unpopular or not PC.
- ▶ “Old city quarter and downtown Nanaimo has been infested with drug addicts. City council and the RCMP haven’t made visible progress in fixing this issue. Especially in the old city Quarter. If the City of Nanaimo is interested in economic development, our downtown core needs to be harassment free from the homeless. The commercial land lords need to be willing to rent their empty buildings at a rate affordable for businesses to attempt opening in the downtown core. Voting to change zoning by laws to benefit a greedy contractor usually affects the residents in a detrimental way. The working poor in the south and central Nanaimo shouldn’t have their property value lessened by poor decisions from the mayor and some council members. VIU has attracted international students in the past and should continue to do so once the pandemic is over. A push to increase post secondary education in technology and health at VIU and encourage companies in those sectors to invest in Nanaimo would be the right direction to strengthen the local economy.  
”
- ▶ One great tourism idea: Build an electric gondola to go up Mt Benson and have a tea house on top....this idea is well overdue!
- ▶ “One of the best things a city can do in current business climate is foster the growth of the Tech Industry, which will be leading the way for the foreseeable future.

The first step toward doing this is building out affordable local fiber networks. Look to the US cities that have successfully run their own fiber networks and provided reliable, affordable internet to their population without the price gouging that runs rampant in the Telecom industry. “

- ▶ One strength is VIU is responsive to the community’s needs and can help train more tech savvy workers!
- ▶ “Our community needs more shopping to accommodate the influx of population. More family residences, townhomes, less condos. Let’s not be a Vancouver. Less Expensive City rules and regulations concerning the building codes. Costs of building are out control with all the high end, restrictive codes imposed on builders. It’s good to be environmentally efficient, but not when the cost of building becomes so prohibitive, it discourages any new structures, and economical family housing. Let’s make Nanaimo a

livable destination while inviting Tourism to be a major economic player. The waterfront has so much potential! Let's say Yes to economic development in a thoughtful, productive and lucrative manner."

- ▶ Our economy needs to support those who live and work here. Manufacturing and Technology is very important to good paying jobs which will help keep our university students here in Nanaimo with what they have been taught.
- ▶ Our resident population is of a fairly progressive and modern mindset. 50% are non-religious, one of the highest rates in Canada and we have MANY younger people, particularly educated ones via VIU. This means we would have a lot of support for modernization, population density, high transit ridership, and community based services. We need to move away from industries that damage and deforest our island. Instead create an eco-tourism industry to protect our ancient forests. Build green technology for power harvesting, better yet, encourage green-tech development companies to base here. We will have an amazing image and sustainable economy making the most of our natural geography. If you are going to encourage developers to build dense housing, please implement a stipulation, 10% of units need to be sold at cost to BC housing for LOW income subsidized housing, giving those units a property tax exemption. They can not segregate the unit in the building, but it doesn't need luxury fixtures etc. The reasoning for this, is to reduce segregated ghettos where we shun the poor into bad areas where crime, low literacy and addictions become more common. When we bring people into other income tier neighbourhoods/buildings living together it's better for everyone, it integrates the poor into "normal" society and challenges the general stigma the middle class tend to hold about "low life's".
- ▶ Outside of COVID, Arts and Culture and micro farming are build diversity and would be areas of importance to me to build a interesting vibrant community.
- ▶ "'-Outsiders don't see us as a potential place to invest/live  
-The university is our best employment asset - it serves mainly VI students. Its role should be prioritized."
- ▶ People need opportunities to transition out of low-paying, dying retail and tourism jobs (which the city has been working too hard to attract for the past 20 years). Partner with the provincial and federal governments to assist people to upgrade and learn relevant skills for new economy.
- ▶ People on government assistance need to be better supported in accessing education and appropriate work
- ▶ Please focus on bringing technology, arts and diverse small business to the area. I really do not want to see more strip malls, industrial spaces, etc. We already have enough of these and they have killed our community spaces. I want to be able to go some place/use a service in Nanaimo that doesn't involve a mall or strip mall.
- ▶ Please stop encouraging development of housing until Nanaimo can accommodate new citizens in terms of medical care, transportation network (including walking, transit), reducing greenhouse gas emissions (since we have a climate emergency), etc.
- ▶ Please stop logging the old growth forests
- ▶ potential for increased agriculture would be better if farmers are encouraged to grow more food stuffs and keep all farm land ALR instead of gradually encroaching for housing. Resource industries won't have potential to grow until we stop over-fishing. Encourage more land based hatcheries.
- ▶ Potential for tourism by attracting interesting businesses and arts facilities in the downtown core and on the waterfront - improving the waterfront and walkway to world class status
- ▶ Present infrastructure does not meet the needs of the population - hospital, roads, etc

- ▶ Real tourist attractions not just eco tourism stuff. Build sporting and cultural facilities that can hold national and world tournaments and events while also being used by our local youth and adult population. Have retirees coming here from other municipalities pay a relocation fee to fund new facilities for our current residents
- ▶ “Retaining our city’s agricultural and food-based inputs is a huge missed opportunity (many farmed/harvested and manufactured foods are sent out of town) that begins with a cultural shift on how we view food as being important.

Diversifying our city’s arts and historic presence is also huge.

I think we’re incredibly strong in the “parks and trails” department, so it would be good to maintain those, but maybe shift the lens away.”

- ▶ Solve the homeless. Biggest issue by far.
- ▶ Streamlining the development process would be a huge change. I understand there are certain legal hoops to jump through that can’t be bypassed (LGA) but the process could have some fat trimmed off it.
- ▶ “strengths/opportunities –we are central on the island – a through-way of sorts  
weakness/threat – currently limited executive opportunities, many commute to vancouver but love living here”
- ▶ “Strengths: centrally located makes Nanaimo a great business hub. Close to Vancouver. Possible re-establishment of rail services to Victoria. Lots of land.

Weaknesses: Drugs, crime, and homelessness pandemics. Public housing and homeless shelters only on the south end and central Nanaimo bringing down these areas. Strip malls and big box stores competing with local businesses/diverse communities. Little to no sense of community. So spread out. Residential sprawl in Hammond Bay area. “

- ▶ “Strengths: great variety of local resources  
Weakness: limited knowledge and awareness of the population about the local resources  
I feel like Nanaimo s economy is still conservative”
- ▶ “Strengths: VIU, location relative to ferry service and airport, good internet, availability of health care/amenities/outdoors/culture make it attractive to businesses and to talent. Weaknesses: transit and traffic, availability of capital investment?(a question), strong reliance right now on construction/development.  
Opportunities: attracting the ‘creative sector’ and high tech through livability/quality of life advantages  
Comment: The development climate is more than simply a question of streamlining development approval processes: those need to be speeded up, but in the context of a vision, a good plan and planning processes grounded in a concrete determination of what Nanaimo needs to to become as a city and community, not just in terms of the economy and development.”
- ▶ “Support good local businesses. In real ways.

The CTC program is very good for our youth. We do also need to support local youth who show ability in more academic academic fields as well. I know a young girl who COULD be a doctor with some support but because of her financial situation and a family illness she will end up being a nurse. We need nurses too, but we really need doctors. Can we help our youth study and become doctors and waive fees? Perhaps there would e a way to say “please stay in Nanaimo for a few yrs after you graduate” to offset the cost of the school fees? “

- ▶ Support local agriculture with a year round farmer's market building. Support manufacturing and technology that are green initiatives (solar panels, plastics recycling, ocean clean-up). Support our major employers such as VIU and VIHA.
- ▶ Support small businesses in competing with corporations. Ban self-checkout machines from grocery stores and fast food restaurants to create more jobs. Make big chain stores recycle and provide sustainable packaging options.
- ▶ Taking care of the beautiful natural space we are lucky to live in must be first and foremost before any economic development. If we lose that we lose everything.
- ▶ Thank you for creating such a great initiative. I can only hope our residents provide good feedback that help benefit everyone.
- ▶ The above list was obviously made without consideration of current covid-19 but my answers took that into consideration. We should have had an economic strategy completed by now.... what's taking so long.
- ▶ The City needs to immediately liaise with VIHA to encourage more medical professionals to practice here.
- ▶ "The city of nanaimo needs to relax and welcome more investors to build this town into a city. Zoning should be more flexible and focus more on value of the offers..what is it? where are you proposing? and why is it beneficial?  
We should be welcoming money into our community not making it difficult for it to settle in  
Permits take outrageously long to receive and should be determined by value not top and bottom of the pile.  
Speed the process up and see more results ..  
I know personally out of town companies say nanaimo is the worst city to do business in western Canada unfortunately we have to experience this on a daily basis...  
Flatten the tally ho , prep the land , sell it  
Flatten the jolly miner pub , prep the land , sell it  
Flatten the three building across the street from the jolly miner where there are massive properties and start building a new downtown area for shopping with living above.  
Halliburton should be transformed into a high rise shopping district close to the water.  
Tell gabriola they have to start sailing from Duke point it's a short distance for them and make gabriolas birth the new fast ferry dock.  
Up BC ferries property taxes at all their locations and use it to help lower home owners property taxes.  
Supportive housing only for employed individuals  
Drug tests mandatory for any form of relief income chosen at random every couple months  
"
- ▶ The Climate Crisis needs to be considered when developing economic development plans.
- ▶ The demolished pit and condemned building at the main intersection of downtown Nanaimo are a huge weakness in attracting people and businesses to the area.
- ▶ The development of the downtown area for arts, culture, and entertainment is very important. A vibrant downtown area can create economic opportunities for construction, tourism, recreation, entertainment, retail, and technology.
- ▶ The greatest strength the Nanaimo area has to offer is its location, weather, and west coast beauty, but economic stability needs to be primary focus. COVID teaches us we cannot rely heavily on tourism. Good paying jobs are key and focus on current residents and training opportunities to strengthen the existing job force of all age groups. Definitely woo the right kind of businesses such as tech (extension



to Silicon Valley, Hollywood North, gaming/software) that pay well, want their employees to have good quality of life as a perk to attracting talent who may even have to relocate here but to a good job instead of being a burden on resources. Health care and public services because the retirees and the transient are going to come anyways.

- ▶ The green energy field. Encourage green energy companies – windmill, solar, green technology industries – make Nanaimo the green city.
- ▶ “The homelessness and mental health issue needs to be solved not just studied. I am certain there is some good effort towards this and Nanaimo could be a world leader. There must be examples in other cities that work. Nanaimo needs some re image as in reimagine. Also the south part of the city and south entrance in to the city needs lots of attention.  
Check out Austin Texas South Lamar St of four story condos and apartments with businesses all along Nicole St with green spaces and indoor music venues at both ends to draw young people to live and work in the city! Rebuild areas as we don’t need to sprawl. Thanks for reimaging”
- ▶ The pandemic has initiated dynamic change in our existing economy that will impact the course of business -- locally and globally -- over the next couple of years.
- ▶ “The people have to come before the investors.  
”
- ▶ The pursuit of constant growth is detrimental to the environment, equality of economic opportunity, and overall well being. The idea should be not to “grow” but to THRIVE.
- ▶ The questions in sections 1 and 2 assume quality of life is only related to money and nothing else.
- ▶ The world is going online so people don’t have to be anywhere in particular for a lot of jobs. Don’t compete in those arenas.
- ▶ There are a large number of retirees in Nanaimo with disposable incomes and their voices should be heard as they do the spending
- ▶ There is so much natural beauty in & around Nanaimo that I feel needs to be looked into. So many people are into hiking, photography that the main parks need to be cleaned up. Get rid of piles of cut logs, removal of dead trees etc. Not place garbage cans in places that affect photography. I am suggesting partially manicured parks to make it all more attractive. Call for volunteers to help. Many would respond positively.
- ▶ There seems to be an increasing divide between the business and working class, an increasing divide racially, culturally and increased xenophobia with the old white Nanaimo, seemingly disregarding the Snuneymuxw and other First Nations. But this is a global issue reflected in Nanaimo’s small town mentality. No matter what we do, there needs to be a transition from this small town mentality to a mini globally inclusive community.
- ▶ There’s tremendous opportunity for tourism in Nanaimo, but the city needs a theme everyone can get around (coastal beauty/lifestyle?) and more attractive entrance to downtown and along travel corridors (gardens, banners, professional murals rather than cartoons)
- ▶ Tons of opportunities to attract people from surrounding communities to shop and take in art and culture. Tourism opportunities may be expanded but the state of the downtown core and its giant hole needs to be addressed.
- ▶ Too many empty buildings, we need to encourage people to start up businesses here. Example, the old wholesale sports building would be a great building for indoor paintball. Nanaimo has nothing but nature, and people won’t wanna move here just to walk in a park.

- ▶ “Too many low paying jobs in a place with high shelter costs. Need to focus economic activity on industries that will enhance the natural environment rather than destroy it. Less consumption of material goods and resources. Huge homes for example. How about areas in the city that are for off grid tiny homes and no cars? ”
- ▶ Tourism and recreation has incredible potential given our city’s geography and natural beauty. More emphasis put on attracting folks from Lower Mainland given vicinity and transportation access.
- ▶ Tourism is huge but diversification is essential to weather any storms that come. I would have liked to see green energy sector as an option there as well.
- ▶ Tourism seems to be growing, yet there’s no single iconic attraction or landmark here to distinguish ourselves, e.g., Eiffel Tower -- something like that.
- ▶ Transportation off island. Fast ferry should be top priority. Catalyst to develop downtown waterfront to South to estuary
- ▶ “Vancouver Island University should have an agricultural program  
Land linking opportunities should increase between people with land and people who want to grow food  
Free or reduced tuition for young mothers / people going into crisis work  
Increase in green building and alternative energy  
Increase in health and wellness promotion”
- ▶ VI needs to become more self-reliant. We need local businesses and the ability to source materials and bring goods to market on our own. Helping farming initiatives, making vendor costs low, helping startups and existing businesses are integral. We have largely abandoned present entrepreneurs in Nanaimo in favour of new workers and new business, which is no way to respect your existing workforce.
- ▶ We all eat for a living and live on an island ... agriculture will be one of the most important adaptive sectors of the future. How can the city of Nanaimo support this essential service?
- ▶ “We certainly do not need to attract more residents to Nanaimo. We are already full to bursting with little amenities or infrastructure added in recent years.  
Nanaimo is such a beautiful, natural place. Focus on that. Nature tours, kayak tours, environmental stewardship, partnering with First Nations, less resource extraction, more preserving of nature. Arts and culture. Less logging, more growing (sustainable agriculture)”
- ▶ We don't have any tourist attractions...no gondola...no “gardens” etc
- ▶ We have a beautiful downtown waterfront with potential for arts, entertainment, tourism, restaurants, office space, residences, and retail. In order for this area to reach its potential, we need to make this area more safe and clean, which requires continued efforts on dealing with homelessness, addiction, and crime. I support the city’s efforts so far, and encourage continued efforts and focus on these difficult issues.
- ▶ We have a university and trade school that we can expand and enhance. I think we need a world-class resort. We have oceanfront and all the resources and amenities for a great tourism industry. I would like to see the railway lines turned into hiking/biking trails. If you put small campsites in various positions along the tracks and encouraged families to come on biking/camping expeditions, I think tourists would flock to VI. We have a port facility that is excellent, as well as the shining example of our pulp mill. Are there ways to expand on that?
- ▶ “We have many international students. Smart, young people should be working smart jobs. Make it easier to find and hire students.  
We have an abundance of empty lots. Make it easier to build (temporary) urban farms or community

gardens, and make sure they are only asked to dismantle when a developer is actually going to start building.

Provide places for young people to start a business close to home, whether they need a workshop or an office. There are many economically dead zones in Nanaimo (Hammond Bay for example) where you need to drive too far to get to a potential work place).

Solve a part of the housing shortage by making it a lot easier for a business owner to live on business premises. "

- ▶ We have very few large employers, but Nanaimo is not known for its skilled workforce and I see this as a barrier. Myself and my husband both have "Vancouver jobs" that we do remotely because there is very little here that meets our career level.
- ▶ We need densification
- ▶ We need more diversity of income. This will increase our cash flow
- ▶ We need more local, sustainable businesses that provide a living wage. At this time, the "big" employers in the region seem to be focused on resource extraction and many jobs seem to be focused in the non-profit sector.
- ▶ we need the world's best drug treatment centre to help our residents, clean up our city and provide career and training opportunities
- ▶ We need to attract the jobs, education and cultural improvements that attract the people that attract the improvement in quality of life and tax base.
- ▶ We need to be maximizing our waterfront and the fact that we have a very well-educated population of workers. We also have many opportunities for small-scale local farming and we should be reinforcing local food security. This means moving away from historical resource and service-based industries that have predominately provided local employment.
- ▶ We need to develop more businesses in the field of technology, this is the wave of the future.
- ▶ We need to develop our tech sector, it is a booming industry that can make a significant difference to the economy
- ▶ We need to do all we can to ensure NO increase in resource industries. Although getting bigger is probably inevitable, we need to let go of the idea of "growth-at-any-cost"
- ▶ We need to ensure all businesses are worthy. That they pay a living wage, that they help employees contribute to the economy rather than just survive. The University has great potential to expand. It should be encouraged. We must encourage First Nations involvement and agreement with how Nanaimo moves forward. We are on unceded land. Settlers took it. It must be recognized and rectified going forward.
- ▶ We need to grow more of our own food again on the island.
- ▶ We need to make our city very attractive for employees, so that employers are motivated to locate their businesses (jobs) here.
- ▶ "We need to retain our agriculture, always. Grow more vegetables and support farmers. We also, need manufacture of certain commodities so that we are less dependent on transportation to bring items here. In this uncertain age we need to be more independent in case of any crisis. "
- ▶ We need to spread out full time well paying jobs across the city. The south end requires more retail and business outlets

- ▶ we need to support our small businesses such as retail, food services etc. we need to house people working in restaurants making minimum wage a successful downtown is all about its services!!!!  
downtowns don't exist if there is nothing to access.
- ▶ We we'd more resources put into tourism and recreation. We should capitalize on the fact that we are an amazing seaside city with access to the marine and natural environment.
- ▶ "Weaknesses- Cost of Ferry use for acquiring goods, raw materials to do business. Lack of access and up to date Health Services for area north of Malahat and areas that could be served by enhanced models out of Nanaimo for Central, North Island.. Cost for sole proprietorship, small entrepreneur, start ups to acquire suitable business space (enormous rents with punishing leases) and lack of diverse retail site opportunities in new-builds, which mainly focus on industrial uses. Lack of support for businesses experiencing huge negative impact on ability to do business while located in Downtown or Old City Quarter locations due to social disorder and poor planning and management of Safe Injection Site. Seeming inability of Nanaimo to access additional innovative supports for those facing opioid addiction issues eg. what is being provided at sites in Vancouver/Victoria, even though per capital, numbers impacted in Nanaimo are similar to, or greater than, in those locations. Access to affordable housing for those whose work lies in traditionally lower paying careers.

Strengths-Location on Vancouver Island as a gateway to the entire Island for the development and support of diversified enterprise and tourism/recreation. Much interest and availability of top notch artists/musicians/theatre buffs in the rich Arts and Culture scene among those who live here, and who come as tourists. Growth of the technology sector and opportunities to work in decentralized locations due to readily available strong internet in the City and surrounding areas. Innovative spirit and work ethos of those choosing to become entrepreneurs.

Opportunities-Continue to work with those advocating for the reorganization of BC Ferries to facilitate the utilization of the "water highway", in order to better support business on the Island. Work collaboratively with Island Health and the Province to devise and implement a plan to modernize and grow the availability of, and access to, a full range of health services and supports now currently only available to those in Victoria, despite the population numbers and growing ages of those living north of the Malahat, which will also enhance employment growth significantly, as well as spending power of people in those jobs. Provide incentives for building a range of versatile retail sites that can be rented at a reasonable rate for the first three years of a startup, for example. Or, explore the feasibility of developing retail co-operative sites, that are managed along the lines of the previously very successful (from the utilizer's perspective) housing co-operative model, where the "tenants" have direct input and personal responsibility for the management of the co-operative site.

- ▶ Well since the city of nanaimo clearly does not have its residents best interest in mind, I have serious concerns about our city's future. Getting rid of RCMP and City of Nanaimo dispatchers and now fire dispatchers puts Nanaimo at far greater risk! The number of mistakes made by Ecomm sending 911 calls to the wrong call centres and not having local dispatchers who know and care about our city puts the lives of police officers and fire fighters at greater risk! I hoped when the RCMP dispatch centre was lost that there would be a public outcry, knowing it didn't happen means 13 amazing women who support families and local businesses are no longer going to be employed.
- ▶ When people visit from East Asia they are horrified w/ the drugs/homeless population.
- ▶ While economic development should definitely be a priority, it should be managed so as to protect the environment, a good quality of life in the city and a measured, low to medium density of property development.

- ▶ With an aging population, I think diagnostics and health services could grow. Many people in our city are interested in green technology startups and food security for the island. Urban agriculture including commercial hothouses should be encouraged. The growth of Indigenous study opportunities at VIU is encouraging.
- ▶ With the crime going on presently, there is no hope for any of those opportunities above
- ▶ “With the e-world, a trend is home based business and people working from home. Current licensing feels punitive in cost and, in most cases unnecessary. As a consequence, many people hide their full or part time employment.

The move toward more electronic retail, education, recreation and health care services is also irreversible. So the question above is not nuanced enough.

“

- ▶ work to improve the city infrastructure, as well as doing something about derelict and empty buildings and empty lots where businesses/green space should reside. Start taking pride in the infrastructure we do have to make our city look way more presentable to potential businesses who are think of moving here.
- ▶ Would love to see Nanaimo as a tourist destination rather than just a place you drive through after you get off the ferry. How about some ocean view restaurants, more activities in Benson (gondola, zipline), etc.
- ▶ You have the best climate of Canada, a beautiful waterfront, a University, lots of nature and parks – we should be attracting students / artists / retired folks / nature lovers and thereby increase the need for professionals services to serve this community.
- ▶ You will not improve health and public services until you build a decent hospital with up to date facilities and proper cardiac care.
- ▶ Your first two questions assume growth is of value. I do not agree. Food production and distribution of locally produced food is where the focus needs to be.

## REIMAGINE NANAIMO IDEAS QUESTIONNAIRE

Q5. Do you have further comments about your answer to the question above (do you feel the quality of life has improved or worsened in the last 10 years)?

- ▶ It feels like there is more challenges in housing affordability, access to mental health services, access to health care and a noticeable increase in homelessness and drug use. Downtown is no longer vibrant and especially because of COVID an uncomfortable place to be.
- ▶ ""- Drug addicted criminals mostly my area of town ( old downtown area )  
Do not feel safe in my neighbourhood walking early morning , evening  
Night ( have felt safer in cities such as Hanoi, Saigon, Bangkok, London  
And many other cities even late at night.  
- no law enforcement re all traffic violations  
- by law enforcement is a joke. No enforcement re; jaywalking,  
bicycling on sidewalks, through crosswalks etc. ( especially along Front  
Street, swyalana lagoon along waterfront to Gabriela ferry )  
"
- ▶ I moved here with my family in 2007 to the downtown southend neighborhood, which was as it had character. The neighborhood seemed to slowly improve over the next 5 years but then started to decline and is now worse than when we first moved here.
- ▶ Unfortunately, I am made to feel so nervous, anxious, vulnerable; in my daily comings & goings (usually on foot) by homeless people taking over certain and various locations on my routes, scouting through my neighbourhood, panhandling, gathering in parks, (Maffeo-Sutton, Millstream Bridge for example), on streets, verbalizing their pleas & expectations of donations during these encounters, both individuals & groups, and I am offended for the sake of our City when they assume to walk away from, and abandon their often unsafe (needles) garbage, carts, clothing, that for some reason they now assume NOT picking up after themselves is their rightful behaviour. (leaving others to pick up after them, expecting their City to bear the cost. ) Although I feel compassion, and donate as able, I know that as a City, Nanaimo must not give up trying to find solutions, make sure this doesn't increase. As a senior, I don't know how to help with this social problem, other than do my best to protect myself, my property, and help out the odd individual from time to time, cautiously, lest familiarity occurs, expectations & harassment increase. so difficult.
- ▶ ""- Urban development standards have improved.  
- Greater attention to converting streets for multi modal transportation and use of roundabouts.  
- Playground features and accessibility has improved specifically for kids under the age of 3"
- ▶ "  
.city taxes have increased almost every year where as wages have not  
.lack of long term planning for commuting by bike to work/school in many areas including departure bay , where as traffic congestion has increased. Better public transit and Safe walking/ cycling paths would help decrease traffic . Once in place, then having paid parking for everyone ( staff at hospital who already pay, pacific biological center, schools, city employees etc) may have some people choosing other means of transportation which would be better for the environment and everyone's health by exercising more.  
.The most important reason is the decreased safety around neighbourhoods since homelessness and addictions have increased . Break ins have increased in our neighbourhood and everywhere . There is

more fear walking/ shopping downtown because of crime and people who appear to have addiction issues .

. Ferry rates have increased such that it isn't very affordable for many families. Consider a different rate for tourists versus island residents. Our taxes help pay for highways elsewhere and perhaps more funding should be given to have ferries more accessible. "

- ▶ 1) Theft and crime has risen dramatically 2)Related to point one, this is directly related to increasing drug use 3) Residents have lost their city, it is run by drug zombies and their enablers, this is fact. We pay all the taxes, but we can't go to parks without getting accosted, we can't walk downtown anymore without seeing passed out people. Give them forced treatment centres and everything gets wiped out. Stop enabling, they know they can do what they want and they know that the judicial system will let them off. I wish no ill will on the users, but laws are set for a reason, when others see them flaunted they too break them and it sets a chain of events in motion. To summarize, the city does not feel safe anymore, the residents are under attack with theft and begging daily.
- ▶ "1. The perception of increased crime and substance use is married to the influx of homeless individuals and support gaps in working with these individuals.  
2. Nanaimo feels no less atomized than it did 10 years ago. the ""hidden job market"" remains code for employing family friends and relatives with newcomers expected to take their place on the bottom rungs of an already impoverished employment market.  
3. People are priced out of homes.  
4. Disolusionment amongst young people who have limited vocational opportunities or training on their horizons (alternatives to university)."
- ▶ "10 years ago I never had to worry about my personal safety or property at home or at work. Now, between thieves and vandalism, I am on edge and feel unsafe in my own area far too often.  
"
- ▶ 8 years ago when i was attending VIU in nanaimo for the first time, there seemed to be virtually no crime. i forgot to lock my car doors a few times and nothing happened. rent was reasonable. there werent a handful of junkies roaming the downtown core on every street corner. there wasnt a risk of stepping on a needle in a public place while having a picnic. i didnt have to worry about any of my possessions being stolen all the time. the beauty of the landscape and waterfront in nanaimo is still there, but its been heavily tarnished by the lack of backbone of our city in dealing with the homeless junkies that roam around stealing and vandalizing.
- ▶ A job that I am fond of doing and steady progress made to a career which leads to financial relief contributed to the improvement of life quality
- ▶ A lot of improvements have been made, major area to improve on it development. Residential and commercial. We need more dwellings for a swelling population, it's not only difficult to find a rental suite but increasingly difficult to purchase one as there isn't much on the market.
- ▶ Access on and off the island has become more a headache; the way that Nanaimo has continued to "spread out" has become more of hinderance to reaching all areas far too many homeless people allowed to stay here and the consequences of this is evident everywhere with ever-increasing traffic on even the sidestreets, there needs to be more pedestrian-controlled traffic crossings (especially in the north end) roads in the north end are not being thought out well - with more and more traffic lights being needed even a few hundred metres apart.
- ▶ "Access to nature is getting worse. Increased logging at Doumont, military land around Westwood, Copley Ridge getting developed, clearing treed areas for furniture stores..

Plus increased population means the remaining trails and natural areas are becoming busier.”

- ▶ Access to sanctioned parks and trails has decreased. Increase vehicle traffic, specifically in large trucks (oversized pick ups) on roads – which create more pollution not only due to exhaust but more particulate matter due to wear of tires on asphalt. Land in city being clear cut in order to accommodate more strip malls and furniture stores – lack of foresight in terms of housing density and access to nature. Building dense housing without easy access to parks (and no a few trees on a corner lot DO NOT equal a park), is basically creating our own version of the projects and decreases the quality of life for everyone in the community.
- ▶ Added population and traffic due to relatively unrestricted development due to climate, a linear profile due to coastal position, and housing costs in Vancouver and Victoria lead to money making opportunities to retire here for retirees and for developers. This does not improve the quality of life here.
- ▶ Additional natural and open land has been used for single family housing which is a sub-optimal resource usage, removing valuable space that could have been used for common value projects (like parks, farms, plazas, etc) and instead has been used for low-density development.
- ▶ address homelessness causing unsafe downtown and petty crime
- ▶ Affordability is decreasing exponentially. It’s getting too big/busy. The downtown is sad, it could be so much more.
- ▶ Affordability of housing is a big concern now
- ▶ Affordability of the working poor families.
- ▶ Affordability with housing and letting drug addicts run our city.
- ▶ Affordable access to housing has diminished. Even as a working professional, I find the rents too high. The increase in homelessness and as a result, petty crime has created a community that does not feel safe in their own homes or neighbourhoods. One other thing I have noticed is the lack of maintenance and lack of cleanliness in Nanaimo.
- ▶ “Air Polution from Harmac reduced.  
More trail connectors and bike paths”
- ▶ All the young people are leaving due to rising costs. I pay 1000 on a studio that would cost me 600 4 years ago.
- ▶ Alot more people and less resources
- ▶ Although housing has increased in costs, we have seen fresh new life move into Nanaimo. With more cultured people moving from different places, the demand for better restaurants, waterfront and general cultured life is increasing
- ▶ Although new facilities have been made available, community schools have been very restricted for adult use, and Nanaimo Arts closed the very central community store front thus restricting rotating show-case arts.
- ▶ Although our particular life is rated amazing, there are more and more visibly a lot worse off and we see them in “very” poor
- ▶ Although overall quality is about the same, homelessness issues are negatively impacting our view of many areas in Nanaimo (downtown, waterfront, Country Club.
- ▶ Although some aspects have improved, like investment in the community there is a growing social problem and lack of investment in infrastructure that negates the good things that we see.

- ▶ Although the RCMP are doing a quality job for what they are dealing with, it's our local government and justice that seemingly refusing to properly punish criminals.
- ▶ Although there are far more people now. I tell new people to 'seek out the nice spots in Nanaimo, as it does has very nice places.
- ▶ Amenities have greatly improved, but downtown open drug use and homelessness and harassment by homeless mentally unstable people toward others just going about their business in public spaces seems out of scale for the size of this city.
- ▶ An increase in crime and what seems to be the decimation of green areas to make room for more unaffordable apartments and condos
- ▶ An increasing lack of low barrier housing. An overt indifference to homelessness by city leadership.
- ▶ Appears increase in poverty and access to services needed for many.
- ▶ Appreciate improved engineering implementation of existing standards.
- ▶ Are you kidding? Our downtown is completely unusable and a total embarrassment. Everyone can focus on the north end or take the highway around it to pretend its not there, but it is disgusting whats happened to this town
- ▶ As a female living in the downtown area, I feel as though I am unable to safely walk in the evenings alone, which limits my ability to be outside and impacts my feelings of safety in my own home. As a young adult, living in Nanaimo is expensive, giving me limited options for being able to choose the neighbourhood I live in.
- ▶ As a Nanaimo native now in my early 79d, whose family arrived here in the 1890s, I can bear witness to the fact that the quality of life has significantly deteriorated in Nanaimo and region. Destruction of natural habitat as a result of unregulated growth, an exponential increase in traffic (and with it the shift by a majority of residents to large SUVs and pickup trucks), among other ruinous developments has effectively undermined most of the modest land use and transportation goals set out in the OCP.
- ▶ As a new resident I was attracted here by employment at the City, but my decision was reinforced by the increasingly high profile and ambitious programming in the Nanaimo Art Gallery and the growing sense of responsibility toward First Nations communities. A sense of culture is very important to my sense of belonging and desire to stay in a community.
- ▶ As a renter who grew up here in Nanaimo, I have been forced to move three times in less than 2 years simply because my landlords kept selling to new owners, usually from out of town. Each time I had to leave, I was forced to move into a smaller, less ideal situation for the same cost or more. The rental supply here is simply too low, and the cost of living for rental housing, even just for a room in a house, is just too high! We need affordable housing that will remain perpetually affordable, not increase in cost due to gentrification or changes in the real estate market. Otherwise, the young people and low income people of this community will continually be forced to leave or live in squalor, and neighbourhoods that have long been 'working class' will lose their sense of community as people are pushed out.
- ▶ "As Nanaimo grows we need better transportation options especially in the south end to airport, ferries duke point, Ladysmith, Cedar Areas. We also need to stop trying to revamp downtown it's a 40 year lost cause. Better roads in south end were developing so fast we need better access in and out of this area. We need far more affordable housing for Low income families and Seniors not market rate but actual low income housing like they built in the sixties. I agree bike routes are important but we need to fix other area's before spending millions on new bike routes. Seniors and young families need housing and more recreation facilities to improve this city."

- ▶ As Nanaimo increases the social aspect of parks and trails, it becomes a nicer place to live.
- ▶ "As property values have increased the number of people moving here has put a strain on our resources. More people in parks. More people on Harbourfront Walkway. All good but is more crowded.

I judge a community on the amount of graffiti there is. Graffiti has exploded in the town and it makes me feel like our quality of life is diminishing. We need to be more proactive eliminating graffiti in public spaces and creating bylaws to force private property owners to quickly remove graffiti. Graffiti reflects very poorly on us.

But the biggest impact has been the increase of homeless people. I realize that improvements from BC Housing are coming but the overwhelmingness of this issue is hard on residents. From Tent City to Newcastle Place to Wesley Street to people camping through out the town it is depressing on residents. Many of these folks need help. Prior to Covid I would never have thought the Province would spend so much on a community wide problem like Covid but I think that we have the will and the resources to spend on drastically reducing homelessness. Perhaps purchasing the Howard Johnson and using this facility would be a good idea."

- ▶ At 65 yrsold, born in this town and now everywhere I go asked for something or threatened. Don't feel safe walking in my neirbourhood after living here for almost 30 years. Tents everywhere, drug deals everywhere, panhandling everywhere,
- ▶ At first a somewhat regretful transplant from Victoria, but soon realized it was a very good move.
- ▶ Background on my response. I lived in Nanaimo from ages 0-18, then Victoria ages 18-27. I moved back this summer as I start work at an accounting firm in September. A lot of the qualms I have with Nanaimo are due to the fact that I'm comparing it to Victoria, but the main thing for me is the lack of bike lanes and the constant feeling of urban development encroaching on ecologically sensitive areas. Victoria seems to do a better job of keeping lots of little parks throughout and integrating native trees in the streets, nature in general. I understand that Nanaimo needs to become denser, and sometimes nature gets in the way... but it would be nice to encourage taller buildings and leave as undisturbed green space between as possible. One specific area that may be threatened by development is between Hammond Bay Road and Wavecrest Drive (via Serabi Place), essentially it's a beautiful Garry Oak meadow overlooking departure bay, with camas fields that bloom in May incredible areas like that really need to be purchased by the city and protected.
- ▶ Beautification and improvements in public spaces have been offset by increasing homelessness and public drug use.
- ▶ Beautiful parks but not really a lot to draw people here. No real Xmas lights or displays, we take our friends to Victoria or Ladysmith. Unless you like hockey or soccer there isn't any help for other activities for kids. Downtown is laughable and not attractive. City Taxes have gotten impossible to pay, no help for adult children with disabilities. Basically Nanaimo is boring unless you want to visit parks, eat bland food that the 65 crowd enjoys or watch hockey. Shame as there is so much potential for winter carnivals with activities like ive seen in other cities.
- ▶ Before COVID hits, I have seen more community events and art in the city, which i find is one of the most important thing.
- ▶ Being afraid to walk down some streets and parks has changed my quality of life
- ▶ Better parks and trails, way better council now than a few years ago, good projects (extending Boxwood Road although it really needs sidewalks), excellent cultural opportunities

- ▶ Better than average Canadian city
- ▶ "Between 2005 and maybe 2017 downtown became more vibrant, new economic opportunities came along etc. but homelessness and Covid concerns have led to setbacks"
- ▶ "Big increases in homeless/drugs/crime which are inter related  
Deterioration of downtown related to the above (we never go downtown anymore)  
Homeless spoiling city parks as well. City is far to tolerant at our expense (taxes & enjoyment)  
City's current obsession with higher density housing is ruining neighbourhoods and will result in future slums."
- ▶ Building residents to quickly and not considering NATURAL GREEN SPACES
- ▶ Can't answer as I just moved here in 2019
- ▶ Can't go anywhere without someone asking for money to many drug people in our town also graffiti on the city!
- ▶ Can't really comment too much on it. I've been here for two years, and I really don't think it's fair to compare COVID and it's impact on the quality of life. I mean things prior to COVID were really good!
- ▶ Certain things improved, others worsened
- ▶ Certainly improved from 30 years ago, but increasing development needs to be done at a measured pace and lower intensity to avoid turning Nanaimo into a mini-version of Vancouver. More high-rises and large building footprints jeopardize the character and attraction of life in Nanaimo.
- ▶ City amenities and infrastructure have improved but homelessness has taken over some parts of the city in last few years.
- ▶ City Council is always so divided that important initiatives do not get completed, such as the expansion of the Port Theatre and turning the Conference Centre into a useful community resource. Too much emphasis on tourism and not enough concern for local citizens. Enough with the high priced studies on Downtown. Create artist live work spaces and the public will come. The cruise ship terminal and conference centre are costly disasters that hold our city back.
- ▶ City does not monitor parks well, and regulatory signs are missing with little detail for most parks, but especially Maffeo-Sutton Park and Queen Elizabeth II park has no signs at all. Parking is not enforced, dogs run around with no leashes. People pee and poop under the bridge and nearby. smells and is unsanitary to say the least.
- ▶ City seems like it's definitely working on improvements
- ▶ City zoning must be more flexible to allow opportunities for higher density on existing lots, ie secondary dwellings, tiny houses. More and better transit is ESSENTIAL to address traffic, affordable transport, environmental issues. Developers must be required to build sidewalks, ensure accessibility in new developments.
- ▶ Clearly homelessness and drug addiction need to be addressed. Housing affordability and safe neighbourhoods seem to be at risk. Lower to middleclass housing is becoming unaffordable. But bike lane and walkability seems to be improving although proper crosswalks with lights near schools are needed. We need to start developing neighbourhoods in the city instead of using undeveloped greenspace on the edges of the city. And a year round farmer's market should be a priority.
- ▶ Colliery Dam & Centennial park revival has made quality of life better, as well live nearby. The street population and drug use, along with increased crime, has decreased the quality of life and enjoyment in

going downtown

- ▶ Community (City and District) governments have been top-heavy, confrontive, controversial and ruled by administrivia. Hopefully this will change.
- ▶ “Community involvement, road and water works updating police presence all good, The main problem is the petty crime around the hard to house population. We all agree they need help, not just housing, and that may mean a residential/hospital, with a locked gate, and social, medical – physical and mental, and good nutrition. Taught to become citizens again.”
- ▶ Community views on how to help homeless and crime, increased cost of rent everywhere. Not enough support for addiction and mental health and community knowledge of those effected by them. People driving in the left lane and blocking traffic which leads to congestion and accidents. Transit is so difficult to use here on sundays its almost pointless to even have it. I have a bus schedule from 10 years ago, the lines and frequency have stayed about the same despite the increase in population which has resulted in more commuters on the road and more accidents. Accidents in the nanoose/lantzville area that completely bring highway traffic to a stand still for hours is inexcusable. We are a corridor for travellers and we have no alternate route.
- ▶ Constant drug abuse, homelessness and theft. You can't go one day without someone wandering onto your property to steal and vandalize. DO SOMETHING besides enabling them by giving them food and a free place to hide their stolen property.
- ▶ cost of housing has skyrocket
- ▶ cost of housing, drug abuse, homelessness, local swimming holes along nanaimo river not valued or protected, our local ecology is suffering and in our family's opinion Vancouver Island's ecology is what makes it an attractive , beautiful place to live
- ▶ Cost of living and taxes are too high
- ▶ Cost of living has gone up but the job market and pay rates haven't. Downtown has become less family friendly due to crime, homeless and drug addicted. City spends too much time, money and effort on homeless/drug addicted without addressing the issues that put them there and treating them rather than enabling.
- ▶ COST OF LIVING HAS INCREASED AND INCOME FOR RETIREES HAS NOT.
- ▶ Cost of living is going up. Population and associated costs will only continue to go up as Nanaimo becomes more of a suburb to Victoria/Vancouver however city infrastructure is seriously lacking to address those needs. The spread of development through the north end has been done in poor planning and arterial roads through central Nanaimo are very clogged. There are some promising developments that can help re-centralize Nanaimo and promote more accessible housing; more environmentally friendly with high density housing centred in the downtown/old city area where less use of cars is necessary and foot/bike is a viable option. Ultimately the old city core needs a serious strategy to support our city as it grows; both to help declutter the sporadic subdevelopments that are currently driving the population increase but also really to create a stronger more vibrant community focused around our beautiful downtown that has been under-utilized historically.
- ▶ Cost of living keeps increasing while job opportunities are stagnant.
- ▶ Council is doing nothing to address the crime, make applications to increase our judicial system , and stop wasting tax payer money on housing homeless without major consultation prior too. Nanaimo has let this town slowly fall apart . nothing is being done to improve the seawalk, and other areas. Nanaimo closely resembles a small downtown vancouver type waterfront, yet fails miserably to put forth any effort

to catch up to it and represent a NICER place .

- ▶ “COVID-19 hasn’t helped, but there should be no homelessness, no one should live in tents. Too many stores, small and big, closing doors. Too many empty buildings downtown and at malls. Lots of talks about different projects (ex. extending boardwalk, foot ferry to Vancouver, train to Victoria and Comox...), but not happening. Nice improvement to parks (ex. playground Maffeo–Sutton Park), great Harewood skateboard park :-). I enjoy the Nanaimo museum and Art Gallery exhibits; Boarder X was a great one for the whole family. Art Labs programs are super initiatives for children. Great library services.”
- ▶ Crime and drug addiction, as well as homelessness and mental health crises, seem to have increased in visibility and severity. There is general disrepair and “hollowing out” of commercial areas while elsewhere, mini-mansions are going up.
- ▶ Crime and drug issues have made Nanaimo feel unsafe
- ▶ Crime and drug use has increased significantly since I moved here in 2011, making it feel much less safe
- ▶ Crime and explosion of population. We don’t have the infrastructure to handle the growth, especially health care and traffic. Our neighbourhood is being densified and is riddled with crime. I grew up in this neighbourhood at a time when we didn’t even have to lock our doors and I could walk the streets at night feeling safe. As a child I could make the 30 minute walk to Departure Bay school by myself. I no longer feel safe in this neighbourhood.
- ▶ Crime and homeless issues. Also the reduction of forests locally is troubling, ie when large developments roll in. Large natural areas should be protected as parks.
- ▶ Crime and homelessness and drug issues have increased in the last 10 years making downtown and neighbourhood communities (Harewood) feel less safe. Building in the empty lots downtown Nanaimo and finding real sustainable options for the issues above would help with overall quality of life.
- ▶ Crime and homelessness has exploded in the past years
- ▶ Crime and homelessness has increased. Increase street cops walking
- ▶ Crime and homelessness is the largest detraction from our city and the #1 reason I ranked my quality of life in Nanaimo as neutral. If the city invests in dealing with the issue the other things such as rise in tourism will follow.
- ▶ Crime and vagrancy in my neighborhood has increased and I feel way less safe
- ▶ Crime has become a bigger problem.
- ▶ Crime has increased significantly. The safety of tax paying citizens is being put at risk and the criminals are not being held accountable for their actions. Rehab or jail, free housing is not the solution
- ▶ Crime has increased substantially. Had to move once because of it. Crime is by far our biggest concern and we have talked about leaving town because of it. We plan to move as soon as we retire because of the crime and lack of sense of community.
- ▶ Crime has risen, homeless population has increased significantly, open drug use is rampant, litter and lack of public toilets, not enough street clean up downtown and area, too much social housing/services concentrated in downtown area. Should be dispersed to city council’s neighbourhoods and more in the north end of town
- ▶ Crime is skyrocketing

- ▶ crime rate has increased a lot. We avoid going downtown, because of homeless people/ drug addicts/ crime. Neighborhoods close to the new homeless housing complexes (Terminal and Labieux) are crime stricken, and very unattractive to live close to.
- ▶ Crime safety
- ▶ "Crime, homelessness which brings crime to our neighbourhoods, and not feeling safe in our beautiful waterfront"
- ▶ Crime, lack of affordable housing, destruction of forests, need to encourage and aid local food production in neighbourhoods, back yards, co-op gardens, small livestock.
- ▶ Crime, poverty & homelessness are a huge problem. Housing is no longer affordable. However, Nanaimo has so much potential & lots of great new businesses have started in the past 10 years.
- ▶ Crime, sprawl, slow core improvements.
- ▶ Crimes due to drug addiction, homeless, noise level due to high industrial daily commercial/ construction traffic in residential areas, I live by the hospital and the past decade has been loud with traffic.
- ▶ cultural and recreational opportunities have increased and there is a growing awareness of environmental; issuesen
- ▶ Decreasing affordability, abandoned citizens and spaces.
- ▶ Definitely got worse with the placement of Emergency Housing (Labieux) into our neighbourhood. Now we lived in a locked down armed home. It has been extremely traumatic having your doors smashed into at 3am by people trying to break into your house, picking up needles and empty alcohol bottles on your front lawn and dealing with your property being spray painted & vandalized. We moved here to retire and enjoy our later years. All we've experienced is more and more daily traumas, stress, turmoil as we watch City Council support their own special interest projects and do nothing to make our life and those of our neighbours safer and better.
- ▶ Definitely has lost the beer drinking mill worker vibe it had 10years ago
- ▶ Definitely improved in the last 30 yrs, starting w/the building of the Port Theatre. BUT the downtown area needs attention.
- ▶ "Density is too high. We do not need highrises on the waterfront."
- ▶ develop the water front
- ▶ difficult to find a doctor, increase of homeless and addicts in our area
- ▶ DO NOT CHANGE THE ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW REGARDING ROAMING CATS
- ▶ Do something about the drug addicts downtown, they are ruining our city
- ▶ Don't feel safe in the downtown core
- ▶ Don't have enough of a history in the City
- ▶ Downtown has become more attractive, although it feels less safe because of crime.
- ▶ Downtown has become much less vibrant. Downtown small businesses at risk of going under. Homelessness and crime are through the roof.
- ▶ Downtown has developed. There have been upgrades to roads, specifically Northfield and old Island

Highway. Increase in park land.

- ▶ Downtown has gotten worse where other areas, such as Departure Bay, Bowen Road, and Woodgrove have improved.
- ▶ downtown is getting better and better. Loved the open air market in the summer on commercial (pre-covid). Getting more people to revitalize downtown has seen it become a better part of the city.
- ▶ Downtown is in decay
- ▶ Downtown is much worse because of homelessness and drugs. Facilities and Suburbs have grown and improved
- ▶ Downtown is suffering more every year. Crimes (especially theft) are on the rise. I don't feel as safe and secure in the spaces I used to love.
- ▶ Downtown looks like a ghost town. Visited a business and was harassed by some homeless street people. Hate going downtown. Not safe.
- ▶ Downtown Nanaimo has a seedy feel to it and I feel less safe than I did 3 years ago.
- ▶ Downtown not vibrant. Needs cleaning. Remove cars. Need communal public space.
- ▶ Downtown used to be the place our family would spend time, with the increased crime and other issues related to the homeless population we rarely spend time there now.
- ▶ "Drug addicts and homeless have ruined this City. I can no longer brag at how great this City is cause there are so many areas that people cannot enjoy or even feel safe walking around anymore. I have family visit from out of province the last few years and they are shocked now. Nanaimo felt like paradise when we relocated from across the Country 14 years ago. I honestly find myself thinking of leaving sometimes now. Makes me sad to admit it."
- ▶ drug addicts and theft have left the downtown core a war zone that I have sold my interests in thankfully.
- ▶ Drug addicts making the city a less safe place to live vs 10 years ago
- ▶ "Drug addicts rule in this town and council emboldens them with BC Housing expanding their attraction to Nanaimo. Do you want good citizens or a crime culture. Send them to the hills and out of our communities. Supporting them expands the problem.enough  
As a senior its safer for me to live away in the wilderness and away from basic amenities.  
Enough  
"
- ▶ drug use and crime has taken over the city. Dangerous and sketchy place to live.
- ▶ Drug use, homelessness and crime is destroying our neighbourhoods.
- ▶ Drugs and crime are quickly ruining this city.
- ▶ Drugs, homelessness and crime has spread throughout city, not just in a few key areas of town
- ▶ drugs, property crime, homelessness...very evident. Not enjoyable or safe to go downtown.
- ▶ Due to the amount of population increase, the traffic is getting worse. The City along with the Province needs to look at further upgrades to the Parkway accessibility (i.e. elimination of lights and inclusion of ramps).
- ▶ Due to the rampant drug use, crime and homelessness, the quality of life has greatly diminished in this town over the past 10 years.

- ▶ Education and affordability have worsened and the prosperity gap widening. Childcare, education and support for families need to be addressed
- ▶ Effects of poverty.
- ▶ Even though the city has grown. It has become an expensive place to live. More poverty. More homelessness and more drug use in the past 5 years than I have ever seen
- ▶ Ever since the tent city was erected downtown it seem like the city has given up on trying to eliminate the burden this situation has caused for our hard working taxpayers. Yes house the homeless but not without conditions. If someone is caught committing any crime while in taxpayer funded housing send them to jail.
- ▶ EVERY morning i drive pass open drug uses on my way to work and petty crime eveywhere
- ▶ Every year it improves, and I hope nanaimo grows every year in a positive forward direction.
- ▶ Expanding parks and trails, more diverse people moving here.
- ▶ Failure in financial sustainability and lobbying provincial government for new health care facilities and medical doctors
- ▶ Far too many people coming to Nanaimo who ignore the fact that this is an island and as such it has limitations on things like garbage .
- ▶ Far too much construction going on .
- ▶ Feel like it has more potential as people want to move from mainland but it's not meeting that potential because it lacks charm overall.
- ▶ "Firstly, there is a serious problem with the framing of this question. Why are you asking about how we 'feel' about the quality of life? You should have REAL economic data that tells gives you information to make wiser decisions. Having a feeling is just that, a feeling. This type of question gives the impression that the challenges we have have are perception, or pride of place, and lack thereof. This line of questioning is a waste of everyone's time. Get real data, analyze it, discuss it, present it to the community and give context. Not a difficult thing to do, but would offer tremendous insight into the serious issues that our community faces.

But if you really want to know how I feel, based on zero data, only anecdotal points, then here you are:

I feel that quality of life has deteriorated and community leaders lack the skills and sophistication to make the city better. There is a reason why investment in the downtown core is not happening. There are reasons why the waterfront continues to decay and lacks services and amenities. But HONEST discussions and debates are not being had because the political will to change does not exist. Why is this questionnaire showcasing Nanaimo Harbour? The City has no say as to what happens in the harbour, it's federal land - and being misrun by an agency that has clearly demonstrated profound levels of racism, incompetence and financial mismanagement.

This has all been said before, many times, ad nauseum. But nothing changes. Why? Perhaps because criticism is often taken personally, and the messenger attacked, ridiculed and/or forced out of town. So what is the point? The same issues have been discussed for decades, and still no plausible solution has been championed, and there are no qualitative or quantitative benchmarks for success. Sadly, I'd wager that many decision-makers in Nanaimo don't even know what either of those benchmarks would signify. "

- ▶ For a city in the range of 100k people there aren't any real restaurants in town. Infrastructure is left to rot

or become overgrown with weeds. Homelessness is out of control. Police are overworked dealing with drug addicted mental health related criminals from all over the country (with more coming here every day).

- ▶ For many people, Nanaimo has become unaffordable. Also, the downtown is an embarrassment. I wish it was vibrant, with options to enjoy the waterfront (Granville Island idea). It would be great if Commercial St. was pedestrian only.
- ▶ For me all is good, but it feels like a struggle for many, mostly finding affordable places to live. This causes more homelessness and hopelessness...
- ▶ For myself it has improved, as we own a home and can mostly afford to live here. It has gotten increasingly worse for people with lower income, addictions, and lack of affordable housing.
- ▶ For our family it worsened because 3 walk-in clinics closed in North Nanaimo during the last 3 years and no family doctors available anywhere in Nanaimo. North Nanaimo is growing rapidly but clinics are closing there. And the fact that our kids have to study in portables when we have closed Rutherford School is such a shame.
- ▶ For the most part it has stayed the same. However the destruction of the environment in favour of large-scale developments is concerning and has decreased my enjoyment of the city.
- ▶ For us there has been no significant change. The lack of affordable housing for those with one income is a huge issue. You cannot pay \$1600 a month for rent when you don't make enough to eat.
- ▶ For us, Q of L embodies overall well-being and happiness, including access to school, work opportunities, absence of military conflict, crime or threats, as well as good, physical and emotional health. From my perspective, issues and problems confronting us today include those involving fiscal difficulties, housing, traffic, pollution, public education, and crime.
- ▶ From a new resident perspective; I can see Nanaimo suffering from poor urban planning. With the urban sprawl being a foreseeable issue, public transit should (at least) be more convenient and reliable. This is applicable not just to Nanaimo but to the rest of Vancouver Island. I hear traffic from Nanaimo to Victoria has worsened considerably over the past few years from long term residents here. However, there are very few buses and no commute trains to cut this congestion. It's no surprise that the infrastructure is failing to accommodate these growing numbers on this island.
- ▶ From the past 10 years of living in Nanaimo, there has been change through an increase in population and an increase in building stores/homes. Our province is about "Beautiful British Columbia" we are the land with the forests, with more construction ripping through our forests, I believe in another 10 years half our forests will be gone due to the population growing.
- ▶ General improvement in recreation, transport, city engagement over last several years
- ▶ Generally Nanaimo is a pretty livable city. Drugs, social issues, homelessness are very visibly on the rise although none of this has had a direct effect on me.
- ▶ Gentrification has improved access to good quality housing (not affordable) but has displaced some of our most disadvantaged people by eliminating low quality rental stock. While this is overall an improvement it has had negative effects that have increased the visibility of underhoused people in nanaimo.
- ▶ Get homeless people a place to live stop bullshit guys all the time .
- ▶ Getting more expensive than what's appropriate for the quality of life you get
- ▶ Given I've only lived in Nanaimo for 5 years, it is hard to answer a question like this, but the homelessness

issue seems to have increased and needs to be addressed.

- ▶ Good or bad, nothing much changes here in Nanaimo.
- ▶ Graffiti is out of control, Crime is on the rise.
- ▶ Greater disparity in income levels, job security and less access to health care resources and recreation/ arts facilities.
- ▶ Growing up mid island in Errington and Parksville I remember 10–20 years ago Nanaimo wasn't considered a very nice place. Living here twice in the last 5 years has totally changed my perception, not sure if it's a true representation or just one perspective.
- ▶ Hard to really answer this as I have only moved here in November 2019, with a 3 yr period of visiting before relocating after retirement. Every growing city has problems and Nanaimo is no different, however I would have to say it has improved in some areas while other areas it hasn't.
- ▶ Hard to say been living in Nanaimo for 1 year and half now (on the side & i love nanaimo!) What I've heard from long time resident is it as worsened.
- ▶ Have been here only a few years so can't say
- ▶ Have lived here 2.5 years, and my quality of life has stayed the same in that time.
- ▶ Have lived here for only 4 years
- ▶ Have not lived here that long.
- ▶ Have not lived here very long, only a few months.
- ▶ Have only lived here 5 yrs. but some things have improved and some not.
- ▶ Have only lived here 6 of last 10 years. Has gotten more expensive to live here. More homeless.
- ▶ Have only lived here for 5 years, and it has been amazing for me ever since moving here.
- ▶ Have only lived here for 6 years. Have noticed an increase in homelessness and petty crime.
- ▶ Haven't been here 10 years. Increase in homelessness an issue. Empty malls not good either.
- ▶ Haven't been here that long
- ▶ Haven't even lived here a year! Can't meet people due to Covid so poorti ingo. Our part (or Covids)
- ▶ haven't lived here for 10 years yet
- ▶ Haven't lived here long enough to know.
- ▶ Haven't lived long in area to comment
- ▶ Having a city council that actually believes in and follows a plan is heartening so we are not lurching from crisis to crisis. I am a relative newcomer, being here just over 4 years and I am beginning to feel like I have good connections with people here. I am realizing more and more how much natural beauty there is around us within a very short cycle or drive, all within the RDN.
- ▶ Having recently moved to Nanaimo in Fall 2019 I don't have a sense of whether it has improved or worsened.
- ▶ High level of homeless. Beat up and destroyed buildings in the downtown core. No new family friendly activities such as the proposed Discovery marine park Downtown.
- ▶ Higher cost of living, more social issues in the downtown area, longer commute times

- ▶ Higher prices, less jobs
- ▶ Higher taxes, increase in crime, looks basically the same. Nanaimo has a sketchy waterfront (downtown), an unpleasant downtown area (large number of people experiencing homelessness, open drug use, constantly being approached for money), panhandlers at EVERY left hand turn lane throughout the city and so many green spaces being developed into housing.
- ▶ Homeless accommodation leading to crime increase in my Neighborhood . This is not a good thing
- ▶ Homeless and crime have become major issues.
- ▶ Homeless and crime issue needs to be addressed.
- ▶ Homeless and drug addicts on the street. Thieves and junkies operating with impunity
- ▶ Homeless and drug crisis has worsened
- ▶ Homeless and drug usage and drug overdose; terrible. Crime and a dangerous feel to the downtown core. Waterfront has been never well planned and if we are to attract tourism that the place to start as otherwise why visit Nanaimo?
- ▶ Homeless camps have created havoc all over the city. The community has an air of hopelessness. Crime and accountability are way off balance. The contributor is now paying the penalty for the detractors; difficult to work with and difficult to live with.
- ▶ Homeless coupled with drug use and associated crime is a big problem. These unfortunate people need help to quit drugs and rebuild their lives in a safe supportive facility. Tough to change your life when you live under a tarp on Wesley Street or in a park!
- ▶ Homeless drug users and the rise of associated petty crime makes certain places in Nanaimo less desirable to visit. No clear plan to improve this issue. Housing and land prices continue to rise and councils are not focused on making it cheaper for new families
- ▶ homeless have taken my sense of security from my neighborhood
- ▶ Homeless issues, lack of developing In the downtown core, lack of maintenance overgrowth and lack of flowers and beauty to sidewalks boulevards meridians.
- ▶ "–homeless members of our community need to be properly cared for and helped back on their feet  
– cost of living has inflated much faster than minimum wage  
– bus services are minimal, both in terms of routes and scheduling "
- ▶ Homeless population has grown exponentially. There is also a drug crisis that is currently happening.
- ▶ Homeless problem
- ▶ Homeless, criminals are having too many resources directed to them. Need more policing to move them out instead of trying to accomodate them
- ▶ Homelessness along with a lack of affordable housing has gotten worse. Public transportation is terrible.
- ▶ Homelessness and Covid have worsened life here
- ▶ "Homelessness and crime go hand in hand, like it or not. The tent city debacle brought an influx of homeless degenerates with it. I have no problem with taxpayer money being spent on those who genuinely want or need the help for dependency or mental issues. There are many individuals who are taking advantage of this situation and could care less about being productive members of society. A definitive line needs to be drawn to separate these two groups and deal with them accordingly.

Vehicle traffic. Like it or not the combustion automobile is here and is the option that society as a whole has decided is our most convenient means of transportation. This is not going to change anytime soon. A growing population equals more vehicles not fewer. We need more roads and parking spaces in Nanaimo, not fewer. The congestion on residential streets is getting ridiculous due to more basement suites and allowing multi unit developments to have fewer parking spaces. Off street parking should be the onus of developers and homeowners. It is also a pipe dream to think that society is going to change their habits and start walking and biking everywhere. "

- ▶ "Homelessness and crime has brought a poor image to the city that brings the tax payers quality of life they are accustomed to down."  
"
- ▶ Homelessness and Drug Use (particularly in the Downtown / Old City region) has escalated exponentially over the years - Wesley Street is a disaster zone that should never be allowed!
- ▶ Homelessness and drug use out of control to the point our personal safety is at-risk. Had to buy a car because transit is so unsafe, infrequent and doesn't reach outlying areas. Hard to cycle anywhere when there's no place to park my bike or the bike lane suddenly ends
- ▶ Homelessness and drug users is a serious problems. Scared to go downtown and angry about people breaking into my car regularly.
- ▶ Homelessness and drugs and affordability of houses
- ▶ Homelessness and petty crimes have increased while affordable housing has decreased. Improvements in bike lanes and pedestrian walkways (such as the waterfront) have not increased at the speed I would expect in comparison with other communities
- ▶ Homelessness and poverty in Nanaimo are increasing, more jobs are needed
- ▶ Homelessness and rampant tent camps is a major issue. I work every day right next to it and live downtown, so I see it every day.
- ▶ Homelessness appears to have increased, but I don't have the stats to back up this statement.
- ▶ homelessness feels unmanaged. drug use and mental illness doesn't feel well supported. In our 7 years I feel like this has gotten worse, especially in the old city / downtown core
- ▶ Homelessness has become a large issue that is clearly going unaddressed and it will only continue to grow. Helping the marginalized population will provide a stronger foundation for the community that will "filter up", making the entire community stronger.
- ▶ Homelessness has become worse.
- ▶ homelessness has increased and drugs
- ▶ homelessness has increased and gotten worse, otherwise improving on other levels.
- ▶ Homelessness has increased and more people seem to have mental health issues .... likely more drug issues too. I won't go downtown anymore because of beggars, and disrespectful behaviour of many homeless people.
- ▶ Homelessness has increased here as in most other cities/towns in BC.
- ▶ Homelessness has truly impacted the beauty of our city. I'm not sure how less than 1% of the population can dictate our own lifestyle and community
- ▶ Homelessness is affecting our lives

- ▶ Homelessness issues.
- ▶ Homelessness n affordable housing
- ▶ Homelessness, addiction, especially downtown and cost of living (affordable housing)
- ▶ Homelessness, crime & drug usage has gotten worse over the years
- ▶ Homelessness, crime, litter, unsafe parks.
- ▶ Homelessness, drug addicts, vacant buildings and hopeless downtown core.
- ▶ Homelessness, drug use, affordability and loss of green spaces have become real issues for Nanaimo.
- ▶ Homelessness, drug use, crime issue has become a Nanaimo issue instead of a global, federal or provincial issue.
- ▶ “Homelessness, drug use, mental health issues and crime  
Children have to see this, and it’s disturbing “
- ▶ Homelessness, drugs, mental health issues and social problems have increased
- ▶ Homelessness, open drug use, drug paraphernalia left in parks, theft from neighborhood homes, homeless encampments in public spaces, lack of rcmp response time when reporting crimes in progress from addicted people. Resources for marginalized people not increasing even tho the population is increasing le mental health and addiction resources.
- ▶ Homelessness, street people, safety reduced, threats increased by crime and drugs and street people.
- ▶ Homelessness/lawlessness issues have worsened. Housing affordability has worsened. Traffic congestion has worsened.
- ▶ Homelessness; addictions and resulting social disorder has put downtown neighbourhoods into a downward spiral
- ▶ Homlessness, crime, and poverty have become more apparent detracting from tourism, people sense of safety, local shopping, and the downtown overall experience.
- ▶ House prices and rent have increased dramatically more than doubled
- ▶ Housing affordability is top issue for myself and those around me of all age groups.
- ▶ Housing cost is increasing but the city and specifically downtown core has become completely unappealing to visit. There is nothing to attract visitors, a lack of development of new businesses to attract people to city and the downtown core is filled with abandoned and derelict buildings.
- ▶ “-Housing is becoming unaffordable.  
-Too many empty commercial units  
-North and south feel like two different cities”
- ▶ “Housing is no longer affordable for young professionals. The cost of housing has gone up so drastically while our wages are the same and there’s a lack of good jobs.  
The downtown has gone downhill after great improvements were made. It’s really sad.”
- ▶ Housing is so expensive. Friends that would have happily moved here 10 years ago are now priced out of the market. The city is too spread out. There is a disconnect between the “rich” north end and the rest of Nanaimo. Nanaimo has not done its duty to the First Nations people and as the years move on that is becoming more and more obvious.
- ▶ “Housing market prices are enormous! Property taxes are way too high. It’s becoming unaffordable here.

The drug crisis is out of control. Council doesn't seem to care. They feel climate is more important than helping the homeless and mental illness living on our streets.

Visitors to Nanaimo are complaining about this. Residents complain. Downtown looks horrible.

Very sad!"

- ▶ Housing prices are high and availability is low – for medium income families to afford. Wealthier people will buy up the properties and then rent them to lower income families, which doesn't allow for that family to build equity or stand on their own two feet.
- ▶ Housing prices have gone up significantly with no corresponding increase in salaries and it is impacting quality of life, leading to more homelessness etc. As more people from Vancouver are priced out of the Lower Mainland and they move here, it exacerbates the problem. Other "new" factors including rampant opioid addiction and a populace that is still largely unable to wrap their heads around decriminalization add to the problem.
- ▶ Housing pricing has climbed too fast. Homeless have increased. Drug addiction and crime have increased substantially. Too much opportunity for drug addicted to live in this city.
- ▶ Housing unaffordable. I live with my parents, husband and our child as we got forced out of our home when our landlord sold and we can't afford to rent in this current market or find a place with our pet. The lack of affordable housing is ridiculous. We both work but can't afford 1800/month plus vehicle payments, utilities etc.
- ▶ Huge increase in aggressive behaviour in the downtown and old city areas; public drug using and antisocial behaviour.
- ▶ Hugely improved City Council since last election, more progressive and productive. More bike lanes but much more needed on that score.
- ▶ I am a student at VIU and have only been in town for 5 years, with the introduction of wildplay at Sutton park and the spring markets, my time here has improved.
- ▶ I am concerned about the increasing pressures on the CoN from Climate Change, BC's 2 Health Emergencies, loss of habitat and biodiversity, increasing population and pressure this adds to our infrastructure. The noise pollution has increased significantly. During the first couple of weeks of the COVID19 shut down the decrease in noise was wonderful.
- ▶ I am frustrated with the lack of progress in this city. Numerous surveys and public outreach campaigns have been administered asking about things like multi-modal transportation, arts and culture, green spaces, neighbourhood development and engagement yet I don't see the city responding. This city has been squandering its potential and issues like homelessness, climate change, support for the arts continue to be minimally addressed. Sprawling development seems to be the only thing that has gone full speed ahead, which is only compounding problems.
- ▶ I am new to the area so cannot judge how the quality of life has changed.
- ▶ I am now a senior so my health and ability to access programs at Parks facilities has changed. I encourage the City to get more seniors active by encouraging exercise programs that are accessible both by cost and access to facilities etc.
- ▶ I am unhappy living here and here are some reasons why Lack of sense of community, way too much

focus on downtown rejuvenation and not other areas of Nanaimo all the rest of the city is HOUSING and has no character and there is nothing to do here, lack of aesthetic beauty and maintenance (no flower beds, lack of mowed boulevards, the whole town is overgrown with weeds and is unsightly), everything heritage and unique about this town has been ripped down (ex: civic arena) and replaced with cookie cutter chain store development, there is lack of ability for small business to expand other than the downtown region due to high rent costs which prevents other areas in Nanaimo from having a unique sense of community, way too many chain stores, over development, lack of nature/trees and way too much clear cutting, google Sidney B.C. and Bellingham, WA for ideas of how to improve this community, no opportunity to meet other people in a town of over 100,000 people no places to connect, way too much focus on the waterfront/seawall it is fine the way it is and is the sole focus of Nanaimo planning when there are other areas of growth that are much needed, extreme low class to high class there is a lack of middle class and it shows in this community, way too many restaurant chains and lack of local restaurants, there is no where to bring guests because nothing to do here i always have to leave town, too much focus on cruise ship/over all tourism before making the city nice and lack of focus on pleasing residents who live here and making the town the livable rather than catering to tourists, community events are unoriginal and hokey and the same things are repeated over and over, events are also ALL downtown and should be dispersed throughout the city (eg: kite day at Pipers Lagoon, or diving day at Neck Pt. Park), WAY too much focus on recreation on sports and hockey that is all this town talks about, not enough to do no fun activities that do not require \$\$

- ▶ I believe in some ways it has improved and others it has worsened.
- ▶ I believe it's worsened because we have shut down many school and reused those school as well. The housing market will eventually hit it's limit and soon will cause the housing market to crash just like back in 2008 with America. Homelessness is also getting out of hand and if we don't do anything about it soon we will eventually have a small city of homeless people. Tourism is also another factor we eventually must take in account. The only think that people know us for is our Nanaimo bars which is pretty sad. I would say we should implement a stadium or in general anything to do with sports to generate more tourism which would lead us to gain a bigger budget. Jobs is another problem because most of our inhabitants at some point leave Nanaimo for better job opportunities else where. I would say we need some more jobs for our middle class and the lower class. I say this because I see that there are many high class jobs so we need to even the field and make sure everyone has equal opportunity.
- ▶ I believe my quality of life has flourished because of my age demographic, as a young adult I have the opportunities I need, and the recreation areas I desire (but would always enjoy more)
- ▶ I believe Nanaimo has huge potential it's a beautiful city to live in but I think in the last few years the homeless has gotten terrible where there was neighborhoods that once were safe that aren't anymore. Parks like Bowen park aren't safe to bring kids because it's not hard to find needles on the path and that is the same about downtown. You can't go down and enjoy it like you use too be able too. And I think that needs to change people should be afraid to go for a walk in a park.
- ▶ I believe quality of life in Nanaimo has worsened over the past 10 years. Increase in development properties taking away opportunities for growth in outdoor activities and spaces. Increase in homelessness and drug use. No safe injection site for over drug users. housing is not diverse enough for different incomes and social economic statuses. We are not doing enough to assist with climate change. More opportunities to provide education to community and public schools. More availability of green options in the community on side walks etc..
- ▶ i believe that is has gotten worse do to population growth and more people coming from other country and also the homeless taking over downtown and we are not doing anything about it
- ▶ I believe that the drugs and related crimes have increased considerably. It's difficult to find living wage

jobs unless you're working for the City, School District, VIHA or VIU

- ▶ I believe that there is a youthful movement moving through the city and improving a lot of aspects for the better
- ▶ I believe the homelessness is causing the deterioration of the downtown core. Which could be the unique centre piece to Nanaimo. Just like it is in Victoria.
- ▶ I can only respond from my own point of view. It may be that it has worsened for many people.
- ▶ I can really only speak for myself in this. Has it improved for others – I suspect that the same inequities that exist in the provincial/national/global economies are just as prevalent here.
- ▶ I can't really say because I have only lived here for 1 year
- ▶ I did not know Nanaimo that well before I arrived here (~3 years ago). There's certainly a lot more housing opportunities but I've found it to be difficult to afford any housing as a single (working) tenant with a pet. It's a much friendlier city for couples/families without pets. I also get the sense from other folks who live here that the houselessness/drug use has gotten much worse. I see little besides the garbage and needles littering the Beban park area, which is difficult to reconcile as someone who encourages supportive housing & safe injection sites.
- ▶ I didn't live here before 3 years ago
- ▶ I do believe that constant growth and densification are 2 cornerstones of problems with crime, mental health and the spread of infectious disease. It also brings traffic congestion and pressure on lifestyles and facilities.
- ▶ I do not feel as safe as I used to feel in Nanaimo, for me and my children. There is too much crime and disorder, especially downtown.
- ▶ I don't believe focus enough on building up the waterfront downtown, it is the most beautiful, underused area in the city.
- ▶ I don't get a sense of community in the downtown area. Too chopped up, and it Would be nice to have more access to the waterfront.
- ▶ I don't know as I just moved to Nanaimo.
- ▶ I don't feel safe anymore because of the increased crime
- ▶ "I don't feel safe running the Parkway Trail by myself anymore, which I have don't for years. I don't feel safe alone anywhere in the downtown region.  
I don't feel my property is as secure.  
Also, every year there is a camp down in Millstone II (and other riverside sites) which I feel needs to be kept clear, as we risk urban fires, particularly when residences are above the camps. Millstone 2 had a propane tank explosion a couple years ago, and this is very concerning to me."
- ▶ I don't know – haven't worked here that long.
- ▶ I don't see any significant change overall
- ▶ I encounter homeless people, people with mental health issues and drug addicts EVERY DAY. This was not the case 10 years ago. We need detox centres, transition homes, more street workers, low income housing and Housing First initiatives to help these suffering people. They make the streets and parks feel unsafe and I'm sure they are putting a HUGE strain on the first responders.
- ▶ I enjoy Nanaimo greatly; it's schools, recreation and sport, proximity to nature, cultural scene and diversity but there are challenges. We are spread out and therefore traffic is car heavy. Homelessness

and drug addition is increasing.

- ▶ I enjoy that downtown is getting a bit better, it still needs a lot of work and needs to be more accessible to small businesses trying to open.
- ▶ I feel a lot less safe. I question raising a family in Nanaimo. As a life long resident to a third generation Nanaimo family, I know that things are a lot tougher than they used to be. Lots more open drug use, many more people suffering, but also people in crisis are impacting children and families by not having their needs seen to.
- ▶ I feel as though my quality of life has improved. But I'm seeing increased challenges and incidence of homelessness, poverty and struggle. There needs to be more solutions for those in need.
- ▶ I feel as though the homeless camping throughout the has negatively affected the city. I took my 11 year old daughter for a walk through the bush and she was scared. These were places that kids would explore and play and now there seems to be people living and creating messes in all areas of the forest. I think the city needs to find housing for these people but also remove them from these areas and make it a crime to live in forested areas.
- ▶ I feel as though the social problems in Nanaimo such as drug use and homelessness have gotten considerably worse but besides that I don't believe that much has changed.
- ▶ I feel crime has increased, more abandoned needles, more harassment when i shop downtown.
- ▶ I feel infrastructure has slowly been improving, including bike lanes sidewalks on Hammond Bay Road, etc. The homeless situation and ensuing crime has definitely worsened.
- ▶ I feel it has improved for some and worsened for others.
- ▶ I feel it has stayed about the same buying a house is still just as unattainable, recreational opportunities are about the same.
- ▶ I feel it has stayed the same, Covid has impacted programs etc for children, however having so many parks to choose from is fantastic
- ▶ I feel it has worsened because I don't feel safe in some areas such as downtown anymore. I loved downtown and have always had high hopes for it. I am sorry to say now after decades of hoping it would liven up, I'm not sure it will.
- ▶ I feel it's improved, but the crime and destitute, and mental health gaps and homelessness has made this whole community suffer when our weakest aren't taken care of we have not succeeded as a whole.
- ▶ I feel less safe in my community
- ▶ I feel less safe than I used to.
- ▶ I feel like homelessness, crime and increase in litter/illegal dumping has significantly increased, particularly in south end.
- ▶ I feel like it has remained fairly constant
- ▶ I feel like Nanaimo has grown at an exponential rate and there is a delay is responding to the needs of the community
- ▶ I feel like Nanaimo has lacked strong leadership historically and it has led to many unresolved issues. The crime rate, drug use, mental health and housing issues stand out the most.
- ▶ "I feel like Nanaimo is growing and a good place to live (we moved from Surrey) BUT... seeing so many business, mainly large box stores) pull out of Nanaimo and no real big name stores moving here I feel

like we are missing out. Victoria is where people go to shop on the Island...its a missed opportunity for Nanaimo to be a great shopping location.

Also Nanaimo is missing out on a large inclusive water/splash pad in North Nanaimo. I am a parent to two small children and splash pads are a fantastic way to let kids play and bring kids together. North Nanaimo is BOOMING for growth of families moving here from Vancouver to get away but its missing that central location families can go. All the splash pads here are in the South or the furthest north is Departure Bay. Most families I talk to, go to Parksville if their kids want to play. They have the best park there and its top quality, all inclusive, in a good area with beach access. I want to see Nanaimo build an even better park, where families can go and spend the entire day there enjoying our great weather, local beaches, a good park for children of all abilities and of course...a new modern splash pad. "

- ▶ I feel like Nanaimo is on the right track, but still has a lot of work to do.
- ▶ I feel like the city is always being upgraded and beautified. I also love the Sort Toss and Roll garbage collection
- ▶ I feel like the homelessness and crime rate have gotten worse.
- ▶ I feel like there has been a lot of positive community growth with more development and increased population. However, I also feel like there has been a massive decline in local businesses and lots of empty retail spaces.
- ▶ I feel like we have certainly started to care less about our homeless problem, I think the best thing you can do would be hire them to clean the parks they have been messing up these last few years. If they want to be in the housing that is being provided they need to be getting mental health help as well as a plan to get clean and they get picked up every morning. Garnish wages to off set the cost of the buildings but enough they can get groceries and start building towards a happier healthier life. We need to build them up not just throw them from place to place hoping they will get better on there own. Let's embrace them and give them the tools to get better.
- ▶ I feel that in some ways it has improved and in some way it has worsened therefore, I have to put my answer as "it has stayed the same". I feel we need more affordable housing for those on low incomes and retirees without pensions.
- ▶ I feel that Nanaimo has a toxic culture where professional well intentioned people are bullied and corruption is rampant and viewed as common practice
- ▶ I feel that our city has worked hard to continue to improve roads, services ( new water plant) park development. There has been more development in my area but it feels like the city is in step with the needs of our community. IE Sewer upgrades, park development, support for local food sustainability
- ▶ I feel that the average quality of life has improved mostly due to where our population growth is coming from. I worry that life has gotten more difficult for those who were disadvantaged to begin with. This problem isn't unique to Nanaimo, but every effort to counteract it locally is great to see.
- ▶ "I feel that the community has matured and is turning the corner is seeing itself as more than a one note town....finding its way to offering something for everyone  
"
- ▶ I feel that the homelessness issue is definitely the main reason why I say that it has worsened. Drug addiction and theft related to this issue put a major damper on the image of our town, and the quality of life for the residents within it, including those who are homeless and have addictions. 10 years ago I would have felt safe walking alone at night or with my children downtown. I currently do not even feel safe in the daylight with my young children downtown and I tend not to bring them there because there are always drug addicts either bothering us or using drugs and I need to try and explain that to my children. The

waterfront has always been one of my absolute favourite places in Nanaimo, but I avoid it now.

- ▶ I feel that with the increase in homelessness and limited services for this population, we are seeing certain areas of town become unpleasant or less desirable to visit due to their lack of cleanliness, concern for safety of self and others, and residents and businesses in these areas are suffering. I feel sad that these people do not have places to go or services to aid them in getting the help that they need. I don't have a fast solution, but I wish there was a way that we could safely encourage them to become part of the community in a positive and fulfilling way that would give them confidence and a feeling of self-worth and have the support and services to get off the drugs and get back on their feet.
- ▶ I feel the city has (is) adding sidewalks, making road/intersection improvements, will be improving schools and parks, all good things. However, petty crime is everywhere and I don't like to take my children to our lovely parks because I worry about drug needles or running into situations with drug users or homeless that I don't know how to deal with.
- ▶ I feel the crime and theft in our neighborhood is much worse than 10 years ago..
- ▶ I feel the quality of downtown has decreased in the past 10 years.
- ▶ I feel the quality of life has improved, yet I feel differently when visiting the downtown. What had become a lovely place now feels frightening.
- ▶ I grew up in Nanaimo and own a townhouse in Departure Bay. I was away for school and work for a few years from 2009 - 2017 and when I returned for good, it took me a little while to identify why Nanaimo didn't feel like it did in my memory. I have determined that my lovely, green, oceanside city was being flattened and bulldozed, trees were being torn out at an astonishing pace and replaced by cookie cutter lots and numerous giant commercial buildings. Meanwhile, other buildings were/are sitting vacant and decaying. Thank god a bigger piece of Linley Valley was purchased by the City a few years ago, that beautiful land is going to be the only remaining green space in the city in a few years. Nanaimo has always been an industrial town and has never had much charm to speak of, but at least us locals knew there were so many hidden gems that we didn't mind when outsiders looked down their noses at Nanaimo... I don't think the hidden gems even exist anymore, and the places I used to love are crowded with cars everywhere or destroyed with enormous houses and commercial buildings. In its quest to be a "great place to live", Nanaimo has become ugly, over-commercialized by foreign businesses, and uninteresting.
- ▶ I grew up in Nanaimo, left for 8 years, and came back about 5 years ago. From my understanding its either stayed the same or improved. I put down improved because it seems like its grown and evolved a bit since I left. The big difference that makes me not want to fully commit to improved is social media and being able to see the vocal minority complain about parts of this city that I didn't fully understand when I was a teenager. But I also know those problems were there well before today too.
- ▶ I had hopes that growth would bring more amenities...it doesn't seem to have done that. Population and traffic and congestion has increased but not the arts, the downtown amenities, the parks,
- ▶ I have been here for 6 years but the homeless problem has grown exponentially in that time.
- ▶ I have been here less than 10 years, but I feel that it has improved - I have seen big improvements in the neighbourhoods I've lived in. They have been cleaned up. The mess and homelessness has been pushed elsewhere, and needs to be addressed, but parts of the city that were considered 'dirty' or 'scary' when I moved here seem less so now.
- ▶ I have been privileged to have steady income and comfortable living accommodation. I know this is not the case for everyone in Nanaimo. A growing homeless population is something we have to address!

- ▶ I have been very fortunate, as I am in a stable and healthy living situation. I have watched many around me struggle with addiction and housing. Theft is at an all time high, and more and more people are struggling. We need to take care of those who are falling between the cracks. I have had my bike stolen more times than I can count, and the city needs to make it safer for those who wish to use alternative transportation. More bike lanes and a safer way to lock bikes downtown.
- ▶ i have just moved here so am not sure what it was like before 2020.
- ▶ I have lived here for 30+ years and have enjoyed it very much. I enjoy the waterfront walk, beaches and parks.
- ▶ I have lived here for 6 years, but in that time affordability has gone down, homelessness has gone up, and the downtown core remains underutilized and quite frankly a depressing place to visit.
- ▶ "I have lived here for only 5 years so I can't speak to ten years ago. But the city has not changed for the better over the past 5 years.  
"
- ▶ I have lived here my entire life and the city is disintegrating before my eyes. It's full of disgusting drug paraphernalia, drug addicts, homeless, extreme crime. I don't like what it is becoming.
- ▶ I have lived here my whole life, the past five years have been horrible, my neighbourhood is a joke now. I have had a knife pulled on me, I have been spat on, threatened, you name it. There is it illegal activity happening every minute in this neighbourhood.
- ▶ I have lived here since 1968, and my wife lived here all her life Now we are looking at leaving Nanaimo since the quality of life here has deteriorated so much. I look into the future, and am fearful for the future of my children (50's) grandchildren (20's) and great-grandchildren. This is no longer a decent place to raise your children, nor to grow old, and the hopes for my grandchildren to own their own home are dismal! Shame on us!
- ▶ I have lived in Nanaimo 2 years. But I have heard the homelessness has become increasingly evident within the last decade from various friends who have lived her all their lives. The homelessness issue in Nanaimo I feel should be top priority. Everyone should be able to have a social security network to help them when hard times occur.
- ▶ "I have lived in Nanaimo for 20+yrs  
  
In the past decade we saw improvement, but in the past 5 years it has gradually worsened."
- ▶ I have lived in Nanaimo for less than a year
- ▶ I have lived in Nanaimo for only 3 years, so I can't comment beyond that. However, it does feel like Nanaimo has lots of potential if it can be harnessed properly. There are so many malls and so much mall-adjacent development in the north end. That is Nanaimo's weakest part in my opinion. I really hope the changes resulting from this survey can focus on density, active transportation, and supporting our locally-owned businesses.
- ▶ I have not been here 10 years but attention is needed for: Homelessness and impact on city has worsened
- ▶ I have not lived here for 10 years.
- ▶ I have not lived here for 10 years. you need another option for this question.
- ▶ I have not lived here in the last 10 years.. Only 6 months. Cannot answer adequately question no. 4

- ▶ I have not lived here long enough to answer that question.
- ▶ I have not lived here long enough to register much change in either direction however the number of homeless people and the mess associated with that has definitely increased.
- ▶ I have only been here 1 year
- ▶ I have only been here 2 years. I love it here, but feel like I have landed in a small 1980s British seaside town, minus the abundance of transit.
- ▶ I have only been here 3 years
- ▶ I have only been here 5 years however getting to know people and the extensive trail system here has most definitely improved my way of life.
- ▶ I have only been here for close to 5 years but I have noticed improvements in the city. Added bike lanes and more young families moving into the south end creating gardens and changing the social dynamic of how we view our neighborhoods in a more open fashion, as well as things like Tourism Nanaimo newly focusing on the natural beauty of our parks and trails and local businesses and coming up with creative ways to support our communities.
- ▶ I have only been here for six years, however, over those six years, I feel as though things have improved. I now have a university education and the opportunities for me have only grown in Nanaimo. I just wish housing was more affordable and there was an incentive for businesses to stay. A few of my favourite places have unfortunately been closed down. This was occurring pre-COVID as well.
- ▶ I have only been here for two years, but I have seen good intentions within city council, and based on what I have heard, previous to my arrival - it seems like the focus on density, public transportation, and building health communities for all people is higher priority than it was ten years ago.
- ▶ I have only lived here 1 year, so can't respond to question 4
- ▶ I have only lived here 2 years but I am concerned that downtown has only gotten worse in this time. I would love to see a vibrant downtown but people feel unsafe going there and the smells and garbage in some areas are disgusting.
- ▶ I have only lived here 3 years and haven't noticed much by way of change in any way other than rental costs skyrocketing
- ▶ I have only lived here 4 years - I keep discovering new places and things I love about this town. I do however think that there needs to be more density in certain areas. The downtown core could use de expansion - remove old island highway downtown section and make more walkable. Leave the tall wildflowers along the highway - so sad when the mower cuts it all down.
- ▶ "I have only lived here 4 years. Things have stayed about the same during that time."
- ▶ I have only lived here a few months but my partner lived here roughly 10 years ago. When we were moving he kept remarking how nice it is here. There are lots of welcoming spaces and it feels safe to walk around because there are always other people around. I do worry about increasing population putting a lot of pressure on the road systems and do find roads congested.
- ▶ I have only lived here for 1 year so I cannot comment
- ▶ I have only lived here for 2 years, but have seen more kids move into our neighbourhood.
- ▶ I have only lived here for 2 years. I don't know what the change has been.
- ▶ I have only lived here for 3 months

- ▶ I have only lived here for 3 years
- ▶ I have only lived here for 3 years.
- ▶ I have only lived here for 3 years. I would say the new council has given life to change in the city, but time will tell.
- ▶ I have only lived here for 4.5 years, but from talking to Van Islanders and other imports, I gather there is more economic activity, more vibrancy in the city and engagement in community than in previous decades.
- ▶ I have only lived here for 5 years, so it is hard for me to say.
- ▶ I have only lived here for a few years so do not feel knowledgeable enough to answer.
- ▶ I have only lived here for a year so I don't know
- ▶ I have only lived here for two years, so I don't feel I can comment on this.
- ▶ "I have only lived here four years, but I think the City just gets better and better, especially under the new council.  
"
- ▶ I have only lived in Nanaimo for 2 years so I cannot comment if Nanaimo has improved or not in the last 10 years
- ▶ I have only lived in Nanaimo for 3 years, but it seems that the growth of the university has attracted a wide range of people to Nanaimo and the construction of the convention centre downtown has also improved business opportunities downtown.
- ▶ I have only lived in Nanaimo for just over a year now.
- ▶ I have only lived in Nanaimo for one year so my experience is limited. From speaking with other local people my impression is that it has worsened, with less economic and employment opportunities, especially if you are looking to progress in your career. Also, the cost of housing and availability is also always referred to in a negative way; too expensive and not enough.
- ▶ I have only lived in Nanaimo for one year. In this time COVID-19 negatively affected the quality of life.
- ▶ I have only lived in Nanaimo for the past 3 years however I did live in Nanaimo 6 years ago for a brief period of time. I have seen positive changes in that time period such as improved bus routes and cultural growth. The negative change I have seen is an increase in homelessness.
- ▶ I have only lived in Nanaimo for two years, I cant fairly evaluate this question
- ▶ I have seen an increase in the housing crisis and the need for more affordable housing and safe substance use (harm reduction services)
- ▶ I have the feeling there is more homelessness, more drug-use, more aggressive traffic behaviour (more 'redneck' behaviour) and less tolerance towards each other. Citizens of Nanaimo (especially the older, retired generation) is reluctant to change and things Nanaimo is still the city from 25 years ago. Change is hard but we need to move on as a City and have to change. So get a handle on homelessness (it is an embarrassment in a civilized society) and give everyone a chance to live in Nanaimo (affordable housing), not just the retiring Albertans (I am generalizing but I hope you get my point). Otherwise, we end up like Vancouver centre.
- ▶ I have witnessed Nanaimo maturing and becoming more alive
- ▶ I have written letters to all MLAs council members and the Mayor. I have had discussions with the mayor

who at least returned my call. The MLA however had the gall to send a form letter back to me that is how much she values her constituents. I find that appalling

- ▶ I haven't lived here long enough to say exactly
- ▶ I haven't been here for 10 years, but in the 3 I have lived here, I've seen the ongoing deterioration of the city as homelessness and drug addicts flood the streets and steal anything that's not nailed down with no consequences while the city and province continue to pander to their needs rather than those of us who pay the bills.
- ▶ I haven't lived here for 10 years, but in visiting here for 10, and living here for 2, Nanaimo seems like it is improving. Our family loves the art gallery and shopping downtown. This is something we did not do 10 years ago
- ▶ I haven't lived here in the last 10 years.
- ▶ I haven't lived here long enough to comment
- ▶ I haven't lived here long enough to know.
- ▶ I haven't lived here long, but I've lived here long enough to know that the bus can't take me anywhere useful and the number of people you have left homeless is deplorable.
- ▶ "I hear about Nanaimo once being a place with so much excitement. I.e. Bathtub race week festivities. I feel that since moving here from the mainland, the only safe and fun is going exploring as a family in nature. Events near Maffeo park are sketchy. My mom lives on Chapel street and sees the police all the time dealing with unsafe issues. "
- ▶ I just moved but that is all I feel rn
- ▶ I just moved her
- ▶ I just moved here a year ago, so I can't comment.
- ▶ "I just moved here almost two years ago from Vancouver, I enjoy Nanaimo, I've heard that traffic and homelessness is an issue here from long term folks but it's nothing compared to Vancouver. Mental health support should be available to those who need it most. People deserve housing but they should work, on the grounds or within the community to earn their housing, contribute to the community in exchange for housing and support, hold folks accountable. It might not work for everyone but it will work for many. Nanaimo has a lot of potential for business, it's in a great location. More bike routes please, garbage cans in all parks and signage on hiking paths. I would love to see departure bay walk way connected, the waterfront has so much potential, grant more waterfront restaurants. get that foot passenger ferry going. As someone who commuted on the ferry, having a faster more affordable option would mean more tourists and commuters can make ends meet. Nanaimo/Ladysmith NEEDS a bus to the airport. "
- ▶ I just moved here in April of 2020
- ▶ I just moved here, so not sure, however the city needs to address the 2 major issues mentioned above and revitalize the city core by incentivizing business and cleaning it up.
- ▶ I know of more people struggling with homelessness, addiction, and there is more garbage in public parks, and on streets.
- ▶ I know too many single mom friends with full time, good jobs who can not secure or afford rentals let alone dream to purchase a small home. The housing prices have quadrupled+ since I bought my house

while our salary has barely increased in 20 years. Most landlords prefer to rent to working single young men and Pass on moms with children. They are forced to choose between unhealthy relationships and housing and I'm talking about hardworking, healthy responsible women whom are LPN's and office administrators who don't use drugs and whom pay their bills but they are struggling in our city. It is going to be one of my new focus goals. I volunteer with a school lunch program at Rock City and my son does at Wellington. The levels of poverty are staggering. I'm always asking how can I help with that? Did it used to just be hidden or has it significantly increased? From my vantage point it seems to have increased.

- ▶ I left Nanaimo in 1984 and recently returned to retire here so I cannot honestly answer this question
- ▶ I like the addition of bike lanes (though sporadic & limited) but I'm embarrassed about the latest murals and the unprofessional banners. I'm frustrated that city planning allows for new housing that is. Completely foreign to the existing neighbourhood e.g. monstrosities allowed at the end of Gulfview. Disgusting for neighbours, an eyesore from NeckPoint. Developer must have bribed the city for approval and the right to leave an unfinished foundation for 3 years. BAD precedent.
- ▶ I like the new walkway/bike path to the cruise ship terminal. It would be great if this could be extended to the Nanaimo estuary. Also love the flowers in the planters.
- ▶ I like the renovations done at Mafeo Sutton park. I like the improvements to the bus system, with voice notifications for stops and the app integration.
- ▶ I live close to downtown and feel I cannot walk around my neighbourhood after dark anymore. I will take a cab or my car. There also seems to be more litter left around in public spaces.
- ▶ I live in a challenging neighbourhood and the prospect of having yet more housing for addiction in this neighbourhood feels like it is more than this neighbourhood can support and still thrive.
- ▶ I live near downtown, and near the Terminal housing project. I've grown fearful of being outdoors in parks and am discouraged by the damage to my neighbourhood by homeless and drug involved people, plus the drug deals and crime that follow them. I go outdoors far less than I did up until 4 years ago. (Adding that I think there's been a recent city initiative to clean up the trash and keep a closer (compassionate) watch on drug involved people, so that in the past couple of months things seem to be improving a bit.
- ▶ I live next to the highway. Ten years ago, the sound of an ambulance was rare. Now, every night I hear emergency services... since the drug crisis. Nobody can afford to live here with our stagnant wages, and a lot of people die here. I no longer walk my block after work because of aggressive homeless, and violent incidents in my area. I don't want to live in a city where a crackhead is overdosing in the new bike lane, and city counsel is ok with that. Fix it, it's what you were elected to do.
- ▶ I live on Protection Island and pass through downtown daily. The situation with homelessness and mental health has visibly worsened and obviously needs to be addressed, and that help needs to come from people trained in addiction recovery and mental health support.
- ▶ I live on the Seawalk; street people have negatively impacted my neighbourhood. Litter, needles, aggression and just the sadness of seeing such misfortune on every corner. Downtown merchants are also suffering and - instead of becoming more vibrant - the downtown commercial area is starting to look like the depressed area it is. We have visitors from several countries and we are often ashamed to walk with them in our once quaint downtown commercial area. I certainly would not invest there!
- ▶ I live right downtown- too many street people, too much crime, too much obvious drug use- not hard to see groups of people smoking crystal meth openly and injecting drugs. We hospitalize people with physical issues, why does society reject hospitalizing people with severe mental issues? The federal and provincial governments need to build facilities to properly care for them until they are able to integrate into society.

- ▶ I lived in a different part of the city and didn't see the homelessness and drug problems.
- ▶ I love Nanaimo. The downtown area and homelessness issue makes me sad.
- ▶ I moved downtown to be able to walk to shopping, entertainment and dining no longer feeling comfortable using my vehicle more and more
- ▶ I moved here 2 years ago so can't really say if quality of life has improved or not in the past 10 yrs.
- ▶ I moved to Nanaimo 6yrs ago and feel more and more connected with my community.
- ▶ I never used to be afraid to walk after dark along the waterfront or downtown- more cautious now - feels less safe
- ▶ I no longer feel safe downtown
- ▶ "I no longer visit or shop downtown Nanaimo as I do not feel safe there I do not use parks that have people who live off what they can steal live in Nanaimo is no longer a pretty city - street sweepers must be broken"
- ▶ I often walk past discarded needles, and always garbage and detritus, and homeless people on my way to work. It is hard to see something so sad seemingly grow.
- ▶ I own a home near Quarterway Bridge. The development (housing unit) in the back of my property has made it quieter (ie bowen rd). Also, improved sidewalks - wide and tree-lined. Can walk to downtown or country club all the way in either direction on a sidewalk - north or south.
- ▶ I own a small business in Nanaimo and I'm grateful for some of the supports I have received from those in the community who are willing to reach out!
- ▶ I really can't comment on the past ten year because I moved to Nanaimo in 2018, but the city's qualities seemed to have improved over the past 20-25 years since I was last here prior to buying a house in 2016 when my husband and I retired with a plan to move here two years later. We experienced a pleasant surprise when we visited in 2016 as Nanaimo had taken on much more charm than what we used to perceive in the 90s.
- ▶ "I really worry about the homeless people - there are so many of them. How can we not help and house 600 or so people in a city with our wealth and ability.

I worry about rental housing affordability. Many new apartments are being built but the prices are a lot higher than existing older buildings. We have to have a variety of types of accommodation for different income levels."

- ▶ I recently moved here after being out of Canada for several decades. The pollution has worsened. There too many strip malls and not enough quality. There is little to attract people here. Transit in Nanaimo and public transport around the island is horrific. The city is worse than England in the early 1980s, where I was forced to move to. This place is at least 50 years behind greater parts of Europe, sometimes over a century behind. I love the nature and location - everything, and I literally mean everything - else needs to advance at least 50 years in the next 5. I remember Nanaimo from the 1970s. It was actually much, much better and modern then.
- ▶ I remember growing up and not having to worry so much about theft, needles being littered. My parents didn't seem as frustrated by the cost of things either. I felt like we were more connected as a city
- ▶ I see actions by individual mentality, and the City to shift the 'mall and sprawl' growth that was the theme of earlier decades for the City. There is interest in investing in downtown, improving our environment and sustainability, and growing a positive image for our community.

- ▶ I see so much potential for Nanaimo but barriers to moving forward are challenging. Nanaimo is a city that behaves like a small town. Most development has centered on retail amenities.
- ▶ I started taking public transit, and I realized how bad it is
- ▶ I think it depends on your stage in life and ability to afford daily needs. I think the City needs to look to the needs of the future and how to maintain and improve our citizen's way of life. Affordability and recreation (affordable access to activities) is key to keeping citizens healthy and active.
- ▶ I think it is a matter of perspective on certain issues. Homelessness will always be an issue if you allow it to be. Keep bike lanes in more residential areas. Have you tried to get around some of the major roads lately? It seems that this council is only interested in the up and coming families who are now raising families, not the ones that have made Nanaimo such a great place to be. Everywhere you look new rentals are being built but the pricing is too high on them for most people. They haven't brought the housing market down either. Condos sales are plummeting due to insurance rates. With Covid more and more people coming to Nanaimo are looking for homes with property as too much togetherness breeds contempt. Ask a realtor how long a single family unit with grass stays on the market. And some of them are just dumps. I don't think Nanaimo is growing at the rate of the apartment or condos are being built.
- ▶ I think my answer has more to do with my age and progression in career than something the city did.
- ▶ I think of the number of people who are homeless or near homeless and the number of Indigenous people who are still struggling for reasonable accommodation, health care and assistance with trauma from the residential schools, children being taken from families and placed in foster care, etc.
- ▶ I think our climate and easy access to illicit substances attract a certain type of vagrant. Also, lack of early intervention of addictions and nothing stopping the flow of addictive substances has created a huge problem here.
- ▶ I think overall quality of life has improved, but would like to see the City help to make downtown & the Old City a more popular destination & community gathering place. Also a big problem is our street Pine is becoming busier & busier & noisier.
- ▶ I think that certain things have improved. The university is growing and upgrading constantly and certain neighbourhoods have gentrified. However, the homeless issue, drug use issue, and general downtown appeal seems to have gotten far worse. It is not safe for people to be walking downtown at night. We need more resources to support the homeless, mentally ill, and addicted as the current system doesn't help the city or those people.
- ▶ I think that Nanaimo is growing in many good ways increased development, growing population and better quality of life for residents. However, the City needs to keep pace with growth by improving infrastructure and recognizing that we have more people using our roads, parks, etc than they were ever built to accommodate.
- ▶ I think that the homeless situation is pretty dire and cannot be solved via single-approach strategies. They need housing AND mental health treatment AND social opportunities AND control if they're violent, etc.
- ▶ I think the challenges in finding affordable housing has lead to the rise in homelessness in our community. While I am not directly effected by this, I think these two issues have meant that the quality of life for many Nanaimo residents has worsened. I also worry that if we don't do something about it the problem will continue to grow.
- ▶ I think the city has done a good job of making parks and other outdoor areas more accessible to Nanaimoites but I do find that issues of public safety are getting more challenging. As a female who

wants to be active and outside, I often find myself feeling unsafe and occasionally threatened. I understand the roots of the homelessness and crime issues but it definitely changes how I can enjoy what the city offers even if the city offers more. Additionally, I would like to see more provincial partnerships and resources specifically targeting mental health and addiction. It would also be nice if these resources were spread throughout the city rather than concentrated near residential neighborhoods. I grew up in the north end of the city and there's a stark lack of public resources and services between the north and south end whether it's public pools or social services. Perhaps this should change?

- ▶ I think the downtown situation with homelessness has worsened and stops many people from going there
- ▶ I think the opportunities in Nanaimo have increased over the past 10 years. There are more quality restaurants and downtown is becoming a nice place to live. I would like to see this trend continue.
- ▶ I think the quality of life for our lower income community has worsened. I feel ideas from the public often fall on deaf ears.
- ▶ I think the town is growing in a lot of good ways but is in a stage of growing pains due to the drug epidemic and homeless population
- ▶ "I think VIU has brought tremendous benefit to our City. We don't have to send our children away to go to school.  
We seem to have lots of recreational activities available for all ages.  
Love all the parks and trails. Lots of opportunities to get outdoors.  
Good shopping facilities. Like the markets"
- ▶ I used to feel safe to walk around my neighbourhood, to walk to the store or mall, but now there's a wet house that was built right by where I live. There's always stories or someone leaving the wet house and trying to break into cars and houses. People try to break into houses and cars in my neighbourhood weekly. we are hearing stories about it all the time. I've been followed home from school a couple times, and if I am walking somewhere i'm not allowed alone. I don't ever remember being that worried to walk alone years ago.
- ▶ "I used to feel safe walking downtown after dark, now I just don't. There is a gap in the system somewhere before people end up on the streets. I don't think homelessness is the problem, but I'm also not able to identify where before they become homeless that its going so sideways.

Our tourism development/attraction efforts have been contracted out and are less authentic, the DNBA was blown up so the downtown events have died off and any economic development efforts have basically stopped dead after the Nanaimo Economic Development Office was dismantled. "

- ▶ "I used to live in the downtown core and, at the time, it was vibrant, busy, diverse, and clean. Unfortunately, over the last several years, it has become much less so, which was why I left. Restaurants and bars are less busy, the streets are dirtier, there has been a huge increase in the presence of the homeless (not their fault), and there are now too many ""dead"" spaces. For example, old A and B Sound building, the hole where acme used to be, Diana Krall Plaza (which is just a big empty no-man's land). There was a time when we were dubbed ""the cultural capital of Canada"" and Commercial won ""best street in the country"" and, though I realize these are slightly arbitrary titles, at that time downtown felt safe, clean, and active. I miss that. Now it feels more akin to a scene from Mad Max. Hopefully the Thursday night market comes back. That was cool.

To be fair, Departure Bay has become wonderfully active recently, thanks in part to Drip opening up, and the food trucks sitting there regularly. So, it's not all bad!"

- ▶ I used to walk home from work at 3am from down town I wouldn't even think of it now. Crime is insane and even the police know nothing is being done
- ▶ I was able to buy a home and start a family, which I wasn't going to be able to afford on the mainland; however, to be able to afford this I had to take a job outside of Nanaimo driving 100 km/day and I had to buy my house (which I proudly upkeep and take care of) where I could afford to, in a Harewood neighbourhood surrounded by dumpy, run down properties (more bylaws regarding property upkeep please) I'd love to move to a new neighbourhood that will be safer and more appropriate for my children to play outside with quiet residential streets but there is a gap in housing options where the next step up is out of reach and anything else is a lateral move to somewhere with the same issues.
- ▶ I was born and raised here and find a lot more homeless and drug use is too much, yes we have more people, but we used to take more action towards this problem. Too much building going on, need to preserve some forest areas and beautiful parks.
- ▶ I was born and raised in Nanaimo and enjoyed my childhood but left to go to university as we only had Malaspina. I had always felt Nanaimo was too small for a young person and wanted to go to the big city (Vancouver). But I knew I wanted to come back here and raise a family. There have been big improvements in many aspects of the city but the homeless and petty crime problem seems to have gotten worse.
- ▶ I was born and raised in Nanaimo. My children are 5th generation Nanaimo residents. I am saddened and appalled that I can't take my children out to enjoy certain places now because of the drug use. I have lived in the same place for 12 years but have had to put up cameras and sit up at night watching our neighborhood because it's gotten so bad. We also can not afford to get ahead on the economy here and are finally thinking of moving just so we can buy. I am heartbroken over all of it.
- ▶ I was born in Nanaimo in 1950 and, although the City and its amenities have changed, I have chosen to return to the City from Yellow Point because the quality of life in the City is still good.
- ▶ I was never afraid to go downtown before. I worked downtown in the past and loved the little shops and waterfront but now there seems to be more lawless behavior.
- ▶ I was very lucky to get a contract allowing me to work from home, here in Nanaimo. Otherwise, I would have answered differently, as diversity and quality of employment is lacking. This is a very tough town to secure gainful employment. People have to retire or die to open up quality employment opportunities.
- ▶ I would say some aspects have worsened....more people crowded into existing park or natural settings. Loss of forests and other habitats. Loss of truly affordable housing rentals. Other things have improved such as our arts and culture, awareness that our addiction and homelessness issues need compassionate solutions, looking toward a future of more diversity in public transportation.
- ▶ I wouldn't say quality of life greatly worsened, however I see less upkeep, cleanliness and a shift in how parks, roads and safety are maintained as well as a definite disregard of our city centre as being a welcoming place for residents and tourists.
- ▶ "i) too much homelessness, drugs and crime... Nanaimo needs a "tough love" approach to take our city back - especially the downtown - there is no way I would ever invest in downtown Nanaimo... it's a losing proposition that I can hardly stand to visit.  
ii) too much politics and divisiveness - Nanaimo can't seem to get it together i.e. loss of Economic Development, DNBI, Tourism and poor action on homelessness, drugs and crime - I am considering moving to Parksville, Qualicum or Comox for a better quality of life - the only thing that keeps me in Nanaimo (for 25 years) is I own my own home and Nanaimo has great access to the rest of the island.  
iii) too much talking, planning and surveys not enough action i.e. - take a look at the waterfront - it should

be Nanaimo's Jewel but is in poor repair, dirty and has atrocious old and filthy washrooms! Both the City and Nanaimo Port Authority need to and can do better. Forget building new structures – take care of what already exists – cleanliness, homelessness, washrooms, pathways etc. (except the children's park – kudos to that!)

iv) – want to promote the downtown – clean it up and get rid of those hideous parking meters – this isn't Vancouver for heaven's sake.

v) enough said!

“

- ▶ I'm not sure as we've only lived here a year but I recall Nanaimo having a rough reputation 20 years ago when I lived on the mainland and I don't think that is true today.
- ▶ I've just recently been in a car accident with the other driver running a red light. People drive too fast through school zones and are running way too many red lights daily.
- ▶ I've lived all my life in nanaimo, and I still enjoy living here very much, but as a 23 year old i don't think there are many social amenities like tap rooms, or market square type of things. As a renter, rent has become quite expensive, especially for a single bedroom. The homeless population has grown extensively, and the overdose numbers have also grown. It's just sad to see such a beautiful place diminish that way. It has so much potential.
- ▶ I've only lived here 2 years.
- ▶ idk i guess worse cause now i notice the bad stuff
- ▶ If the city council would do its job instead of passing the buck on homeless people this city would thrive
- ▶ I'm a newby...i've only been here a year.
- ▶ I'm a single mom with an okay job but I find it hard to find affordable housing.
- ▶ I'm glad I don't live downtown. People who harm themselves and others need to be committed to secure facilities for the good of the community. If I was behaving like many of them do, I would want to be locked up, conditions imposed, so I could have a more dignified life.
- ▶ "I'm not even sure why this is a question, everyone knows that the quality of life in Nanaimo has decreased in the last 10 years. The ramped drug use and crime has taken over the city. There is a homeless encampment that has taken over the road just blocks from city hall... I volunteered at a homeless shelter in Nanaimo and I will be the first to tell you that very few of these people are down on their luck, they are drug addicts and criminals. I feel sad for the few people that really need help but at the end of the day the vast majority of them are criminals. The RCMP is so focused on ""Ending Gang Life"" but I don't see the gangs assaulting strangers on the street, committing break and enters and using the roads as their public washroom.  
This is not a ""housing crisis"", this is a crime problem that is blatantly being ignored.  
In summary clean up the bloody streets."
- ▶ Improved
- ▶ improved
- ▶ Improved as a result of development projects finally beginning/completing. Improvements to recreational sites (trails, parks) could still use work.
- ▶ Improved dramatically
- ▶ Improved education for all ages

- ▶ Improved playgrounds and parks
- ▶ Improved recreation opportunity, parks and trails. Beach access.
- ▶ Improved- there are more upgrades to public facilities and parks, street improvement projects
- ▶ improved with more bike lanes and park spaces improvements. Also downtown was getting more selection of restaurants....before cover that is:(
- ▶ Improved, but am concerned about the homelessness problem created by senior governments.
- ▶ Improved, but mostly due to outside factors like employment income increasing. All members of household work outside of Nanaimo.
- ▶ Improved, however the crime and homeless situation needs to be sorted quickly. We use to walk in the kinsman park during soccer training, however now we can't as we're seeing homeless camps set up and fear for our safety.
- ▶ Improved, more because of my stage in life. Being able to purchase a home, have a steady job and start a family.
- ▶ Improvement in the increasing awareness, understanding, and inclusion of our Indigenous population
- ▶ Improvements to cycling infrastructure, parks improvements, and street tree planting have all improved my quality of life. Waste management system is excellent.
- ▶ "Improvements to mountain bike trail networks  
Arrival of some great new restaurants  
"
- ▶ Improving all the time. Better facilities. Downtown area much improved
- ▶ In answering the question, I approached it from the point of view of what Nanaimo and the decisions of leadership have done for me and overall, I don't feel the decisions made on Nanaimo's direction have negatively or positively impacted me. As a 30 year old, my opinion of Nanaimo is that we are with where things are and change is generally undesirable. It appears that the residents are generally opposed to spending money that's needed to bring about change. This was most prevalent in the Arena referendum.
- ▶ In general things have improved with more bike paths/sidewalks but a long way to go in those regards and making the transit system efficient and worthwhile. The development over the last 5 years has been shocking really and seemingly without a community vision, simply developer driven (car-subdivision sprawl model) making Nanaimo increasingly unattractive with more and more loss of greenspace within the city confines
- ▶ In general we have a very high standard of living here in Nanaimo; however, unlike myself there are some that continue to fall through the cracks and need the support of the village.
- ▶ "In general, life has improved in Nanaimo, but there are two huge blights:
  - the outdoor cannabis growth next to our homes. This is absolutely absurd that my children should grow up living next to, and smelling this crop. Nevermind the security of the operation. This is destroying these small communities!
  - the homeless population. I have a lot of compassion for them as many are in desperate situations, but at the same time, Nanaimo is becoming known to the tourists as a place to avoid because of this. I also feel quite unsafe walking with my children in some areas."
- ▶ In some aspects it has improved, but more community togetherness needs to be established
- ▶ "In ten years two major buildings, one burned to the ground, a hotel and integral bus station have been

lost as well as several businesses have closed. Fast ferries have come and gone and there have never been as many disenfranchised and very needy people on the streets. The conference center has never met its potential, nor will it until the new adjacent hotel is complete. The quality of life has stayed about the same.”

- ▶ In the 7–8 years I’ve lived in Nanaimo I’ve found that some things have gotten better such as transit which has gotten slightly better (still not great though), the DTC, and the addition of more mixed use/multifamily buildings. However, other things have gotten a lot worse such as the rampant drug use in the DTC which leads to a lot of people feeling unsafe, the lack of affordable housing, and multiple dilapidated buildings and giant holes in the DTC that nothing is being done with.
- ▶ In the last 10 years my property taxes and user fees for sewer and water have increased far faster than anything close to the inflation rate. I find the city of Nanaimo staff and politicians are just out for themselves. City staff and elected officials use the buzz word “sustainability” yet there is absolutely nothing sustainable about my tax rates and overall tax increases going up on average 8.4% over the last five years. I really have to ask is there even one person anywhere employed by the city that is looking out for the taxpayer and unfortunately I am absolutely convinced that the answer to that question is no.
- ▶ In the last three years, homelessness, crime, and vagrancy in the downtown area has increased to the extent, that I look over my shoulder all the time, and do not use areas that exhibit these conditions. I feel much more uncomfortable outside now than I did three years ago.
- ▶ In the past 10 years, I have seen the downtown core go from being downtrodden and lifeless, to revitalized and a place that I wanted to be, and now back into a very sharp decline. I used to live downtown Nanaimo, but left due to feeling that it was no longer safe with the rampant public drug use, ever increasing homeless population, and crime that I personally witnessed/experienced. Housing, while an important factor in rehabilitation, cannot be the only answer to this issue. The City and Province need to develop and enact a holistic plan, to get people off of these drugs and provide supports so that they can stay off of the drugs. The drug issues and crime issues feed each other, and there needs to be a solution to interrupt this cycle to prevent it from continuing.
- ▶ In the ways I appreciate Nanaimo it has remained pretty stable. Also, issues of poverty, homelessness and mental health haven’t improved.
- ▶ Increase in crime, drugs and homelessness. Rising home prices because Nanaimo is the Hawaii of Canada. I see everywhere is affected by drugs not sure how one city can fix that..
- ▶ Increase in focus on connecting up the waterfront, bike lanes, relationship with Snuneymeux Nation improved quality of life, but social issues like homelessness and drug use worsened.
- ▶ Increase in homeless and drug use
- ▶ Increase in housing costs needs to be controlled or we will be like Vancouver and shut out our own families
- ▶ Increase in open drug use downtown to Bebban Park is sad and I no longer bring my family downtown or many parks which is disappointing because of the improvements to Maffeo Sutton.
- ▶ Increase in parkland, increase in diversity and cultural opportunities (such as restaurants, night market, other events).
- ▶ Increase of crime and the downtown Nanaimo area became a place we no longer bother visiting. Embarrassing when we try to ‘show-off’ our city.
- ▶ Increase of rights and liberties of street people over tax payers. Business shutting down. Losing a vibrancy of development.

- ▶ Increase problem with homeless and crime
- ▶ Increased crime and terrible social scene
- ▶ Increased crime, homelessness and decreased feeling of being safe. Some of my favourite parks I will not go to anymore due to an unsafe environment
- ▶ increased drug use & homelessness
- ▶ Increased drug use and homelessness
- ▶ Increased drug use, crime, and homelessness is continuing to worsen Nanaimo resident's quality of life.
- ▶ Increased high density housing, increased pollution, increased noise, increased traffic, increase green house gases due to bigger cars and increased gas heating in homes
- ▶ Increased homelessness & open drug use are affecting the quality of life
- ▶ Increased homelessness that leads to crime and public intoxication, and drug use, not to mention using the "outdoors" as a public toilet.
- ▶ Increased homelessness, drug use and crime
- ▶ Increased homelessness, lack of affordable housing.
- ▶ Increased homelessness, lack of housing affordability, reduced green space.
- ▶ Increased homelessness, more obvious addictions, increased begging by some people who are obviously strung out from drug use
- ▶ Increased housing costs have created difficulties for people finding affordable accommodations.
- ▶ Increased population and traffic. Unsafe downtown core with public drug use and unpredictable behavior.
- ▶ Increased population has led to improved infrastructure, more vibrance in business and culture, and more opportunities for creating unique networks.
- ▶ Increased property crime.
- ▶ Increased real estate prices, increased traffic congestion. Increased homelessness & issues downtown.
- ▶ "Increasing homelessness, crime, drug issues. Loss of supports for seniors – eg. Seniors Connect"
- ▶ "Increasing homelessness. Our green spaces are more and more fragmented."  
"
- ▶ Increasing population with associated pressures on traffic congestion and homelessness.
- ▶ Increasing pressures from homelessness and very public drug use and increase in theft leaves Nanaimo with a black eye.
- ▶ Increasing traffic, the proliferation of intense density development and the difficulties of sustaining a vibrant downtown, especially in face of the situation with homelessness and drug use. When I came to Nanaimo 14 years ago, to the Old City, North Nanaimo friends told me they were afraid to come downtown and real estate agents warned them against buying in the Old City. That changed, but my sense is, it's changing back. We don't want a bicameral city, with two versions of Nanaimo encompassed within the boundaries of a single community.
- ▶ Incredibly difficult to enjoy Nanaimo due to the increased desperation of the street culture. The city is under siege.

- ▶ Infrastructure hasn't kept up with growth; downtown has been neglected; vagrancy has got out of control
- ▶ It doesn't feel as safe.
- ▶ "It feels like Nanaimo has grown up and now feels confident to address issues. We're strong and there is a sense of pride, in spite of the challenges. Wow!"
- ▶ it has become an ugly place to live. Crime, drug use, homelessness have really changed the quality of life, and our leaders spend their time talking about bike trails and other "nice to haves" rather than addressing the one thing that matters most. It's amazing our leaders can't see what is obvious to most rational people living here: all those other things, while important, are wasted effort if people don't want to live and do business here because it has become a cesspool. Fix the BIG issue, then move on to the rest. You might have to hurt some people's feelings in the process. That's ok, there's no decision/policy/strategy/etc that will make everyone happy. I assure you, the majority here want this issue dealt with more than anything else.
- ▶ It has become hard to afford living in. The city, there is no regulation on transit nor compost and recycling system. The city is dirty and with a Downtown that does not invite families to enjoy a walk after 7pm .
- ▶ It has become worse over the last 10 years, increased crime, homelessness, drug use, mental illness, not feeling safe in many areas of the city or in my own home or neighbourhood. Have stopped visiting some of the places I used to in the city because I do not feel safe and have to make many changes to my own property to try to feel safer in my own home. Generally I do not feel good about the city of Nanaimo anymore.
- ▶ It has been consistently good.
- ▶ It has been up and down in the four years I have been here. Homelessness and open prostitution and drugs are always bad, plus the huge homeless camp we had (plus others now in the forests). However, the street market on Thursdays (2019) started to make us feel like a community.
- ▶ it has changed, opportunities have increased but safety, drugs and our homeless population with addictions and mental illness seem to make it more difficult to enjoy some of our great amenities.
- ▶ "It has improved a lot as planned housing for the homeless is being a top priority . More parks and green belts have been laid out."
- ▶ It has improved but safety is an issue especially in the downtown core.
- ▶ It has remained the same. I have found that there has been more land development and not enough promotion and variety of community events to reach the 25-45 age range. There is a lack of appeal for singles or young professionals.
- ▶ It has slightly improved but mostly remained unchanged. Nanaimo needs more green spaces. Development is good and is needed, however, there doesn't appear to be a plan to keep green spaces (example - Linley Valley)
- ▶ It has slightly improved, but still feels the same. But I do love this city, always have.
- ▶ It has to be tied to taxpayers ability to pay and raising taxes is not and never will be a solution
- ▶ It has worsened due to the fact that our last City council was full of incompetents, number one Gord Fuller, who was more concerned about the junkies than the taxpayers including letting those bums set up tent city downtown and others coming here from the mainland, and other places because they wanted a handout, not a job.

- ▶ It has worsened because there has been too much suburban, mall-like development. Need more walkable communities with small format retail!
- ▶ It has worsened there are less areas to enjoy with dogs and the ones we have are gravel pits. There used to be grass now just weeds and dirt it is awful. There is no accessibility to the beaches for seniors and people with disabilities to get their dogs to the water for a swim.
- ▶ It has worsened. I would have no worries about walking around any time of day and feel safe. Now I don't. I won't put things in my yard and won't take my young child downtown.
- ▶ "It is clear to me that so many of the homeless come from other places and settle in Nanaimo due to it's proximity to Vancouver and possibly from the lack of enforcement and planning with regards to where homeless are allowed to settle (once safe feeling parks – Bowen, etc.) and other areas around town.

Hopefully the temporary supportive housing will live up to its title of temporary and can be replaced with retrofitted buildings or new buildings that provide structure and have a recovery/rehab model."

- ▶ It is evident through improvements to parks and many services that public engagement has been sought and considered.
- ▶ "It is getting increasingly difficult to find affordable/ available housing especially among young families. There is also a greater presence of addiction and mental illness, and all these problems intersect in the homeless encampments.  
"
- ▶ It is hard for me to say how quality of life has changed as I have lived in Nanaimo for only a few months. I do think that the challenges for the homeless population have worsened though from what I know of Nanaimo.
- ▶ It is much busier so we have less access to amenities.
- ▶ It is not enjoyable to even visit the downtown core anymore. The drug use/addiction and deter us from visiting downtown. My child attended daycare on Wesley Street and we would see people yelling, fighting, urinating and defecating on the street. It was disturbing for us and traumatizing for our 3 year old. There are needles and increased garbage everywhere. There is also increase in theft. I have lived her my whole life (48 years) and now live in Lantzville. I would love my kids to enjoy Nanaimo and what it has to offer but there is too much risk going out on their own.
- ▶ It is terrible to watch our downtown communities drowning under the weight of poverty, drugs and homelessness.
- ▶ It is unaffordable for too many people
- ▶ It seems city governors and staff have more of a plan, green spaces are available and clean and kept up, watersports are mor available and attractive, Commercial street and downtown core has more (purposeful) character. Lagoon playground is being renovated and upgraded.
- ▶ it seems the homelessness and overdose crises have only gotten more exacerbated over the years
- ▶ It will worsen if indoor tennis is no longer available
- ▶ It's better cause I have become a homeowner.
- ▶ It's gotten worse due to homelessness, drug use, crime. When approving new developments the city needs to consider what is already working or not working in that particular neighbourhood. Have long term vision and timelines to achieve those goals.

- ▶ It's great to see more development and opportunity in our city! In my opinion, there's even more opportunity for renewing the downtown area all the way to the Departure Bay ferry. There are many neighborhoods downtown that would benefit from the gentrification process :)
- ▶ It's COVID. And increasing cost of living. But overwhelmingly COVID at the moment.
- ▶ Its hard for me to give a more true opinion based on the options provided. I would say that in some ways life has improved either generally or just for myself, but in other ways some things have become worse or more challenging, and also these changes aren't consistent.
- ▶ It's hard to answer anything other than worsened during COVID.
- ▶ It's hard to enjoy downtown with all the drug use. It doesn't feel safe anymore. People are also moving out of that area because of all the crime. The city doesn't seem to be doing anything about it.
- ▶ IU think it's gone down in some respects. Public transit for example is terrible. There's no ride-share services like Uber which adds to the terrible transit problems, and taxis are a complete scam.
- ▶ I've generally liked the direction Nanaimo is heading, but we need more long-term protection of green space/old growth, and the housing market has gone insane in recent years.
- ▶ I've just moved here but Nanaimo seems to be on the upswing.
- ▶ I've lived in Nanaimo less than ten years.
- ▶ I've only been here 1 year and cannot comment
- ▶ I've only been here 3 years
- ▶ I've only been here 6 years, but have seen the increase in petty crime (have had to increase security features in our complex) and the deteriorating feel of downtown (aggressive panhandling, overt drug dealing and consumption, lots of mess from homeless (?) dumping their garbage in doorways.
- ▶ I've only been living here for one year, but I can say that the availability and affordability of rental housing has worsened across that year.
- ▶ I've only lived here 2 years
- ▶ I've only lived here 2 years but in this time I've seen a lot of positive developments that could lead to even greater improved quality of life for all residents which will attract more visitors that stay for a holiday instead of solely drive through.
- ▶ I've only lived here 4 years. Homeless/drug user presence has increased in my neighbourhood.
- ▶ I've only lived here a year so haven't seen any real changes except for Covid 19
- ▶ I've only lived here for 3
- ▶ I've only lived here for 3 years.
- ▶ I've only lived in Nanaimo for 2 years, but frequented the city prior to that from nearby Victoria. It seems Nanaimo has lacked direction and vision as a city, so I'm very excited about this survey opportunity!
- ▶ Just moved here 1.5 years ago
- ▶ Just moved here November 2019 so can't really comment except from comments from others
- ▶ Just moved so can't answer.
- ▶ Just started careers 5 years ago... now have 2 kids and beginning to pay off loans and debts etc.
- ▶ Lack of affordable housing and crime rate increased significantly in the last 10 years

- ▶ Lack of affordable housing, increased population and development, and increased homelessness have lessened my quality of life.
- ▶ Lack of cohesive development planning has led to unsafe road planning (multiple developments approved in neighbourhoods with only one main access road in & out) causing traffic congestion & safety issues that the City refuses to deal with. High tax rate with low return for tax dollars (too many city hall special interest projects instead of basic City services focused on) has made it difficult for many residents to afford to own a home in Nanaimo.
- ▶ Lack of non-market housing and preponderance of freehold single family detached zoning are key city-level drivers of sprawl, which is the key driver of unaffordability, traffic congestion, pollution, time wasted driving, housing shortages etc. Denseification by form based zoning and century leasing the majority of 1 Port drive to the community land trust of BC and the co-operative housing federation of BC are the first steps to addressing this.
- ▶ Lack of support for downtown. Pressure on small businesses to deal with homelessness/ crime
- ▶ Less affordability for younger generations keeping them out of the housing market/driving them away
- ▶ Less affordability. More homelessness. No appropriate services for substance users and people living with mental illness. We need more affordable rental units. We need to protect the environment more, when it comes to recycling. Everyone should have compost bins.
- ▶ Less fun and activities, nothing to encourage sense of community and general vibrancy doesn't seem like something local government is doing much to help with this, more like they're against it. Each year, something good gets taken away.
- ▶ Less green spaces due to development and the present ones affected by overuse
- ▶ Less support for the arts and opportunities for our youth, teens who are doing home-schooling or who do not "fit in traditional public schools".
- ▶ Like how we have begun to refocus on downtown core and trailways for bikes. I am new to the city (3 years) but love the affordability and parks.
- ▶ Life has gotten very bad in this city with the lack of justice and the high rate of crime and open drug use, the socialist/liberal ways do not work we need a city council that will stand up for the good taxpayers not ones who will just keep giving handouts to criminals, enough of the coddling its time take our city back !
- ▶ Life has worsened because of the lack of affordable housing, causing extreme financial stress and anxiety as a single parent, which impacts all aspects of daily life
- ▶ Life on Protection Island has remained the same but my primary access point to Nanaimo is downtown and that environment has deteriorated.
- ▶ "Lifestyle - shopping options even though i am not a 'shopper' Activities Access to recreation"
- ▶ Linley Valley park is a big improvement as it is a large natural area that is being preserved.
- ▶ Live cost rise
- ▶ Lived here 2 years. Tent city gone, bus service improved, vacant lot behind Military Museum being developed.
- ▶ Lived here with family for 3 years. Love Nanaimo waterfront, parks, lakes, rivers and so on. Increasingly concerned with the homeless congregating around downtown and Maffeo.

- ▶ Living in Old city area, we have found more break ins in the last 5 years then before.
- ▶ Living in South Nanaimo, I feel that there is a lack of services, and nothing is really being done to change that. Thus, there is no improvement. If the Sandstone project goes ahead without dealing with access issues to Extension and Cinnabar Valley, life would become worse because of increasing congestion and safety concerns in case of catastrophic events requiring evacuation, e.g., earthquake.
- ▶ Lots more traffic.
- ▶ Lots of local champions and small businesses opening up creating a greater sense of community.
- ▶ "Lots of metal heath and crime  
Not just for nanaimo but our laws needs to be stricter for drug dealers and child harm "
- ▶ "Many more days where the air quality is poor due to pollution from Duke Point.  
"
- ▶ Many of my feelings concerning this question stem from improvements and development downtown, which I hope to see continue. We need more venues for music and art, we need less dead space. A city's downtown core is really culturally and experientially crucial for it's presentation to visitors and the opportunities it affords those living here.
- ▶ Many things have improved such as trails being built and improvements to the waterfront and recreation facilities. Cost of living has gone up significantly as has traffic and congestion.
- ▶ Massive increase in housing costs with no affordable options and few jobs that pay an equivalent living wage
- ▶ Mental health and drug use in the old city core has caused stress and hardship to the businesses in the area. It doesn't appear that the City is doing enough to fix the problem
- ▶ Mental health issues and drugs. The number of homeless and the crime against property owners
- ▶ Mental health, addiction and homeless concerns have lowered all of our standards of living, safety and vibrancy. We all suffer when others in our community suffer and more support has to be provided to this population as well as to young families as it all starts there.
- ▶ More amenities, it is also maturing and less dependent on one industry.
- ▶ "More and more of our tax money is being spent on bike lanes and gardens when it needs to be used to address TRAFFIC for VEHICLES and CLEANING our downtown core.

The amount of open drug use I witness EVERY TIME I go downtown is disgusting.

The city council members care more about bike lanes and putting pretty trees in the middle of our roads than they do about cleaning this city up.

I've never regretted who I voted for as badly as this past election. LETS GET THEM ALL OUT BEFORE THEY WASTE MORE OF OUR TAX DOLLARS."

- ▶ More attention to human power rather than engine power
- ▶ More bike lanes needed
- ▶ More biking lanes has been an improvement. More bike trails for trail riding. More street seating for cafes and restaurants downtown.
- ▶ More costly to live, public transit is very poor. NEED a walk on ferry to and from the mainland. The ferry

lineups are crazy. Need better transit from Nanaimo to Victoria, Nanaimo to North Island. Need more activities for senior and youth. I also feel that we could do much better with our downtown core. It has a lot of character and yet it is filled with empty buildings. Provide retailers with a great discount on rent in the downtown area. It is pretty let's work with it.

- ▶ More costs, less public space (city squanders land to the highest bidder, i.e., developers), no long-term plan on what Nanaimo should look like in the future, more busy on the roads, no alternatives in how to get around in the city except by car, more homeless people, still no ocean side connector between Departure Bay and downtown, not enough places for tourists to stay with trailers or tents.
- ▶ More crime, drugs, homeless people, nothing being done about it. Unaffordable housing/mortgages for working class home buyers.
- ▶ More drug users. Increased property crime
- ▶ More drugs homelessness, crime. Need overpasses. Extremely high property taxes.
- ▶ More expensive for what we get here. Too much crime and homelessness.
- ▶ More has to be done through the Regional District to protect and expand the Nanaimo River Riparian zone and create meaningful recreation areas with river access.
- ▶ More homeless and more drugs and housing is expensive
- ▶ More homeless, drugs, crime, traffic. Less treed areas due to more home building, less beauty due to climate change since people not watering lawns (which is good!).
- ▶ More homelessness and downturn of the downtown
- ▶ more opportunities for outdoor activities and open spaces. Quality of life in the downtown core and related to safe streets, drugs, homelessness and mental health is a challenge to this community.
- ▶ More or less the same. Recreational facilities seems the same, bike routes marginally better I think, affordability seems the same as well relative to the rest of Canada. Traffic still seems the same.
- ▶ More parks, better housing, more affluent
- ▶ More services in town, but RCMP and Bylaws have given up on downtown and are focused on other priorities
- ▶ More traffic yet roads have not been expanded. In fact, bike lanes make smaller. Highways could not have so many traffic lights. Have you been to other cities?
- ▶ More traffic. Too much building with the removing of forested areas, including more stores and malls, when there are places standing empty. Too much high density housing. More garbage everywhere.
- ▶ "Most of the worsening is COVID-related but the opioid crisis and increasing homelessness have really made spending time downtown less pleasant. Additionally cost of living is increasing rapidly, steadily eroding our disposable income. "
- ▶ Mostly improved although the parks aren't kept as nicely as they used to be. This year I feel like I'm constantly walking in tall grass at local playgrounds which hasn't been the case in years past
- ▶ Mostly poverty and homelessness.
- ▶ Moved here 4.5 years ago and have already felt a shift towards outdoor recreation.
- ▶ "Moved here 7 years ago from the UK. The destruction of trees and green land reminds me of the mistakes England made. Derelict building everywhere. The only thing going for Nanaimo is the nature. Open drug

use and Homelessness out of control.

Hospital and Healthcare system is really poor in comparison to my experiences in the UK.”

- ▶ Moved here in 1996 and has improved dramatically since then, especially downtown.
- ▶ Moved here last year.
- ▶ Moved here within the last year so cannot answer this question
- ▶ moved to nanaimo from vancouver and saw immediate improvements to quality of life. larger living space, access to a yard, access to green spaces free from crowds. love nanaimo! but want it to grow, each neighborhood should be self-sustaining with a unique identity, downtown should model itself after Victoria and be livable vibrant and “the place to be”:
- ▶ Mt quality of life has faced very little change. There is much more homelessness than what there was 10 years ago, which makes my heart cry!
- ▶ Much more expensive, increased homeless/ drug use very poor transit system
- ▶ Much more homelessness and substance abuse problems. Very little help for adults with mental health issues. This should be a priority.
- ▶ Much worse than in the previous 10 years.
- ▶ My car has been stolen twice and broken into 12 times
- ▶ My husband is a family doctor downtown. Sadly, there are too many people who steal from his office, harass the doctors and their staff for doing their job. It is a very serious problem. Leading to staff being afraid to walk to their cars alone and being very miserable at work.
- ▶ My needs are met, but the increase in homelessness in Nanaimo is a huge problem. I also am concerned re the loss of farm lands and food security.
- ▶ My neighborhood has higher crime, open drug use and homelessness.
- ▶ My own personal quality of life has stayed about the same, but it is very obvious that the quality of life for many Nanaimo residents has decreased due to increased homelessness.
- ▶ My personal quality has improved, but overall especially downtown has worsened
- ▶ My personal quality of life has improved because I moved here in 2013. So I now feel more connected to the community. My partner and I both have great jobs. However, I know many people are struggling. There is a definite divide between the haves and have nots. For those struggling, it’s not just about money. They need support in the way of mental health resources, employment resources, housing resources, health resources, etc. There are many great social assistance programs, but it’s raising awareness about them and getting people connected to the right groups. Of course, kids are the most vulnerable and need a lot of help too.
- ▶ My personal quality of life has improved, but I think that a lot of peoples’ quality of life has worsened with affordability issues and poverty.
- ▶ My QOL is the same but overall there is more homelessness
- ▶ “My quality of life has improved due to age and career advancement.

Downtown after years of revitalizing is dying quickly with the drug addicted homeless taking over. If you build it they will come, look at Victoria, they just keep coming. Get tough on lawlessness, open drug use and arrest for disturbing the peace. More Police!!! “

- ▶ My quality of life has been great personally, but I feel like we have left downtown to succumb to a lot of social issues and bear the brunt of homelessness and drug addiction.
- ▶ My quality of life has gone up
- ▶ My quality of life has improved because I was able to afford to buy my own house and really establish myself career-wise- something impossible to do in many other island communities
- ▶ My quality of life has improved but only because I have personally grown and found a career that allows me to live the life I need right now. On the other hand, I feel as though I see more homelessness, mental illness, and crime in my neighborhood. This has caused me to show less compassion for the less fortunate than I would have shown in the past.
- ▶ My quality of life has improved, but downtown has gotten worse.
- ▶ My quality of life has increased because I make more money. My quality of life that the city of Nanaimo is responsible for has gone down a ton. The policy's of government to allow drug use and theft everyday affecting our citizens is embarrassing. This is the number one issue in Nanaimo and I would suggest dividing them up into groups. Actual homeless people 1st priority. Get them safe housing so they don't get addicted to drugs if possible. Mentally unstable bi-polar, schizophrenic, and get them in a government run institution. Lastly the drug addicts and criminals. Offer them rehab and if they don't go or refuse put them in jail.
- ▶ My quality of life has stayed relatively the same. The street population's quality of life has decreased substantially.
- ▶ My quality of life has stayed the same except for the stress of making sure houses and cars are locked. The homeless issue in Nanaimo has grown substantially in the past few years. I dont know what the answer is but Nanaimo needs to do more about the homeless/crime problem. That has grown substantially in the past 10 years. Maybe looking at other major cities in the world to see what works!?
- ▶ My quality of life has stayed the same, but the quality of life for others like families and the homeless have worsened due to increasing income inequality and opportunity. To improve the quality of life for these people we need to increase the amount of affordable housing for all income groups and provide minimal housing for all our citizens so that no one has to sleep rough.
- ▶ My quality of life or "the standard of health, comfort, and happiness experienced..." has deteriorated significantly. I live in a beautiful waterfront condominium downtown where I am unwillingly subjected to the ever increasing numbers of homeless individuals. I have absolutely been adversely impacted by the mental health challenges most display, their unpredictable nature when "under the influence", the stench, scattered debris, panhandling, public and sometimes openly urinating/dedicating, theft, desperation. DO SOMETHING elected City officials and managers for everyone's sake! I am sooo scarred by the imagery that it brings me to anxiety attacks or tears, sooo afraid to walk alone through our gorgeous Bowen and Maffeo Sutton parks that I just don't. These are but a few examples of how deterioration has occurred and they are not merely observed. Personally, over the last few years, I feel as though my City expects me to accept the increase in homelessness and all of the undesirable attributes that go with it; accept it as my "new normal". Well, here's the thing... it's not! It's not normal at all folks. I've not experienced anything like this in my life. It's a first for me an individual who has lived in western Canada for 59 years. Please DO SOMETHING
- ▶ n/a
- ▶ N/a only been here two years
- ▶ Nanaimo desperately needs to bring good paying jobs (not tourism & retail) to the area so people can

keep up with the rapidly rising cost of housing and daily living. Jobs for men AND women. As great as tourism is, Nanaimo loses the thing that makes it special by forcing growth – I fear we will be another Feeder city for Vancouver soon and I do not want that for this city. I also fear the City is extremely short sighted in their emergency planning as evidenced by the last council’s decision to not fight for their RCMP dispatch and this council’s outsourcing Firecomm come next year. This is completely unacceptable to the people of Nanaimo. The people of Nanaimo also need to know there is an end game to the temporary housing shelters here, that rules are being put in place that keep the accommodation temporary.

- ▶ Nanaimo feels less safe than it used to. There are more drugs and crime now. This should be an area of focus for improvement.
- ▶ Nanaimo has always and continues to be a great place to live, work and raise a family
- ▶ Nanaimo has become less affordable. Crime has increased. Schools have closed. Traffic is worse. Absentee homeowners (increased rentals) impacts neighbourhood investment and contributes to loss of sense of community.
- ▶ Nanaimo has continued to grow and prosper in a relatively successful manner.
- ▶ Nanaimo has in some ways improved (more businesses downtown, good restaurants, festivals), but affordability and the homelessness and opioid crises have worsened.
- ▶ Nanaimo has increased in population in the last 10 years but nothing is being done to update the highways in town. The parkway should be 3 lanes without traffic lights. The traffic is only getting worse
- ▶ Nanaimo has made many steps in the right direction in things like: Environmental awareness, and accessibility.
- ▶ Nanaimo has totally dropped the ball in its approach to homeless, crime, theft our City Council and the Provincial Government has literally ignored and taken a band aid approach to this growing problem !
- ▶ Nanaimo is a great city.
- ▶ Nanaimo is a great place to live but it is starting to get crowded/congested as the population increases.
- ▶ Nanaimo is a much more diverse and interesting city than it was even 10 years ago, but there is still much room for improvement. This city is still built for the “car”, but I am heartened to see new subdivisions being developed for walking, biking and community spaces to gather. We live in a spectacularly beautiful geographical area, but there are still many things that could be done to showcase this beauty.
- ▶ Nanaimo is an absolute disaster right now with all the crime, drug addicts wandering around....doesn’t feel safe.
- ▶ Nanaimo is functional but boring: City staff is not open to other ideas.
- ▶ Nanaimo is growing fast but the infrastructure and road systems are not keeping up.
- ▶ Nanaimo is growing so fast that I think it’s difficult to keep up
- ▶ Nanaimo is growing which comes with increased noise, traffic and numbers of people in parks etc. It has also led to massive increases in the cost of living here. This is normal but lost makes me miss the quieter days when we first Moved to Nanaimo 15 years ago when you could buy a decent house for under \$200,000.00.
- ▶ Nanaimo is such a great place, but housing affordability has become a big issue, particularly on the lower end.
- ▶ “Nanaimo is the least fun place to live. It’s so bad that no one believes in this city which could be pretty

fantastic if we took some chances and quit being so. friggin. dull. You can't even go downtown for a bite and a few drinks unless you budget in 100 for a cab ride because we have no other options. It's a joke.

Crime is out of control, transportation is a joke. "Fixes" (ie. intersection at old island highway and Northfield) consistently make matters worse.

"

- ▶ Nanaimo lacks an identity, sense of pride, and has been ineffective at revitalizing its core and waterfront
- ▶ Nanaimo meets my present needs
- ▶ Nanaimo officials don't enforce bylaws. Fireworks ban enforcement is a joke. Parking enforcement outside downtown is nonexistent.
- ▶ Nanaimo seems to be pretty risk averse as a city. That's fine and all, but I think it's stifled growth in a number of areas, particularly the arts. Our arts sector thrives, it seems, in spite of the community, not because of it.
- ▶ Nanaimo used to be a friendly and quaint town, it has become too large now and the homelessness is not being properly addressed with supportive mental health hospitals.
- ▶ Nanaimo...we stay in the North End more now...downtown filthy, questionable clientele, businesses closed, buildings unkempt, does not feel safe. Very sad. Feel bad for RCMP as not enough officers to get a handle on downtown issues & move these people to where? The drug use is out of control= crime for money.
- ▶ Nanaimo's transit system has certainly improved but is still extremely difficult to get around with.
- ▶ Naturally we have progressed as a city & have had to adapt to the given world climate & times. However, in my experience there are a lot of citizens in this town that are afraid of change. I think Nanaimo could have improved substantially more if people were more willing of change.
- ▶ Neck Point development has been an improvement. Less choice in retail and restaurants a negative. High density development plans in North Nanaimo a negative. High rents a negative.
- ▶ Need better transit system, too long of a wait for the bus.
- ▶ need more safe bike routes. now retired.We need housing and programs and treatment for homeless.
- ▶ New and exciting businesses add flavour and intrigue to the city. Nanaimo's reputation is improving year over year as more people discover the true character of the city.
- ▶ New to area.
- ▶ No affordable housing. Greedy realtors and property management companies
- ▶ No because the neighbourhoods are getting more and more dangerous in the night and lots of disrespectful people are breaking and vandalizing memorial benches.
- ▶ No further comments.
- ▶ No major changes observed thus far, but i've only been here 6 years
- ▶ Noise pollution and damage to the natural environment. Endless noisy, messy development ruins quality of life for residents. I ended up closing down my home business because of it, and now have to leave my home most days due to intolerable noise. Bad for the environment too, which is sad.
- ▶ None
- ▶ North and south Nanaimo are unfolding nicely but downtown is not. A major rethink is needed for the

downtown area.

- ▶ Not exactly cos i have only been here for 3.5 years. Nanaimo is still the same since i arrived here. Per my observation many of the youth leave Nanaimo for greener pastures after university. Its time to make it more attractive for people from different walks of life.
- ▶ Not feeling safe with increased crime from homeless and drug addicts.
- ▶ Not having lived here for the total 10 year period, and only three year, I moved here from the Cowichan Valley, just in time for the advent of "Discontent City". Visiting the downtown is not an attractive feature, and the crime rate in the old quarter is nothing to be proud of for the town administration.
- ▶ Not much has changed in the way of biking and walking paths along the ocean, or improvements to attract tourism. I would love to see Departure Bay connected to downtown with accessibility for wheelchairs and more cafes or bistros for tourists.
- ▶ Not protected it has a right to live as much as humans
- ▶ Not safe to utilize parks and trails- not safe to leave anything unlocked- downtown is a mess and spreading throughout the city
- ▶ Not significantly.
- ▶ Not sure. Haven't lived here long enough. (5 years). Homelessness and drug use seems to be getting worse. I'm worried to about overly rapid population growth. Downtown needs serious attention. Any empty burned out hole in the ground (Burns building) is super embarrassing! New conference centre when we already have one (?) A new hotel right near the Franklyn gym (yikes!). Nanaimo could really benefit from highlighting its positive relationships with Synx First Nation too. What's with the giant empty lot next to VIU? The cost of living is good, but sometimes I wonder at what price'?
- ▶ Nothing ever changes in Nanaimo.
- ▶ Nothing is done to help the homeless population, rent and housing prices have skyrocketed due to over inflation. No money gets put towards anything positive, especially in south Nanaimo.
- ▶ "Nothing too nice about down town. Somehow has a dirty feeling to it. Some streets could well be closed to traffic. Giving money to the business owners to improve things hasn't done a thing. Perhaps when getting feed back, from this, you will have some interesting things to go on. People who do drugs seem to like it. Would it not be far better to give them another area where some REAL treatment can be offered and , not in old Nanaimo are, that seems so strange and deters any real progress for the City. Give the addicts an area of real community and accommodation AND recreation somewhere they are not close to those humans they feel will give them cash for more drugs."
- ▶ Old People ISOLATED AND ALONE in their apartments, because EVERYTHING is UNAFFORDABLE!!! In need of Old People Networking facilities and programs.
- ▶ On the one hand, the city is definitely more congested and difficult to drive through. There also seems to be an increase in homelessness. On the other hand, the downtown area seems to be perking up with more local businesses and the local farmers markets are amazing community hubs. So some things have improved, while other things have worsened.
- ▶ One way it has improved is the influx of immigrants bringing such diversity to our beautiful city.
- ▶ Only been here 5 years - I think lots of good things happening to try to resolve issues
- ▶ Only been here 7 years but do see improvements around the city. Keep up the good work.
- ▶ Only been here for 2 years

- ▶ only been in city for 10 yrs, but definite improvements since that time in my neighborhood (dept bay)
- ▶ Only lived here for 1 year but have visited frequently. New housing opportunities, businesses and creative pursuits are great but the homelessness and drugs seem to have increase from my times visiting and what I hear from locals.
- ▶ Only lived here for 4 year. Seems to be getting more expensive
- ▶ Only lived here one year but the sense is a stable, great community
- ▶ Only lived in Nanaimo for 3 years, so my answer holds less relevance, but it has seemed consistent during my residency
- ▶ Only moved here 2 years ago
- ▶ Open drinking, camping and drug use by vagrants in the empty lot by the ferry to Gabriola.
- ▶ Open drug use and stealing from businesses and residents
- ▶ Open drug use' crime, which is followed by catch and release no institution for the mentally ill no detox centres housing seriously mentally ill in neighbourhoods.
- ▶ Open drug use. Homeless folks camping in parks. Needles littering the streets. Scary mentally ill roaming streets at all hours with shoeing carts.
- ▶ Opioid crisis, cost of living
- ▶ Our city is being ruined by the influx of homeless people that are moving to our city, our downtown has become a extreme disappointment
- ▶ Our city needs to entice our province to find solutions to our homelessness and crime. Without a solution, we will spiral down the rabbit hole.
- ▶ "Our downtown community has developed more anger and hatred towards those less fortunate, assuming the homeless are "criminals" (helloooo being poor is NOT a crime!) Affordable housing is a massive issue. I am privileged enough that I was able to buy a home a few years ago, for my friends also in their 20-30's, their rent has sky rocketed and it's impossible to afford a home as a first timer buyer right now. And those are people WITH jobs. What about all the people who lost their jobs or are unemployed!? We need to help! "
- ▶ Our downtown core (pre-covid) has seen some revitalization, but the cost of living in Nanaimo is beginning to climb.
- ▶ Our life is good we travel... CON is on life support
- ▶ Our neighbourhood, the Old City, is much more comfortable, safe, and community-minded now. Same for Downtown, with more interesting stores and variety of services, including a good library.
- ▶ Our parks and trail systems have opened up way more
- ▶ Our streets are not safe anymore. Drug addicts, alcoholics and those with mental health issues need to be in proper treatment centres.
- ▶ "'-over dose problem  
-homeless problem  
-affordability problem  
-deforestation "
- ▶ "'Over last 10 years:  
- Housing market has increased

- More accessible bike lanes
- Hikes are also more accessible (is. Benson trail markers)
- Mountain biking trails getting even better
- downtown restaurants like Gabs have grown "

- ▶ Over the last 8 years I've been living in Nanaimo again I've seen downtown go from a vibrant thriving place people want to go to a place you are fearful of walking alone at night due to drug Addiction and mental illness concerns.
- ▶ Over the last ten years there have been no additions to this city that have qualitatively improved my life, at best what is here that would effect quality of life has just deteriorated.
- ▶ Overall a slight worsening of quality due to increasing costs, increased congestion and crime
- ▶ Overall increased but lucky enough to have bought my house before prices went up. Other aspects that have improved: More decent restaurants, coffee shop and breweries (Particularly downtown) new facilities like the Stevie smith park.
- ▶ Overcrowding on parks and trails, too much traffic and traffic lights, drugs/homeless are definite problems in the city. I used to enjoy walking around Westwood but now I am nearly run down by mountain bikers every time. Panhandlers at every traffic light.
- ▶ Owing to more construction most forestation areas and green valleys have been replaced by cement and mortar! Not only has the air quality wrsened but it is downhill path to congestion and traffic line-ups.
- ▶ People are afraid to walk in parks and other areas because of the lenient attitudes towards crime and criminals. All efforts are used to pacify the criminal while residents (paying taxpayers) are put on the back burner and have to bear the burden and physical attacks by these people, especially with the catch and release principal of arrests ... making this city unsafe for families and seniors... no matter how you try to dress it up.
- ▶ People used to think we were weird for wanting to live walking distance from downtown. Ten years ago it was pretty rare to see stories/articles about young up-and-coming local artists and creatives in local media. It felt like Nanaimo was turning away from itself. I had people who considered themselves quite involved in the community tell me that they didn't know where Bowen Park was, or that they never traveled south of Country Club unless they were going to the ferry terminal or to Victoria. Lately, I feel a growing sense of community and I appreciate so many of the initiatives the current council and the downtown community has brought forward. I am so happy we are bringing our children up in Nanaimo.
- ▶ Personally my life is very blessed, but I see many challenges in the community that concern me like homelessness, drug addiction and the general overall sense in the community of unrest.
- ▶ Personally things have improved, but i am gainfully employed, own my own house, etc. I understand that many people are struggling, however. In addition, i am concerned about our growing impacts on the environment - preserving and protecting the land, water, air, must be the lens for all human developments. Next: Poverty, homelessness, mental health, addictions - these need to be addressed so that none are left behind.
- ▶ Personally, it has improved, but for the general population, it appears it has decreased due to the visual increase in homelessness and the current state of downtown
- ▶ Personally, my life has gotten alot better in Nanaimo, but I see the opposite for much of our community. There has been alot of positive developments downtown, but there is still alot to be done. I do have faith that we can do better in the next ten years, and we are on the right track. That's why I say stayed the same, not all better, but for sure not worse.

- ▶ Petty crime on the rise, surge of population and developments leading to overcrowded recreational sites, seems to be more New development instead of improving existing areas
- ▶ Piecemeal improvements have and continue to be made but long-term challenges such as improved transit and walkability remain the same.
- ▶ Please address the mental health/drug use in our city. I fear walking alone and avoid the downtown core.
- ▶ Please complete the harbour walkway to departure bay, such a great opportunity is being missed.
- ▶ please ignore my answer to Question 4. I've only lived here a few months so don't really know.
- ▶ Please just add more mask mandates in school and provide online opportunities.
- ▶ Please preserve the green space that is left.
- ▶ Please see above. Help the opioid crisis.
- ▶ Please take off your rosy sunglasses, Beban Park is a mess, Bowen Park not safe, have a plan and follow it... we built the Convention Centre keep the exterior clean etc
- ▶ Poor downtown
- ▶ Population Growth is at two ends of the spectrum. The Rich and the poor. We provide excellent services to elders and that is one of the sources of growth. As they age we will need services. The recreation focus is great. But we need more housing and it should be always mixed developments with room for different economic populations. We should not be segregating populations by either age or wealth. And we need to really focus on climate change and mitigation. To me that means protecting farmland and encouraging the local food movement. Preserve the agricultural land reserve. It means improving service to cyclists -- connecting bike paths for more complete routes, Separating cars and bikes, and improving bus service. Now if you have any money at all you don't take transit. Too inconvenient. During COVID masks should be mandatory. People don't feel safe on the bus. And we need to work on new buildings and old buildings in all sectors to reduce energy use. Great source of jobs. Can we sponsor some renewable energy projects? Do we have enough wind for offshore wind here? Support good water-saving practices.
- ▶ Population has increased and services has decreased in healthcare.
- ▶ Population has outgrown investments in infrastructure. Becoming a big city feel with less community feel.
- ▶ Population increase changing culture of city.
- ▶ Population is too high, too many people/not enough doctors/healthcare, traffic is worsening(because too many people). Loss of greenspace(development to house too many people)
- ▶ Prices rise, livings decrease. Bus service was promised for many years before finally being implemented too far from my home to walk both ways on top of errands. Our school was closed then the next nearest one...our catchment has portables, the nearest French immersion uses portables, we couldn't get in two years in a row. We don't have bus service to our school and it use a third of my living allowance to drive.
- ▶ Primarily due to housing costs. A tiny bachelor apartment I once lived in during 2015 for 525 per month now costs 900 per month. That is nearly a 100 increase in five years, and it's the rule rather than the exception.
- ▶ Progress and development seem to be measured and effective. Will always be growing pains but Nanaimo is going in the right direction
- ▶ Property crime, open drug use, drug litter/garbage and panhandling has gotten worse and more widespread.

- ▶ Property tax increases, poor spending by city, drug issues ongoing, theft
- ▶ Public drug use!! There's needles and drug paraphernalia everywhere! I no longer take my children to parks, and IF I do we only attend north Nanaimo parks.
- ▶ Public/personal safety. Nanaimo has become a real shit hole overrun & being ruined by drugs/druggies, crime/theft, & lawlessness - no area or place is exempt. Our mayor, police & court system are failing us.
- ▶ Quality and quantity of accommodation improving.
- ▶ Quality of life can depend mainly on your own situation, with little reference to Nanaimo..
- ▶ Quality of life has greatly deteriorated for some people here as the cost of living rises.
- ▶ Quality of life has improved for those who can afford it. I don't believe it has for those in lower income situations or with the homeless population.
- ▶ Quality of life has improved since we voted in a new, re-invigorated, responsible City Council. Now we need to steer away from developing every possible piece of land that is available and avoid increasing housing density without adequate adjacent open space and liveability characteristics that should go with it, if we are to avoid future ghettos and social upheaval.
- ▶ Quality of life has stayed the same as Nanaimo has also stayed much the same. My personal quality of life would improve if Nanaimo aided the houseless population in finding adequate care and support, and most importantly offering at-risk people options and help before they become houseless. I would love to see a more culturally-diverse downtown with greener spaces and a focus on preserving the few natural spaces that we have left. We need more green spaces and more time and effort needs to go in to maintaining them. They are important for peoples mental health and for the health of our environment.
- ▶ Quality of life has vastly worsened all over Nanaimo in the past 10 year with the homelessness, open drug use and crime related to drugs. Nanaimo is quickly becoming embarrassing :(
- ▶ Quality of life has worsened because of the housing CRISIS. There is next to no affordable housing for people making a low to modest income. Housing is a basic human need, and it's not available to everyone these days, even people who work good jobs (that's how we know it's a CRISIS).
- ▶ Quality of life improved immeasurably with the election of a new council.
- ▶ Quality of life in Nanaimo has worsened. There has been an increase in crime, homelessness, due to Nanaimo becoming a sanctuary city. It is not safe to go downtown. Lack of reliable and reasonable transportation from Nanaimo to other areas ie Victoria, Duncan, Courtney/Comox, Port Alberni. Traffic has gotten heavier, speeding is a problem, noise from driver that use souped up mufflers or whatever else is added to their vehicles. Employment is limited and housing costs have tripled. To much social engineering, not enough infrastructure. Loss of shopping for example Rutherford mall is a ghost town, empty buildings. Seems to be catering to an older demographic and will lose the young adults trying to get established and start a family.
- ▶ quality of life in Nanaimo would have improved in the last 10 years if not for increase in social disorder and homelessness issues
- ▶ Quality of life seems to have worsened downtown but is the same or better everywhere else.
- ▶ Quality of life should support diversity including seniors needs and needs of the artistic community to share and create. The city is doing very in supporting the physical well-being of citizens of all ages - not so much for seniors and the arts community. Local theatres are aging, small and not technically advanced and the visual arts community does not have a "home"

- ▶ Quality of life suffers when cost of living goes up drastically.
- ▶ Questionable allocations of city funds. The garbage program is inherently inefficient for pur geographic region.
- ▶ Rampant crime/ mental health & drug problems are the number one issue affecting quality of life in nanaimo
- ▶ Rapidly rising cost of living, esp for housing. Need more social services. Developers seem to have more control than city planners. Increasing traffic. Poor signage and confusing street layout/name changes.
- ▶ really depends on your economic position.
- ▶ "really worried about the loss of natural areas especially wooded areas in central nanaimo with increasing development do pretty good with parks and the ability to look around and see extensive wooded areas - adds to the charm of our city

concerned also about convenient public access to our many amazing beaches especially beaches that are in a natural state without developed walk ways landscaping etc.. etc. there are very few access points.

Also worried about loss of view corridors - one of the special things about nanaimo is being able to see mount benson and that seems to be changing with development"

- ▶ Reasonably priced housing has worsened until 2 years ago but all new apt buildings are out of price range for most people.
- ▶ Rent has drastically increased in a short period of time. What I paid for rent 6 years ago would be unheard of in today's market.
- ▶ Retired, can always improve.
- ▶ Rising cost of living is increasing homelessness and that leads to crime and public drug use.
- ▶ Roads have improved.
- ▶ Safety and crime associated with social challenges has escalated exponentially
- ▶ Safety and security has been reduced due to homeless? Drug use? Mental health? Crime?
- ▶ Safety is a concern - drug use, mental illness, homeless camps. I will not walk along the downtown harbour anymore.
- ▶ "Safety issues have lowered quality of life. I no longer feel safe going downtown, so I limit my visits. Downtown offers so much but if you dont feel safe being there, why go?"
- ▶ same
- ▶ Scared to go in certain areas of Nanaimo because of the drugs, crime and having to lock up every and it still being stolen. RCMP can't do their jobs because of the mental health act.
- ▶ see above
- ▶ See the comment section of question 2.
- ▶ Seems like we all keep saying Nanaimo is on the brink of becoming awesome. Its just not really happening.
- ▶ Seems to be a growing gap between low and high income, causing improved quality of life for some and worse for others.

- ▶ “Seems to be increased homelessness, as well as rampant addiction concerns and criminal activities. Community supports are stretched thin.

Cost has increased for recreation activities and can be expensive for a young family. “

- ▶ Send the homeless people back to there city and province
- ▶ Services that were promised when we chose to move/build in Nanaimo have never been followed through with. ie highspeed ferry, Hammond Bay Rd. firestation. Very dissapointing.
- ▶ Side effects of our neoliberal economic system have marginalized too many people.
- ▶ Since moving back to the city eight years ago, we have seen more property crime, open drug use and homelessness. The new developments that will address housing shortages are not well planned and frankly are architectural abortions. The city planners should be ashamed.
- ▶ So many more overdoses. i know someone with a downtown job and they talk about seeing so many more people on drugs and in a not safe state of mind.
- ▶ So many people are moving here but medical and mental health resources are not keeping up. Also, our downtown is missing the mark! There is so much potential, it could be so beautiful, but needs more attention!
- ▶ So much homelessness and crime. Our justice system just kicks them back out with a PTA
- ▶ Social housing policy has spread crime to all areas of the city. Unchecked housing development is resulting in deforestation and loss of wildlife habitat. How can be claim to be “green” when we’re contributing to climate change by cutting so many trees?
- ▶ Social infrastructure hasn’t seen much or any improvement (bus routes, public spaces, downtown improvement). There is so much stigma around utilizing outdoor spaces in the central to downtown region due to the insane homeless/drug issue. In the North end public outdoor spaces are inaccessible due to infrequent bus times and lack of cycling infrastructure. People don’t feel safe cycling on roads without lanes as drivers express an unprecedented hostility/sense of entitlement to the road, which cannot be mitigated without city certified support.
- ▶ “Social issues/problems has had a negative effect of our city core ( downtown ). The City Admin has shelved plans to expand our seawall walkways and trail systems which is probably Nanaimo’s greatest asset.  
The increased numbers of homeless has also eroded our downtown core and other parts of the community with increased property crimes and creating feelings of insecurity for the citizens. There is not enough affordable housing ( and I’m not referring to just the homeless ) as young people/ couples struggle to find suitable housing on their budgets. “
- ▶ Some elements have declined like homelessness and petty crime. More supports needed for vulnerable peoples
- ▶ Some gentrification of the old city but increasing growth of sprawl and increased traffic
- ▶ some improvement in facilities and recreation opportunities (bike park, dog parks, bike trails etc) but increasing detrimental impacts of homelessness
- ▶ Some parks and trails have improved but some have worsened. Policies such as overnight camping in Beban Park have made that area unusable by the general public. Focus should be on real tangible initiatives for improving parks and trails, not virtue signaling such as declaring a ‘climate emergency’.
- ▶ Some things are better such as bike lanes and some have not improved at all such as public transit to

minimize the use of cars. I would like to see connected walkways and bike lanes from one end of the city to the other and perhaps light rail.

- ▶ Some things get worse, some get better. It all evens out in the long run!
- ▶ Some things have improved and others have worsened: Crime, homelessness, drug abuse has increased but road and parks infrastructure, integrity in government has improved. Housing prices and rents have risen which is overall worse for the community; recreation programs, competitive sports opportunities for kids have improved.
- ▶ Some things have improved, but downtown and some areas have worsened due to homelessness.
- ▶ Some things have worsened; especially the homeless people downtown.
- ▶ Stayed about the same. Well publicized initiatives including strategic increases in downtown housing, Port Place development, critical walk/cycling access between the north and south, improved transport links to Vancouver have not happened. On the other hand, there has been improvements in the acumen and vision of Staff and Council, and the genesis of interesting nodes of development in neighbourhoods.
- ▶ Stayed the same
- ▶ Stayed the same
- ▶ stayed the same but with Covid, getting out to walk Nanaimo Parks and parks in the regional district has improved.
- ▶ Stayed the same.
- ▶ Stop having traveling homeless camps. DO something permanent for citizens of Nanaimo. Right now you have everyone from across Canada heading to the island for free support.
- ▶ Stop the growth of the city. Too many people now.
- ▶ Successive city councils seem to think that the taxpayers of this city have unlimited money to withstand yearly tax increases. Tougher decisions need to be made about which programs to prioritize.
- ▶ Taxes and lack of mortgage paying jobs has resulted in me not being able to afford my home and have had to sell and downsize.
- ▶ Taxes go up, theft goes up, drug use goes up. It's unsafe for kids to play at parks before checking for needles! This is a really sad place for kids to grow up.
- ▶ "Taxes have gone ridiculously high along with our utilities bill (add to that house insurance and car insurance) that it makes living here almost impossible to afford. I work for a non profit with tiny increases of 2% that don't come near to covering the yearly increases in expenses.  
When I moved here there were so many green spaces. We have lost so many green spaces, trees are instrumental in protecting our air and everywhere one looks they are being cut down with no regard to climate change.  
Many ugly developments squished into small quiet neighbourhoods resulting in increased noise, traffic and pollution. No sidewalks in my neighbourhood - reduced safety with increased traffic due to overdevelopment.  
New developments should be going up not out and should be located on major routes with forest + park space included and made mandatory. I loved going to the parks but now they are so overcrowded and aren't safe especially with COVID.  
A police force that enforces traffic rules. An elderly neighbour has her son from texas visiting for months and he is horrified by the excessive speeders, red light runners and otherwise poor driving habits of inhabitants and visitors to this city. His comment was is there even a police force here? I agree - just this

morning on my way in a guy yacking on his cell phone ran the red light – no police in site even though it was at an intersection known to have a high accident rate.”

- ▶ Taxes have increased too much. Homelessness is a major problem. Nanaimo’s complete streets idea is going to increase taxes even more and restrict traffic. (poor design for a limited amount of cyclists)
- ▶ Taxes keep increasing and affordability is diminishing.
- ▶ Ten years ago, I remember downtown becoming a vibrant and safe place to go on a Friday and Saturday night. There were many different businesses and lots of fun activities. Now, more and more businesses are closing and I haven’t felt safe walking alone down there regardless of what time of day it is. I used to walk my dog down to the waterfront and back up into the Old City in the mornings but have recently stopped since twice stepping on a used condom. Further to the deterioration of downtown, more and more development throughout the city has created a less diverse landscape and fewer walking trails. In addition to these two issues, the city property taxes have, understandably, increased with inflation and aging infrastructure and the cost of purchasing properties has also increased substantially within the last decade. My issue isn’t with the cost of property or of our taxes, it is that there aren’t more diverse economic opportunities here to match the increasing cost of daily life. Most of the employment opportunities in this city are in the service sector which does not have the pay scale to match the actual cost to live here. It’s great that we have a university that offers many programs to educate and advance, but they aren’t very useful if there aren’t the jobs to match.
- ▶ “The affordability has diminished for housing  
The homelessness, substance use, and mental health issues have increased  
The transient population has increased  
”
- ▶ The amount of drug addicts, theft, vagrancy and criminal activity with lack of consequences for people’s actions is really disgusting.
- ▶ The amount Of homeless people on our street openly using drugs and tent cities has made the city almost unbearable to live in
- ▶ The amount of homelessness
- ▶ The busier Nanaimo gets, issues with infrastructure becomes more and more apparent. On and off ramps should have been the upgrade along the Parkway, not traffic intersections with lights. Way too much congestion throughout the day, not just at one or two specific times. Parking downtown is atrocious any time it is a holiday or main event. The more people here, the more people there are to disrespect the environment and there seems to be an absence of bylaw or enforcement in many areas.
- ▶ The city and region have stagnated. Progress to make the city and region more attractive have been slow and measured. There has been promise of some bold initiatives like the foot ferry and hotel development downtown but not much success. I have heard Nanaimo referred to as the Prince George of Vancouver island.
- ▶ The city has become too expensive for adequate housing, too much crime due to drug/homeless issues, lack of safety, lack of vision for a future that capitalizes on our potential as a port city
- ▶ The city has expanded but school and other facilities have not been given enough funds to support this
- ▶ The city has focused on green space/parks as well as social programs
- ▶ The city has gotten more expensive but has also grown and become more of a city and less of a town. The rise in homelessness, drug addicts and other criminal elements is the #1 detractor to improving quality of life in this city. A harder line must be taken with these people.

- ▶ The city has grown but the blue collar “not in my backyard” negative attitudes remain. Other cities of similar sizes have embraced their growth and change (ie. Kelowna) but Nanaimo hasn’t. Asset management needs addressing, equitable transportation options need expanding, homeless and crime issues need addressing, and we need to market the beautiful city we have.
- ▶ The city is going in a direction that is unsustainable with implementing programs that don’t fall in line with the basic services that the city should be focused on.
- ▶ The city is growing and attracting diverse businesses and people.
- ▶ The city is growing and evolving and becoming a place people truly want to live and visit.
- ▶ The city is losing its natural beauty to widespread, unsustainable development. Nature is what makes this a beautiful place to live, it drives tourism – and we are not protecting it justly. Once it is gone, Nanaimo will be just like any other city with a heavy human footprint and it will have nothing left to make it special. Please buy up and protect more land around the city, especially areas connected to Linley Valley. Linley is a rare gem and the land areas used by so many hikers, cyclists, nature lovers, are getting chewed up and clear cut for over priced housing.
- ▶ The city is no longer affordable for the working class.
- ▶ The city is too busy. Too many people moving from Vancouver to live here.
- ▶ The City of Nanaimo needs to address the issue of housing affordability. The local government can address this by staffing up to process and approve development and building permits. Housing affordability is a simple function of supply and demand and the existing capacity to complete this function is not sufficient. Faster permit issuance leads to increased supply that directly impacts prices. The city has the levers to address this problem, and as a young person looking to start a family, it’s painful to sit by and observe their inadequate attempts to address this problem.
- ▶ The city parks are overrun with drugs and mentally ill people making them a challenge to bring a family out to enjoy them
- ▶ The city pays \$1000s on street lighting for parking lots but virtually nothing on lighting for outdoor sports (EG Maffeo Sutton’s basketball court). The winter months can be especially dark and an investment in outdoor lighting for outdoor recreation (especially during covid) would improve our quality of life.
- ▶ the city seems cleaner since we first moved here 9 years ago
- ▶ The City seems not to care. The Old Quarter and downtown are disgusting...panhandlers..open drug use.. filthy streets and no excitement in the life in those areas. Seriously thinking of moving because of the apathy so evident in our community.
- ▶ The city’s down town core was moving forward lots of shops and restaurants, now it’s full of drug addicts and violent people. If the city is to become something other than a haven for the addicts this mess has to be cleaned up first. The tent city and the inaction of governments was the worst thing to happen to Nanaimo in the last 30 years. Those with mental issues need a place to go such as Riverview the rest need a tougher stand from the city.
- ▶ The City’s population has grown significantly over the past 10 years. The congestion and selfish nature of citizens have increased proportionately. Transportation problems seem to be a metaphor for every other problem in the City.
- ▶ “The coalition survey for homelessness saw an increase triple since 2018 when the head count was last done. This is an increasing problem that is spiking crime and poverty in Nanaimo. We need housing for people facing homelessness.

As well as, we need to keep our rental markets within our community. I know several of my friends who have been evicted from their homes because the international home owners want to sell. That is not okay as most families can't even find housing here anymore. We need to stop international buyers from purchasing our homes in Nanaimo it is hurting our community.

Lastly we need to focus on reconciliation efforts and start working more collaboratively with our Indigenous communities whose stolen land we reside on. "

- ▶ the cost of housing has increased to an unsustainable level in the past decade that is not at all reflected in any increases in real wages. This has been detrimental to our community and will eventually either drive young people like myself away to more affordable cities or delay the starting of families
- ▶ The cost of living here is extreme compared to the wages available here for most people. More and more people are struggling to meet basic needs and the raises on property taxes over last few years makes it worse.
- ▶ "The crime / homelessness/ drugs/ traffic especially losing off opal at rock city road  
Maybe all residential areas should do this"
- ▶ The crime and homelessness in Nanaimo is very concerning. We can't go out to some parks in town because it is not safe. We have found a lot of drug paraphernalia in the parks and are concerned on stepping on a needle or our daughter picking something up. We spend a lot of time outside and are finding we have to go further out of town to walk in the parks.
- ▶ The crime and homelessness is out of hand
- ▶ The crime due to drugs and homelessness is taking over the safety and cleanliness of our city. Quit doing surveys and reports and do something about it
- ▶ The crime is through the roof! The druggies are shooting up drugs on the street and near schools.
- ▶ The crime rate and the homeless population have ruined the downtown core.
- ▶ The crime rate has gone up significantly to the point that I don't want feel comfortable putting up Christmas decorations or Halloween decorations due to them being stolen. Those who commit the crimes even when they get caught are instantly released with zero consequences.
- ▶ The current mayor & council seem to be functional well together, in collaboration with it's citizen.
- ▶ The current rise in homelessness is a serious issue, but is not a symptom of a disfunctional city. On a different note, I am sad to see the city expand out, without the many vacant properties at its centre being filled in. A sprawling city can never be efficient.
- ▶ The development pressure has taken away acres of beautiful parkland in the Northend/Central. Jingle Pot Area, Linley Area, Uplands/Turner Area. In addition downtown, although gentrifying, is still a hub for homelessness and crime. There are so many borded-up shops in the area it is hardly attractive to go there.
- ▶ The downtown and areas of South Nanaimo have visibly deteriorated.
- ▶ the downtown and waterfront has deteriorated, the number of homeless has increased, the number of visitors has decreased and the crime has increased :(
- ▶ The downtown core (pre-COVID) has become more vibrant, attracting a more diverse population. Population diversity has increased due to immigration and international students.

- ▶ The downtown core is not accessible because of the new drug laws and homelessness. i feel unsafe walking along the waterfront at maffeo park to departure Bay in the evening
- ▶ The downtown has been slowly improving with better local businesses & the summer street fair. I have also seen improvements with outdoor recreation. The cultural scene has improved slightly with major room for improvements. (These comments apply mainly to life pre-Covid)
- ▶ The downtown is dead and depressing. As a citizen going down there on a Friday evening to have dinner (pre-covid) and an evening stroll along the waterfront is not an option.
- ▶ The downtown is not a place I enjoy walking in anymore due to the fact that it has become unsafe.
- ▶ The downtown seems very neglected.
- ▶ “The drug addicts and other thieves are taking over our neighbourhoods! It’s beyond locking our vehicles, doors and windows. We have had to install security systems in north end neighbourhoods. We have to look out our windows in the middle of the night to make sure junkies aren’t prowling in our yards. We’re at a point where citizens are taking back their neighbourhoods by demolishing homeless camps filled with garbage and drug paraphernalia.  
Junkies don’t need clean drugs!! They need detention centres with a minimum 6 month stay. They need to go through withdrawals with trained professionals. They need mandatory education and work experience before being released into the public. It takes at least 6 months to reprogram the brain and break bad habits. So set up a three strike rule. On the third time throw the homeless junkies in the centre and help make them contributing members of society! The government is enabling the horrible things going on. Fix the issue! Stop throwing bandaids at the problems.  
My children and I no longer go downtown because of the junkies everywhere. They are aggressive!!! Panhandling is a way of the past. They yell, swear, threaten to kill you when you politely refuse them money. I’m done, so fucking done. “
- ▶ “The drug addicts in our neighborhood (central Nanaimo) is an embarrassment. Also, why does Nanaimo not have more available for families and tourists (mini golf, water slides, bumper boats, interactive museum, etc).”
- ▶ The drug crisis hit Nanaimo hard. Housing prices have gone up dramatically. Development and sprawl are problematic – new commercial districts are for big box stores only. Food insecurity remains a large issue, despite groups petitioning the city to take action on known projects. (Recently, 5-Acre Farm and partnerships with local food groups have improved – way to go!). Overall, Nanaimo is growing and my personal quality of life has improved. It seems like there are many amazing ideas out there right now – but it takes a long time to take action on the ideas. Keep up the good work city of Nanaimo staff – thank you :)
- ▶ The drug use and associated crime has dramatically increased causing a pervasive feeling of fear and anxiety. There are many areas we will not go to now for fear of being verbally abused and physically threatened.
- ▶ The drug use and crime is outrageous and unsafe for families
- ▶ The drug use and homelessness and serious poverty has definitely impacted the quality of life or all people in Nanaimo. It impacts businesses and personal sense of safety while making Nanaimo less attractive to visitors.
- ▶ The drug use and homelessness issues are getting worse, particularly around downtown. We need some firm strategy and a real plan on how we’re going to deal with it.
- ▶ The eclectic shops and a couple of good eateries that opened up on Commercial were pluses in an effort

to revitalize the downtown core. But the several deteriorated commercial sites in the heart of downtown detract from any constructive motions forward.

- ▶ The effects of drug addicted criminals has greatly impacted the quality of life of all community members including those who have experience hard times that are NOT drug addicted. Our downtown core is riddled with vulgar situations and all parts of Nanaimo are dealing with the filth associated with camps.
- ▶ The enabling of the criminals/junkies/drug users/thieves/tent cities/use of OUR city parks by people that receive NO consequences for abysmal behavior element here and the lack of effective leadership has driven Nanaimo to be the laughing stock of the country. I no longer go downtown day OR night AT ALL due to the filth and abuse from the drug users/criminals/filthy state of the downtown core. I am embarrassed by it and NEVER take any guests there at all. I used to be proud of my city, I am ashamed and embarrassed by it now. I no longer feel safe downtown, day or night.
- ▶ The entire situation of the homelessness, drug use and the crime rates are just too big and apparent to not say Nanaimo has worsened. I bought my first house this year which happens to be around the Harewood/University district. I initially thought "hey it can't be that bad?". I was so wrong to the point my next door neighbour ran a bike chop shop mixed with some sort of drug operation for the first 6 months I was here (drug aspect still highly probable). The only reason they no longer have the bike chop shop aspect is because other neighbours told them off, the police who visited the property about 3 times that I saw had no impact.
- ▶ The fact that empty buildings sit in our beautiful downtown year after year is at the core of my answer
- ▶ The forest, animals, plants, clean air, quiet landscape has vanished overnight. There has been continuous pollution, increased crime, garbage. Little beauty remains.
- ▶ The gap between the middle class and the working class/working poor is getting larger and costs keep going up. Our City Council seems more worried about aesthetics than actual problems. On any given day there is a 1 to hour wait for the food bank. Most of the people using it had jobs before Covid, and now nothing. We don't feel safe to walk around in our neighbourhood in the daylight nevermind at night for all the transient people, cat calling, crime, trash, open-drug use, and the city keeps creating task forces that amount to nothing.
- ▶ The gap between those making the decisions and those within the community is huge. The ruthless spending on projects that isn't even making a difference is appalling. Our city has incredible potential and incredible people willing to make something happen, but those with the money and the power only seem to be interested in looking good for Vancouver and forgetting those who have to live here expecting free services and arts while throwing their money in the wind. The warmth our community has brought to the city has nothing to do with those using our money to repair the place. Our community has grown because people have worked endlessly to make it so. The "city of Nanaimo" is not apart of that community in my eyes. If they were our city would be a much better and safer place.
- ▶ the gardening done in the downtown is beautiful, the banners are really nice in the summertime BUT we need more trees planted along the E & N walks to cut down the noise from the cars
- ▶ The homeless and theft has become a large issue. My son walks to Wellington High and he has had negative encounters. Its something we worry about. Our vehicles have been broken into 2x since buying our house 1 year ago.
- ▶ The homeless drug users are everywhere and it brings shock to visitors. They have a hiding place behind port place next to the museum and they were 10 of them getting high as were trying to go up the stairs.
- ▶ The homeless issues in this city have gotten out of control. Drug use and theft is everywhere.

- ▶ The homeless population has taken over our beautiful downtown and much of our waterfront. Taking my kids for ice cream now involves a lengthy explanation about drug use and mental illness. Going for a walk or run in most of the city needs to be done only with my husband, in full daylight.
- ▶ The homelessness and drug problem is overtaking downtown and affecting the ability to have a safe and vibrant downtown core. Great shops but many people don't want to go downtown anymore. Also the subsequent rise in crime. The sign of a healthy city is a healthy downtown and ours is 'sick at the moment with no solution on the horizon. It is sad because Nanaimo has so much potential. Also downtown is so broken up/choppy. The flow does not seem to work or improve. No easy fix on that front...
- ▶ The homelessness and drug usage in public areas has worsened my experience in Nanaimo. I am now concerned to take my daughter to parks etc. that are less popular in case we are the first to find needles or other things. Petty crime has also increased in my neighborhood and impacted both my home and my business.
- ▶ The homelessness and drug use in downtown has made it so that I can't take my children down to our favourite shops or to enjoy the waterfront anymore as it doesn't feel safe. You can't use the public washrooms as they feel unsafe - this is not a commentary on the custodians as they do a great job but they can't be everywhere. We also don't feel safe in Bowen park or at Harewood Centennial park to a lesser degree. It's sad.
- ▶ The homelessness and drug use, centred in the downtown core has increased dramatically. If this isn't taken care of, tourism, etc means nothing.
- ▶ The homelessness issue is dividing our community and some individuals feel "forced" to deal with resolving issues themselves. We need leadership in this area
- ▶ The homelessness, crime and drug addict problems have made it worse
- ▶ "The homelessness, mental health and addictions problems have definitely had a negative impact but I do realize that's not just a Nanaimo problem.  
While there has been some improvements to the downtown area, we have also gone backwards as well with the loss of heritage buildings, abandoned buildings, closed businesses. There has been lots of development but that translates mostly into loss of green space & increased traffic. I don't think more shopping opportunities equates to better quality of life and that's really what comes to mind when I consider what has really changed in Nanaimo in the last 10 years.  
I "
- ▶ The homelessness/drugs and deterioration of the downtown and the locations of the public housing on the highway and by Beban Park - these should not be in residential areas/near a park where kids play
- ▶ "The housing crisis and Nanaimo has significantly increased rent is above normal, disproportionately high, more employment opportunities for the homeless such as cleaning the streets maybe they earn a little bit of wage or to live that they could live in low income housing  
have programs in place for addictions and mental health stopping the circle of going to the hospital getting better and then kicked out of the hospital going back on the streets  
getting a homeless prevention in place by identifying at risk citizens  
Offering a breakfast program for low income youths at schools. "
- ▶ The inability to deal with homelessness and addiction has created a divided community. Had these issues been resolved earlier by some level of government, there would be less discord and fewer resources dedicated to reacting. The volume of policing has increased, but the quality has not. With the systemic issues facing the RCMP, and a strong First Nations presence here, solutions that rely on less policing and not an increased campus should be prioritized.

- ▶ The INCREASE in drug addicted and mentally ill left on our streets making it unsafe for the citizens. Both I. Their own homes (thieving and vandalism constantly) as well as out and about (thieving from businesses and open drug mental use. Children do not need to be subjected to this. It is not right!
- ▶ The increase in homelessness and not having a vibrant downtown. We have a beautiful waterfront and we are not capitalizing on it.
- ▶ The increased homeless and high crime rate due to the drug/social issues that need to be addressed. Treatment facilities(rehab, treatment for those with mental issues) – giving housing is not going to fix the problem.
- ▶ The increased homeless population has reduced my willingness to use downtown and surrounding park areas: I often feel unsafe or not able to enjoy
- ▶ The increased homelessness and the lack of addressing the core reasons for it. Legalize and supply drugs to the addicted and housing.
- ▶ The increasing homelessness, open drug use, loud, abusive, and violent interactions, and mental/social/emotional health issues severely impact my, my family's, and my customers' comfort and feeling of security.
- ▶ The lack of community spaces and having a very crappy waterfront is honestly disappointing. There is so much potential in this city and yet very little incentive to diversify public spaces. If the city of can't afford to make improvements, it should seriously consider talking to developers and give them incentives to develop in exchange for great city amenities.
- ▶ The lack of improvements to transportation access to Cinnabar Valley , continued issues with homelessness and drug addiction
- ▶ the mass of the issues in question 2 are weighing heavily against the best characteristics of the city
- ▶ The neighbourhood I live in (600 Block of Milton) has its challenges but we have a beautiful home with a view. The area had started to improve (purchased 15 years ago) then came the homeless camp and the 7/11 Store which attracted problems that still exist today. I would like the City to focus on improving the look of the downtown area. The Harbour will always look amazing but the highway from the Departure Bay Ferry Terminal up to Chase River look like a dive city. Do not allow vacant properties for years and years to tarnish the look of those trying to improve the City. Build or sell should be ordered for properties sitting vacant for over a year, period.
- ▶ The numbers of people on the streets with mental and or drug issues has greatly increased in the past five years and have left areas of town unsafe for walks or activities.
- ▶ The obvious negative is the state of the city centre and issues with vagrants etc.
- ▶ The opioid addiction crisis has exacerbated the issue of homelessness
- ▶ The opioid crisis is changing our city. We need more mental health and addiction services. More prevention strategies.
- ▶ the opioid crisis. I don't think that giving clean needles and drugs is the solution. This is called enabling. Let nature take it's course. Work on PREVENTION. No more HANDOUTS. I'm sick and tired of the filth that has taken over our city.
- ▶ The price of rent has doubled from the time I rented my first basement suite as an 18 year old, 12 years ago. I don't have money to spend on fun or recreational things because rent prices are astronomical and there's not enough affordable rentals

- ▶ The problems with homelessness, drug addiction, petty crime, and mental health issues are obvious for all to see. These need to be addressed in a holistic manner, not a piecemeal, bandaid strategy such as has been currently implemented.
- ▶ "The province has made a catch and release program for criminals... you see people with 50 to 100 arrests and little to no jail time. The people of this community cannot afford to support these people's drug and mental health issues by being the victims of crime.

You as city council need to push the province to actually deal with this issue.

Giving out needles and free drugs is not the answer our once great city is dying.

There has been a massive influx of "homeless" people to the area from all over the county because they know there is no consequences for the actions. All these big social justice groups keep pushing that it's not their fault they have mental health issues etc...

Well maybe work on sending them back to the provinces they came from to get that help instead of having them live on Nanaimo streets. Giving them housing with no support is not the answer as you can already see with the two places in Nanaimo and the spike in crime they caused.

You cannot go to any park or green space in town without seeing needles and other trash or get harassed for money.

"

- ▶ The push for density has taken our neighbourhood from close but comfortable to crowded and loud, combined with the increase in people speeding in loud vehicles means that I am looking into moving out of Nanaimo. The lack of traffic calming in older residential neighbourhoods along with increased density is a terrible combination, 6th Street is treated like a Highway as are many of the streets in the University District.
- ▶ The quality of life has gotten worse for the most vulnerable and those with low incomes. For people with more access to income I think Nanaimo has improved a lot in the last 10 years.
- ▶ the quality of life has improved but with homeless and drug the crime rate goes up and this is pulling down the quality of life in Nanaimo
- ▶ The quality of life has improved in my local neighbourhood (Old City) through enhanced sense of community, efforts to build community (i.e. creation of community book exchange boxes). The quality of life in worsened as reflected in substantial increase in drug abuse and homelessness.
- ▶ The quality of life I meant is not materialistically but rather the cultural quality of lifestyle, e.g. the island highway has become a race track for the last 4 years. There is a distinct differences between the oldies, the newbies and the tourists.
- ▶ The quality of life in Nanaimo has drastically worsened as a result of drug addicts that are wrongly been labelled as homeless. It is not safe to go downtown, walk the seawall, walk in Bowen Park as well as tent communities set up in residential areas. The crime rate has increased as a result of ignoring this situation and providing more services for people with addictions than are received by tax paying citizen. I am tired of seeing people publicly consuming drugs like I observed the last time I went to shop downtown. It is a fearful place for single and senior people like myself. Things have to change or we are going to lose responsible citizens because of the present state of our community.
- ▶ The rapid increase in homelessness over the past several years has negatively effected the quality of life, especially in the downtown core. I no longer feel comfortable shopping downtown.
- ▶ The reasons I feel it has worsened are: lack of affordable housing options, increases in housing prices /

cost of living, drug and homelessness crisis, and increased traffic.

- ▶ The redevelopment of Port Place has significantly improved the downtown core and transit options for South Nanaimo have improved (i.e. Route 8 to Cedar and bus access to the Nanaimo Airport). At the same time, homelessness, drug use, and petty crime has escalated, and shops on Commercial Street are struggling to stay open. So it's a mix of improvements and decline.
- ▶ The rise in visible homelessness has worsened the quality of life in the Old City. Tents, tarps, shopping carts, loitering, discarded personal clothing and unfinished food/packaging, disruptive noise late at night or in the early morning on otherwise quiet neighbourhood streets, people living in cars or motor homes parked in neighbourhood streets have all affected my feeling about quality of life in the neighbourhood.
- ▶ The rise of drug use and crime in my downtown neighborhood has been noticeable.
- ▶ The safety and security of our downtown area has worsened. My quality of life has been sustainable but clearly many others in our city have not been so fortunate.
- ▶ The sense of contributing to the community has waned. So many organizations which made those contributions have gone.
- ▶ The social disorder is having a negative effect on communities. The pits downtown and the empty buildings are not helping. Fix downtown and Nanaimo will flourish.
- ▶ The state of downtown has declined over the past decade in terms of homelessness and drug use. I feel less safe walking around Downtown during the day Than anytime in the past 45 years I have lived here.
- ▶ The streamlined bus system was an improvement to many routes, new sidewalks and curbs increased feelings of safety when walking, bicycle designated lanes are greatly appreciated, levelling of Dept Bay seawall made it a lot more walk friendly, and the distribution and donations of foodstuffs for the food bank is amazing.
- ▶ The tent city debacle took this city down hill and it remains less appealing as supportive housing has been placed near residential and commercial spaces that are on edge due to increased crime. Prior to that I never found Nanaimo a very welcoming place to live and try to find work. Nepotism rules supreme here and unless you know someone, many good jobs are not available.
- ▶ the traffic has become horrendous
- ▶ The traffic has increased so much.
- ▶ The traffic is worse and the parks are getting too busy. We need more parks!
- ▶ The uncontrolled growth of crime and homeless camps have really diminished this City.
- ▶ "The university, resulting in an increase level of diversity, has had a very positive effect. The focus on creating a vibrant downtown is making a very positive difference as well."
- ▶ The very obvious drug use/crime in this city has at least doubled if not tripled in the last 17 years since moving here. The idea of handing out free drugs (basically the government becoming the drug dealer) to these people is utterly preposterous and will ruin this city. If you put out rat food, rats will come. Same thing. I cannot believe this council has applied for programs of this sort through Victoria
- ▶ The waterfront is a jewel.
- ▶ The way homeless people have a free pass at committing crime...because of their unique situation. No accountability for their actions. I'm sick of worrying about having my stuff stolen all over...and sick of these drugs addicts getting free reign to party and use drugs at our parks.
- ▶ theft, drug addicts, violence is the worst ive seen across the country and I have lived in a lot of different

cities in multiple provinces.

- ▶ There are better restaurant/coffee shop/places to socialize than there were 10 years ago (although still much room for improvement). Outreach and beautification efforts on the waterfront, Old City, Downtown improving and need to continue to improve. I am a bike commuter. It has improved slightly, but there is VAST opportunities for improvement, especially when keeping my young children safe (encourage people to get out of their massive, ridiculous trucks they use to get groceries. They can't see me on the road. Add separated bike lanes).
- ▶ there are better uses for downtown commercial sites. better recreational facilities.
- ▶ there are clear improvements in terms of parks and infrastructure however like most of the region the high cost of housing (rent) has greatly diminished the quality of life for so many.
- ▶ There are improved park spaces that allow for a variety of hikes, runs, biking, etc.
- ▶ There are more businesses for younger people, better shopping, better restaurants.
- ▶ There are more facilities and trails. Downtown is improving slowly but we still have a pit in the middle of downtown that should be addressed. Nanaimo seems to have a thing for big holes (possibly a hold over from our mining days) which need to be dealt with or cleaned up before decades go by. It gives a terrible impression.
- ▶ There are parts of the city that our family doesn't feel safe going to, including but not limited to downtown due to the rampant drug and homeless issues. High property taxes also limit what we can afford to do in our city.
- ▶ There have been good developments (I like the green bin/recycling program, it's reduced our garbage, dog off-leash areas are great). But housing seems to be an issue with more homelessness and general stress in the community. Lost access to an open area (school district land on Howard) due to a few fires caused by campers (they fenced it off, which keeps me out but not the campers).
- ▶ There have been some band aid style improvements but nothing to address real core issues of rising population and infrastructure that just has not kept up to demands of use. Also drug use and homelessness have remained rampant. Public transit is embarrassingly bad.
- ▶ There have been some infrastructure improvements but the increased population and congestion has decreased my quality of life
- ▶ There is a greater variety of restaurants; nice shops downtown encourage me to shop here; I remain housed and employed, lucky me
- ▶ There is a lot more to do in Nanaimo compared to 10 years ago. But as the population has grown we need more attention to our road ways.
- ▶ There is an increase in housing projects. Unfortunately, this area still lacks in certain areas. First, by focusing on housing first initiatives, people who merely need affordable, clean/dry accommodation are presented either with no housing, or housing with people active in addiction. Nanaimo has also failed to serve those living with addictions appropriately. In the past 10 years, no additional detox or treatment facilities have been developed to support those with an interest in changing their lifestyle.
- ▶ There is great loss of green space and sacrificing treed areas to development without recognizing that we must live with nature, not without it. High rises and high density living are death traps for the future, as we have seen in COVID times.
- ▶ There is more crime, our downtown has deteriorated and our parks are not safe anymore due to needles and garbage left by people camping in the parks.

- ▶ There is more obvious homelessness, drug use, small crimes, poor enforcement of traffic laws. There has been little attention given by Council to developing the waterfront and neighbourhoods in appealing ways--eg. new condos are springing up that are too large for the lot, ugly, no storefront or coffee shop on the ground floor, no walkability nearby!
- ▶ There seems to have been a shift towards recognizing the connection between physical activity and health/well-being, tourism, and transportation. A focus on outdoor activities whether biking lanes, the waterfront, sports facilities (though we could still use another rink), mountain biking trails, hiking trails, etc. have all improved the quality of life in Nanaimo.
- ▶ There's a lack of momentum. The City needs to step up and deliver on some of its plans, promises - there's a feeling that nothing will ever change & Nanaimo's going to remain as a place of unrealized potential. The City doesn't need a silver bullet new shiny project, it needs to care for what it has and develop thoughtfully.
- ▶ There's an increase in awareness and community around holistic health and well-being and increasing interest in sustainability and environmental issues.
- ▶ There's still no support to school that they need now more than ever before
- ▶ Things are worse since COVID, but they're tough everywhere & conditions have been better on the Island than in many places.
- ▶ Things have gotten bad due to the Discontent City moved in in 2017 and has gotten steadily worse.
- ▶ This city has been providing a good quality of life and still is growing, maybe too fast.
- ▶ This is only my 6th year here. I believe that Nanaimo is becoming more diverse, both ethnically and culturally. The University is expanding, and every year I feel that our little City is growing up to be just a little more cosmopolitan.
- ▶ This mayor and city council are the worst. What have they done? More crime? Nanaimo is unsafe at night.
- ▶ "three main crises:
  - 1) fentanyl/meth addiction, related to homelessness and poor policing
  - 2) rising property prices related to money laundering
  - 3) skyrocketing population of indigenous people who say they live on reserve but do not"
- ▶ Too busy...to many cars driving fast...no sidewalks on Hammond bay...not a safe city.
- ▶ too many "homes" for homeless put in the south end, crime rate is going up, you're turning the south end back to the way it was 15 yrs ago. AWFUL, STOP IT, spread it out more in the city
- ▶ too busy, homelessness and increased drug issues and crime, traffic
- ▶ too expensive ,less safe here
- ▶ "Too many homeless  
Property damage/breakins"
- ▶ Too many homeless people, drugs, tent camps in our neighbourhoods, petty thieving. But, some things have improved, i.e. updating downtown, convention centre.
- ▶ Too many homeless ppl here. Not that many job opportunities
- ▶ too many people
- ▶ Too many people with mental health and addiction issues that are not being addressed
- ▶ Too many people, too much traffic congestion, too many rental, condo, apartment buildings that look like

hot boxes with flat top roofs out in direct sunlight, too many small, awkward, confusing traffic circles and poorly designed intersections, narrow thoroughfares with trees down the middle so that one can't see what vehicles are coming the other way when turning, and with bike lanes that don't go anywhere.

- ▶ Too many people, zoning flaunted by developers who influence city staff and elected officials leading to inappropriate densification local neighborhoods have little say in what happens and community plans carry no weight.
- ▶ Too many people. Afraid to walk places due to assault risks
- ▶ Too many stop light on new bypass highway. Need better ways to alleviate traffic.
- ▶ Too much crime and RCMP allowing it and this affects everyone, businesses, seniors freedom to go out.
- ▶ Too much crime connected to drugs and homelessness.
- ▶ Too much densification in the City without preserving the character of the neighbourhood
- ▶ "Too much emphasis on density in my neighbourhood. Instead the City should be concentrating on downtown which is a total disaster.  
We have a very poor reputation. No vision. All talk, no real action.  
This.  
I  
"
- ▶ Too much of the homeless population, due to inaffordability, mental illness, and drug use. Am witnessing the increase of this type of population.
- ▶ Too much traffic! I see it gradually turning into Mainland gridlock.
- ▶ Too much traffic, inland highway is too noisy and polluting, homelessness is unfair for the homeless and the rest of us, lack of beautiful gardens due to water costs, too many malls, little local shopping, rigid mindset of a car focused culture.
- ▶ Traffic and congestion have worsened, but services improved. Green spaces have decreased, but more affordable housing increased. Quality of life still very good.
- ▶ traffic congestion has increased (negative/worsened) but outdoor spaces (parks and walkways) have improved
- ▶ Traffic congestion, insufficient bus routes ( frequency of buses within a route as well as poor coverage of the city)
- ▶ traffic has gotten worse, housing prices have increased dramatically but for the most part my individual lifestyle has stayed the same
- ▶ Traffic has worsened and there are still no safe bike lanes on main arteries. Piecemeal lanes and sidewalks that last for half a street often end abruptly without warning.
- ▶ Traffic is worse. Crime and homelessness are worse. Housing costs are increasing.
- ▶ Traffic on Extension Rd. worsens life for me. Need cycle path on Extension and other roads.
- ▶ Traffic, density has increased and there is an increased sense of disconnection. Why is Diana Krall plaza no longer used for events? (Covid aside)
- ▶ "Traffic, noise and congestion have worsened. Homelessness and associated problems have worsened. Sense of community has lessened with growth. Steep slope guidelines are not being followed. Too many variances being given to developers.

No stipulation for developer/speculators of single or a few homes to plant trees (the streets remain barren). Too many large significant trees being removed by builders/developers.

Educational opportunities, parks and trails and public art have improved “

- ▶ Trail networks have expanded (some of which are unsanctioned mountain bike trails, but which still see a great deal of use) which has been great, but there has been a remarkable loss of large green space areas in the city due to new residential development, and the homeless camps have consolidated crime and the social issues into very dense pockets.
- ▶ Transit improved, have seen more building around town.
- ▶ Transit is a big issue. I can't always drive and taking the city bus wasn't an option. HandyDART is primarily used for day programs, so availability was low. I even had to drop out of a university course (downtown library) because I couldn't get reliable handyDART. Class would end at 3:30 and they couldn't pick me up until after 6pm when the day programs finished. Now I have an electric wheelchair I can take some fixed route transit – but it takes 1.5 hours to get somewhere I can drive to in 15 minutes.
- ▶ Transit is better. we have the best nature parks and waterways.
- ▶ Unfortunately, homelessness has increased.
- ▶ uninhabitable, derelict, boarded up houses & businesses, especially businesses on the waterfront (Stewart) which have closed up leaving buildings vacant or torn down and fenced up. Sub par maintenance on city infrastructure, especially overgrown weeds, blackberry bushes and shrubbery in parks, along walkways and sidewalks, and multi-use paths. New road construction projects that exclude active transportation infrastructure. The continuous promise of better connected, safe active transportation infrastructure and waterfront walkway coupled with multiple, expensive studies but with very little progress on actual meaningful projects. A lack of sense of what a safe, connected active transportation network looks like. The lack of traffic calming and traffic law enforcement. The total lack of understanding what pedestrians, cyclists and public transit riders have to endure when snow is removed from roadways and piled up onto sidewalks, bike lanes and bus stops. The total lack of understanding what pedestrians have to endure with the lack of crosswalks and crosswalk lights throughout the city.
- ▶ Until Covid, we had more and more cultural activities, one of the best regional symphony orchestras in Canada as well as theatre and festivals. This has been getting better year after year.
- ▶ Used to enjoy going downtown, now avoid it like a plague. Even going to the port theatre is only comfortable once inside. Our city, especially at dusk is like waking up to a city of the walking dead. I have lived here for 68 years and it is a real shame not to feel safe in my own downtown.
- ▶ vacant longstanding downtown properties ( fire site still empty on Commercial, empty eyesore hotel property at Millstream river at Comox and Island Hwy intersection, and empty properties on couple sites at Front Street by our Park) sooo ☐ Sad for our city☐☐☐☐
- ▶ Vehicle noise from intentionally obnoxiously loud and/or unnecessarily large vehicles being driven aggressively has increased dramatically in the past decade. We need to encourage fewer vehicle trips, encourage choosing of smaller vehicles, and encourage driving courteously.
- ▶ Vehicle traffic and thus noise level has increased. The increase in malls has drawn people away from the downtown.
- ▶ VIU is too expensive, it used to be accessible. Housing is too expensive. Crime is out of control. Traffic is too busy.
- ▶ Was thinking of moving out of city when previous council was in power because I feel they did not

progress the city forward but this council is definitely moving things in the right direction. I.e, downtown condo development

- ▶ Way more crime. More feces everywhere. Downtown is sad with empty buildings and homeless people having to live down there. Bylaw officers prevent live music and don't allow local bakeries to park to unload in the mornings. Not enough parking. Not enough sense of community anymore.
- ▶ Way more homelessness and extremely visible drug use. Downtown could be so good, but it's turned into a sketchy area filled with sketchy people. I don't feel safe in the south end and mostly avoid it.
- ▶ "Way to much crime from drug addicts and homeless coming here from other areas. Need to get tough with them and stop catering to them."  
"
- ▶ We are falling out of love with Nanaimo. In the last 10 years we have grown but our parks and waterfront is not safe and a place we don't want to visit. Due to all the crime and homelessness, we are really considering moving out of this city. It's sad being born and raised here.
- ▶ We are new to the city but I understand the city was known for motorcycle gangs and drugs and seems less so now.
- ▶ We are paying more for property taxes and services every year but our streets are third world. The law is not enforced re camping /tent cities in our parks and green spaces.
- ▶ We cant even put up decorations in our yards anymore without them being stolen. It's very sad
- ▶ We continue to remove greenspace and erect cheap, crowded housing, which only drives up prices and benefits the City and certain homeowners. The other 75% of the population suffers from this completely unsustainable system.
- ▶ We do not have a short term of long term plan for becoming a more sustainable society. We have not dealt with members in our community who are disadvantaged through poverty and/or mental health issues and/or drugs
- ▶ We finally have elected representatives at the Municipal and Provincial levels that are responsive to citizens' concerns.
- ▶ We have allowed our downtown to fall apart when it should be the jewel of the city. The north end is not carrying its load in terms of social services and supportive housing.
- ▶ We have an affordability crisis which is creating all kinds of stresses from homelessness to the lose of community members who have moved away. We are losing green space and trees as we get more infill. The amount of traffic has increased making it more dangerous to cycle on city streets and has decreased air quality.
- ▶ We have gotten to know the city better and there have been bicycle lanes added on streets but there should be many more safety lanes. Especially on Jingle Pot (out in the country) I know it is part of the RDN but it is not very safe for bike riders.
- ▶ We have lived here for 13 years now and have seen Nanaimo increase it's diversity in population, business and opportunities. It no longer feels like Nanaimo is a city people look down upon, it is coming in to its own. The recent rise in homelessness in my neighbourhood is of concern though.
- ▶ We have lived in Nanaimo for 35 years, but now we don't feel safe in our own home because of the increase of crime in our City. We used to go downtown frequently to support the unique businesses, but now we rarely go down anymore because I'm worried someone will break into our car.

- ▶ We have moved to Nanaimo from the lower mainland within the last few months
- ▶ We have only been here 5 years, but have definitely noticed the increase in congestion, rapid development, loss of green space and increase in homelessness and increasing costs and decreasing affordability.
- ▶ We have only lived here for 7 years and it takes time to get to know what's available in the city so my experience of Nanaimo is more limited than some.
- ▶ We have only lived here for five years, and I am disturbed by the amount of trees in the north end that have been taken away.
- ▶ We have only lived here for four years but really like the community, which is considerably smaller than where we moved from. Having said that I think Nanaimo needs to consider the climate emergency with some seriousness since, according to international scientists, the world only has ten years to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 50% by 2030. I would certainly get behind any strong measures the city is prepared to take in this matter.
- ▶ We have only lived in Nanaimo for the past 2 years so we cannot accurately answer the above question.
- ▶ We have only returned to Nanaimo 3 years, after 40 years absent, so difficult to answer
- ▶ We love living here
- ▶ We moved to Nanaimo 18 months ago not fully realising what a good place this is to live!
- ▶ We need more culture! Let's ditch the Nanaimo bar claim to fame and start positioning ourselves as a creative hub...the Squamish of the island!!
- ▶ We need to take care of homelessness.
- ▶ We seem to be attracting the wrong people to our community. Government programs and handouts have made our community and province very attractive to the needy, homeless and drug addicted population. I understand that people need help and that's alright, however, by making things better for these people without requiring anything in return only adds to the problem. It's great to help the homeless but what we are doing is only causing more homeless people to relocate here. We need to help them get established in the community, get off the drugs and crime or get out. Providing drug addicts with free needles and drugs does nothing to help them get off the drugs. We need to get these people into rehab programs and incentive to stay in these programs. Penalties if you exit and return to the same lifestyle. How about charging \$5 for a needle and as long as you return it you can get it replaced with a new one free of charge. Make them responsible. This would go a long way to fixing the used needle problems we face every day.
- ▶ We spend a lot of time accessing trails and outdoor areas. This remains easily accessible and continues to improve.
- ▶ We visit downtown at least once a week. Downtown is now dirty, drug users and other people laying around is not acceptable. Close Commercial St to traffic.
- ▶ "We would like a water front walkway bike way  
Need to get rid of the lights on the parkway"
- ▶ Well the City is growing really fast and the traffic is really good.
- ▶ We've been in Nanaimo for ten years now and looking back, we were hopeful and excited to be part of a city transitioning into something wonderful. But we haven't seen that transition but instead have witnessed repression in many areas.

- ▶ We've only lived here for 3 years and across that time, I feel our quality of life has stayed pretty consistent.
- ▶ We've only lived here for 5 years. Can't comment.
- ▶ We've only lived here three years.
- ▶ What has worsened are the social problems; addiction, mental illness, homelessness, poverty and safety in the street.
- ▶ What made our place great was the green spaces, animals displaced, gigantic too tall building Put up everywhere. It has become a place that is no longer restful and lovely
- ▶ When crystal meth arrived 10 years ago, everything changed for downtown and has not improved since. The downtown is in terrible shape and not because people haven't been trying but the disaster that is the opiate/mental crisis over whelms every body
- ▶ When I first moved here 8 years ago, I had conversations with business owners who felt they did not get much support from the City (high rent, taxes unfair, no say in development). I see many closed up businesses in the downtown core (and this was even before COVID). If we want to attract cruise ships and promote tourism then we need to provide a more attractive downtown core (providing support for business owners) & better transportation. I love the access to nature in all forms (mountains, rivers, lakes, ocean and forests) but need a car to get to places. We have much more population and traffic now, so to prepare for the next 20 years perhaps we should focus on a rapid transit system, synchronized lights on highways for ease of traffic flow, keeping bicycle traffic in mind as well.
- ▶ When I moved here 15 years ago I purchased a condo in the downtown core. The downtown was very vibrant at the time and I believe the downtown community policing center helped people feel safer despite a fair number of unhoused Nanaiomites in the area. Now I feel that the vibrancy in the downtown has diminished due to the number of empty businesses and even larger unhoused population. The opioid crisis has not been addressed adequately and the city of Nanaimo needs to pressure the BC government to do better.
- ▶ "When we first moved here 11 years ago, we loved going downtown. Now i won't go by myself. Working in old city quarters, I have seen the complete change to downtown and it no longer feels safe for me to go for walks at lunch. I actively avoid the library (which i love) because I have been harassed too many times by those dealing with active addictions. 3 years ago, I took my mother in law for a walk along the waterfront. We came across a group of 3 intoxicated individuals. 2 were passed out, and the other had their hands down their pants and was belligerent.  
The waterfront walkway, though beautiful, is not safe."
- ▶ When we moved here (2009), there was crime but it felt like things were improving. In the past few years, it seems Nanaimo has been invaded by crime, drugs, homelessness ... AND at the same time, extreme wealth of foreign/outside home purchasing - which has ruined affordability for average people. I have hard-working, educated friends in their 40s - 60s who can't afford to buy (especially given low salaries here) and may leave. Extreme inequality is a key part of the issue - and of course, that is a challenge in many places. I am very worried for Nanaimo and don't want to have to leave. I have no idea what the solution is.
- ▶ While I feel that the quality of services in Nanaimo haven't decreased in quality, I feel that the increase in demand with little to know increase in supply of services (like transit, or housing), means that the overall quality has decreased.
- ▶ While I feel that there have actually been many wonderful improvements in the downtown area (i.e. the Night Market), I live in the Old City Quarter and I have seen a dramatic increase in crime, open drug use,

and homelessness. It has actually gotten to the point where we are looking at real estate in other areas.

- ▶ While most of the community is doing all right in terms of quality of life, there is the huge homeless/addiction problem that seems to be getting worse. The mayor needs support in his efforts to deal with this horrible situation.
- ▶ While my quality of life has remained relatively the same, it has become apparent that we have a terrible housing crisis in our community.
- ▶ While our infrastructure continues to improve greatly as we grow, social issues and disorder continue to be a growing problem.
- ▶ While QOL has improved for me, housing affordability, homeless and drug use have impacted others. They need to be addressed
- ▶ While there has been new construction of both retail and residential property and property values have increased for those that have an interest, crime, homelessness and drug use have also become more visible and pervasive.
- ▶ "Why is there always money to improve wealthy neighbourhoods and literally nothing to improve poor neighbourhoods? If you live in the North end of Nanaimo, you're going to receive all kinds of responses about how great the city is doing. However, we don't need another sporting arena...we don't need more houses that people can't afford."  
"
- ▶ With the increase in population, there are more opportunities for arts, culture and dining – for example, in the past few years Nanaimo has gained quality cafes, craft breweries, a distillery, ice cream and gelato shops, farmers market, food trucks, etc.
- ▶ With the population increase, the city has become more diverse. It has deepened the culture.
- ▶ Worse. Because when my husband got pushed out of Wendy's for defending a young girl on staff against an older male staff member. There was no where for us to get help with rent. We ended up homeless for about 18 months. There was no where for us to shower or get clean drinking water most of the time. The only reason we were able to get jobs again is because we NEVER went to places like the Salvation Army. If ANYONE saw us at a place like that, we would never be hired in this town again. We had to live miles out of town in the woods. Eating scraps from the garbage. All because we have a cat and we are couple. That did not want to be associated with the local degenerate community. There is no temporary housing for couples or people with pets. Someone called the police on me while I was gathering food one night. I had my ID, I don't do drugs or alcohol. I have never been arrested. And they shoved me in their squad car and took me over 10km away from my camp to the Good Samaritan House. That place is for hookers and junkies. I protested the whole way, even though I was not under arrest or any influence they refused to let me out of the car. We never went to the station either. I manage a shop now and the cops are still just as arrogant.
- ▶ "worse: a.) much more theft. Nanaimo seems to have become a desired destination for homeless people and drug addicts from other provinces. b.) extreme increase in property taxes while working people like myself, lucky enough to have a full-time job, work for the same wages since 10 years +. c.) huge waste of taxpayer's money due to legal fees, avoidable expenses and mismanagement (issues involving former CFO and CAO for example) d.) increased traffic in formerly quiet residential areas.  
Improved: a.) more open to alternatives/ ""greener"" thinking b.) much improved communication/good opportunity to talk to city officials, easy access for individuals via city website. c.) more transparency d.) improvements to parks and natural recreation sites d.) willingness and serious efforts made by council to improve quality of life for all, and asking for input from citizens – like this survey– (Thank you!) "

- ▶ “Worsened  
The amount of drug use and crime from the homeless camps around town is disgraceful. My family always feels uneasy going for walks and we never go downtown and to the sea wall anymore.  
”
- ▶ Worsened because of increased crime. Too much break ins to businesses or vehicles leave a sour taste and makes you want to move out of community where you don’t have those issues.
- ▶ Worsened because of the thieving and homeless. We can’t go downtown Nanaimo without seeing people using drugs, sleeping on the floor. It’s unreal.
- ▶ Worsened by far
- ▶ “Worsened by the increased residential traffic, car and noise pollution and loss of natural areas with high intensity housing , i.e. on Uplands Walk corridor in North Nanaimo.  
Worsened by increased homelessness and drug issues in our city. I feel that people with severe mental health and /or addiction issues could be placed in care...in smaller institution than the ones in the past. ”
- ▶ Worsened due to a huge increase in drug addiction and homelessness.
- ▶ Worsened due to administrative strife over the role of municipal government and enhanced by Covid-19/
- ▶ Worsened due to homeless issues, better parks and trails
- ▶ Worsened due to homelessness, open drug use, crime and the feeling of not being safe, especially for children and elderly in the south end and downtown neighborhoods.
- ▶ worsened due to increased drug and homeless problems
- ▶ Worsened due to more intensity housing and traffic, more cars and bigger cars, driving faster, creating more air and noise pollution, more garbage at roadside...overall a less healthy environment to live in.
- ▶ Worsened mostly concerning homeless people and poverty
- ▶ Worsened mostly due to crime and unchecked development taking away green spaces.
- ▶ Worsened way to many people are homeless, and housing is not affordable enough for low income people, and persons with disabilities. More much crime due to people being poor. People turning to drugs cause their stressed out as a reflection of being poor. No help for people with disabilities people are stuck in there homes need more programs for them. these problems need to be addressed properly you need to survey low income people. pre covid these were ongoing issues.
- ▶ Worsened without a doubt. Taxes keep going up and I see no direct benefit from it. My street doesn’t get plowed in the winter. The City rarely come to address problems. My neighborhood is less safe. Someone invaded a neighbor’s house recently. Police can’t respond because there’s too much crime and drug related issues keeping them busy. I won’t go downtown anymore; that means I don’t see my doctor as I should. I’ve been attacked and spit on my druggies too many times. One even barged into my husband’s office, threatening his staff. I barely leave my house (pre-Covid). Seems like hard-working, tax paying citizens are the enemy in this town.
- ▶ Worsened, almost to the point of have to move due to unaffordable housing.
- ▶ “Worsened, by several orders of magnitude.

Lack of law enforcement, public use of hard drugs, petty crime, homelessness. Aggressive/violent behaviour and psychotic outbursts are far too common in my and adjacent neighbourhoods. Camping in woods/parks is tolerated. Where is the accountability? This lack of accountability is a joke. I have

had homeless people living within tens to hundreds of meters of my house and openly using drugs and destroying the natural environment for the past 4-5 years. I call the bylaw officer...the City does nothing. I call the police... the RCMP does nothing. Each blames the other and my taxes increase every year. Really? Do something other than promise to move more of these types into Downtown/Harewood/Southend. Share the love a little! Or please just stop and reevaluate everything. Have city bylaw officers or the RCMP enforce the law or get rid of them and create a Nanaimo Police force that answers to the mayor, and thus the citizenry. Oh, but we're getting new bike lanes on Front Street...Goody!

Pedestrian safety – Sidewalks, more crosswalks and proper street lights in Harewood would also be nice, as we pay taxes too. But this issue is running a far distant second at the moment. "

- ▶ worsened, I see more and more homeless people on the streets
- ▶ "Worsened, I find this an incredibly beautiful place to live but it is extremely frustrating to see the amount of litter, pollution and garbage dumping going on all over the town. It doesn't seem like the city has done anything about it. I know of a view volunteer groups who take care of some areas when they have time but it's not enough. I live by Mill stream and the amount of trash I've had to pick up afraid it's going to get swept into the ocean is insane. I know it's partly to do with the homelessness crisis so in a way these things go hand in hand but the city really needs to step it up with cleaning up the city and working on solving these contributing factors. Fancy murals and public art projects are nice but it's just putting Christmas lights on a pile of poo when the town is still trashed. One last point-I've lived in cities with populations in the millions that are cleaner."
- ▶ Worsened. Drug and homeless problem seems to be getting worse. Increase housing density and disappearance of green space is a problem.
- ▶ Worsened. It's gotten too big and more dangerous.
- ▶ Worsened. Property crime isn't being dealt with. Homeless temporary shelters are exposing residents to violence and crime
- ▶ Worsened.. in born n raised in Nanaimo but moved Out of town due to getting in recovery due to how available drugs are
- ▶ Worsened....do not feel safe downtown or around the homeless villages
- ▶ Would like to see more large parks to walk dogs such as westwood, as parks are becoming crowed with dogs and families.
- ▶ Yes
- ▶ Yes everything from expensive housing middle income.familys can't afford. Homeless and the crime has gone up as well as mental heath. Scared to take my child down town and even country club area is getting bad. Small businesses owners can't afford rent. Nanaimo its just not affordable and not a great place to raise a family or purchase a house.
- ▶ "You are determined to sit on your butts and let the world go around. It stops here. Nothing has been improved on the south end at all. Need better restaurants, cleaner taxis and drivers who bathe."
- ▶ You know the problems.

Q6. COVID-19 has had an impact on our community. We'd like to hear your ideas that could help Nanaimo be resilient to the short-term impacts of COVID-19, while also strongly supporting the long-term success of our community. All ideas are welcome, big or small.

- ▶ Covid has created a "new normal" which is likely to be around for a long time. Let's prepare to be a compassionate inclusive community regardless of how things change. Buy the old Tally-ho and bus depot lands and facilities and refurbish for low income housing inclusive of tenting area, homeless shelter, toilet, shower and washing facilities, safe injection site and daily health clinics. Act on any such opportunities. Implement and fund a "guerilla gardening" plan (probably through Nanaimo Community Gardens Society - Use city equipment to prepare vacant lands or appropriate properties for Community gardens or permaculture applications. Help continue (fund and promote) the "gleaning" programmes and encourage redistribution of excess foodstuffs. Encourage and fund Zero-waste Nanaimo by restarting and recreating recycling and repurposing activities and by encouraging a thoughtful, progressive approach which can create efficiencies even if only temporary. Fund a small high efficiency "liquified bed plate" incinerator to deal with hospital and other such waste until better solutions can be found. Fund or support recycling industries e.g "eco-wood" manufacturing, soil creation, composting etc. by providing favourable terms on commercial locations for these enterprises. Oblige the land fill to commence or support recycling operations like soil creation. Get our waste management contractors to increase their pickup options to include glass and electronics bins. Ask the BC government to expropriate the Jump Lake area and turn it over to the City to enable us to avoid "boil water advisories in the future. Reforest the area. Free parking in both Downtown Parking garages - up to 3 hour metered parking on side streets - No traffic or parking (save emergency vehicles on Commercial street. Make it a walking mall with vendors and entertainers as well as the current merchants. Reduce taxation for current stores to encourage them to stay & prosper. A walking mall provides opportunity for social distancing etc. as long as we need to.
- ▶ " - encouraged alternative transportation means
  - have physically distanced yet connective ways for residents to connect share about how COVID is affecting them, and also offering options to support local businesses/neighbours
  - connecting concerns from citizens with the health services in Nanaimo, especially for those that are marginalized/oppressed (I work in health care and see the gaps... would love to partner more with city priorities!)
  - the art projects from Humanity In Art and the skate park give me great hope - thank you!"
- ▶ " - Invest in local business! Support them and highlight their efforts.
  - Promote safe reusable/biodegradable options (the waste from the pandemic is increasing, I see plastic masks littering parking lots and some restaurants are only using to-go containers which are made of plastic)
  - invest in local food systems "
- ▶ Nanaimo has always been resilient. Don't interfere with this.
- ▶ " - Need more covered outdoor spaces so we can continue to do business outdoors, in larger airy spaces.
  - A travelling grocery store (and a travelling 'dollar' store) that goes from place to place (e.g. from one assisted living home to another, or one neighbourhood to another, would reduce the number of cars on the road and make it easier for those without cars to do their own shopping. "
- ▶ " - NEED MORE DOCTORS IN NANAIMO FOR THE LONG HAUL.
  - I have been a long term resident of Nanaimo most of my life, my doctor

Retired 3 years ago. Since that time I have been through 4 doctors . They come to Nanaimo for awhile and then leave. Some of this I believe is due to the drug addicted criminal types just wandering through their clinics as well harassing their staff."

- ▶ "'- people who are able to work from home should work from home (mandatory)
  - just like providing sidewalk patios, can also empower businesses to integrate online shopping
  - protect individuals and families who barely make it at the end of month so we don't see more homelessness "
- ▶ "'- Wider sidewalks.
  - Covered playgrounds (covered shelters for rain and use to trees to provide shade in the summer).
  - outdoor only programs for toddlers "
- ▶ "1- I love the street patio / terraces. I think this should be kept all year round permanently. The city should find a way that they can be kept in winter also buy adding ex: better big terraces umbrella, heaters ect.... the climate here it's not often cold enough so this would be a really good idea. I bit like the European model.
 

2- in my case I am in the customer service field & there is not enough jobs here in that. So covid changed that we work from home ( I am not sure how this work lawise maybe it's more a compagnie advise) but my point is that remote agent jobs should be based anywhere in BC and we could still work from home. "
- ▶ "1) BRAVE - a multi-stakeholder platform co-operative with a single mission: to prevent deaths by overdose. Based in Vancouver, Brave's technology is built for and with people who use drugs and respond to overdoses."
- ▶ "1) Increased mental health and addictions resources  
2) New/better child care opportunities  
3) Improved promotion of local businesses"
- ▶ "1. Isolation has been one of the biggest challenges, so it would be good to have a greater awareness of social networks available to you (online and in situ) that you can safely engage in. As someone new to the Island from another country alternative and safe ways of getting to know people is important. I think people on the Island are proud of the way we have behaved and managed to keep our numbers low, so I think we need to build on this sense of pride and remind ourselves that this is not over and we must carry on being diligent. I have followed VisitNanaimo and VisitVancouverIsland on Instagram throughout this which has really helped me find places I want to explore safely on the island - I think this is invaluable for people who are wondering where they can go and what to do. There is so much on the doorstep here in Nanaimo that you can access safely and in so doing also support local business. Local government needs to support this as much as possible."
- ▶ "1. Security/monitoring for downtown businesses.  
2. Training and resources for businesses how to stay up date for covid safe practices  
3. Outdoor spaces that businesses can use "
- ▶ 2019 Summer has had to change and there has been some really innovative ideas and actions taken to help with people participation during COVID restrictions. Creativity, patience and compassion will have to continue to our new normal.
- ▶ A benefit of Covid - 19 is the increasing emphasis on buying locally and using local interests for holidaying
- ▶ A centralized interactive way to educate, inform and support locals and to also connect people to the resources and support they need - other than Facebook. ;-)

- ▶ A city-wide food recovery program, bylaws that prohibit throwing out good food at the end of the day, a collection program that redistributes that food to food banks or people in need.
- ▶ A concerning impact of Covid is divisions that it is starting to create in society, including here in Nanaimo. Once we are able to gather again, I think it will be beneficial to put on great community events that bring together all walks of life in Nanaimo together. Bigger/better bathtub weekend, bigger/better night market, etc... Outdoor movie nights at Maffeo Sutton, more music festivals, children's festivals, parades, sporting events...
- ▶ A load of crock when trying to figure out where to get tested – doesn't seem like there is a unified stance on the matter either among the "authorities" involved in facilitating help.
- ▶ A local Television program to keep everyone informed and ALERTED if need be.
- ▶ A more walkable City with outdoor entertainment centres (diana kraffl plaza? Walkable street for restaurants?)
- ▶ A move away from malls as the centra business areas in our community. Malls are hard for COVID – they are big indoor spaces. The more we can revitalize our downtown, and focus investment on walkable outdoor retail areas, the better. Also, investing in infrastructure like bike lanes, and repairing existing deteriorating infrastructure would help create jobs, give people a way to get around in a socially-distanced manner.
- ▶ A positive spin or campaign that attracts our residents to do the right thing, perhaps getting more coverage: rather than re-iterate words from our health minister, we can re-word injecting some humour and kindness into the message, maybe be a little more transparent with our numbers. A bill board or two throughout town might work well.
- ▶ A profit tax from the big box stores to be given to small stores encouragement of buying local and incentives for buying local; investment in infrastructure with job opportunities being given to youth and more vulnerable poplutions
- ▶ A proper 5 week lockdown so that we can eliminate covid on the island and return to life. Entire countries have done this and we should too. It is better for the economy and people.
- ▶ A small home community no more than 15-30 linked to giving homeless a purpose working in community gardens feeling part of the community versus apart from it. Both providing jobs, self sufficiency and a home. Portland Oregon has a community program run like this that has been effective in keeping crime minimal around the property
- ▶ A start would be to improve the hospital. it is overcrowded and dirty.
- ▶ A strong focus on options for youth social activities
- ▶ A support local campaign is desperately needed especially as we go into the Christmas season.
- ▶ A system for the elderly/immune compromised that is able to do their grocery, pick up their medication or simply get them necessities at a store. An additional amount of bus transportation, less people on the same bus at the same time. Masks mandatory in most indoor spaces/temperature checks at entrances. More COVID-19 testing sites that are accessible by bus for those without cars/homeless people.
- ▶ A Year-round, covered farmers market would create a sense of community and increase the viability for new farmers to have a venue to sell their food.
- ▶ "Access any related fed and provincial funding.  
Comply and encourage following Covid protocols.  
Support plans for low cost housing.

Be kind, be calm, be safe.”

- ▶ Adapt, and as quickly as possible, to the changing needs of the people.
- ▶ Add and improve bike routes including separated bike lanes / routes to encourage safe cycling year round. Car-free street days / weekends in downtown in particular to allow local business to have patios and community groups to have space to sell their products and promote their services.
- ▶ Add more green space where people can achieve distance, including play parks for children to play safely. Add more outdoor cafes, patios, roof top bars so people can socialize more safely.
- ▶ “Adding more outdoor facilities such as the Picnic shelters in Bowen Park to accommodate outside meetings for essential groups such as AA and NA.  
Increased number of community gardens to provide recreation and local food.  
Better bike and pedestrian facilities to accommodate outdoor exercise while remaining physically distanced.  
Allow groups and organizations to hold meetings in large city-owned spaces to allow for maximum physical distancing (Beban Social Centre, Bowen Park etc)  
”
- ▶ Adding the outdoor patios to restaurants is good. Maybe more of that....
- ▶ Address homelessness during the pandemic. There are many buildings that could be easily converted to temporary housing (travellers lodge, schools etc)
- ▶ address the homelessness and open drug use in a compassionate way but also an effective way. Can it not be both?! It has become worse since covid. Small businesses downtown need the volume and traffic of people to remain viable but current scenario (with homeless tent cities, open drug use with needles everywhere and crime) will decrease people wanting to support downtown local. This crisis is magnified and needs to be addressed now. Tourists will not help small business if they are worried about getting stabbed with drug needles.
- ▶ Adjust bylaws to help allow local restaurants to be creative and have more space to operate outside. Also, stop listening to single individuals who are NIMBY's and complain about everything. Let's be creating, inclusive and kind.
- ▶ Advocating the need to support small businesses
- ▶ affordable housing
- ▶ Affordable housing for high risk population like our homeless residents. Lobbying for universal basic income.
- ▶ Affordable subsidized housing, property tax breaks for those who qualify as having significant income drop.
- ▶ Again strong leadership comes to mind. Make masks mandatory, in public spaces where we cannot social distance.
- ▶ Aggressively protecting and enhancing public land opportunities, including agricultural land. Stop rezoning to single family housing, instead zoning medium (3-4 floor) density with part of the land given over to public space / parks / plazas / etc. Also increasing permanent public spaces around commercial areas (and other areas too).
- ▶ “All Malls should make it mandatory to wear masks and gloves. All bars and restaurants should be open for not more than 10 people where only 2 to 3 people can sit on a table.  
Take-out options should be increased and one can can add more variety.”

- ▶ All people young and old wear masks, limit your contact as much as possible
- ▶ All workers dealing with the public should be wearing masks and gloves. Garage clean up beautiful green place. Street that the traffic can flow safely. Most importantly no longer let home owners place rock on city boulevards. They are a danger to motorists and children on bike.
- ▶ Allow drive-throughs to serve people on foot and on bicycles.
- ▶ Although Covid is real it's also being used as nothing more than a political tool, i.e. masks that do not stop the spreading or contacting of any virus you're all playing along with this agenda, now if this was needed then the proper PPE is a fully fitted Respirator face mask, all will need to be properly fit tested for this or it will not work, now before you think this is a joke I have been trained in Safety Field and the proper protection in working around highly deadly gases and other particulates and not the paper/cloth masks do not and can not stop 100% most they can control is up to 95%. So with this you all need stop spreading the lies
- ▶ Although I don't have any specific ideas in this regard, I believe anything we can do that supports financially struggling populations to connect and be supported is crucial.
- ▶ An idea that I admire in the town of Grand Forks is allowing businesses to move into empty storefronts. Through this scheme, the business does not pay business tax for the first two years, after which they start to pay. They are also locked into a set term contract and if they breach it they have to back pay all of the taxes. This is a great opportunity to get new businesses into the otherwise empty storefront and promoting local economic growth.
- ▶ Another lockdown
- ▶ "Appeal and officially advocate with the BCUM to request more funding transfers to civic governments to help with tax or rent relief for small businesses impacted by the pandemic.

And lobby for a federal guaranteed annual income to stabilize inequality "

- ▶ Appreciated access to parks and outdoors activities during the "lockdown" phase, but did not understand closure of dog parks.
- ▶ Are there volunteer programs to help out isolated seniors during this time? To go for walks, drive to appointments, do grocery shopping, etc.
- ▶ Are there ways in which property taxes can be more flexible to help non profits and small family businesses?
- ▶ As numbers rise, restrict outside access to the Island.
- ▶ As people have been going out less, the space on our streets has been occupied by people who do nothing but steal and cause disturbances. Downtown is a wasteland of homelessness and substance addiction and the associated crime, which has only been exacerbated by covid-19. The city seems determined to make this worse by further concentrating poverty issues in the downtown and south end. Pushing housing and supports to other areas of Nanaimo seems right. The cost of living in the downtown area is getting out of reach not because of the costs of the homes, but because of the costs of replacing one's stolen items all the time.
- ▶ As tourism is a staple of Nanaimo economy as well as Vancouver Island, we will need to shift from attracting out of country leisure travellers to in country. But there is also a pool of untapped travellers in International Students who already live, work, study and travel in Canada. Finding what motivates these individuals in travel would be a new avenue.

- ▶ Ask people to wear masks
- ▶ Assistance and resources to small businesses in Nanaimo. By and large, Covid 19 has impacted small businesses and entrepreneurs the hardest. A community character comes from the real people building businesses around their passions and if we lose too many of these businesses, we lose a great deal of the heart of Nanaimo. I find small businesses, no matter the kind, often foster niche communities around them, and losing these places for people to gather or share ideas, whether that's in the realm of arts supplies, recreation or sport, or food, would be devastating. These businesses who are often at capacity of running in regular circumstances, need support and resources on how to survive and adapt given the circumstances.
- ▶ Assisting small businesses to go online. Increasing local community events like the Christmas light up
- ▶ BC in general, including Nanaimo, seems to have done a good job with C-19 measures so far. I think we all need reminders to keep up the mask-wearing, hand-washing and social distancing.
- ▶ Be cautious!
- ▶ Be fiscally prudent as taxpayers dont need higher costs right now. Make dollars spent count towards economic recovery.
- ▶ Be flexible and supportive of small business to try new ways of operating
- ▶ Be flexible. Listen to public health officails: ie follow COVID -19 rules. At the same time - encourage citizens to go outside and enjoy fresh air.
- ▶ Be kind to small businesses that are struggling due to lack of patrons and staff. Reopen night market, farmers markets are operating well, so can the night market
- ▶ Be more proactive with community health measures, above and beyond provincial recommendations
- ▶ Be prepared for the second wave. Learn from the mistakes that other countries have made. Employ a Campaign to encourage community members to follow protocols set up by Bonnie Henry. Encourage people to be kind. There have been many instances of community members being rude to others FOR following protocols!! If we have an outbreak make sure we have many testing stations and medical equipment/personnel to ensure quick results. Enforce established protocols.
- ▶ Be vigilant about social distancing, wearing masks and discarding masks environmentally responsible, implementing and reporting violation gathering by laws and make tests more available.
- ▶ Become a living wage city
- ▶ Become more self sufficient on VI, less dependant natural resources for economics.
- ▶ "Before and since Covid, there is an unrealized potential of how Nanaimo can attract and accommodate people within a broad regional context. That includes: 1) attracting and facilitating professional innovative developers to develop the widest possible variety of housing options through consistent, professional, and timely approvals, - 2) a plan which is less timid in drilling down to identify key neighbourhoods that would strategically satisfy and accommodate different lucrative market groups. That includes focusing on Hospital, Downtown, Newcastle/Brechin/Departure Bay, and University which either offer key attributes/potential of services, intra/inter-city transport links, and/or recreational amenities.

Another aspect of Nanaimo that has been exacerbated by Covid is the degree of unoccupied, underutilized, and dated mall retail/parking. City should actively and strategically encourage a consolidation/reapportionment of retail, and an adaptive reuse of all or a portion of key retail centres - again as an attractor to new residents/businesses tapping into Nanaimo's geographical position within

a broad regional context. This includes a strategic focus on choosing between either North Nanaimo or Country Club or Terminal. “

- ▶ Being located on Protection Island – the community requires more consistent wireless Internet. So much more home based learning and business could be concluded if there was a proper high speed access available to the island. For wider Nanaimo – free wireless hub points can assist those with low incomes to have access to the web. Indeed the most poor or disenfranchised are removed from tools. With the library closing – many displaced persons who used the library for training or web browsing were removed from a resource. The offer of recycled web enabled phones to those in need might help keep such folks connected and aware of other resources available.
- ▶ Being on the water is a really good influence on citizens lives to be able to be there...by the water I mean and Departure Bay and Espanad/Muffeo Park downtown show that I believe,
- ▶ Better access and quick response to testing – integration with provincial testing (although I realize out of municipal jurisdiction). Increase connectivity of trails/parks, more biking trails, more outdoor recreation while social distance is required. increased support for keeping local businesses alive through this challenging time.
- ▶ Better access to downtown local businesses /restaurants so residents further north want to go there
- ▶ Better bike lanes
- ▶ Better care for people living in long term care homes, more oversight of care home facilities during lockdowns when families can not monitor the health of their loved ones. Policies for allowing families to be with people at the end of their life even during a pandemic. More access to mental health programs.
- ▶ Better enforcement of COVID regulations set out by Dr. Henry.
- ▶ “Better public transportation  
Options for safe outdoor gatherings “
- ▶ Better support for LOCAL BUSINESSES. Listen to them. Help them.
- ▶ Better support services available for elderly and for those in greatest need. Shelter for those in tents.
- ▶ Better transit would be great. I’d love to support restaurants and pubs but without transit, uber or other options to go out it makes it very hard.
- ▶ Big problem with more and more homeless coming, and living in parks, especially Bowen Park, and anywhere in downtown area. The homeless are creating huge health hazard, just like in Vic and Vcr...and health will be our downfall for everyone, including city workers, staff, health care workers, policing.
- ▶ Block party kits, more info on restarting business, more doctors with open practices
- ▶ Bravo to the City on permitting restaurants and cafes to open up outdoor patio areas to facilitate greater physical distancing where it was feasible. This enabled those businesses to still maintain their capacities while adhering to the COVID regulations. Offering flexibility to creative ideas that come out of small businesses that provides them with support to continue their existence during COVID. As has already been happening, encourage residents to shop locally to support local businesses.
- ▶ Bring back live music with social distancing.
- ▶ Build a bubble around the city. Not a serious comment.
- ▶ building a new hospital, NRGH is supposed to be a tertiary regional hospital. WHY DOESNT IT OFFER THE SAME SERVICES AS THOSE IN VICTORIA? 4 BED ROOMS ARE NOT SAFE FOR PATIENTS
- ▶ Businesses should now understand their roll in the importance of cleanliness within our community.

Wiping handles more often and creating an Entrance and Exit only door, are two welcome additions.

- ▶ buy local
- ▶ buy local this applies to government as well
- ▶ Buy local, support businesses in Nanaimo.
- ▶ "Buy up a few non productive farms and house the drug addicts and mentally challenged. Teaching them to grow their own food."
- ▶ By increasing our internet provided services with City Hall, we can shorten the wait times for permits and applications. A strong bylaw compliant structure is needed.
- ▶ Bylaw enforcing Provincial Covid Orders, there are to many crowded areas where people are ignoring basic common courtesies towards each other.
- ▶ Bylaw requiring masks
- ▶ Campaign to support local businesses, radio, using print and social media. Feature local businesses each week, with personal stories behind them. Organize online events to bring the citizens and businesses together. For example, online Zoom information sharing. And example might be a local chef offering a free online cooking lesson, a brew pub offering a online brewing demonstration and tasting, a local clothing store might offer an event like "how to create a capsule wardrobe", a local hairdresser might offer tips on how to trim hair and/or care for it between sessions, more restaurants could offer "meal kits" rather than just standard takeout,
- ▶ Can we get ourselves further away from a consumer society? Can we get used to a simpler lifestyle, with less conveniences. Let's not race to get back to 'normal' and implement some of the current lifestyle changes we've all had to make. Let's work toward radical shifts in our community and economic values - incorporating respect for all.
- ▶ City council needs to support local business and be more creative in facilitating "covid friendly" arts and entertainment....close off part of commercial street so it becomes pedestrian only, while allowing for a few handicapped parking spots. This would allow coffee shops/restaurants to be creative with their patios, outdoor heaters, downtown fire pit & seating. With covid we need to be outdoors more while socially distanced....we are going to be dealing with this pandemic for a while yet so lets get creative. If closing part of commercial street is successful it could be fantastic after pandemic over and hopefully people book conferences and have a nice area downtown to explore.
- ▶ City has done a great job of keeping us informed but lately not very much, continuing with projects and keeping up with a healthy and strong municipal government
- ▶ City should continue to follow recommendations from provincial ministry of health.
- ▶ City should have pushed to be designated a bubble. Residents took covid-19 seriously but it got into our community from outside sources.
- ▶ City staff should be bending over backwards to help businesses survive. City staff and their resulting actions are so completely insensitive to businesses under threat from street culture stress and now Covid. At every turn, they make things harder. They need to adopt a business fostering, positive and supportive attitude to help businesses survive.
- ▶ "Clean up downtown so people of all ages feel safe and comfortable exploring our beautiful city."
- ▶ Clean up Homeless and Drug Use issues in Old City Quarter and Downtown regions - will make it safer and much more palatable for walking and social distancing engagements.

- ▶ Clean up the city
- ▶ Clean up the homelessness
- ▶ Close ferry traffic to essential travel only. We have a unique situation being an island and could use it to our advantage to help limit our exposure, but don't. I don't understand why. Especially with cases rising.
- ▶ Close non-essential ferry and air travel for awhile. Retro-fit all community centres with high end HVAC and HEPA systems.
- ▶ CLOSE SHIT DOWN AGAIN.
- ▶ Close the city down. Make people wear masks everywhere. We currently (8/21) have nine active cases on the island which is three more than two days ago. We could've had 0.
- ▶ Closing Commercial Drive downtown even a couple times per week to encourage outdoor restaurant seating, shopping, and activities that inspire a sense of community in safe ways. Pools need to be open -- kids are missing opportunities to learn how to swim and the public relies on pools for exercise in the winter months. Supporting low cost activities that can be done outdoors like Xmas markets or even in outdoor covered spaces that could include recreation and exercise (eg; free tai chi or yoga classes).
- ▶ "Colourful murals and outdoor art pieces give the City a personality, make it more interesting and create a sense of belonging to/for the community a common conversation topic.  
We need to take care of homelessness. People should not have to live in tents.  
Help small businesses stay open all week for longer hours.  
Xmas music outdoors downtown.  
Selling hot chestnuts on plaza across the street from the Port Place theatre; they smell and taste great :-)"
- ▶ Commercial rent relief and tax property tax forgiveness for those who need it, qualify under predetermined criteria, and apply.
- ▶ Commercial Street could be closed to traffic allowing business owners there to have more outdoor space for customers.
- ▶ commercial tax relief for small business
- ▶ Commit to the concept of 15 minute neighbourhoods for the total spectrum of population needs. Urban nodes in the north should not just be for the rich but also for those suffering from homelessness.
- ▶ common sense and change in city regs to help business .more open patio spaces.
- ▶ Common sense needs to prevail here. We need to stop restricting our community and our programs based on extremely low number of cases and, especially, deaths. We need courage and real leaders to get us out of this quagmire.
- ▶ "community events that are covid safe. outdoor events. live music and drive in theater"
- ▶ Community food security for lower income families. Safe shelter for homeless individuals where sanitary conditions can be improved for our community members without housing. An outhouse and a shower open a few hours a day is not enough.
- ▶ compulsory masks and social distancing
- ▶ consider the street modifications we see in places like Victoria and other cities in Europe, making sidewalks wider and taking lanes away from cars
- ▶ Consistency in reporting and instructions for staying safe.

- ▶ Continue as we are doing, following health regulations and opening stores/restaurants as able.
- ▶ Continue following the provincial health officer's guidelines and orders.
- ▶ Continue offering parks and rec outdoor or reconfigured activities.
- ▶ Continue supporting pedestrian only streets, patios for restaurants, places for people to be outside.
- ▶ Continue to explore travel restrictions including air travel.
- ▶ "Continue to invest tax dollars in parks and recreation services during covid as we moves towards the new normal.

Be creative in finding new service delivery methods under covid conditions.

Invest in new technology to deliver city services.

Develop waterfront walkway. Covid taught us how important parks and trails are to public health and well being during a pandemic.

"

- ▶ Continue to let science lead
- ▶ Continue to promote patios at downtown business. Close commercial street to cars.
- ▶ Continue to support buying local, travelling local, supporting local business, encouraging the growth of local food production. Make masks mandatory in public or business areas where spacing cannot be maintained, examples play grounds, malls, stores
- ▶ Continue to support physical distancing, mask wearing and recognizing those who are working to help
- ▶ Continue with outdoor community events in the summer by managing social distances.
- ▶ Continue with the outdoor patio dining options for businesses along commercial st.
- ▶ continued encouragement to wear face masks (and use them correctly), to social distance, to see ways to support families with school-age children (and working parents, etc)...not easy!!!
- ▶ Continued mask usage and hand sanitizing.
- ▶ Continuing to follow health officials guidelines is important to maintain the health of everyone.
- ▶ Continuing to maintain city assets
- ▶ Coordinate the small non profits into coordinated effort to help the street population and others who are less visible but also experiencing homeless and hunger
- ▶ Coordinate with various retail/services/community/downtown/economic activity groups a full out promotional campaign for locals and residents to "stay, shop, play and be safe in Nanaimo".
- ▶ Coordinated online events, with strong moderation.
- ▶ Coping strategies could include increasing illuminated walk ways for residents to exercise on after dark. Businesses are doing all they can to find new ways to stay open, but it is the mentality of the population which is of concern. Coming into winter, with more rain and less daylight, the well-being of house bound residents is a huge concern. Create more safe opportunities for breaks from the home.
- ▶ Cost of living is increasing significantly. Affordable food prices and crisis care needs to be prioritized. I

would live to see more proposed solutions including community input options.

- ▶ Council flexibility on bylaws to ensure that small businesses can survive, e.g., sidewalk patios/service, reduced cost for business licenses, leniency on business tax due dates, etc.
- ▶ Courtyard style patios, off the street. Discount, or rebate on either user rates or property taxes now that more folks are working from home. Honour zoning and maintain residential areas residential. Better urban planning, making space for corner stores in sprawling developments (that shouldn't be allowed). Please limit local deforestation for development, and densify downtown instead. Please limit trail development, as our great outdoors are becoming progressively more crowded with tourists, disallowing tax paying residents from enjoying our quite nature trails.
- ▶ COVID 19 is a joke. Where is the disaster and emergency response manager in all of this. Crickets.
- ▶ Covid 19 is virtually non existent on vancouver island if you compare us to similar sized areas throughout canada or even the USA. we've done a good job at keeping traffic to and from the island restricted and that has kept the volume of outside influence down. However, the amount of services that have been shut down in nanaimo with no refund on our property taxes is unacceptable. having bike parks, skate parks, regular parks, cathedral grove, tennis courts, etc closed to the public is ridiculous. businesses forced to close or limit capacity therefore reducing income and risking bankruptcy meanwhile city employees are still getting paid like nothing happened, is absolutely unacceptable. we need to allow people to go into coffee shops and restaurants, for example. the staff shouldnt be forced to wear a mask which restricts breathing and causes sweating and skin irritations around the mouth and nose. you can rub shoulders with people in superstore buying fruit, but you cant sit down at a restaurant and talk to a server without them wearing a mask. the rules have so many inconsistencies, it makes very little sense.
- ▶ Covid 19 will run its course we need to look at attracting new companies to our area to create better employment higher paying jobs opportunities for the young.
- ▶ COVID data is bullshit - as the CDC recently made clear in the States.
- ▶ '-Covid has impacted all of us
- ▶ Covid has made everyone's lives worse
- ▶ Covid has seen stresses on the supply chain which has resulted in increased food prices. We need more food growing on city property the way Ladysmith has done. We should include food forests in our parks with the planting of nut and fruit trees. We need more community garden spaces. These things will make us more resilient for other shocks such as climate change. We need safer active transportation for people who chose to walk or cycle. We should increase the network of paths in the city connecting green spaces.
- ▶ Covid restrictions negativity affecting us all. Covid itself...small percentage effect
- ▶ Covid safe community events like socially distant concerts
- ▶ COVID specific treatment areas. COVID specific media locations/touch points so citizens can stay updated about areas to avoid/be aware of in case of potential infection.
- ▶ Covid spreads less in outdoor spaces. The construction of more covered picnic shelters, gazebos, with barbecue/fire-pits where people can achieve much-needed social interaction safely in any weather, especially the dreary winter months.
- ▶ COVID-19 is the first of a series of imminent shocks we will face as the planet's life support systems unravel as a result of climate forcing and an economic system drive by inexorable growth. We can't solve all of these complex problems at the regional level, but we need to look unblinkingly at the science

and plan accordingly. In other words, reimagining our community for the 21st century. I recommend Kate Raworth's Doughnut economics, a visual framework for sustainable development shaped like a doughnut or lifebelt combining the concept of planetary boundaries with the complementary concept of social boundaries. See <https://www.kateraworth.com/>

- ▶ COVID-19 will be addressed in the near future by big government so no need to waste property taxes dollars on it
- ▶ "COVID-19 will pass in a year, I'm more interested in thinking long term. Revitalise downtown, promote density there, make it walkable, less people will have to spend their income on cars and more people can bike, meaning people can get to their place of employment cheaper and easier, probably less drug use as a result as people have jobs. I think the pandemic is a serious problem but the opioid crisis is worse, and we need to figure out some functional solutions.

Another idea that Portugal implemented was subsidising employers wages for recovering addicts, with the idea being that the government would be compensating employers for the burden (for lack of a better word) of having a recovering addict on staff, and apparently the program had good results, as it helped addicts reintegrate into society, they got motivated and felt they were a part of something, were able to afford their own housing, etc. And it was a heck of a lot cheaper for the Portugese government to subsidise the employers for the addicts' salaries than the cost of maintaining shelters, etc. I don't know if this would be possible on a municipal level, but I thought I'd pass the idea along.

- ▶ Create a downtown people want to go to.
- ▶ Create a housing first policy to assist the homeless and housing-insecure.
- ▶ "Create a passport to invite customers to businesses around town with a 10% discount or loyalty card signup at each location.

Allow fans to watch Clippers games in the arena.

Allow for outdoor performances (Pirate Chips/Nanaimo Bar location). "

- ▶ Create a viral (catchy) hand washing and mask wearing movement on all social media outlets.
- ▶ Create jobs through infrastructure improvement and new paths or cycling trails.
- ▶ create more activities to attract people to the downtown core while maintaining safe distances. utilizing mafeo sutton park and re-introducing the night market but with more space between venders (like cedar market or beban)
- ▶ Create temporary bike lanes or loops or places people can visit
- ▶ Create/allow for more opportunities for people to share outdoor spaces physically distanced. We need to see each other having fun and enjoying life together, even if we can't be close.
- ▶ Creating an attractive place for new initiatives that create sustainable jobs. Having a quick way for city staff to move to help businesses and people change how they do things.
- ▶ Creating outdoor congregating places ith accessible composting toilets available. Currently there are only two toilets in the downtown area and one has barriers to entry in the form of having to ask for a key.
- ▶ "Creative ways to get people active. Posting challenges for people to do at their homes. Covered parks so that kids can still play in the rain"

- ▶ Crime has had an impact on our community difficult for people to run businesses with the breakins shoplifting etc and residents feeling unsafe accessing these businesses need a government that cares about the residents and taxpayers
- ▶ Deal with the crime
- ▶ Decrease the high school numbers by redeveloping the Woodlands property. Open Rutherford again.
- ▶ Develop online learning and encourage work from home work policies. This pandemic is going to be going on for years. This is not going to be the last pandemic.
- ▶ Diversity = resilience.
- ▶ Do more to support Nanaimo's music community which has been impacted more than most due to COVID. When supporting arts through programs, it is often limited to visual/written artists. Also work with VIU on how to provide opportunities for young musicians (ie - outdoor concerts w/ social distancing)
- ▶ DO NOT CHANGE THE ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW REGARDING ROAMING CATS
- ▶ Do not cluster low barrier housing in one area of town. More on the street mental health teams to take the load off the RCMP so they can enforce public laws to keep citizens and their homes, belongings safer
- ▶ Do not legalise illicit drugs. You needle exchange has not worked out so well for you so far. These problems started long before COVID you need to ramp up crime prevention and I am sorry but condoning drug use is not the answer. I predict if you dont fix this the problems for Nanaimo will become way worse. There needs to be a tough stance on crime. I know members in our law enforcement community who are verbally abused and threatened on a daily basis. This should not be allowed or tolerated!
- ▶ Do what you can to reduce the great variability of incomes. Mansions and people on the street do not work together well and never have in Nanaimo's extravagant past.
- ▶ Doing a good job, perhaps short term lobby for less travel to island.
- ▶ Doing fine, will all be over soon after Christmas:)
- ▶ doing great so far!
- ▶ Doing just fine
- ▶ Don't open things up too quickly.
- ▶ Don't participate in lockdowns
- ▶ "Don't overreact ! COVID is less of a problem than junkies and dealers. Stop dreaming did any City Staff or Councils accurately for see the current drug/homeless COVID 10 years ago? Stop listening to climate fear mongers, Nanaimo cannot save the world and the sea is not going to rise 1.5 m. Go back 30 years and see how many climate prediction came t o be - NONE. "
- ▶ Downtown is dead and there is very little incentive to visit this place. Put up Christmas lights, and use social media to showcase local businesses.
- ▶ Downtown revitalization
- ▶ Drastically cut City spending. Too many staff, too many pet projects and other bullshit that money is wasted on. Focus on core services that Municipal governments were originally supposed to.
- ▶ drive-in movies? distanced dance parties? not really sure.
- ▶ Drop taxes and fees to local businesses that are experiencing slowdown

- ▶ During covid it has been hard to connect with people. The city could put a bigger emphasis in promoting outdoor events that promote community involvement while adhering to covid guidelines. The downtown core is depressing at best, everything dies after 5:00pm and there is nothing appalling about being there when homelessness is so prevalent.
- ▶ During the warmer months, let businesses allow music playing outside to attract customers to restaurants.
- ▶ "Educate about masks, and have access to easy testing.

The performative act of bleaching everything is rather annoying since most studies show that surface transmission is not likely."

- ▶ Education about masks and vaccine safety. Do whatever is needed to stop the virus.
- ▶ Education, support services, community building, business and employment support, providing quality parks and spaces
- ▶ Encourage and support small local businesses. Funding and support for local food growing.
- ▶ Encourage businesses to offer work from home positions to locals. Offer things like tax breaks or other incentives to companies like Shaw or other call centers and businesses to hire local work from home.
- ▶ Encourage friends and family to support our local businesses by buying local. Continue encouraging outdoor activity. If there is a second wave do not shut down parks but limit if there is a problem.
- ▶ encourage kindness, free masks, cheap masks,
- ▶ Encourage mask and distancing more
- ▶ Encourage masks everywhere (signs on city buildings, in parks, etc), especially public places like restaurants, retailers and places where social distancing is difficult. Maybe sell custom masks with "Reimagine Nanaimo" on them so more people are aware of the program.
- ▶ "Encourage more home based business.  
Encourage more quiet hours and more 24/7 services so residents can work in alternate time zones"
- ▶ encourage more neighbourhood-based engagement. Life is better when you know your neighbours and get along with them, when the people in a neighbourhood are working together on building community.
- ▶ encourage outdoor living activities, sidewalk patios, open air events, etc.
- ▶ Encourage outdoor exercise and (small group) visits with friends and family. Let us book the outdoor shelters in the parks.
- ▶ "Encourage people to grow more foods; look at doing a tower garden experiment; providing a year round market....it is unfortunate that Nanaimo does not have an area like "Grandville island in Vancouver", "The Forks in Winnipeg", "Eau Clair in Calgary"....etc....we have a moderate climate that would help and it would be a great place for tourists to visit and most of all providing local produce to all of us rather than relying on imports....especially during Covid. More patio coffee shops and paths along the waterfront from downtown all the way to Lantzville (I like dreaming in color!).  
I heard that there are plans to build complexes for the homeless....could one of those be a long term care facility for persons with severe mental and/or addictive problems....this would be the human way to go in caring for our most vulnerable people.  
Decreasing greenhouse gases by decreasing cars use electric buses look at the building codes to make them more energy friendly; increasing walking and bike paths; look at our waste management systems to reduce green house gases more...

Build small communities with green space rather than multi apartment high-rises.”

- ▶ Encourage people to use our outdoor spaces within the city and the greater region.
- ▶ Encouraging a more vibrant small town business community. The DER3 program (Innovation Island) is a great solution to assisting with the problem from a technology side.
- ▶ end the lockdowns
- ▶ Enforce by-laws and new regulations so people feel safe and fine/arrest those that create havoc and refuse to wear masks impacting people and or businesses.
- ▶ Enforce more COVID measures with large box stores such as wal mart, Home Depot, Best Buy etc and ease off on smaller business and give them a better chance for financial sustainability. Less traffic is less chance of spreading virus. There’s no comparison from large volume corporations to small businesses
- ▶ Enforce social distancing guidelines/mask wearing
- ▶ Enforcement is critical for any pan to succeed.
- ▶ Engagement with first nations communities, gathering spaces for the harbour view district, old acme building turn into market square like scene.
- ▶ Ensure safety of Long term care residents
- ▶ “Ensure that all businesses that can remain open will.  
A tax break would be very welcome. ”
- ▶ Entertainment for old folks stuck in their homes or in facilities, even it’s from outside, the level of depression is so high and I feel deeply for them.
- ▶ Equip small businesses with the tools necessary to weather the tough times,as well requiring any able body individuals accessing cerb to put in hours of community service in return for that income.
- ▶ Everyone learning to navigate new paths , staying resilient and helping one another , being patient and kind, non judgemental .
- ▶ Extend seawall south to Chase River estuary and north to Ddeparture Bay – such a well used public sapce.
- ▶ Face masks with Nanaimo logo. Promote businesses that design their space for physical distancing, etc. Include it in the permit process or alike.
- ▶ “Fast track the trails between BC ferries and the downtown and open it up for small commerical opportunites (cafes/gift shops) to get people outside more.

There are a ton of new apartment buildings opening up around the city (which is great). What is sad to see however is that Nanaimo doesn’t take a page out of the book of other city plans. Many apartment complexes in the CRD and Vancouver offer commercial first floors. This would open up opportunities for young people to start new businesses with a convenient customer base above their operations.  
”

- ▶ Feels like the people who work hard to support their families and/or community do not get support from elected officials and governments. Start taking firm action to help the people who really want to be helped, but crack down on the serial abusers who have no motivation to change or just want to prey on others. Why do the rights and freedoms of law abiding, contributing citizens get put below those who are causing mayhem in our City?
- ▶ Figure out education for all kids to grade 7 so families can work and the gap between families that can provide for their kids vs those that can’t

- ▶ Fill the derelict hotels
- ▶ Financial support to local businesses so they can stay open
- ▶ Financially support small business
- ▶ Find a way to have the recreational centres open. Allow kids and adults to remain active.
- ▶ Find a way to help small business survive. I feel that it would be nice to help out the downtown core in some way. Good for tourism and locals. It would be good if more people spent time in the city. More parking which will become a problem with more development
- ▶ Find a way to stop American and Albertan traffic from taking advantage of coming here
- ▶ Find a way to support more safe live entertainment.
- ▶ Find ways to combat loneliness and mental health concerns during covid-19. Find safe activities for people to look forward to, support people to feel a sense of community and hope.
- ▶ find ways to re-center our community on local businesses rather than big box stores increase funding to community groups to find ways to connect people
- ▶ Fitness and yoga classes available by zoom. Continue with some online options with re-play to make up class during series sessions
- ▶ "Fix the homeless, drug crime probleme  
"
- ▶ Focus on equitable transportation options. This will provide people cheaper options for transportation and will reduce the wear and tear and asset management requirements on our roads.
- ▶ "Focus on local business and services – promotion, covid-friendly events (advertise how the event will minimize covid transmission).  
Publish guidelines for residents and visitors – on social media, on the city's website, maybe in the newspaper (unless it has already been done)."
- ▶ Focusing on housing for those with low incomes or other barriers that marginalize people economically such as addictions, chronic health issues or intergenerational poverty. Shift the focus of city governance from the affluent to the afflicted.
- ▶ Focusing on supporting local business, local travel and local food.
- ▶ Folks should be able to work, with distance, masks optional. People need to work in order to pay bills. As a landlord, we also need to pay bills, the help of a renter income is essential. We are not rich by any means so knowing renters will have jobs that pay a fair living wage is very important. If people can cruise around home dept and buy flowers during covid, surely people can work in offices with distance, retail etc.
- ▶ Follow health advise and transparency in location of cases and testing.
- ▶ Follow instructions of Dr. Bonnie Henry.
- ▶ Follow provincial guidelines
- ▶ Follow the health ministers ways to phase in
- ▶ "Food drives, community building Christmas/holiday events supporting those who need help. Facilitate events that are easy for people to contribute towards (donate time, money, or goods) that can help those in need and help us all feel more connected to one another."
- ▶ Food Security

- ▶ Food security is paramount to our city eating healthy and not getting sick.
- ▶ food security programs – how to grow your own food & open up civic green spaces for it; online engagement both formal and informal formats
- ▶ For every short term problem, we have short term solutions. The mayors task force did little to help.
- ▶ Force homeless drug addicts into mandatory rehab...and give them jobs cleaning up the community they've destroyed.
- ▶ forget about covid and move on with regular life. What we have been doing for a better part of 2020 regarding covid procedures, is clearly NOT working. So why bother.
- ▶ Foster and Protect our local food system. Make it easier for local businesses to grow and thrive. Encourage people to buy local. provide extra support to local business that invest in the community not just hire minimum wage workers.
- ▶ Free delivery for food
- ▶ Free or by donation outdoor participation activities to promote getting people out of isolation. Distance walks, exercise in the park, drive- in movies, drive- by activities. These can be run while respecting covid protocols.
- ▶ Free up as many limits to people doing business as possible. Great examples are letting restaurants have patio spaces but say yes to business owners that need to do things differently. Yes to almost everything unless it actually is going to hurt people. Rules for rules' sake has to go and creative, energetic entrepreneurs need to be supported. Encourage all retailers and wholesale groups to put in warehousing in Nanaimo so we're not as reliant on mainland goods.
- ▶ full body sanitization stations on every corner
- ▶ Funding should be available for all rates of income. Not just those using and abusing the system!
- ▶ Generally the situation has been well managed (thank you Dr. Bonnie Henry and Island Health). Cancellation of public hearings on developments and City Council's alternate arrangements were unfortunate.
- ▶ Get rid of Opal Rd changes!! Put it back the way it was.
- ▶ Get rid of paid parking downtown. Paid parking started the decline of the downtown core, and COVID has been the nail in the coffin. If you care about your downtown core and local businesses it's the only thing that's going to save them. In year's past our family went downtown about twice a month. Since paid parking came into effect we go downtown about 4-6 times per year, and since COVID we've gone once. It's not fair to expect people to pay 50 cents in parking just to grab a cup of coffee. Nanaimo doesn't need to compete with big cities and have paid parking that goes along with it. It needs to have parking and transit that meet the needs of residents.
- ▶ Getting out on the public and the community not from behind a desk to solve these problems. Most of these people don't have a computer to voice their opinions. These are humans that deserve to be heard, and helped. Get out and talk to them isn't that what you would want if you were going through these hardships. Also clean up the downtown make it more welcoming to people.
- ▶ Give out free face masks or shields and make it mandatory.
- ▶ Give ppl something to do while staying home but connecting with the community like an online art hub
- ▶ Give residents and businesses breaks where they need it in this time, don't make their lives any more difficult. Anyone who has had any dealings with our city will tell you that it is devoid of independent

thought and common sense...if it is written in some obscure bylaw of questionable value, they treat it like it is a commandment written in stone that must be adhered to at all costs, even when the spirit of the rule has no relevance in that particular situation. Use your heads, and make a rational decision, not a strictly bureaucratic one. Help people, don't hurt them.

- ▶ Give small businesses a property tax break so they can stay open. Open stores, tourists, and busy shoppers breathe life into the city. Allowing the streets to be taken over by individuals with mental health and drug addiction issues must stop. I support mental health access, supportive housing, and services away from Main Street. If all the services are downtown then there will always be tension. There has to be a better way to balance the needs of a healthy downtown and social issues. I want both to happen.
- ▶ Giving businesses masks or rebates on masks so that they can give them to customers who come in without one, also I see houses with more cars than there should be parked outside of the house and no idea what to do, do i call police? who deals with the people who don't care who they hurt?
- ▶ Giving senior citizens the devices to interact with their families virtually.
- ▶ Glove and mask clean-up drives would help!
- ▶ Great idea to allow restaurants to have outdoor city. We may have to start thinking outside the box and everyone will benefit from it.
- ▶ "Great to see people outdoors and walking, City rec facilities have been handling things in a very organized manner, I am very happy to be able to swim, keeps me moving. A public campaign about the beauty of our natural landscape and keeping it clean and pristine would be helpful. Banning all terrain and gasoline motor sports in the regional district would help as would banning shooting ranges and hunting in the regional district. Dealing with homelessness with institutionalizing those who cannot take care of themselves and providing housing and basic income for those who can take care of themselves would be paramount.  
Providing safe cycling everywhere is necessary, Designated off-road or blocked cycle routes would help get people out of their cars. Look at Vancouver. Plant trees in mall parking lots, get rid of the parking or charge a lot for people to drive there and everywhere. get people out of cars by making transit work, maybe smaller more frequent buses."
- ▶ Grow more local food. Stop thinking growth is a good thing. 7,8 billion population from 3 billion in the sixties isn't sustainable.
- ▶ Guaranteed basic income
- ▶ Hand sanitizing stations everywhere. Playgrounds, public parks, downtown walkways, bus stops, crosswalks etc.
- ▶ Have all staff and customers wear masks and maintain social distancing. I am appalled that most retailers do not enforce social distancing. We are to maintain 6 feet apart in the lineup to get into the retail establishment and then once inside people are not practicing social distancing and the staff is not enforcing that customers and staff not be shoulder to shoulder. The City, Province and Feds need to provide services and housing specific to individuals with mental health issues and not put them together with people with addictions. We need to bring back institutions for people with mental health issues that cannot maintain lifeskills to be self sufficient. In addition people with drug addictions require mandated rehab services and if they do not succeed or not want to take part need to go to jail when they are convicted of a crime. Enough of letting criminals control our neighbourhoods.
- ▶ Have by laws following up on persons not following the guidelines
- ▶ Have City Council focus on their key responsibilities not their wants

- ▶ "Have discussions on how to get everyone to adhere to the restrictions. Also, plans to support local businesses."
- ▶ Have heated outdoor patio access for restaurants. Providing advertising Co-Op to local businesses so that they can encourage people to get to their business. Creating more safe, outdoor entertainment space.
- ▶ Have the City support small businesses – free promotion could go a long way of keeping a business afloat.
- ▶ Have the people looking after long term care homes and large business take the covid testing , more often.
- ▶ "Haven't heard anything from the Mayor – communication is important during times such as COVID etc. "
- ▶ Having a unified set of rules across all public spaces would clarify a lot of the unknowns
- ▶ Having an outdoor space and the ability to go on walks which are not overcrowded has been extremely important for my mental and physical health.
- ▶ Having hand washing stations instead of hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizer become ineffective after about the 3rd application. It only kills microbes (bacteria) not viruses. Transparent public debate about the safety of mask wearing and risks to enforcing mask wearing policies for both employers and employees, business's and patrons.
- ▶ having interactive COVID safe artistic installations in the city, that would encourage tourists and residents to come downtown, see for example what they do in Montreal ( <https://experienceilluminart.com/en>). Developing safe outdoors events, like christmas market, or safely distanced outdoor concret. Creating art projects with homeless people to give them a voice. Have more fun cycling events en encourage people
- ▶ Having more covered outdoor or plaza style shopping or activities. Covered outdoor venues and recreation. Covered outdoor courts.
- ▶ Having shops open 24 hours 7 days a week.
- ▶ Help people learn about local food production. Develop community gardens. Partner able bodied with elderly to grow food in neighbourhoods.
- ▶ Help small business give incentives and encourage others, encourage distancing more strongly
- ▶ Help small businesses more. Restaurants trying to stay afloat should not have to pay extra for patio space created. Teachers and schools should be better supported. more wellness checks on kids affected by staying home in possibly unsafe homes without proper nutrition.
- ▶ Help the entrepreneurs with renting to help keep unique elements in the city. No one will stop here to see generic stores.
- ▶ Help the small businesses stay in business. They give our city culture and individuality.
- ▶ Help your fellow man . More housing . More mental health services
- ▶ Helping neighbourhood associations to undertake COVID-related projects in their communities (whatever each association feels would be best for their neighbourhood) – contact info sharing for social connection for isolated individuals, volunteers to get groceries for higher-risk people, etc.
- ▶ Helping our homeless population, more social workers and people trained to assist the mentally unstable/ drug and alcohol addicted.

- ▶ Helping small businesses stay open.
- ▶ Helping small businesses stay open. Also helping new businesses start up
- ▶ Hire more staff for public works projects (ie more trails, parks, connect parks together (Neck Point/Pipers)
- ▶ How can city council support small businesses? That's the question I'd like the mayor & councillors to think of seriously. These small businesses give back a lot more to the community than big box stores.
- ▶ How can we help restaurants/pubs survive the winter with outdoor patio seating?
- ▶ How does the city translate the public health orders that too many people are ignoring? I don't think you can, I think it is a provincial jurisdiction.
- ▶ "<https://nationalpost.com/news/canada/swedish-covid-expert-says-the-world-still-doesnt-understand> Study the Swedish example. We simply cannot afford to fall into tyranny or economic devastation in our response to a disease that disproportionately affects the elderly with a mortality rate of less than one percent. Focus on protecting the elderly, otherwise let our businesses live."
- ▶ huge support for the arts as soon as we are safe to gather again. More theatre, street theatre, outdoor arts events, busking festival, film festivals
- ▶ I am a firm believer in actions and consequences. Be tough on those who believe rules are for other people. In actuality, people don't resent enforced structure. Those who struggle tend to benefit from it. We all do. This makes it easier to manage our choices and control our impulses.
- ▶ I am a registered nurse- encouraging people to wear masks. Allow businesses access to more side walk space especially downtown on commercial street to extend store to allow distancing guidelines. Hold outside events to educate and promote healthy lifestyles in small settings.
- ▶ I am a senior, and honestly, the pandemic has not affected me greatly. I am among the luckiest generation who no longer have to worry about making a living, raising children or navigating any part of the city that I do not want to, nor that are not safe due to the pandemic Supporting local businesses and services is high on my list of supporting the community during this challenging time.
- ▶ I am proud of the Nanaimo for their response. We need to keep living. Enforcing the hand washing, soc. dist, and extra cleaning while, carrying on with our lives is the best way forward. We need to live, shop and have activities but safely.
- ▶ I am unsure whether there is a solution to this issue any different from any other community.
- ▶ I am unsure which level of government this sits at, but don't force small businesses to shut down if they don't want to. Many businesses are now struggling or are in debt thanks to the mandated closures which they had no say in. They don't deserve failure over other peoples decisions.
- ▶ I appreciate the pool being re-opened and the work it entails to keep it safe. Its a big one for me. I thought the City was insensitive in wanting the Residential taxes paid on time as well as sticking to a tax raise voted just before COVID. Very, very insensitive.
- ▶ I assume there are many, likely older, people isolated in their homes. We need to reach out to them to stay socially connected in a safe way.
- ▶ I believe Nanaimo is doing the right procedures to combat the COVID pandemic.
- ▶ I do think that both the federal and provincial gov't should continue to provide financial support to small businesses, non-profits', laid off people, so that they can weather the storm and be there for when we can go back to normal, I also think that things should be done in a way to encourage people to go shopping or eating, etc at small businesses instead of shutting them down or restricting them

while huge mega businesses like Walmart make a killing. Why can't we set up out door street markets, farmer markets, etc with small time vendors and put fences around them and secured entryways with 'bouncers' keeping an eye on the lineup and capacity rate and mask wearing the way Country Grocer does. How about having some of these markets inside but with fewer vendors at a time. How about the city giving the arts and a theatre groups a break on fees and allow them to use their buildings to put on shows and do safe distancing which I believe you guys did with WesternEdge using the Port Theatre, so thank-you. I would also like to see things done to make it feel more comfortable and safer to use public transportation, and to encourage people to not use their vehicles so much, because I have not noticed any improvement in the amount of traffic we have or in their driving. I do appreciate the library being open but I do wish that there was more access to safe clean washrooms. And finally, (at least for now), I want people to understand that not everybody has easy access to the internet, not everybody has a cell phone or a mobile device, and not everybody has adequate computer skills, so when businesses and gov't agencies, and non-profits etc, make it that you can only access their services, products, information etc.on-line and they don't allow for any alternative access, especially if it's going beyond a short-term or temporary time frame, that is a form of exclusion and it could prevent people from accessing very important information or services.

- ▶ I don't have any ideas , think you are doing well in this department. Just received my city bill with the Jan due date. That was a nice surprise. Not a business owner in this city but hope they are getting some kind of help also. Sad if we lose more of our mom and pop shops.
- ▶ I don't have any ideas, I've just noticed that COVID is back on the island and a lot of people are still have large gatherings indoors and not distancing at all and in general are acting like the pandemic is over aside from maybe wearing a mask in a store once in a while. It's very stressful because I am immunocompromised, and many of my close circle are as well.
- ▶ I don't know honestly I just miss the gym
- ▶ I don't know what the solution to the following is, but it horrifies me seeing small businesses (and therefore also our communities) suffering financially so much in this time. There needs to be so much more financial assistance for the many special and amazing small businesses we have here. I'm aware of at least two that have gone under since COVID-19 and it breaks my heart.
- ▶ I don't have access to the food bank, or what is available (a simple hand off of bags) isn't customizable for my personal needs as a diabetic.
- ▶ I don't know if this counts as an idea, but I really enjoyed seeing how our elected officials responded, it gave me great hope for our community. Just simple shows of solidarity like when I saw Paul Manly rock out on his porch on social media, and other public figures just essentially doing their job well. These are the people we need to look to in these times, and I'm proud of the people we have elected during these times.
- ▶ I feel that Nanaimo has dealt very well with the impact Covid has had on our community.
- ▶ I feel that the Provincial Government has done a good job prescribing guidelines for municipal regions.
- ▶ I feel the city has responded well to the COVID-19 pandemic. The patio additions at several places has really helped the restaurants continue to operate while following the social distancing guidelines.
- ▶ I feel the city is doing a good job.
- ▶ I firmly believe everyone should wear masks when anywhere near others.
- ▶ I found it confusing going in to different businesses as all had differing protocols in place. This is new to all of us, but perhaps the City could provide more direction as to a consistent protocol (ie some allowed

re-usable bags. others did not some have clear directional flow, others are confusing and it keeps everyone in the store longer than needed and bumping into one another; some demand masks, others do not.) I am happy that businesses received support but small owner businesses seemed to be left behind and had to close. With barriers and safety measures in place, I hope that more stores are able to remain open.

- ▶ I have a chronic pain and don't have access to medical system. Not being able to visit a doctor for check-ups is the main concern.
- ▶ I have no ideas.
- ▶ I have none
- ▶ I have zero concerns about the virus. I have worked all through it with no problems and my personal view is that it has been overblown.
- ▶ I keep hoping someone will improve face shields so they can be as protective as masks. I think that would make people more likely to wear them, which would go a long way in protecting us all, yet allowing us to follow Dr. Bonnie's rules. (I have a few design ideas but that's not my area of expertise.)
- ▶ I leave the management of Covid-19 to the health authorities for better or for worse.
- ▶ I like the nanaimo hometown contest to encourage people to visit local businesses
- ▶ I like the patios for restaurants. It would be nice to keep the. Even going further and closing commercial to pedestrian in the downtown core.
- ▶ I liked that the city allowed parking lot patios. I think this should continue. I did miss being able to participate in recreation activities. I know weather-wise we are in for a long, dark and wet season but it would be interesting to see if more outdoor recreation activities could help us get outside (safely) more while we are avoiding inside activities.
- ▶ "I love the street cafe areas! More covered park space for outside gatherings, when allowed. Maybe use some of the massive vacant buildings for programs or markets etc.  
Open up areas for long term care patients from the hospital to be safely cared for in the community! "
- ▶ I myself had to stop doing after school care. My daughter is immune compromised. I have seen many friends with small businesses struggling.
- ▶ I personally don't think anything can help. Woodgrove mall made a rule for people to have to get temperature checks and wear a mask, so people stopped coming to the mall. There are so many people who aren't agreeing with wearing a mask. People believe Covid isn't real and I've seen what those people say and seen how they think. You can't change their minds, which means you can't change out community to be safer.
- ▶ I spent a lot of time in Vancouver for work and recently the Okanagan for a brief camping trip. The attitude and responses on the Island in general have been phenomenal. The only thing that comes to mind is an ongoing campaign for masks (maybe aimed at kids the way recycling was so the adults are accountable).
- ▶ "I support keeping businesses open if there's not 100% subsidy on their wages/rent/costs. BUT I care more about the wellbeing of humans, so keep on following the health restrictions as they come up.

The biggest issue is that you cannot suggest things to people who think you're controlling them. At the end of the day its up to all of us to voice our medical concerns to anyone not following health procedures. Maybe finding a middle ground where you don't tell people to call people out publicly and

shame them for not following guidelines, but to voice their concerns at the moment to the anti-maskers and the like. I dunno, its a tough spot, I don't envy any health or government official right now."

- ▶ I support the use of sidewalks for outdoor dining.
- ▶ I think all in all, Nanaimo is doing the best it can. Parents need to guide their children and the City needs to guide us. We all need to pitch in. Positive strokes to those who are providing service at this time need to be publicly respected at all times; including law enforcement. Maybe more publicity about the positive. Updates are important. Recognize youth who are contributing at this time.
- ▶ I think as a city we could make ourselves more attractive to "COVID proof" businesses. This includes making more opportunities available for "work from home" jobs, tech jobs, or other entrepreneurial ventures that are meeting COVID related needs (ie: making mask, hand sanitizer, respirators, etc). But I think long term we could be investing in more local secondary industries like the local pulp mill, the port, manufacturing jobs and others. This would make the local economy more diverse and less dependent on volatile international markets. I would also love to see local farmers supported more on the municipal level so our city and region can be less dependent on imported foods. I think overall just making our economy less dependent on one resource (like forestry) and also less dependent on foreign markets would be a huge benefit during and after COVID.
- ▶ I think Covid's been wonderful! It's an eye opener that has forced us to see first hand the effects of pollution & overcrowding, and local food scarcity. I hope we can take away insights from this that can improve our green future on this planet.
- ▶ I think it should be mandatory to wear mouth coverings in all stores.
- ▶ I think Nanaimo has done a good job with imposing reasonable restrictions (not near as extreme as other areas) and with a forward approach to keeping businesses and facilities open for the long term.
- ▶ I think Nanaimo has done an okay job with the pandemic. Letting restaurants expand their spaces into the streets is a good idea. Some municipalities have also allowed drinking during certain hours in certain parks and beaches. That would be nice too. Its unfortunate that the public recreation facilities have been closed, but that's a necessary step. Otherwise, I think its on the province to provide guidance and individual businesses to adapt. I'm not sure what other impacts the City can have.
- ▶ I think Nanaimo has handled the pandemic exceptionally well. My only concern is the ferry system. I believe stricter measures should be taken to prevent tourists from other provinces and countries from coming to the island.
- ▶ I think Nanaimo is doing a good job - large events are not being held, but small gatherings are still being managed. There are some more risky areas, but overall things are managed well.
- ▶ I think Nanaimo is doing a good job. I do wish restaurants were taking people's info so that tracking could occur, if needed.
- ▶ I think Nanaimo is doing pretty good at dealing with COVID-19. It will be sad if businesses have to close.
- ▶ I think Nanaimo is doing well for CoVid resilience. Just keep an eye on it.
- ▶ I think Nanaimo is handling covid quite well.
- ▶ I think now is a wonderful time to pause and reflect on the big picture and the long-term future of Nanaimo. Covid-19 has forced us all to stop. So this is the perfect time to rethink our impact on the environment and make lasting change. The climate crisis needs attention immediately. Our "old" way of life is not sustainable. However, nobody wants to change. Now is our time. Now we can make a real difference. Let's show the young people that we care about their future. We care about the environment.

The ideas are already there, but they need to be implemented. Let's become the greenest city in Canada. Let's lead by example. Give our community hope during this challenging time. Our sacrifices now have meaning. Covid-19 can be seen as an opportunity to make lasting change. Like a world war, people are better able to make sacrifices when they see there's a positive purpose. It gives us all hope. Let's fight for freedom. Freedom from fossil fuel. Freedom from hurting the environment and others in order to "get ahead." We can all live on this earth. There are enough resources to go around if we work collaboratively and think strategically. Nanaimo is a strong community and we're up for the challenge!

- ▶ I think our health care and businesses and residents have all worked well together to keep us safe. Thanks to Dr. Bonnie Henry for her leadership
- ▶ I think our hired elected officials get to get off there butts and speak up. Not just provincial or federal. Would be nice to hear from our own politicians who we are paying to look out for us.
- ▶ I think support for small businesses is critical while using this opportunity to improve bike lanes and ways of improving outdoor community spaces as the public is more likely to be on board than at any other time. Separated bike lanes are so important for helping ppl feel as though they can get around and be part of the community without a car
- ▶ I think that Nanaimo needs more community gardens. In 2020 our community garden plot at Beban was a life-saver, from a mental health perspective. It got us outside and away from the constant messages about COVID-19. Many of our neighbours wanted such an opportunity but there was no community garden plots available.
- ▶ I think that refusing to adopt a fear-mongering style of addressing the COVID 19 pandemic is so important. As a professional therapist, I have seen a lot of underlying anxiety surrounding this, and much of which is rooted in larger societal impacts that individuals feel they cannot do much about, thus feeling anxious and afraid. To use a metaphor, as humans, we respond to issues like this as a herd. If the message is fear and panic, the herd mentality will respond as such. Conversely, if love, support, connection, and compassion is the message, then I think we will all be pleasantly surprised at what we as a community are capable of weathering.
- ▶ I think the biggest short-term focus should be on the promotion of small, locally-owned businesses .... we need to find ways to encourage all Nanaimo residents to shop locally and support their neighbourhood economies.
- ▶ "I think the city has done a great job with covid-19."  
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- ▶ I think the City has tried to help small business by allowing more exterior spaces. Not sure what else is possible under the current restrictions.
- ▶ I think the City is doing a good job following all Health regulations and rules set out by Dr. Bonnie Henry but realize there are probably some citizens who do not adhere to these and that it is difficult to make people follow the rules.
- ▶ I think the main issue with COVID-19 is the mental health pandemic nobody is talking about. In Nanaimo/ Canada this is less of a problem but internationally certainly something to think about.
- ▶ I think the situation is being handled as well as it can be
- ▶ I think there should have been a break on taxes instead of an increase. People are home many of the facilities were closed to the public.
- ▶ I think we are doing a fairly good job at managing the COVID impact.

- ▶ i think we are doing a good job maybe enforce masks in more places
- ▶ I think we have done quite well as a community with Covid-19. Our hospital has taken a lead being one of two accepting sites on the island. We really need a new tower to our hospital. It is old, cramped, and outdated.
- ▶ I think we need more socially distanced covid friendly events to help people feel social and purposeful. We need more push for young people to get Involved and volunteer, as many of us are the ones not able to work from home.
- ▶ I think we need to focus on local economies. People are ordering more online as they do not want to go to stores during the pandemic. The online ordering for Beban Park farmer's market is a really good idea but is not an easily navigable site. More local businesses should club together like this so you're not having to pay shipping on every local business you would like to support.
- ▶ I think we need to just wait out the pandemic and pick up the peices after by lowering taxes on buisness. Create more jobs in our hub city.
- ▶ I think we need to remind folks that our slowing down is helping to heal the planet, albeit temporarily. I also think there should be more conversation about the history and sources of pandemics in the first place (to provide context and perhaps reduce fear). Pandemic expert Dr. Michael Greger has a great video from 2008, called Pandemics: History and prevention, that is easy to find online. In the video's first 10 minutes he explains that WHO says climate change and emerging infectious diseases are the greatest threats to humanity, particularly pandemic influenza. He talks about how pandemics started 10,000 years ago, when animal agriculture first began. (Many people don't realize that most of the major pandemics originated is animals: measles is from cows, flus come from birds, colds come from horses, SARS came from civet cats, MERS came from camels, AIDS from primate bushmeat, COVID from pangolins, etc. In other words, most viruses are related to our relationship with animals and how we mistreat both them and the environments they live in.) Today medical historians say we have been living in the Age of Emerging Infectious Diseases since 1975. This is related directly to modern intensive farming practices (cramming animals into small cages and forcing them to live in horrendous, stressful conditions that make them susceptible to diseases passed on from wild animals, particularly birds). In other videos, Dr. Greger talks about COVID being minor compared to what's to come if we don't change how we manage our food systems. Poultry = pandemic, he says. I guess my point is that we should be talking about 'big p' prevention of pandemics in general, not just 'small p' prevention of COVID e.g., masks, sanitizer, social distancing. This issue is not going away so we really need to ask tough questions about how we think about and treat animals in our food system. In doing so, we can address climate change at the same time. Ultimately, the environment is the only thing we should be talking about anyway.
- ▶ I think we should be brought back to stage 2 pandemic levels, as people are becoming complacent within our community (the recent outbreak is evidence of this). Saving lives is more important than financial gain in my opinion.
- ▶ I think with respect to Bonnie Henry's guidelines, larger families and churches should be allowed to gather in greater numbers so long as they are following a health and safety checklist.
- ▶ I truly think the key to Nanaimo's growth is as an eventual extension of Vancouver (a bedroom community as it were) and a passenger ferry plus VTOL flights to Vancouver and back would connect us and Nanaimo would grow in a positive and amazing way, Nanaimo needs to be more than a retirement community, it needs young professionals who are vibrant and have energy, and it needs retirees and artists and spaces for the those who struggle
- ▶ I wish that there were more outdoor rec opportunities, in particular that the lifeguard at Westwood Lake was still there. I understand there has to be less going on, because doing anything requires more

expense and people than normal, but I feel like if we're going to be living like this for a while, I wish that more programs would shift to outside / other covid-safe versions. I totally respect shutting things down – safety first – but I'd like to now see more efforts to open things back up (slowly, safely). By thinking creatively in this restricted time, we might develop programs that are safer (more outdoorsy, anyway) that will continue on after, because it turns out we like them!

- ▶ I work at NRGH, and although our hospital is not overflowing with COVID patient, people are tired. The public is tired of restrictions and masking, health workers are tired of vigilance and policy changes and fighting with the public over mask wearing. Restricting travel to the mainland helps keep cases down but is starting to wear on people, too.
- ▶ I work at the hospital, and although we do not have the large number of cases that were projected, I would like to see promotion of mask-wearing in the community. I am baffled at stores and restaurants that don't require them, at least of staff.
- ▶ I work in tourism and in general I think this is one of the areas the City underestimates. We can do so much better but we do not even have the means to keep tourists in Nanaimo. Not everyone is booking a hotel room (one of the key indicators of how well tourism is doing). Lots of tourists travel with own transportation and want to enjoy the outdoors camping spots (tents, trailers and RV's) are hard to find in summer and overbooked. We need to create much more and diverse ways for tourists to stay in Nanaimo. This was pretty apparent in Covid time, last summer nobody wanted to stay in hotels but everybody wanted to go camping....missed opportunity.
- ▶ I worry about the long-term financial impacts on people and businesses. I think this is a great time for the City of Nanaimo to look at how they deliver services to see what could be managed more efficiently. Don't get me wrong, I think they do a good job, but I think we could all tighten our belts a bit for the overall benefit of the community.
- ▶ I worry that the danger of catching CoVid 19 is producing a culture that is scared of one another. Once a vaccine is out, I would like to see the City encouraging community in aggressive ways such as through increased Free public events, signage to encourage hand shaking and hugs, and any other ideas that encourage physical togetherness. CoVid 19 has also shed light on racial discrepancies in our institutions and work places. I would love to see Nanaimo be aggressive in including Black, Indigenous and POC in their signage and advertising.
- ▶ I would rather be poor for a period of time, than push to reopen quick. I would rather everyone stay home to the best of their abilities to avoid the potential of obtaining the virus. However, I empathize for local business, and encourage them to find ways to continue to stay open, but rules/laws need to be implemented to reduce physical contact (i.e.: Gloves, and Masks). I feel this way, not only for Nanaimo, but across Canada. Once we are past this pandemic, I encourage the city and council to continue to encourage the use of gloves and masks for a period of time, at least until their is a vaccine available.
- ▶ I would rather support our community's mental health than the economy through this pandemic – the economy means nothing without people! Let's promote mental health via the outdoors and our parks – one of Nanaimo's strengths anyway.
- ▶ I'd like to see health support for those who need tests, as well as mental health support for community members affected by the fear around the pandemic. Financial assistance should be made available for those who are out of work due to COVID, in tandem with Federal programs and ways that target the parts of the economy most affected here (tourism? retail?) It is also a positive opportunity to foster volunteerism and skill building among residents who are out of work. Community gardens and urban farms might be able to instill a sense of community pride while engaging residents in healthy exercise and safe physically distant social activity.

- ▶ If the spread of COVID-19 gets worse you should shut the ferries down so that people stop bringing it from the mainland
- ▶ If we all co-operate and wear our masks, social distance, etc., we can stay safe. Help out our neighbours!
- ▶ "If we can compassionately but sensibly deal with the homelessness epidemic then we can use this success to sort out other problems as they arise.  
 First, listen to the personal stories, the tragedies – they can happen to any of us.  
 Then listen to the moral distress of people who are disturbed by seeing the effects of drink and drugs on people, are genuinely fearful around the unstable behaviours and crimes, and oppressed by the sheer number of highly visible homeless people.  
 Realize that the reasons are largely systemic. Childhood abuse, loss of jobs, relationships shattered, addictions. And society unfortunately does not care.  
 Community does not exist unless it includes everyone.  
 So there has to be consideration of the background causes. Basic human rights like places to meet other people, homes to live in, the chance to feel useful jobs, high quality mental health and addiction treatments, not this cheapest we can get away with completely run down set up.  
 But more than this.  
 Do we really want to live in a city where the disparity between the rich and poor is growing all the time? Where my children can NEVER afford to buy a house, even if they could get a mortgage?  
 Do we really want to live in a city where housing developments target wealthy out of province retirees and those downsizing from Vancouver?  
 Why can't Nanaimo be on the cutting edge of things like education? Have children spend a night on the streets – as so many are anyway? Educate them in empathy training; use the methods so successful from home schooling?  
 Nanaimo does not have to be the closed-minded community it is often portrayed as [not without justification].  
 We need a vision bigger than the city, that puts people first, calmly laying out this compassionate and sensible vision for the next 50 years.  
 Of course it must fit in with the needs of the planet and the extreme weather events sure to keep on coming. Otherwise we will look back on these homeless times as the Golden Age of Homelessness.  
 I have been homeless myself, so am writing this as much to try put things right inside myself as to cure Nanaimo's ills. But really, aren't they the same thing?  
 Respectfully.  
 "
- ▶ If you are not an essential employee stay home, order groceries online, order Christmas gifts online, we can curve the spread of people stop going out when they don't NEED to.
- ▶ I'm sure Island Health is doing the best they can, but I would really like to see the downtown core supported in the best possible ways. The core of a City is its past, present and future. Prior to Covid-19, our City Core was accosted by our homeless issues and suffered greatly.
- ▶ IMMEDIATELY Via PR&C Strongly encourage deployment of coldframes to convert lawns to production of cold-hardy greens in case of fresh produce supply disruption in January/February/March
- ▶ Implement a plan to safely re-open aquatic centre and re-offer Parks and Rec Courses (i.e. yoga classes) asap.
- ▶ Improve bike paths and parks so that it's easy to participate in outdoor activities, which are open to us in spite of COVID. Online shopping may become the norm. Redevelop commercial buildings to provide more housing.

- ▶ Improve cycle lanes on busy roads like Hammond Bay.
- ▶ Improve the hospital
- ▶ Improve work flexibility by Increasing facilities to allow outdoor online work through free wifi access and workstations in public spaces. Increase public washroom facilities.
- ▶ Improved accommodation and care of homeless, drug addicted and seniors (most vulnerable)
- ▶ "In a very few months of COVID-19 we have adapted to what I Call 'ComingHome'! Technology had allowed use to Work, Learn and Purchase anything we need including Food and have it delivered to our Doorstep! it has reduced travel cost and in many homes the need for more than one vehicle. Goods are less costly with the elimination the 'middleman'. I believe this is our future and that it will be more sustainable even after recover from the Virus! Also it will take us a few years to recover form the loss of Jobs and investments in many commercial buildings..so we will need to share homes and move into the Intergenerational Type of Home as is the case match of the World! Also Food production may become limited from afar and local food production in our community could become essential and with the Blessing of being more nutritional I truly believe this is our future!"
- ▶ in our climate, more covered outdoor spaces for small gatherings and sports activities
- ▶ In snaw now as we are still to afraid to meet up someone pasted away and we had no way to say are good byes
- ▶ In the coming months we anticipate that there will be more social need here to which we can contribute. So, we have purposely cut back on our charitable giving elsewhere so as to be ready to participate here. There will be a need to promote, highlight and market charitable giving opportunities in the NRD.
- ▶ "In the short term the municipality can assist business to meet public health requirements for social distancing. Expand housing and support for people without homes. Look at more locations for local food production/ security."
- ▶ Increase focus on local community, such as social procurement, reduce outsourcing, local business promotion.
- ▶ increase hospital space ie a new hospital
- ▶ Increase the number of outdoor celebrations and recreation activities so we can still move and connect with our community
- ▶ Increase to emergency preparedness initiatives/awareness to help create a more self-sustainable and resilient community.
- ▶ increase tourism
- ▶ "increase work-from-home opportunities  
"
- ▶ increased opportunity for take out, socially distant markets
- ▶ Increased outdoor opportunities
- ▶ increased resiliency of residents, community outreach, adaptability of community to new normal
- ▶ "increased support for the downtown core to be positioned to build back and build upon the vibrance of the heart of the city...build more support for the Arts district....  
"

- ▶ Installing cameras in the arenas, let's cultivate community and connection despite covid 19!
- ▶ "Invest in arts and culture and bike infrastructure. If people are working more from home, they shouldn't need access to their cars as much.  
Short-term: Do what is required to keep outdoor spaces accessible and open. Find a way to re-open the pools for actual children (this is a safety issue so they can continue to learn how to swim). Right now, my 3-year-old is not allowed into the pool, but seniors, who are at great risk of COVID, are."
- ▶ Invest in walkable streets, cycling infrastructure, arts spaces, neighbourhood parks and green spaces. Now is the perfect opportunity to lay the groundwork for so-called 15-minute neighbourhoods in which residents live, work and can do their errands within a 15-minute walk or bike ride. Address zoning so that things like neighbourhood coffee shops, personal services and small retail like neighbourhood grocers can be side-by-side with homes and residences.
- ▶ Inviting the farmers market to either the indoors of North Nanaimo Mall or to the parking lot.
- ▶ Is Covid still considered short term? In order to support the long term success of our city we must first provide good jobs in high paying fields like technology so that we can attract the type and quantity of people you want here. If they can't afford to live here they won't come. What can we entice those big players to Nanaimo with? Personally I think it is years down the road as I believe we will still be recovering from Covid for at least the next 5 years. More and more chains are going out of business as well as the small businesses. Have you walked around Woodgrove lately?
- ▶ Island Health response to covid is very slow and it takes very long to get access to a covid test. The wrong people are making the decisions at island health. Physicians on the floor should have more say.
- ▶ "Isolation and the costs of goods are the biggest challenges we face. The city should stop worrying about cats wandering the streets and help take a stronger stand on drugs and crime. The stress to an outdoor cat owner at this time is unnecessary. Goods will be lower when there is less theft. Try to do something fun like a socially distanced Santa parade. Perhaps some outdoor events as well."
- ▶ It is common knowledge that people are refusing to go back to work because of the CERB. Put up a billboard that says if you have been asked to go back to work by your employer, go. This is an unacceptable hardship being faced by many employers trying to get their businesses going again.
- ▶ It is sad to see a number of businesses closing due to COVID-19. Being flexible to allow businesses to increase their patio spaces on sidewalks, has mitigated some situations
- ▶ It really hasn't affected me
- ▶ It would be nice if restaurants and people in general would follow the Covid guidelines.
- ▶ It'd be greatly beneficial to open churches back up, the pandemic has sparked mental issues more than any others, is not a lack of resources for mental health but a lack of community that affects people today
- ▶ It's been sad to see many locally owned businesses shutting down in the downtown core. Re-developing the blocks that have been shut down due to lack of use or fire, and some new good restaurants, entertainment venues or art galleries put in, would be great. No McRaunchies style fast-food places please, and thank you!
- ▶ It's great that we're so close to outdoor activities, but it's a pretty narrow lens to look at the region through. We definitely focus on it a lot. Parks, trails, etc. It's a one-dimensional cultural lens, where I think if we diversified our focus, we'd be more resilient.
- ▶ It's temporary and we will get through this

- ▶ “I’ve loved seeing how parks are being used as spaces for people to meet and gather. Perhaps developing more parks infrastructure, seating, picnic shelters to allow such meetings. One big issue that I see in Nanaimo is access to adequate medical care. My partner and I are among the many people who don’t have a family doctor. The NP clinic that recently opened is an encouraging development but it seems like Nanaimo could do a lot more. It has been disappointing to see the number of small businesses in the downtown that have closed or are struggling. Thinking through a way to replace the summer night markets could be meaningful as well as offering other supports to local businesses. Sustaining Nanaimo’s downtown is so important!”
- ▶ I’ve seen inconsistencies in shopping protocols and would like all store to be mandated to implement more safety measures. Such as one way aisles, hand sanitizer in all stores. A phone number to call if you see issues that are not safe, so there can be a followup and opportunity to educate the store manager about what should be happening to keep customers and staff more safe.
- ▶ Job generation, especially in agriculture and other production industries to create security.
- ▶ just do our best to go back to normal as soon and as best we can
- ▶ Just hang in there. Keep the rules, listen to Dr. Henry
- ▶ Just stay within the guidelines of the health Authority
- ▶ Keep all lines of communication open, especially to our most vulnerable citizens.
- ▶ Keep businesses open and wear masks until this problem is gone
- ▶ Keep masks mandatory when reasonable
- ▶ Keep our community open. Less regulations and restrictions are better. Lockdowns do not defeat viruses but cause many other deaths and despair. le battered women and abused children are locked in with their abusers. Keep our city free
- ▶ Keep promoting our vibrant small and large businesses on social media and B.C. TV networks, radio ads. Also do our part to educate people on public health protocols to keep the spread down and numbers low. I own a small business who saw lots of tourism start up even prior to phase 3 and now it’s astronomical. This is both fantastic and a wee bit scary. I would love more official community support for mask wearing and respecting physical distancing, sanitizing protocols. Advertised ahead of time, at and on the ferries etc.billboards, announcements, social media ads, newsreleases. We had tourists from other provinces and dare i say countries visit our shop even in phase 2. I want to stay open but I also want to stay healthy & keep my customers healthy. People shouldn’t be so shocked we offer free masks and would appreciate their use and require sanitizer at the door.
- ▶ keep public recreation going as its so important.
- ▶ Keep reinforcing the Provincial Health messages!
- ▶ Keep small businesses open, but if your going to close them. Close the big businesses too.
- ▶ “Keep the Americans out until they learn to try and stop the virus on their side of the border. We don’t want them. MAKE the young wear masks and obey any and all restrictions set out by our Government and Dr. Henry.  
”
- ▶ keep the lid on spending
- ▶ Keep the night clubs and Casino and bars on restricted hours until we have COVID-19 under control . Educate , educate ,educate our community on the dangers of COVID-19.

- ▶ keep things open but make it safe like now
- ▶ Keep up the tourism, encourage online shopping, making sure everyone is following the rules, without much enforcement. Every city worker wears a mask. Encouraging signs and positivity. If you do a lockdown, it may affect business but will help curve. To keep businesses running, pay or lower the money for rents and stuff. So business can keep open. Tighten the in and out of the island.
- ▶ Keeping outdoor eating spaces available as long as possible.
- ▶ keeping walking trails (such as Westwood Lake) one way, having more sheltered areas in parks for distanced meetings, maybe allowing the ice rink, the conference centre to be open for free rental for distanced small gatherings,
- ▶ Knowledge of where infected are. Keep people aware of protocols.
- ▶ I don't know
- ▶ Launching a advertising campaign encouraging the use of local businesses and services
- ▶ Leadership by the City in supporting local business and programs for patios etc. is a great start.
- ▶ Leave it to provincial and federal governments. That fact that this needs to be told to our municipal governments should be embarrassing.
- ▶ Less minimum wage shift jobs that are the first to go, and more solid and liveable wage jobs please
- ▶ Less stringent rules on food trucks. Should be able to go to more areas more freely. Make easier for licensing of these types of establishments
- ▶ Let all businesses be open and give residents the true and current government regulations, re: masks etc.
- ▶ Let it run its course. Survival of the fittest. The local, provincial and national economies will not be sustainable in the long term if these actions continue long term. The tax burden on the population will be exorbitant.
- ▶ Let small businesses re open if you can shop at Walmart and Costco you can open all businesses
- ▶ Let the chips fall where they may. The city needs to conserve cash for sewer, water roads and Rec. Don't try to prop up businesses that may fail anyway.
- ▶ Let us listen to what Bonnie Henry and the Premier of BC have to say this afternoon at the 3pm briefing. Nov. 19, 2020.
- ▶ Lets get back to supporting "mom and pop" businesses. Think about diversity, we need to support all cultures and add more family friendly places for All people that would help people who are feeling alone for instance during a pandemic. Community inclusiveness.
- ▶ Lift some restrictions on second families in single family dwellings to increase affordable housing.
- ▶ Lights at the harewood skatepark. They would allow riders to use the park in the winter time when the sun goes down early. Many users are adults who work during the day, so it is dark by the time they get off. Having lights there will also reduce the amount of vandalism and other crime. Many underage teenagers hangout there when the sun goes down to smoke weed. I think lights and maybe a routine security check could change that.
- ▶ "Like I said the BC ferries should have travel restrictions. And our schools need more support so we can stay home with our kids. The google system was fine for a short time. I do think every teacher needs an assistant working the online system with them so they can teach every kids at home efficiently. Once we figure this all out. We need to shut down for a month. No leaving no coming onto the island. And

then we keep the BC ferries travel restrictions ongoing until we get a vaccine because this is not going to stop!!!

everything else to a working fine.

Thank you

"

- ▶ Limit access to non-residents through reducing BC Ferries sailings and screen more travellers.
- ▶ Limit ferry traffic to essential travel only, plus close schools down until the new year. Re assess. Both comments might help slow covid down until we can get a vaccination. Keep up with quarantine of anyone coming to a new area, create "safer bubbles" for areas. Follow indoor mask wearing mandatory wearing.
- ▶ Limiting ferries during increased infection times. Close bars, enforce limits on number of people in gatherings. Mask required. Limits enforced on number of people in stores.
- ▶ Listen to Dr Henry.
- ▶ Local business initiatives support for non-profit organizations who are working the front lines
- ▶ Local food and markets that are available all year and supported by a designated space and building. More frequent transit and better pedestrian and cycling connectors.
- ▶ Local food banks have needed more support with COVID-19 related job losses, and more people suffering mental health problems due to less social support, so anything that can be done to continue help in those areas will be good.
- ▶ "Local nanaimo business auctions.. held on facebook. Exposure for them, keeping them afloat, giving families ideas for the christmas season that they otherwise didnt know about.

"

- ▶ lock down all the city for a few days will help drop the cases
- ▶ Lockdown and mass testing
- ▶ Lockdown and mass testing seems to be the only answer.
- ▶ long term building a multiplex for larger events.
- ▶ Long term success: VIU campus downtown. Would greatly foster economic development in the downtown core, as well as strengthen business interests.
- ▶ Love the outdoor street seating for restaurants downtown. Would love to see more bike lanes to increase active transport but to also make outdoor biking safer for all. Also street calming on some streets (including mine) to increase outdoor neighbour play with kids.
- ▶ Love the trails. Not willing to walk downtown by myself due to safety concerns
- ▶ Lower rent costs
- ▶ Maintain community events in some physically distanced way (to prevent loss of sense of community).
- ▶ Maintain the safety measures Dr. Henry has implemented for short and long term remedies.
- ▶ Maintaining the functioning of the economy will be essential which means supporting local business in proper protocols to prevent the spread of the virus.
- ▶ Make available online community resource discussion and presentation fora using Zoom and showcase

video and audio technology.

- ▶ Make better trail maps and put signage on the trail systems.
- ▶ Make everyone wear masks!
- ▶ Make it easy for unique small businesses to operate here. My understanding is that Nanaimo is known to make it very difficult for small businesses to get going and flourish (ex. much easier in Cumberland).
- ▶ Make mask use mandatory in all public places.
- ▶ Make mask wearing in public mandatory.
- ▶ Make masks indoors and a covid plan mandatory in businesses or revoke/ fine their business license
- ▶ Make masks mandatory
- ▶ Make masks mandatory everywhere so that more stores and businesses can operate much more safely.
- ▶ Make masks mandatory in all indoor public spaces,
- ▶ Make masks mandatory in all public spaces. Fine infractions.
- ▶ Make masks mandatory not recommended
- ▶ Make masks mandatory, not much else you can do.
- ▶ Make masks mandatory.
- ▶ Make neighbourhoods walkable. Slow down traffic in neighbourhoods to encourage walking. Animate outdoor/public spaces with development and programming.
- ▶ Make sure small businesses are able to keep the doors open
- ▶ Make sure that all businesses have access to make sure they don't go under. We shouldn't be losing staples of our community over this.
- ▶ Make the healthy choice the easy choice by making the city even more walkable and bike able. Encourage/support community gardening. Support restaurants to convert to outdoor dining.
- ▶ Make the main streets in the downtown core pedestrian only with the exception of delivery and emergency vehicles.
- ▶ Make wearing masks mandatory
- ▶ Make wearing masks mandatory in all public and business places. Get a master plan set up for each neighbourhood on how to set up emergency infrastructure
- ▶ “-Making masks mandatory  
-reducing transfer of people back and forth on the ferry “
- ▶ “Making the same rules apply to businesses for the customers, so many stores have different rules for their covid policies and it can be quite stressful when I do have to go out because it's confusing. Some have arrows, others don't, some have mask policies others don't, some have you line up outside because of limitations of people in the stores and others don't. It's quite stressful. I like to follow the rules and wear my mask and want to feel safe that others are following those rules too but when it's unclear that is a challenge. If there was clear signage for all stores then the expectation is set for everyone, not only on the front door because that is rarely seen, but throughout the stores.  
But overall I think Nanaimo is doing a great job of handling this.”
- ▶ “Making wearing masks mandatory

“

- ▶ Mandate face masks.
- ▶ Mandate mask wearing like local businesses. I see social distancing signs which are great.
- ▶ Mandate masks and spacing and allow some interaction
- ▶ Mandate masks indoors until a vaccine is ready.
- ▶ Mandatory mask wearing in public. Fine party goers who don't comply and let the media know.
- ▶ Mandatory masks and distancing in ALL public use areas (stores, transportation, businesses, etc.), with exceptions only with “proof” of medical condition.
- ▶ Mandatory masks everywhere inside.
- ▶ Mandatory masks for all stores, employees and customers.
- ▶ Mandatory masks in all businesses where possible (I suppose that cant include restaurants). If possible, create incentive for restaurants to operate a food truck and have food truck events at different areas in the city. Bring back more farmers markets like the one in cedar. There have been yoga studios shut down due to covid and probably other fitness facilities. It would be nice to have more outdoor gym/studio style spaces. Outdoor shopping centre for small businesses, similar to farmers market.
- ▶ Mandatory masks in businesses mandated by the city so people understand. I work in retail and have been absolutely floored by some people's response to us asking them to mask up. Also, I'd love to see more municipal support for small business to help ensure our local small businesses can make it through this challenging time.
- ▶ Mandatory masks in public areas
- ▶ Mandatory masks in public locations
- ▶ Mandatory masks in stores
- ▶ Mandatory masks indoors, in public buildings and businesses.
- ▶ Mandatory masks! Fining at gatherings. There needs to be a tougher stand on this.
- ▶ “Mandatory masks, social events with distancing, a fun sense of community.  
“We isolate now, so when we gather again, no one is missing” “
- ▶ Mandatory masks.
- ▶ Mandatory masks...easier access to testing.
- ▶ “Mandatory use of masks in all stores and offices, and on public transit  
“
- ▶ Mandatory wearing of masks in public
- ▶ masks in enclosed public spaces should be mandatory
- ▶ Masks should be mandatory.
- ▶ “Masks should have been compulsory earlier, no one of a certain heritage or religion should be treated differently. We are all humans, who at present need protection. Please enforce this by fines, etc.  
“
- ▶ Masks, masks, masks. I think an opportunity for businesses to advertise would be to supply free masks with their company logo.

- ▶ Masks. More online presence for local shops.
- ▶ “Maybe a small commuter train from downtown to Woodgrove mall or Parksville. maybe checking out other towns that are nanaimo size what work for them and doesn't. Widening/extending ENN Trail the bike path to go to Woodgrove mall so it doesn't stop at Rutherford mall.

Making Bowen Road safer with possible roundabout by Country grocer with crosswalk signal's making going onto Stewart Avenue and Cypress and Towensite safer with crosswalk flashing lights or hanging over crosswalk lights it very dangerous crossing the road people have been killed on Stewart Avenue.

Extending downtown waterfront/sea wall biking/walking path to departure bay and making it economical and eco-friendly. In general making more bike paths look how many people ride electric bikes nowadays.

A major source we should start in are transit system it's the worst I have ever seen, we can do better no needs to be late for work sometimes it takes about an hour travel time one way more connecting”

- ▶ Maybe as well as online classes & events, encourage things people could do at home to feel connected. From putting up signs of support, eg poppies for Remembrance Day, to encouraging the development of home gardens, mending & swapping clothes to reduce waste, & sharing other ideas for reuse of furniture etc. I've always thought it would be really cool if the City could encourage the development of a reuse mall, where people shared their skills & sold only recycled/Upcycled products, by providing a low rent location. I am a sewer & am part of a group on Facebook called 'Mending Mavens' & I upcycle clothes & make bags from them at 'Reclothe' on Facebook.
- ▶ Maybe stop having meetings about the potential to lower speed limits in neighborhoods and focus on the more pressing needs of the community amidst a global pandemic???
- ▶ mental health help for people under stress
- ▶ Mental health support - obviously for the homeless with mental health problems, but for Covid weary citizens too. Library zoom book clubs, have the leisure guide offer virtual events and small socially distanced walks etc. People are lonely. Virtual cooking classes with a box of nutritious ingredients delivered.
- ▶ Money spent on updating the hospital, attracting GPs to Nanaimo, more low-cost housing distributed all over the city.
- ▶ More access to health care and a focus/encourage more preventative health solutions, more access for mental health services of all varieties throughout the city for all levels of income, more housing of all variety for all levels of income, more long term planning/investment in the downtown core to clean and liven it up which will bring people back to enjoy and support local businesses, more flexibility with local businesses to adapt to the changing times like better designed/built patio spaces (that could be used year round when not raining) for as many restaurants as possible, more connections of bike lane/spaces, better street lighting to encourage physical activity which feels safe.
- ▶ More access to locally grown food. Good food at reasonable prices is very important for community health. It's criminal that junk food is so cheap, and good food is pricey. No wonder lower income people have expensive health problems.
- ▶ More access to outdoor dining, outdoor music events, such as the Friday night music outside Pirate Chips.
- ▶ “-more accessibility to active methods of transport (biking trails/lanes) to increase the ability of people to efficiently travel around nanaimo for work/pleasure to encourage community members to get outside

safely in a time of increased isolation.

-more assistance (pop up housing, meals) for the homeless population who have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic

-Outside spaces and equipment (eg, volleyball nets/balls, tennis rackets/balls to loan in a sanitary way and to be booked by members of the public (in accordance to covid protocols, group size, sanitation) to promote interaction with the community outdoors to lessen the impact on mental health that many people feel given more isolation due to covid."

- ▶ More activities for young people. We are all stuck inside and isolated from each other. My suggestion would be a drive in movie with a no kids screening of something.
- ▶ More activities. For example the clippers hosted 2 drive ins. I have heard of drive up concerts in other communities. Supporting business to host virtual events for individuals and families. For example my friends and I contacted a business to do a virtual sign night for us. The vendor is putting together a package and dropping them off at each of our houses. It would also be great to put out a list of all local small businesses and what they sell. Our community rallies when we are aware. The superette grocery store is a prime example. People found out they were struggling and there is now a Facebook page and people are supporting by advertising the deals they are getting and what they made with them. Some business how've bought gift cards to give away. If we know we go.
- ▶ More bike lanes. More people are biking now than ever before. Now is the time to turn them into regular bike commuters for life, by improving bike lanes.
- ▶ More bike paths separate from vehicles. Stop putting bike lanes between parked cars and traffic. More forward thinking in terms of land preservation for parks and nature to allow access for our growing population. More community gardens.
- ▶ More cleaning of playground equipment. Making parks safer to walk - I no longer feel safe in Bowen Park. more people want to move here so we still need single family dwellings but also suites and carriage houses should be considered too.
- ▶ More community awareness activity is needed so that people actually get to know their neighbours and can rely on each other. More bike trails and park trails are needed to foster out door activity. Oliver Centre needs to be made much larger, or a second centre built.
- ▶ "More community food service and food drives to help the hungry. Encourage donations daily to help neighbouring families. ""Love thy neighbour"", ""Feed the children"", ""School lunch programs for all students"", ""Share"". I try to give a bit every time I shop. 2 to the food bank is better than zero."
- ▶ more community gardens,
- ▶ more covered outdoor public spaces so that we can enjoy being outside when the weather changes.
- ▶ More covered outdoor spaces including in parks but also around buildings. There's so much rain here in the winter that it forces people inside. If there were more covered walkways and covered outdoor eating areas it would encourage people to gather outside more
- ▶ More covered outdoor spaces where we can meet
- ▶ More covered spaces to meet up with small groups outside (like the Maffeo Sutton gazebo and Beban picnic shelter).
- ▶ More emphasis on shopping local and supporting local activities
- ▶ More employers allowing remote work from home. Hydro, internet cables buried underground so more

resilient to storm with fewer outages. Built in outdoor neighbourhood sheltered from rain/ sun socially distant gathering places other than the street that allow for 10 people max at a time.

- ▶ More financial relief for small businesses.
- ▶ More fun places to go
- ▶ More funding to long term care staff & companies. Support for the elderly.
- ▶ "More garbage cans, especially at bus stops. More sidewalks and bike lanes. "
- ▶ more info, and better communication
- ▶ More information about outdoor activities like Parks and Rec exercise classes; I only heard about Bowen's activities by chance even though I have been going to Oliver Woods for several years.
- ▶ More involvement from city council to assist small business. So many small businesses closing
- ▶ more newsletters posted on social media, perhaps a quarterly mailer?
- ▶ more open outdoor space with drinking facilities. More open access to waterfronts.
- ▶ More outdoor events, patios, clear direction and consistency in application of protection policies (mask use, max occupancy in stores, restaurants, reporting).
- ▶ More outdoor events.
- ▶ More outdoor events. Drive in movies!
- ▶ More outdoor gathering/food venues that are "weather resistant", where small groups can meet for social interaction.
- ▶ More outdoor markets, or ways to bring people together in a safe manner outside. Bring things back to downtown! Got really bleak when everything shut down.
- ▶ "More outdoor programming for children, so they can participate in it now during covid, but also continue these programs because that would be great in normal times as well

Provide more and better spaces for safer drug use, so that people aren't using alone and dying. Desperately needed now, but will make our community stronger in the future as well"

- ▶ More outdoor recreation activities, especially for families. It makes me nervous to sign up me and my family for an indoor activity. Yes, it's rainy in the fall & winter but our climate is so mild there is no reason why we can't continue outdoor activities throughout the year. I really appreciate how the outdoor restaurant patios will remain during the "off season."
- ▶ More park and nature access, more off-leash dog areas, plant food forests, create a year round farmers market to allow for our community to support local food which creates food security and community resilience.
- ▶ More parks and encouraging businesses and non profits to allow staff to work from home offices. Many us don't work in safe healthy environments - no natural airflow - overcrowded and no natural light. Parks and trails are overcrowded. Fresh air and sunlight and nature are so important to helping our immune systems and our mental state. We have lovely parks but we need more.
- ▶ More parks for the people. By forestry lands now.
- ▶ More policing of large events

- ▶ More robust downtown anchored in tourism, arts and culture
- ▶ More service options to prevent cluttering of people trying to do one thing
- ▶ more social connectedness a more compassionate society – kindness – there is a lot of stigma and judgement in our city that people seem to not recognize as harmful
- ▶ More social distancing community events
- ▶ More social media posting to keep us in the loop as to things that are open, happening, or upcoming, city of nanaimo council updates and reports – more communication to the public.
- ▶ More social workers connecting with people who are vulnerable and offering them ways to be involved in community..
- ▶ More space allocated to pedestrians on commercial street. It often feels a bit congested on the sidewalk. More covered outdoor public space throughout the city. Public fire pits !?! Covered playgrounds.
- ▶ More specific reporting on sources/outbreaks.
- ▶ more steps to help the homeless through these trying times
- ▶ More Stress on buying local
- ▶ More support for front line workers. Administration was woefully unprepared. Local entities were left flat footed due to lack of planning, practice and implementation of a municipal plan. Quite surprising really. And quite disappointing
- ▶ More support for small businesses that are hit particularly hard with Covid (ex. indoor recreation). Figuring out what they need to survive and finding ways to assist. I had to close my 10 year old yoga studio down and I worry about all the people that used our services as an aid for their mental and physical health.
- ▶ More support for small businesses, multi-tiered supports for people experiencing homeless, street-involvement, addictions, and poverty. These supports should include a drastic increase in treatments, as well as Housing First strategies, spread out through the city. The South End has taken on a disproportionate amount of these supports, and it is needed in the north end as well.
- ▶ More support for using outdoor spaces. More covered areas. Courses on nature and outdoor experiences.
- ▶ More support in old age homes and schools.
- ▶ More testing
- ▶ “More to support small local businesses like a campaign by the city to bring awareness to different small businesses (especially ones that are lesser known) and to encourage people to shop there in a covid-safe manner. Maybe the city could coordinate between different small businesses so people can shop from home and have it delivered or available for pick up in a centralized location”
- ▶ More trails and natural areas. More outdoor rec opportunities. For instance, I love Maffeo sutton park redesign. At same time a few stations for adults (parents) could have been strategically placed to help them with outdoor fitness.
- ▶ More visible support of protocols for social distancing, masks, hand washing. We have been fairly lucky so far, but as we enter a more dangerous wave of the virus, city leaders need to be more front and centre, encouraging everyone to not become complacent, e.g. avoid large private social groupings (where the new outbreaks are happening).

- ▶ More work from home support
- ▶ "Most of us are fine here. We are responsible adults. We know what to do. Do not restrict businesses operating in anyway. We know what to do.

Fix the homeless problem. Enforce vagrancy/drug laws that are already on the books. Clean up the needles."

- ▶ Most people in Nanaimo and on the island have taken this seriously and as a result we have it under control. Lets not panic over this.
- ▶ Move events such as the night market to an area where social distancing is easier. Require everyone to wear masks in public places. Support restaurants and other small businesses to have more outdoor services (more patio dining with propane heaters, for example). Make Commercial street a pedestrian only mall for the blocks between Bastion and the Island Highway. Facilitate a small business website that lists all special accommodations businesses are offering and sales events etc. in ONE PLACE. It's been very difficult to stay informed about who's open and what safety measures they are requiring. Try to keep artists employed by staging live streaming events at the Port Theatre for which viewers would pay for a "ticket".
- ▶ "Much more money to improve the safety of long-term care homes, to expand home care for our growing seniors' population and and some real money expand and improve the hospital "
- ▶ Municipal ultra high speed internet perhaps in conjunction with major companies. Could also attract future business to Nanaimo.
- ▶ Music bring back shady mile
- ▶ Must launch support local campaign. Stop allowing box stores everywhere, stop mini mall development, create unique shopping experiences.
- ▶ My husband's 100-year-old grandfather is in a long-term care facility that calls us on weekends to arrange video chats. They've become a bright spot in both our lives, and the way the facility, well ...facilitates... is really what's made it possible. Inspired to seek out online, face-to-face opportunities for social interaction and growth, I was surprised to learn how difficult it is to find safe, purposeful video chatrooms online. It sounds like groups that usually meet in community centres or homes, such as writing meetups, arts classes, discussion groups, and book clubs, could all benefit from some leadership as to how to move their operations online, and vet people in the same way that an in-person meeting does (so you don't wind up with everybody's club becoming Chatroulette). Municipally-facilitated community meetups might be a way to bring people together.
- ▶ n/a
- ▶ N/a
- ▶ N/A.
- ▶ NA
- ▶ Nanaimo city council needs to be more proactive and stop sitting on the fence. Either they need to take the pandemic seriously or not. Presently actions of the Mayor and council does not act as though Covid-19 is all that much of a problem.
- ▶ Nanaimo council appears to have no audible policy on Covid. If there is a plan to deal with the enforcement of coherent restrictions then I haven't read about them or heard about them.

- ▶ Nanaimo did well during Covid. Enforcing mandatory masks in public would have been the easiest way from the start when everyone was on board together and it hadn't been politicized. The Provincial Governments poor messaging on that topic has put us where we are now in this mask debate. As a City, do like others, enforce mask usage in all public buildings.
- ▶ Nanaimo has been resilient. A better diversified economy could make sense to offset the negative impacts of Covid-19 to tourism – but this was a difficult problem to get ahead of.
- ▶ Nanaimo is doing a great job, we just have to be patient and stay positive.
- ▶ Nanaimo is known for festivals and celebrations. This is one part we are missing during COVID and we are having trouble connecting as a greater community. It would be great to have online concerts with local artists, perhaps broadcast on the local TV channel, and with big screens downtown for people without immediate access to internet or TV.
- ▶ Nanaimo is too car-centric. When we get our occasional snow events this becomes quite apparent for pedestrians trying to navigate around safely. This also become very apparent when trying to go out for walks while socially distancing. Roads take up far too much space and energy. Pedestrian walkways are too small or non-existent.
- ▶ Nanaimo must protect small “mom-and-pop” businesses which lack the resources to weather the restrictions imposed by Covid-19
- ▶ Nanaimo needs to attract additional tourism income to assist in the recovery of retail and restaurant business in Nanaimo.
- ▶ “Nanaimo needs to attract more health care specialists. Possibly an information package made available to medical schools in Canada and other jurisdictions. Possibly some help for a new doc to set up a new practice.  
Try to plan ahead and stockpile at least some supply's that may be needed for the next big or small medical need.”
- ▶ Nanaimo Needs--Tennis courts and Pickleball courts...more...
- ▶ Nanaimo seems to be doing a great job handling the pandemic. That being said, the downtown could use some sort of activity to jump start business once again. Some sort of festival, either in the fall or next year would be a great idea to bring people to the downtown businesses.
- ▶ Nanaimo should support local and small businesses; resiliency comes from those. Make down-town more attractive by creating a walk zone only and allow outside terraces for restaurants and coffeeshops. Make it fun to hang out in down-town Nanaimo! Connect down-town with Departure Bay with a walk – cycle route.
- ▶ Nanaimo, as with the world, can leverage the different ways people are working, schooling, and living in COVID times and rethink how to offer services and how people interact. For example, more remote work means more internet infrastructure needs to be developed, many people may be working for companies not located on the island and therefore do not need to commute or be on a deadline, so would prefer more leisure ways of travel like walking or bicycling. Enabling the city to support more work/life balance in this way – e.g maintaining the nature and outdoor activities and allowing for greener ways to enjoy these spaces throughout what normally is considered the “work day” could help with mental health, reducing stress, as well as help with the climate crisis.
- ▶ Nanaimo, like all local authorities in B.C., aren't in control of the PHO, WorkSafeBC, Ministry of Health or other provincial bodies that regular COVID-19 guidelines or requirements. However, providing businesses with unique incentives (with has been done in many cases) to operate. Bylaw/community plan

exemptions like patios on streets and parking lots have really seemed to help.

- ▶ Nanaimo's short term strategies are effective when looking at the numbers. Long term success suggestion is..to ensure that the temporary short-term measures become new normals because COVID-19 is likely not the only pandemic we will be dealing with.
- ▶ "Need creative ideas on how to reimagine empty malls.. as indoor safe gathering spaces not empty leases, as outdoor community gardens not parking lots"
- ▶ Need to focus on drawing businesses that can operate in spite of (or because of) COVID. Nanaimo has too small a major employer base, and whether well-paid union City employees are aware of it or not, the majority of working people in Nanaimo are in the lower income, retail based sector.
- ▶ Need to improve cell and internet service
- ▶ Need to keep providing services, rather than shutting any of them down, but maybe just in a modified or reduced way.
- ▶ "Need to support local businesses whenever possible. Ie, a real estate agent started a Facebook page for downtown businesses to post news on. Farmer's market has really grown and has done a great job with their online market. Can the Thursday night market possibly go online as well?"
- ▶ Need to work hard to meet the increased challenges of the drug users, the homeless, the mentally ill and the elderly. I wish that I could be more specific about my suggestions.
- ▶ Neighbourhood gathering spaces for small groups of people.
- ▶ Next 'pandemic', real or manufactured panic, CLOSE the ferry system to all but essential traffic!
- ▶ no comment
- ▶ No comment
- ▶ No comment for I am a new resident.
- ▶ No comment. It is what it is.
- ▶ No ideas
- ▶ "No mandatory masks  
Get the homeless, mentally ill, drug addicted off our streets.  
It's horrible to see and watch daily.  
"
- ▶ No thoughts.
- ▶ Nobody in Nanaimo takes masks or social distancing seriously. Can the city make masks mandatory indoors in public spaces?
- ▶ None
- ▶ None.
- ▶ Not really concerned. It will pass
- ▶ not sure
- ▶ Not sure
- ▶ Not sure.

- ▶ Not sure. I think Nanaimo has done good with covid
- ▶ not sure.....maybe thinking about how to connect communities with people who are vulnerable, have no one in their bubble or no way to get out and be a part of community do to health risks.
- ▶ Nothing
- ▶ Nothing it changes every week. And we have had a world pandemic this long it makes life harder. But cleaning the parks that children can play and keep them and others safe would help. Aging town needs more work.
- ▶ NOTHING WE CAN DO EXCEPT RIDE IT OUT.
- ▶ Nothing, more lockdown please.
- ▶ Numerous small initiatives to encourage shopping locally could have a big impact. My adult LEGO club ([www.MILUG.ca](http://www.MILUG.ca)) is working on a scavenger hunt idea (somewhat similar to the sticker initiative going on now but with LEGO builds) but it has been challenging finding a community partner (initially the Chamber of Commerce was interested but then they backed out due to COVID).
- ▶ Obligatory masks, maximum occupancy, regulated traffic, etc. in all retail outlets. Restrict mall capacity – I was at Woodgrove Sunday to pick some things up and left as fast as I could. Real Canadian Superstore is a total disgrace!
- ▶ One hospital designated in the area for cancer, heart and elective surgeries so these can still happen while another hospital looks after COVID cases.
- ▶ One HUGE thing would be to tax the rich more and leave the low income people alone. We've been reduced to one income since March and are barely making it. It's impossible. If this goes on much longer, we will have to sell our house, cut our losses and move somewhere cheaper.
- ▶ one thought...allow continued outdoor patio dining through the cooler months if that is what the restaurant owners wish
- ▶ ONline/virtual recreation opportunities. OUtdoor recreation opportunities?
- ▶ Open parks and recreation with social distancing and safety. Senior support to prevent isolation
- ▶ "Open Public Pools in August – ""According to Matthew Miller, a biochemistry professor at McMaster University in Hamilton who is studying the novel coronavirus, COVID-19 is highly unlikely to be transmitted through water."The risk of contracting the virus from the pool water itself is likely very low." If it is safe for water parks to open, then City pools should also open."
- ▶ Open the pools. Encourage citizens to shop local.
- ▶ Open the rinks
- ▶ Open up business to see how many get sick, who gets sick and what the final death toll will be without proper measures in place. I'd like to see what the old normal will do to our population.
- ▶ Opening of the pools again would be a start, but with restrictions.
- ▶ Operate the City on the basis of fact, logic and comparable illness statistics. Small businesses need immediate support to reopen fully.
- ▶ Orchestrated campaigns to help support local businesses and artisans. Campaign to have local gifts purchased for Christmas.
- ▶ Organized food delivery to seniors. Also need some type of neighborhood phone chain where people actively call and check in on other's mental health.

- ▶ Organizing more outdoor socially distanced activities and events
- ▶ Our community is doing great as far as this goes
- ▶ “our outdoor spaces , parks , boat ramps , hiking trails , camping spots, have all been packed during this pandemic. please protect and set aside more natural public spaces. our boat ramps are also often overcrowded, nanaimo river is has some of the best swimming in Canada and more of that space and watershed needs to be protected for our future generations. Food forest , community gardens, community fire pits, pedestrian pathways well away from traffic noise and exhaust, pedestrian corridors for example from the university to downtown. Community art spaces.... etc. “
- ▶ Our small businesses such as bars, pubs and restaurants need greater accomodation so that they can survive. This means more patio space made available to them to serve customers, reduce the cost of liquor licences and allow outdoor music to be played. Allowing responsible consumption alcoholic beverages in public parks could help encourage safer socialization for people without backyards and could encourage arts and cultural events. Mask wearing campaign by city would be helpful. Transfer funding from rcmp to social services to address problems around drug use and homelessness, we must treat it as a health issue and not as something for criminal justice system to handle. RCMP and other government employees should wear masks to set a good example to citizens, hypocritical for them not to be wearing masks.
- ▶ Outdoor concerts drive in movies
- ▶ Outdoor events for the family would be wonderful. More promotion. For food trucks/beer gardens/small outdoor events that aren't existing businesses would be a wonderful way to keep the life alive in Nanaimo.
- ▶ Outdoor opportunities for social events, music etc
- ▶ Outdoor patios for restaurants – extremely helpful. Close down Commercial Street for pedestrians only (actually do it permanently!)
- ▶ Outdoor Recreation Initiatives, if people can't be indoors together, develop the outdoors. Developing areas like Doumount, Mount Benson and Extension are great for walking, biking and hiking... these are easily socially distanced activities but should also be a main stay if we aren't in a pandemic for peoples physical and mental health. These areas hold great usage and even greater potential above and beyond the number of trees in a cutblock.
- ▶ Outdoor restaurant patios. Keep public washrooms open. At one point both Port Place and Port of Nanaimo washrooms were closed. Port of Nanaimo still is. Port of Nanaimo seems to only pull it's weight as a community partner when it is convenient.
- ▶ Outside concerts with social distancing!
- ▶ Pairing younger people – older teenagers who are studying from home for example – with older people who need assistance such as having someone do their grocery shopping would help both seniors and teenagers. It might help teens to become more responsible and more thoughtful – and it would certainly make things easier for those who cannot leave their homes to shop. Friendships might be forged that could persist post-COVID-19 which would benefit all.
- ▶ Parking on the streets downtown should be free to encourage people to shop locally, a two – three hour time limit could remain in place but the smaller shops in Nanaimo that make our community unique are going to be hit the hardest, lets not add barriers to people shopping locally. We have already lost shops such as the Blue Poppy due to Covid shut downs.
- ▶ Parks and natural areas for exercise are essential!! Wide sidewalks, boulevards with trees, well maintained trails like Westwood have been a life saver. Parks and walking areas should have adequate hand washing

and toilets, natural areas that allow walking safely, like the trails around Woodgrove perimeter, encourage people to safely distance while maintaining psychological and physical health.

- ▶ Partial lockdown has benefits, but is not the answer. Some shops have pretty much no safety measures (e.g. Superstore) – crack down on them.
- ▶ “Partner with the library to offer more digital access through giving people tablets to use at home, e-readers and access to the internet. These services are vital and many in Nanaimo can’t afford the device nor the home internet costs so they can’t even apply for EI or whatever they need because of COVID layoffs, restrictions etc.  
More bike parking since many aren’t taking public transit to socially distance. To encourage this we need bike racks at every park, mall, plaza etc.”
- ▶ Pass an ordinance to levy fines on anyone wilfully resisting masks and/or social distancing. Perhaps exempt from assault charges those who enforce such sensible rules themselves.
- ▶ People are not practicing safe distance.....more education is needed to stop the anger and rage of this pandemic.
- ▶ People in Nanaimo are not recognizing about the danger of the pandemic. The city needs to educate people more actively.
- ▶ People need human connection. Encouraging stores to open, limiting restriction, allowing restaurants to have patio space, more community events. Even something as basic as having a true farmers market in nanaimo to bring people together (like Duncan or kelowna). You can space people out with all these things
- ▶ “People need to observe the rules/guidelines laid by the health authorities. Our economy will not be affected if we remain united and not break rules . This is one way to develop resiliency.”
- ▶ People should be encouraged to walk around town. I have taken part in destination walks noting the history of Nanaimo. I am considered a senior and would like to feel safer on the streets and even Port Place.
- ▶ “People should be wearing masks and keeping their distance when out in public. Many people don’t.”
- ▶ Perhaps a Mayor that is more visible
- ▶ Perhaps offer a tent city by 90 acres of city property by colier dam taking them away from the downtown core so tourism can increase there.
- ▶ Personally I feel that I mask by law for indoor spaces would be a good idea, but I know that we also have many residents here who would be very angry with that I do not envy the jobs of anyone who has to make these sorts of decisions during this hard time.
- ▶ Please help the First Responders get the help they need to cope with this pandemic.
- ▶ Please hold those accountable for their crimes. Right now those of the criminal element, know nothing will happen to them so they just continue on. It’s disgusting the carry on that we see on our once beautiful streets.
- ▶ Please just add more mask mandates in school and provide online opportunities. Do and exceed the requirements.
- ▶ “Please, keep supporting small business. Let’s create opportunities for people to gather safely downtown, so that we still can enjoy eating and talking together. Let’s find a way to bring back live music so that we

can enjoy safely. Nanaimo umbrella's? Picnic tables with storm proof covers? Festive lights?

"

- ▶ Please, no more dictates when it comes to Covid. Let adults make their own health decisions. We really need to eliminate the constant fear mongering and return a level of confidence back to society. Personally, I no longer want to be constantly reminded about Covid.
- ▶ "Political mismanagement and bureaucratic overreach have had worse impacts on Nanaimo than COVID-19. Hire an economist and look at the facts and history of Nanaimo over the last 25 years. We went from being one of the fastest growing communities with the most economic potential to being home to some of the poorest postal codes in British Columbia. COVID-19 did not bring abject poverty to this matchbox-sized city. Instead, a mismanaged City, Port, and School District, with a healthy dose of income inequality have done far more lasting damage than COVID-19 ever could. And nobody in Nanaimo can figure out what to do about it."
- ▶ Possible city reminder to businesses not social distancing and using masks. Many businesses are dealing very well with the pandemic
- ▶ Post more signs around parks and walk ways about social distancing.
- ▶ prepare people that the solution to covid will not happen overnight, that a vaccine will not be a panacea/ silver bullet....distancing and masks are here to stay for months if not the next year or two
- ▶ Proactive sooner, health restrictions with teeth and quick testing
- ▶ Programs that encourage growing food at home.
- ▶ progress the waterfront trail initiative
- ▶ promote (admin) work from home on every level. The work-from-home concept has nothing but benefits for everybody- and society as a whole (Employers saves office rent and maintenance costs, employees are available earlier/later, and don't have to commute- which is fantastic for the environment and frees up parking space. Infection risk is nil, and "sick days" are greatly reduced- an important aspect, as this pandemic will not go away anytime soon/and other pandemics will surface . People working from home all the time means less opportunity for thieves- another benefit. Meanwhile, EMPTY OFFICE SPACES COULD BE CONVERTED INTO RENTAL UNITS. City/Province would only have to change some zoning and could make conversion attractive for owners by offering a property tax break and maybe a conversion grant where needed.
- ▶ Promote and expand and protect outdoor activity areas where people can be together outdoors safely. Keep the spaces large and well kept. Keep doggie bags available at park and area entrances. Expand bike trails and broaden them. Keep natural areas and lots of green space for everyone to enjoy. Keep asphalt and cement to a minimum. Keep box stores to a minimum. Develop community gardens. Get addicted community involved in ( e.g. assisting to build and maintain spaces, grow food, volunteer)
- ▶ Promote downtown businesses
- ▶ Promote safe tourism and tourist options.
- ▶ Promote small businesses such as locally run restaurants and shops, stop the permitting of new builds for chain stores and restaurants. We have enough low quality foreign investment food and goods to choose from, please promote local.
- ▶ Promote/assist small businesses in the downtown/old city area to allow their unique character to survive ....providing employment close to home. Partner with VIU to assist enterprising people to transition from

work that is no longer sustainable to develop home based/shared space businesses. Promote/encourage "buy local" to expand local farming initiatives with the goal of making Nanaimo much more food secure.

- ▶ "Promoting and supporting small businesses locally, BC and Canadian especially those that are environmentally sustainable. Ensuring that all new apartment blocks have a decent percentage of apartments/condos for low-income people and families or for co-op housing."
- ▶ Promoting safe outdoor activities means the City needs outdoor facilities that are accessible in all types of weather....covered rec areas, better indoor air flow, etc.
- ▶ Promoting small and locally owned businesses and giving kickbacks to those who do. It's almost always cheaper to buy online and having things shipped - help businesses compete with giant businesses like Amazon so it's not too much of a price difference.
- ▶ Promoting the impact people have by supporting local businesses
- ▶ Property taxes keep going up,maybe put a fund together to help small businesses stay afloat and pay their employees
- ▶ Protect small businesses and keep storefronts open so we don't turn into a ghost town
- ▶ Provide a property tax break for small businesses that are deemed not essential. Increase taxes on box stores that circumvent essential rules.
- ▶ Provide better communication locally about where COVID is happening in Central island health. Makes things transparent. Support small businesses.....do not CLOSE.
- ▶ Provide incentives for businesses in the downtown core to re-open. Provide more affordable housing.
- ▶ -Provide incentives to grocery store workers during COVID, like additional pay
- ▶ provide incentives to small businesses for remaining open or starting new businesses.
- ▶ Provide more open outdoor spaces to gather. Places to socialize with seating, possibly to even work from. As we enter this "work from home" time I think providing access to the internet in outdoor spaces will allow people to diversify were they work.
- ▶ Provide more opportunity for creative collaborations. We need alliances between restaurants and musicians. We need alliances between painters and clothing makers. We need collaborations between breweries and artists. These alliances need facilitation.
- ▶ Provide people with information and recommendations, let them choose how restricted a life they want to live.
- ▶ "Providing picnic shelters in parks across the city would give residents a place to meet safely outdoors. Attract more physicians so residents who want a family doctor can find one."  
"
- ▶ Public (residents and tourists) need to be more mindful of and conscientious about social distancing, even outdoors.
- ▶ Public consultation should still be public and not all done on line. You need to be inventive and adapt public forums to the times. Outside at the bandstand in Maffeo/Sutton Park should be doable while maintaining physical distancing. I do zoom meetings all the time and lots of online consultation, but it is not the same as public discussion. Without public discussion, staff not the public will write the OCP.
- ▶ Put more resources into youth and young adult mental health initiatives. Expand existing programs and

promote them to the public more, most people are unaware that they exist.

- ▶ Put more restrictions on persons going into grocery stores and shopping centres. I have been present when customers have been rude to employees of stores, not acknowledging that we are still in the midst of a pandemic and need to take precautions seriously.
- ▶ Quarrel the squatters into one area, I realize they can't just be kicked out of town, but keep them in one permitted area until the supportive housing is built. We can't have a dozen independent camp sites situated around the city. I noticed now that the Casino is closed you have mini encampments appearing around the building. This is the first impression people get when they come to Nanaimo.
- ▶ Rapid testing needed
- ▶ Reduce property taxes short-term especially for SME's and lower income households. Increased taxes for higher income households.
- ▶ Refer to the following: <https://www2.deloitte.com/us/en/insights/economy/covid-19/heart-of-resilient-leadership-responding-to-covid-19.html>
- ▶ Reinforce masks, although most stores say mandatory some people don't follow it.
- ▶ Rent relief. The poor are hardest hit by covid
- ▶ Reshape the city from economic growth to a caring, communicative city. Restore natural areas, build ongoing collective dialogue in community. our city needs to open city facilities to the public for this purpose, offer activities directed to health and well being. How to use our facilities in caring, respectful, safe manner.
- ▶ Resilience to a pandemic is largely dependent upon the community's need / desire to assemble in large numbers. If we can focus our work, recreation, and social needs on low-occupancies, we will have a chance to minimize infections while maintaining a healthy economy. The City of Nanaimo may not have a lot of influence on the types of businesses and activities that don't require in-person visits.
- ▶ Respect others by wearing masks etc - buy from local businesses- no online shopping. Loved the community spirit- all the offers to help seniors shop etc during the first few months
- ▶ Restrictions on bars, clubs.
- ▶ Safe and secure gather places
- ▶ Safe biking, medical clinics
- ▶ Safe, covered, meeting places where people can socially distance and exercise and have social interaction
- ▶ safer public transit. Opening up more trails for walking.
- ▶ Safety and support for immunocompromised folks. Housing options and support for the homeless, and others who need help.
- ▶ Schools and all non-essential businesses should be closed
- ▶ Screw you
- ▶ Seems very short-sighted as this issue only arose a few months ago. By the time your study is done the rest of the world will have provided a viable solution forward. Focus on municipal issues and not global; stay in your lane.
- ▶ "Set shop hours for businesses that are open. Mornings for elderly and compromised, evenings for workers etc.

No non essential travel.

Masks needed to worn as well as sanitizer stations at every door.”

- ▶ Shop local, support local!
- ▶ Shopping at local shops rather than online can make the difference between empty store fronts on main streets and local businesses surviving (something Nanaimo struggles with as it is). How could the city support this action? The city could run a campaign similar to Ladysmith, where they paid to advertise videos on Facebook and Instagram to encourage people to shop local and support their community.
- ▶ “Short term – Increase taxes for a fixed period (e.g. three years) with those increased revenues targeted to specific strategies, i.e. support to small businesses and key service agencies, innovative projects to support struggling households, build community and help people connect safely, etc. Run a contest to get good ideas for the above.”
- ▶ “Short term: Help local businesses (particularly downtown) pay their rent and taxes.

Long term: Solve homelessness crisis. Create covered outdoor spaces.

”

- ▶ Shut down non essential services. And put stricter limits on public gatherings and public spaces. Why, is it a surprise that people are getting covid from malls, salons and bars ?
- ▶ Shut it down. The Island in general should have a complete shut down with the exception of essential services for as many weeks as it takes to rid the Island of C-19. Borders and ferries should be closed as well to prevent a repeat of what is currently happening. Travel from the Island should be halted and anyone needing to travel for essential needs should be put under mandatory quarantine. This should also apply to the entire country. These piecemeal efforts we are seeing now are only serving to prolong this pandemic and in the long run are costing taxpayers way too much. The debts that are being incurred lately will put this country’s economy in jeopardy for many years to come. It’s like the bandaid debate, peel it off slowly and prolong the agony or rip it off and get it over with.
- ▶ “Sidewalks! This will be a problem for years, and many people are out walking, but it is not always safe for them to do so.  
Find a way to safely operate the rec facilities such as pools – other communities are doing it – schedule swim sessions, for example, to limit crowding. Mandatory masks in public spaces where distance cannot be maintained to improve the acceptance of this practice (quite hit or miss right now).”
- ▶ “Signage. For example...In Whistler they have signs all over the village saying ‘covid doesn’t vacation’, suiting being a tourist destination. It is a constant reminder to wear a mask, keep your distance, etc. Roadside signage like those used for elections of promoting events would build awareness. Something with a positive message.”
- ▶ Simply keep everything operational but with distance and spacing.
- ▶ Since throwing money everywhere anyways, we should probably be contracting more infrastructure work in city to improve roads etc, and provide more jobs in the short term until the chickens come home to roost to pay for everything.
- ▶ Small business support. Small businesses will struggle to weather the storm. I don’t want Nanaimo to be full of just big box stores because they are the only ones that could survive.
- ▶ Small businesses (particularly hospitality) should be accommodated where it is safe and practical to do

so (i.e. providing patio space on sidewalks, flexible tax deadlines)

- ▶ Small group Covid safe clubs – new residence, seniors, foodies
- ▶ Small, independent businesses are the life blood of a community. We've struggled to keep our downtown core vibrant and viable, and this pandemic isn't helping. Tax breaks?
- ▶ Smaller businesses are being needlessly trashed by health restrictions. Help our entrepreneurs, they are our backbone. Put out requests to "shop local". Otherwise the big store Walmarts' will rule.
- ▶ Social distancing and wearing masks for everyone is a must
- ▶ social housing must be built
- ▶ Socially-distant events like drive-in movie nights are awesome. Focus on maintaining our parks and beaches/reducing garbage in green spaces. Encouraging mask usage & taking care of each other. Support for small businesses. Maybe small food business "take-out passport" where you get a discount to visit multiple restaurants around Nanaimo & you get a coupon if you complete it? I'd be happy to eat my way around Nanaimo :)
- ▶ Some changes are positive such as increased family activity. Organize outdoor activities for families such as information scavenger hunts with prizes.
- ▶ Some official or un-official enforcement of guidelines. Social distancing and mask guidelines are being ignored and those who respect the guidelines are sometimes mocked. Early in the pandemic roughly 80 % of walkers on the SeaWalk seemed aware of guidelines and tried to respect them to varying degrees; now 90% act as if they don't exist.
- ▶ Some type of local media that keeps residents up to date on what is happening. A weekly newspaper is not sufficient for a city this size.
- ▶ Some way to incentivize residents to spend money LOCALLY. Not sure how to promote this, but to keep our existing businesses afloat, it would be great for people to spend more money where they live and intern help entire community get through this.
- ▶ Stage events that allow for social distancing and masks
- ▶ Start allocating municipal funding and energy to the matter of citizens' welfare: soup kitchens, community grants, funding for mental health and addictions services, etc.
- ▶ Start pre-ordering vaccines.
- ▶ Start with following the advise of health officials or fine the offenders.
- ▶ Status quo seems to be working just fine
- ▶ Stay safe and help others
- ▶ Stop allowing non-essential travel thru the ferry and airport terminals – 65% of covid is coming from out of area travelling and devastating our commerce here.
- ▶ Stop being afraid. Stop paying people to stay home.
- ▶ stop fining and ticketing downtown businesses as they are trying to find ways to make thru this. (live music on the street-being threatened by noise by law tickets--really?? how stupid can you get City of Nanaimo?) Listen to the business owners' ideas for downtown and help them not hinder them. Put on your big boy pants Mayor Krog, and make things happen instead of hindering everything by hiding behind archaic by-laws. Modern up Nanaimo!
- ▶ Stop giving out business licenses to us franchises, let's support local small businesses

- ▶ Stop non essential spending until the dust has settled on this pandemic, including bike lanes, arts and culture and all other Expenses than can be put off in the short term.
- ▶ "Stop non-essential ferry traffic into the city. We had no cases of COVID-19 in Nanaimo until it was clearly brought here from the mainland."  
"
- ▶ "Stop the ferries except for limited essential travel. Same with air travel.Keep provincial and international borders closed."  
"
- ▶ Stop visitors coming over on the ferries, let it be essential services and residents only until this pandemic is under control. We don't have the huge hospitals they have in Vancouver. Also Nanaimo needs to make it a requirement to wear a mask in any business or public park. Stop the children from going back to school so soon, wait a few more months, it may save some lives.
- ▶ Stricter enforcement of the provincial guidelines could be applied, particularly with some of the shops and restaurants, and with large house parties.
- ▶ Stricter enforcement on those who break the rules.
- ▶ Stricter rules on public health measures but enhanced community events. We can still get together giving that we practice the health and safety guidelines.
- ▶ Strong public health system
- ▶ Stronger education campaign for general public to dispel conspiracies
- ▶ Stronger enforcement to travel too many rvs
- ▶ stronger medical access- not able to find a doctor -
- ▶ stronger precautions in schools or close schools
- ▶ Stronger recommendations for social distancing and the use of masks. Discouraging large group activities.
- ▶ stronger restrictions for mask use
- ▶ Strongly encourage converting all lawns to rainfall catching food gardens, with a fall & winter crop planted NOW.
- ▶ Support and promote legitimate local businesses so that they can continue to employ residents. Act swiftly and decisively on reducing illegal short terms rentals through AirBnB and other platforms. Opens up housing for residents and help small business.
- ▶ Support and promote local and downtown businesses! Have outdoor events where social distancing is possible, such as outdoor concerts where people can set up lawn chairs or blankets 2 metres apart or drive-in movies.
- ▶ Support companies making the shift to online services with tax breaks or incentives. Provide online portals or sessions to help people while isolated like a online children's programming for school aged kids that get them active and engaged in the home or nanaimo stay's healthy programs that gives health and lifestyle professions opportunities to provide services online and connect with others within the community. Give opportunities for faith-based groups to meet the spiritual needs of people in the community since many have not been able to gather with in-person gatherings.
- ▶ support for mental health and overall community wellness
- ▶ Support for small, locally owned businesses.

- ▶ Support hotlines for people just needing someone to talk to etc.. Events that are creatively planned for seniors or people living alone to get out of their house safely.
- ▶ “-Support local business incentives  
-Get/keep the epidemic under control by public supporting public health actions”
- ▶ “Support local business  
Look after your neighbours”
- ▶ Support local businesses
- ▶ Support local businesses before big business. We need to focus on the sustainability of our island and to keep our money here, etc.
- ▶ Support local businesses that are struggling . Follow Bc public health guidelines
- ▶ Support local businesses to retain some activity in the downtown. Create more options for outdoor community engagement and encourage an outdoor culture in the city centre as well as in nature. Perhaps the outdoor market could be brought back, and extended to more of the downtown so it isn't crowded.
- ▶ Support local businesses, create a local procurement policy for the city, create safe outdoor events.
- ▶ Support local businesses. Online shopping (or alternative opportunities) for local businesses to combat the closures of small shops. Establish a support network for vulnerable demographics (do people have access to people if they need to ask for help with everyday tasks and errands).
- ▶ “Support local campaign, offer help to small businesses to re invent themselves to be successful in today's environment.

Support small businesses start up.

Look at ways to encourage outdoor tourism. Mtn biking trails, clean trails for hiking, more parks or marked trails. Online campaign on where to hike in nanaimo.

Clean up downtown. It is not a place many people want to walk around due to the homeless population.

”

- ▶ Support local small businesses
- ▶ Support local, small businesses. Support the resilience of the community members by promoting events to increase mental health and social connectedness, and supporting the families needing financial assistance.
- ▶ Support med/small business. More public spaces. Work with community groups. Diverse multi income development (mixed use). Densify for vibrancy.
- ▶ Support merchants to have outdoor patios so they can have enough tables to make a living. Mandatory masks on the bus. Bring together the artistic community to find out what we can do to keep our artists working. The Nanaimo businesses have really been working hard to keep open and to keep us safe. How can we support the daycare system to have good protocols and enough staff and space to make them work?? And the school system?
- ▶ “Support more coworking spaces (see KWENCH in Victoria) so people have more opportunities to work somewhere when working at home or work is not always an option and people can still be spread out. Also in more highly trafficked areas such as downtown, use curb side parking as extensions of side walks so it is easier to socially distance when walking.

Help make it easier for small business owners to operate a take out or pick up model at store fronts.”

- ▶ Support Neighbourhood Associations – they can be a huge help in making sure neighbours take care of neighbours – shopping for elderly etc. If a vaccine comes available consider getting vaccine out via mobile clinics – coming to neighbourhoods.
- ▶ Support neighbourhood resiliency by supporting grass roots neighbourhood based programs (ie: neighbourhood check ins)
- ▶ Support people who are having housing and employment difficulties.
- ▶ Support programs for small business, families, and university students.
- ▶ Support small business in every way possible. Create more affordable opportunities for outside seating at restaurants and food truck licensing.
- ▶ Support small business. Downtown is turning into a ghost town
- ▶ support small businesses
- ▶ Support small businesses – financially and by accomodating their needs i.e. relax bylaw restrictions.
- ▶ Support small businesses and farms
- ▶ Support small businesses better, build more public washrooms
- ▶ Support small businesses that make our community great (Fascinating Rhythm, The Vault etc) and support the wonderful local farmers and makers at the markets.
- ▶ Support smaller businesses through lease or tax support.
- ▶ Support social services coordination (roundtables). Subsidized housing or rent supports to reduce homelessness as economy falters. Focus development on sustainability and affordability instead of developer/investor profits.
- ▶ Support the food bank, and local businesses as much as possible (tax deferment, regulatory flexibility– let them innovate even if the paperwork is not yet in order). Don’t hesitate to shut things down if they are shown to be a risk. High-speed internet is likely to be very important for a lot of people..
- ▶ Support venues that are doing live streamed concerts and social distanced shows. They rely on ticket sales, and are struggling
- ▶ Supporting our local smaller businesses should be a number one priority as they are what keep a lot of people afloat in Nanaimo. Another idea is to launch information campaigns for the public to help those who may be confused or misguided during the pandemic.
- ▶ Supporting small and local businesses. Expanding opportunities for outdoor access and enjoyment
- ▶ Supporting small businesses not only helps business owners and their families, but it also supports the diversity found in these businesses.
- ▶ Supporting small businesses through the pandemic.
- ▶ take back downtown from vagrancy
- ▶ Take lessons and examples from what many other cities are doing: close down some driving lanes for better active transportation social distancing and temporary (or permanent) restaurant outside patio areas.
- ▶ Temporary sports equipment and benches to encourage residents to play in their own neighborhoods.

- ▶ Thank goodness for the natural areas that our city still has as so many residents flocked to these safe areas for their physical and mental health. Creating more access to green spaces in neighborhoods and protecting what natural spaces we already have is the number one way to keep the physical and mental health of citizens in shape during this pandemic.
- ▶ The arts have suffered and if there is a way to support them and put them out in front of the people of Nanaimo would be great.
- ▶ “The biggest challenge is being faced by small business. These businesses are the lifeblood of our community. There needs to be a concentrated effort/campaign to make the citizens aware of the need to support local and create a central resource so that people know what is available locally. Another challenge is the homeless. Housing them is only the beginning. Once housed the resources have to be available to move them forward into stability and self-sufficiency. It is not just a drug problem. It is learning disabilities and mental illness that keep many from the workforce. This causes many to turn to drug use. None of them got up one morning and said, “I think I’ll become homeless and a drug addict! We have to stop pulling people out of the river and go upstream to find out why they are falling in! (Desmond Tutu). We have to stop saying, “It’s a Provincial responsibility”, “It’s a Federal responsibility”, “It’s a Municipal responsibility”, and work together to create a solution. It is not a simple problem and will take more than a simple solution!”
- ▶ The city can support downtown business owners by moving full steam ahead with downtown revitalization. Encouraging people to enjoy downtown, addressing social issues, coordinated tourism campaigns will all help economic recovery from COVID-19.
- ▶ The city has had no voice in this pandemic. Need a local spokesperson via island health to localize and educate
- ▶ The city needs to engage directly with the handful of creative entrepreneurs (eg. concert promoters, theatre, art galleries, etc) to brainstorm on how to activate public space in the city to create cultural events that can incorporate Covid safety protocols. The city should be unlocking space and funding to a variety of cultural leaders.
- ▶ The city needs to reduce red tape to encourage timely investment. Too many business cannot receive permits to occupy space in a timely manner and are locating elsewhere. Nanaimo needs more affordable functional industrial land with buildings for workers and industry as opposed to creative boutique designs.
- ▶ The city needs to take on some responsibility for social support personnel. Hire a team. If the city can spend millions on an ugly cruise ship dock, surely we can hire a crisis team to add to current provincial supports.
- ▶ The city pays \$1000s on street lighting for parking lots but virtually nothing on lighting for outdoor sports (EG Maffeo Sutton’s basketball court, Altuista playground at Beban Park). The winter months can be especially dark and an investment in outdoor lighting for outdoor recreation (especially during covid) would improve our quality of life.
- ▶ The community & all government has to support our local businesses.
- ▶ The community needs more “listeners.”
- ▶ The dark rainy often depressing winter will be very hard for seniors unable to go to gatherings like square dance bridge church suppers family gatherings. Etc. So have a radio channel devoted to story telling of people’s history, jokes, strange, funny, love stories, grateful stories etc. Give seniors a purpose – give them each a school age child of their preferred grade to have as a pen pal perhaps to ask questions of, so each can learn of the other’s generation. Create a huge quilt of the 2020-2021 year with every

willing person being given a shape of a mask to draw/write a poem, post a photo etc and give the addicts and homeless a job to sew them all together and hang it in the Museum.

- ▶ The data is in and it affects people with co-morbidities and long term care centers. So direct your energy to protecting the vulnerable and let the rest of us get back to living life.
- ▶ The downtown core seems to be suffering the worst. This area is so unique and valuable to residents and tourists alike, but it was already not being well subscribed by the general population. Address the homelessness and urge the Province to step in and aid where they can. This is not something the City should have to fund on their own.
- ▶ The ferries need to be shut down with the 86% of covid-19 cases being from out of our community travel i.e., Vancouver. The ferries should have been shut down starting September 1st when we all knew when the weather got colder covid-19 cases would influx.
- ▶ The government at all levels need to legislate mandatory rules and then enforce them by way of fines and or court.
- ▶ The idea of running a business from home requiring a license if there are not customers actually coming to your door is a bit ridiculous. The fact many people can now work remotely most days of the week means that you could have a job in Vancouver and do a once a week commute. I think we should encourage some young Vancouver people to relocate to create a less lopsided age distribution.
- ▶ "The island in general should focus on local tourism (island residents travelling around the island). TourismVI and its different departments should be collaborating with local business to create a cohesive plan to push this idea. We are doing incredibly well with covid so far, but that is only going to continue if we de-emphasize tourist travel from abroad.

On a municipal basis, promotion of small business is crucial. These small businesses are what give character to the city and losing them would be horrible for the community. Big businesses have the capacity to tap emergency relief funding at a vastly greater scale than small; it has to be municipalities driving the support for their local business and entrepreneurs.

And it can only lead to a stronger community with broader and deeper networks and more cohesiveness in our values."

- ▶ The longer Nanaimo continues to mainly have a low-income service job employment base, the more the issues surrounding COVID-19 expose the house of cards our local economy is built on. Real work on diversifying Nanaimo's career opportunities needs to be addressed immediately. Gentrification is a real threat, and people who have spent their entire lives in the city, need to feel there is real opportunity for them to live here comfortably on an income provided by the local economy. We are not, nor do we wish to become, a retirement city.
- ▶ The Port Theatre could manage more than 50 participants safely distancing. Nanaimo is so very blessed having a very talented symphony and Pierre Simard as conductor/director but it is very sad to see only part of the orchestra playing to an audience of 50. I am worried it won't survive. I volunteer regularly at the Port and see the space that could be filled safely. Covid 19 has strangled downtown that was starting to sparkle. The small businesses need help. Even if parking was advertised for free downtown to attract shoppers and some incentive to get folks to visit downtown and the old quarter.
- ▶ The recent 4.5 per cent tax hike on top of increased widespread assessment was obscene. charity starts at home. future increases should be linked to inflation. Roll back management salaries.
- ▶ The tax burden should absolutely be looked at in these trying times and which the city should focus its

efforts on actually lowering the cost to its residents.

- ▶ The things our family has missed the most are the night market and all the excellent City recreation programs. You have done an excellent job of reworking the recreation programs as best you can. I wonder if there could be some kind of a collaboration with the Victoria Crescent association, Old City Association and the new downtown business association and the Chamber to really highlight the great business community/home based businesses we have? Like a pay-it-forward kind of a thing. During the pandemic we ordered from tons of local businesses that did home delivery and we learned about them all through word of mouth and through Instagram. I wonder if there is some way we can come together as a community to support local? Like a tourist in your own hometown thing but virtual/delivery/word of mouth based?
- ▶ The virus is not short term.
- ▶ There are already limited jobs in Nanaimo – any efforts that diversify the job market. Maybe building partnerships with companies in Vancouver/Victoria who are burdened by office rent costs and showcasing cheaper office space rentals in Nanaimo?
- ▶ There is a lot of poverty and homeless people in Nanaimo who have been hit harder by the pandemic than the more affluent among us. As we come out of the pandemic we need to ensure that we make every effort to reduce income inequality. One way to do this would be to take back money from the RCMP budget and distribute it to social service agencies who would be given a mandate to respond to emergencies.
- ▶ There is nothing you can do but to enforce. Fine gatherings, stop giving warnings and start taking action, or this community will continue to experience viral transmission at expanding rates.
- ▶ Things seem inaccessible and disjointed; hard to get answers and things done.
- ▶ This is a federal and provincial matter
- ▶ This is a really bad question. One can understand expressing sympathy for the impact this issue has on our lives right now, but this is a public health issue and requires adherence to advice given to us by experienced public health professionals, it is not a question appropriate for a survey by the city.
- ▶ This is not the problem
- ▶ This pandemic will run its course and is really provincial. Keep focus on the areas we can control
- ▶ Thought it has been handled quite well.
- ▶ Thus far, Nanaimo has reacted to the crisis in a satisfactory manner. Somehow we need to concentrate on keeping the younger population in line – it is more difficult for them.
- ▶ Time to increase the fines for non compliance.
- ▶ To have a playground under cover for kids all time of the year.
- ▶ Too much high density housing making it easier to spread infections and pests
- ▶ Tough question – need help and team work from all levels of government
- ▶ Trails in parks can be widened and improved. The mad rush to densification should be tempered.
- ▶ Turn the Centennial Building into a multi day per week local food supply facility housing a two or three day per week farmers market plus emergency food assembly and distribution centre supporting local food production.
- ▶ unfortunately my husband and myself have been very careful this past 6 months and have not mingled as

we have in the past so not skilled enough to contribute at this time.

- ▶ Until a solution is found to minimize the impact this will go on forever
- ▶ Until an effective vaccine has been implemented, the use of masks in all indoor public spaces (malls, businesses, schools, libraries, etc) should be mandatory at all times. This will allow more businesses to be open to more people, helping them to maintain higher revenues, provide more consistent employment, and ensure that citizens have maximum services remaining open to them. This would be very easy to implement and enforce, as the onus and cost of enforcement would be voluntarily spread across the thousands of employees operating these businesses and services, without adding undue burden to police or regulatory bodies.
- ▶ Upgraded internet so people can better work from home.
- ▶ Urban farms and more neighbourhood communal spaces (ex. parks that incorporate multiple uses such as kids zone, adult workout machines see South Korea parks free/public community garden, etc.)
- ▶ Use Nanaimo Parks/Recreation professionals to plan community events and/or activities that motivate people to get out of their houses "safely" and participate and be part of the community. These would need to be outdoor activities and planned specifically to keep people socially distanced and safe ... walks/runs along the seawall, cultural events, entertainment, community fundraisers for food banks and other service societies. But the primary objective is to have Nanaimo citizens feel like they are still part of a community that cares and we are all in this together.
- ▶ Use of Open Spaces, whether they be beaches, parks, recreational fields, trails and so on needs to be encouraged, but also the guidance and orders of Dr. Bonnie Henry need to be followed. It would help if the City strongly endorsed these measures and ensured, within its capacity, that these measures are being adhered to.
- ▶ Use the momentum of COVID to increase local food security, safe practices and encouraging wholesome happiness instead of consumerism.
- ▶ Use this time to limit housing costs and reassess over purpose of city. It serves the wealthy that's not great.
- ▶ Voluntary use of face mask recommendation, change as or if needed.
- ▶ Walki in clinics have been closed except for one which is totally swamped. This negatively affects people's health beyond Covid. Greater access to walk in clinics is essential
- ▶ Way more covered areas, for supervised visits in foster care system, for martial arts or dance classes, for get togethers outside our homes and properties. open air restaurants? My Mother in her 70's got to see us for the first time in 13 months today. We froze picnicking at a playground. There should be sanitizer for tables. Camping there was none in toilets at Horne lake, why would the city stop providing sanitizer in a pandemic? Open the washrooms please! My daughters birthday came to an end early when she needed to pee and the toilets where locked at pawson park. We need off leash parks for small dogs. affordable swimming for those of us on low income, affordable. I think we need fires to gather around in groups of six, like at McNabs, that was wonderful!
- ▶ we are doing a good job so far
- ▶ We are strong, and we need to maintain that strength. Do not succumb to pressure to open businesses, be vigilant.
- ▶ We had these huge social issues prior to COVID
- ▶ We have become too afraid of COVID. Shutting down recreation and exercise facilities that service our

elderly and vulnerable populations will lead to increased health risks in these populations. This will in turn lead to negative outcomes down the road.

- ▶ We have to continue personal action to prevent spread of COVID people are getting casual with regard to masks, social distancing etc. So far we have been lucky on Vancouver Island but we have to keep our guard up.
- ▶ We just all have to relax and strengthen our mental health, and we will get through this stronger.
- ▶ We need a bigger hospital. Increase in emergency front line staff – police, fire & bcas. More mental health and addiction workers that are not just for the homeless, we need to prevent others from becoming homeless.
- ▶ We need a larger hospital with more facilities. There should be no need to leave Vancouver island for medical treatment and we all can't go to Victoria because this island is only growing in population
- ▶ We need a separate bike/walk path all the way along waterfront. It gets congested around the coffee shops. Bikers & rollerbladers / skateboarders use this area even though it's posted that wheels are forbidden.
- ▶ We need better infrastructure like 5G and high speed internet to attract young professionals who want to live here but stay connected to the bigger world.
- ▶ "We need better social safety nets that protect the most vulnerable in society at a time like this with a pandemic. These include homeless persons, elderly, low income earners and families. All levels of government have a role to play here.

Access to green space and natural environments are an important way for people to deal with a pandemic or crises that limits social interaction. There are many neighbourhoods where green space is not available or it is not accessible. There are limited trails and facilities to access these areas. We need such infrastructure and a trail system that exponentially increases walkability and protects green space corridors that connect various parts of the city with walkable and cycle-able trails. It would foster community health, mental well being and physical well being, as well as contribute to reducing dependency on carbon-intensive travel. In addition it would provide habitat to urban wildlife and foster the protection of biodiversity.

Build community, foster a sense of common good, neighbour helping each other and those that are vulnerable.

"

- ▶ We need better transportation to and from the mainland. Ferry's running at full capacity is dangerous. Need to fund a walk on ferry to and from the island. This would reduce the capacity on the Ferry terminals. This is my main complaint about the island. We need better transportation.
- ▶ We need health officers to enforce the current restrictions so that we can keep our covid cases down. The number of people in grocery stores etc are not allowing for social distancing. This is keeping me from going out to shop in our community.
- ▶ We need more covered outdoor areas for gathering. Restaurants, coffee shops, bars, parks. Even after Covid, it would be nice to gather outdoors even in winter.
- ▶ We need some outdoor programming for little kids. I'm very eager to enroll my daughter in soccer (she's a toddler). I feel that with proper measures put in place (limited number of attendees, classes outdoors, hand washing/sanitizing station) we can bring back some programming for children and families. The amount of child to child interaction would be no different than having playgrounds open really

- ▶ We need to be less fearful, yes this COVID is real, but any other time that we have had real viruses, flu etc that can kill us, we didn't close everything, make people wear mask, or they cannot shop. I can no longer go to Woodgrove Mall because I can't handle wearing a mask for long time, so now I shop at stores that don't require masks. We need to build our immune system not constantly hand sanitizer, also disagree that some stores have made me put this on, in order to enter, this should be a personal choice, glad on voting day, that my rights were respected and I didn't have to use it, how terrible that could have gone, if I lost my right to vote due for not wearing mask, or sanitize an very glad it was my choice. I have friends and family that are constantly sanitizing and they get sick lots, I only used the hand sanitizer once because in order to buy something for my phone I had to, or I wasn't allowed to enter. I since decided if all places become this way, I guess I will have to shop online unfortunately.

- ▶ "We need to continue life while we implement recommended health measures that take into account the context of COVID risks in our mid-island area. I'm happy to see businesses putting creative effort in being able to open up while adhering to social distance measures. I was so angry with the "one size fits all" mentality of the early COVID days. Case in point: Newcastle Island (Saysutshun) totally closed, mooring buoys even (what better social distancing than on one's boat??). No setting foot on the island to walk the miles of almost-always empty trails, no kayaks allowed on its remote beaches, \$ spent on signs threatening fines (when could have been made on overnight mooring charges). In short, it was completely covidiotic. Bureaucracy and in-the-box thinking at its worst.

Bring back the Downtown Market next Spring/summer! I'm sure there are creative minds to set it up in a way that minimizes COVID risk for vendors and patrons. "

- ▶ We need to do more to encourage local farming, farmers market, food grown in public spaces and parks. More active transport options to help people stay active when gyms, pools and rec facilities are closed: more bike lanes, more bike trails, more parks.
- ▶ "We need to do more to support our own local resilience in all ways - including food security, supporting small, local business, ensuring there is shelter-rate and supportive housing for people in financial need so they don't slip through the cracks, etc.

Food security is an issue and food banks are a band-aid, but not an ongoing solution to the issues. I suggest Nanaimo become a regional hub for food security which prioritizes production of local food. Having the City of Nanaimo implement a local food policy within its own facilities would be a way to "walk the talk" in that regard and support local farmers financially. "

- ▶ We need to encourage mask wearing. Encourage businesses to require masks. I will not shop unless absolutely necessary in a business that does not require masks. Work on delivery services that are not store specific, but a delivery pool sort of idea.
- ▶ We need to explore more innovative ideas to meeting the challenges and living our lives. Bold leadership seems lacking.
- ▶ We need to find a way to keep our downtown open and vibrant. Roof coverage along Commercial and closure to cars is a possible (temporary) solution to help those businesses that the community has invested so much into over the past 10 years.
- ▶ We need to find a way to protect the vulnerable and still let the rest of life go on as much as possible. All our small businesses need to be allowed to function and flourish in these difficult times.
- ▶ We need to have more, and WIDER sidewalks. There are sidewalks that aren't even big enough for one wheelchair, forcing people into the street, or very close contact. More people are spending more people outside. Also, on streets where a white line serves as a sidewalk, people shouldn't be allowed to park

there. And finally, property owners must clear overhanging/encroaching vegetation and trees, to keep those sidewalks clear as possible, not only to facilitate social distancing, but to improve mobility use.

- ▶ We need to help business owners to operate a community delivery network that facilitates people shopping locally and having their purchases delivered to their door in a more cost effective way for the business person than using networks like Amazon and Skip the Dishes. Personally, everyone is feeling tired and isolated due to COVID. Some outdoor events like the Christmas light decorating being put on by the Newcastle Neighbourhood Association might cheer us up during a different Christmas season.
- ▶ We need to move forward on shovel ready projects that will have an immediate economic benefit like restoring the rail corridor for the use of local Nanaimo residents and all the other communities on the island connecting us all and taking cars and trucks off the highway.
- ▶ We need to stay apart and keep to the regulations. I believe we will have another surge of COVID 19 soon.
- ▶ We need to support and promote locally owned businesses, encourage shopping local, and do something huge to promote downtown shopping --- maybe a night Christmas market?
- ▶ we need to support our small business community, particularly the fixtures of the downtown core. finding safe ways for arts and culture activities to keep going should be a priority
- ▶ We need to work together, to follow public health guidelines, and limit the spread of the virus as much as possible
- ▶ We should always be ready for anything because by the COVID-19 hit weren't expecting to hit this hard but, we are doing a great job at keeping us and our seniors safe.
- ▶ "We should ensure the wearing of masks and social distancing as much as possible in all public spaces. Also there should be opportunities for people to test for covid 19 for travel purposes. "
- ▶ We want to support local businesses but so many have closed or are on restricted hours, better communication might help this. Also, we want to support our local growers, but not always easy or convenient to get to the markets and, if you are on a restricted budget, the prices at markets have to be lower than grocery stores.
- ▶ We will definitely need lots of support for small businesses. I'm not sure what that will look like, but perhaps in some way promoting these businesses so people are aware of their existence.
- ▶ "We'd like to see more flexibility for outdoor dining (sidewalk patio seating) become a permanent fixture in the old downtown core. Let's prioritize people being outdoors rather than prioritizing car traffic. Many European cities support outdoor patios year round, even in Northern climates. Let's get more people on the streets and out of their cars.

Promoting social connections between people in creative ways is essential for our social and mental health. The Port Theatre's Spotlight Series and selling tickets online for affordable theatre is an excellent example of that. Supporting the Arts to thrive in simple ways to expand their online presence will help them. Funding them to enhance their websites, film their performances, advertise and get the word out about what they do will benefit so many people here in Nanaimo. "

- ▶ wear a mask
- ▶ Wearing masks should be mandatory in public indoor spaces along with social distancing
- ▶ We're terrified about going into local businesses because of COVID. But truly, what can be done about that anyway?
- ▶ What we've learned from this is that we are already resilient and civic-minded enough to battle any

adversity, I would hope that in the future we would not shut down the rest of our medical and social facilities, it has shown that we have suffered unnecessary harm and delays in treating many more urgent care needs.

- ▶ what's important here is A visible, strong, municipal presence and support (enforcement?) of provincial COVID guidelines will encourage Nanaimo compliance and support our safety as we stay local in our City. I saw quite a lot of effort in this during last few months.... ie: monitoring in Maffeo park, Queen Elizabeth Promenade felt like Nanaimo was/is doing their best!
- ▶ Where every possible outdoor actives should be enhanced. Increase park sizes where possible, (buy property to increase parks)
- ▶ While COVID-19 is a global, front-and-center concern, we can't let social disorder and public safety take a backseat position to it.
- ▶ Wholesale improvements of IT infrastructure and tax incentives to encourage tech/IT industry to see the benefits of setting up companies in Nanaimo. With more companies allowing for/encouraging working from home/offsite work. It makes more sense for people to live and work here where the cost of living is lower – but we need the best infrastructure.
- ▶ With increased Covid positives increasing it's best to shut down bars clubs, gyms etc. completely for a short period so business can return to normal more quickly. Close the BC boarder from out of province visitors including air travelers. Shop locally rather than ordering from Amazon (during and after Covid. City should do some P.R. on this. Limit shoppers to big box stores. Have them close early.
- ▶ With Social Distancing needed, Setting up things that can be done safely for example drive or walk through halloween/christmas lights in the parks or downtown, fee or donation required (cost recovery).
- ▶ "Women's shelter support.  
Highlight local and Canadian businesses as part of a recovery plan.  
Get citizens out moving by providing ideas for safe and easy physical challenges. Create neighbourhood walking routes for people to explore areas of the city. Every neighbourhood has history.  
Continue suspending tax deadlines. Highlight businesses going above and beyond to keep customers and staff safe.  
Prepare for possibility of increased reliance on animal shelters when people stop working from home. Netflix etc. is still growing. Get the movie/tv business spending more money here.  
Park use is at an all time high. Prepare for continued high use and reduced access to quiet trails(Which made Nanaimo special)"
- ▶ Work on a system for homeless people housing, due to Covid Downtown has become dangerous cause there are more homeless people in the city.this way people can feel safe going for walks and help with their mental health. Analysis on the rent and buy housing, it is unbelievable that apartments are almost as expensive as downtown Vancouver, with a lower quality of living. Sustainable recycling and compost systems/ norms.
- ▶ "Would be nice if the mayor would step up and challenge those that make it difficult for front line workers and others that are trying their best and stepping up. Local leadership that leads by example would be welcomed. Also, Where has the newly re-elected Sheila Malcolmson disappeared to?"
- ▶ " would love to see brick and mortar stores staying open – I don't like shopping online!
- ▶ Zoning flexibility to permit higher density to facilitate development of more affordable housing options and stop bending over backwards to make developers richer. We have the weather for more outdoor

activities let's keep them going and continue to build infrastructure to encourage more outdoor activity.

Q7. Part of REIMAGINE NANAIMO is updating our vision for the future Nanaimo that we want to create. Imagining 10 years in the future, to 2030, describe in a short statement the future Nanaimo that you want to see.

- ▶ Have we reached all the milestones that were addressed in Vision 2020? If not we need to look at those goals and see why and revamp instead of adding more.
- ▶ “- LOWER PROPERTY TAXES
  - more good paying private sector jobs
  - a safe city at all times ( laws enforced )
  - drug addicted criminals nowhere to be seen
  - working poor with good subsidized housing in place
  - homeless with mental illness in safe medical care facilities.
  - homeless by no fault of their own housed and given help with getting Back into regular society.
  - rapid transit from north to south Nanaimo ( old E&N railing )
- ▶ A City that has lots of parks, trails and green space which is good for the overall well being of a community. I would love to see the City look at implementing sections of the Waterfront Trail. It would be such a landmark for the City and would be something that no other community on the Island has.
- ▶ “- A cleaner and a more vibrant waterfront. The walkway is a disgusting area, with dirt, grime, and homelessness... not very attracting to tourists.
  - A high speed passenger ferry to Vancouver.”
- ▶ “- Base level of self-sustainability with regard to food & energy.
  - Highly walkable and bikeable city.
  - Plenty of public spaces, parks, nature lands, and other common lands everywhere.
  - Increasing density using infill and new medium density builds where sensible. For example our many malls are single floor buildings and lots of pavement, these sites are sub-optimal and could be given significant density increases (possibly via density credits achievable by these mall owners purchasing and donating select natural & open land that the city could use for parks/etc).”
- ▶ “- build a larger ice stadium to bring hockey to town
  - concert hall
 Like it was planned years ago! Bring some live to town. Build more jobs for our residents
- ▶ Improvements for sustainable development through reduced car transportation, (connecting Nanaimo to Victoria through light electric rail), increases in greenspace, career opportunities (economic growth, because that means great job opportunities and higher living standards), adopt a leaner, initiative for city employees. We want Nanaimo to be sustainable, convenient, compact and interesting. The most desirable places for living, are those which can ensure all of that!
- ▶ “
  - More available public docking spaces, short term to encourage more visitors to come in to tie up and spend money.
  - More musical events throughout the summer and the winter.
  - More upscale restaurants and hotels to showcase Nanaimo as a point of destination.

When new subdivisions are being built factor in wider streets as well as one green space per subdivision. In 10 years seeing Nanaimo downtown as a point of destination for its vibrancy, outdoor living, musical venues and uniqueness. We have a gorgeous waterfront – let’s bring it fully alive where folks will want to take their visitors to enjoy buskers, music, food, restaurants and meeting up with friends right into the summer evenings.

“

- ▶ “A vibrant, safe and sustainable community enhancing its natural attributes from the life giving ocean to its natural spaces, parklands and trails to the majestic mountains for the enjoyment of its citizens and visitors.”
- ▶ “ the city has changed bylaws to allow TINY HOMES to be parked permanently on properties that are big enough, as well as on farm land in the RDN areas like Cedar and Extension. There are rural Tiny home “trailer parks” as well, where people can live in their own home for a pad fee of less than 400/ month, . Home owners who have a large enough property are allowed to use their property to park a tiny home inhabited by their relatives. The city inspects and issues a permit annually to ensure these spaces are well maintained and environmental laws are followed, but there is no extra property tax to be paid. \*\*The city has also rezoned land into smaller lots and issued building permits for very small houses. This has decreased the need for rental units and singles can finally afford their own home. . This has increased quality of life for many, had an impact on the housing crisis, as well as given low-income people an opportunity to break the cycle of poverty due to high rental costs, and establish a sense of pride in home ownership.  
\*\*to decrease garbage and encourage recycling, home owners can choose to opt for a once-a-month garbage removal option and a “compost-your-own” option (instead of green bin) to save garbage fees. This is fair to the many one-or-two-person-households who do not produce a lot of garbage, and home owners who like to compost for their garden.\*\* The railway tracks, which have been maintained for years at high cost, without any use, are now in use again, and there are 2 trains daily from Nanaimo to Victoria, and back, as a pilot project. The electric train is used by commuters and visitors alike, with stops in Ladysmith/ Chemainus/ Duncan.  
“
- ▶ “. A successful downtown offering a variety of opportunities and experiences – the Chamber’s night markets last year were a wonderful example of an initiative that helped bring the community together and support Commercial Street merchants in the process  
. Strong commitment to the arts, with a range of performance spaces to support local groups  
. An urbanscape noteworthy for innovation in development, traffic management, etc  
. An active and well thought through plan for ecological and environmental sustainability  
. Effective and multi-layered support for individuals struggling to maintain well-being  
. A vibrant harbour that continues to be an economic driver (and hasn’t become a parking lot for leisure boats, as has been the case in so many other communities)”
- ▶ “1) Better policing, lower “accidental” death rate  
2) Safe place  
3) Drug problem under control  
4) Less fraud with indigenous health and services – AKA the entire population of the 6 reserves here”
- ▶ “1) Open drug use gone. Drugs are ILLEGAL and children shouldn’t be taught about needles etc at ages under 12.  
2) actual affordable housing. Most people work minimum wage jobs. Rents are OBSCENE compared to what folks make. Tiny home communities need building as well as mobile home parks. Like myself, I don’t want to have to worry about someone else burning me down(apartments) and i also like to have a yard

space. 1car garages can be turned into a fully functioning 1 person dwellings where 6 can be put into a lot and everyone have a tiny yard.

3) city wide camera system for a safer city.”

- ▶ “1. A balance between industrial, commercial, and retail to encourage a healthy economy, but one which does not result in industrial scale pollution;  
2. Seek opportunities to attract businesses engaged in developing alternative energy solutions that can be marketed broadly;  
3. Encourage alternative transportation methods / discourage the use of single-occupant vehicles  
4.increase public transportation in the City for more frequent and reliable bus services, and ADD cross-town (e.g., more East-West) options for true convenience to users;  
5. Consider the adoption of smaller busses for many of the routes, particularly clean fuel vehicles, to reduce the excessive use of large vehicles where not needed;  
6. Apply more consideration to transportation issues before approving new urban developments – reduce traffic congestion, pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions that so often accompany new developments;  
7. Enforce the laws of our governments to reduce the amount of careless activities that have resulted in so much of the “entitled” nature of many of our citizens – this will positively impact on the efforts the City is making for a vibrant and healthy community, will reduce injuries, damages, crimes, costs, and anxieties.”
- ▶ “1. A beautiful downtown area where cruise ships come in and tourists have easy walking access to designer shops and boutiques. This would mean a whole face lift for the area south and south east from Commercial Street. This area could be a huge draw for tourists coming in from the highway as well as the waterways.  
2. Bike lanes, bike lanes, bike lanes – especially all along Hammond Bay  
3. Please protect the natural areas that we currently have and acquire more land to dedicate to preserving. Specifically focus on areas where natural corridors can be created by saving lands adjacent to already natural lands.  
4. Create a bike trail connection from Ambience over to Glen Oaks and connect that to the Linley Valley. Protect all of the natural forest surrounding that area. Save the forest at the top of Linley ridge.Create trail connections for natural areas.  
5. I understand that building and developing brings money and housing, but it can be done SO MUCH BETTER! Issue building permits on land that has already been developed. Build up, not out. Make bylaws against building on forested, and natural lands. Enforce builders to have to build homes that fit into the natural setting with minimal disruption to nature, instead of clear cutting and throwing a subdivision together. Homes built into nature would sell for more money as well – win win.  
6. Build amenities into communities (on already developed land). For example, Departure Bay has much vacant land as well as land that (to be honest looks terrible) could be repurposed and made sustainable and efficient with a quick pick up grocery store (something small). The field house could be repurposed and built as a community center/small library. We need things that build community but don’t take up natural land.”
- ▶ “1. Build housing for the drug addicted ,complete with a drug rehabilitation program.  
2. Build Senior Residences  
3. Get a bridge built to the mainland.”
- ▶ 1. Easy access for walk on visitors from the ferry to a market area near by, where The Beefeater is. This needs to be assisted/encouraged in development. 2. Footsteps or arrows or animal prints on the sidewalk from the ferry terminal to the harbor walk starting where the floating homes’ were supposed

to go and all the way to the boat basin. 3. Owners of derelict, abandoned buildings/property ..clean up and enhance/rent out/grant out their space or taxes on their property will escalate. 4. Color! A blast of color on our commercial buildings will attract visitors, color or murals or both. Give grants for this. Look at San Miguel D'Allende in Mexico, beautiful, warm colors attract people. The Thurs. night markets were a hit in the past two summers. There were people, color, music, shopping, crafts. It was beautiful to see. 5. Beautification from the province for our Hwy 19 boulevards, not weed filled intersections. Hanging colorful banners as close as allowed to these entrances to the city center to entice travelers to stop. ( I speak from having traveled across Canada and northern USA, seeing numerous towns, villages, cities. Color, beautification and good signage is important to make me want to stop as well as art, crafts, history.) I love the new paint and messages on some of the sidewalks down town and didn't I hear classical music near Diana Kraul square? Good idea, no Great idea. 6. Westwood Lake will have a clean spacious new change/washroom building and a safely developed playground for children. Sandy beaches will be raked regularly, cleaning away goose droppings making it safer for children to dig and play in yearly replenished sand. Well that's all for now. Thanks for the opportunity to expound on my ideas.

- ▶ "1. Locals feel safe and cared for (homelessness taken care of, crime decreased, social services priority, mental health support).  
2. Locals experiencing best of Nanaimo (ocean, mountains, shops, restaurants).  
3. Visitors get to experience what locals love "
- ▶ "1. More public transit  
2. Work with community associations to develop areas in the city that people can access everything they need in their day to day, without needing to travel across the city (which will hopefully help reduce road congestion)."
- ▶ "1. Vibrant downtown.  
2. Our streets classified according to the Woonerf concept.  
3. Community/ Neighbourhood associations required to have an AGM/ election/ membership in order to be deemed credible to speak for their community  
4. Comments from these Community Associations included in all planning reports to council.  
5. Vehicular transportation up Mount Benson."
- ▶ "10 years from now, a more vibrant downtown is necessary. It needs to be pedestrian friendly with links to the harbour and expand to nearby neighbourhoods.  
Avoid obstructing views of the harbour etc by multi-story buildings, as already seen along Front St and nearby streets. More housing is needed in the area and careful design will be needed so the beauty of the downtown is saved.  
Elsewhere in the city, more commercial/residential shared areas are needed to provide interesting neighbourhoods. Walk-ability is very important. We need to avoid strip malls and franchises, and large malls."
- ▶ 2 things will keep me here. The first is a subsidized foot ferry from downtown Nanaimo to downtown Vancouver so I can experience culture that is unavailable in Nanaimo without the expense of staying overnight, which I can't afford to do and therefore miss out on. The second is to extend the walkway from downtown to Departure Bay and encourage restaurants and other businesses to maximize our beautiful waterfront.
- ▶ "5G is not allowed in the City, keeping it a healthy place to live. Protected bike and pedestrian lanes so you can travel safely throughout the City. Oceans, rivers, lakes and nature areas are cleaned up and restored - marine life is flourishing, rivers have salmon spawning. There is a vibrant waterfront gathering place that has a lively vibe and is always a fun place to go. The waterfront walkway is complete and incorporates a dogs offleash area attached to it and a beach volleyball court beside a pub. The street

population has been eliminated/greatly reduced because needy people have affordable homes, mental health and drug addiction treatments they need and the criminal element has been jailed. There are one or two brand new, state of the art high schools with excellent sports, arts and science facilities. It is a hub for sports team tournaments and outdoor sports enthusiasts – a getaway from Vancouver. My kids are working at good jobs and own their own homes. There is ample park space and lots of single family homes still for room to breathe.

“

- ▶ “A beautiful and developed, extensive waterfront, with more restaurants and patios. Clear and well-kept hiking, walking and biking trails. More jobs with a fair living wage. Foot passenger ferry to the mainland. More contemporary stores, shops and markets. Shuttles or public transportation up and down the island and to the airport. Mental health and community support for those who need it most. Transportation and walkways for all abilities. “
- ▶ A beautiful and vibrant Departure bay (enough with the neglected buildings already), a walking trail from Departure Bay to Maffeo, green space (quit catering to the three developers in town) and an ease in traffic
- ▶ A beautiful city with lots to enjoy outdoors as well as great shopping and dining options, affordable housing, and resources and supports for vulnerable population.
- ▶ A beautiful city, safe with no drug/homeless issues. A long seawall going at least from downtown to departure bay with people walking, running, cycling etc. similar to Vancouver. An expanded and upgraded beach downtown full of families. Lots of tourism related business around the downtown. Lots of access to go around without cars, the pathway along island highway has been upgraded and is now attractive and nice to walk on. Now when people come out of the departure bay ferries they have a great Image of Nanaimo and want to stay and visit. Also there is a passenger only (no car) ferry going to downtown Vancouver everyday several times a day for workers and tourists.
- ▶ A beautiful, vibrant and healthy community where the residents and their families can thrive and tourists enjoy visiting.
- ▶ A city connected by green and blue. Waterfront walkway from reserve to departure bay. clean and fresh air to breathe.
- ▶ A city full of life but based on sustainability.
- ▶ A city known for its natural beauty, with a plethora of accessible parks, hiking/biking trails, mini communities instead of strip malls, less dense but more mixed residential, and forward thinking approach to climate change. Similar to how Cumberland rebuilt their city by preserving their land.
- ▶ A city of affordable and attractive living and recreation spaces; a city that has preserved its heritage and downtown (do we really need all these malls- would it not be more attractive to develop mini-downtowns in some of the neighbourhoods?), a city that has not allowed overdevelopment and elitism to overtake the waterfront, a city that supports diversity.
- ▶ A city offering professional diverse job opportunities and affordable places to live. Expand harbourfront access to parks, boardwalk, beach area. More vibrant downtown, revamp area around library. These buildings and concrete are ugly! Encourage smaller local shopping that folks can walk to instead of driving.
- ▶ A city on the leading edge of sustainability and equality.

- ▶ A City that retains the character of its old neighbourhoods through strict design regulations while providing affordable housing through the repurposing of old housing and the building of subsidized off market housing. I want transportation that focuses on transit and bikes not cars. An expanded public waterfront that can be walked from Departure Bay to the Nanaimo River Estuary.
- ▶ "A city that actively welcomes and celebrates diversity.

A place where low income people with many children can find and afford home rentals.

A community that actively uses community gathering spaces.

A city that has transformed the ugliness of the Hwy 1, Terminal, Island Hwy North shopping mall and strip mall hell beside a railway track with ditches and green spaces (ditches) that are poorly maintained to a beautiful road that looks like you are driving through a forest and verdant green space. (The occasional mall popping out is fine.) Transportation on this road is enjoyable and in keeping with the vision of a sustainable city in a beautiful island setting. "

- ▶ A city that celebrates its heritage, pedestrian orientated downtown, less Mall Sprawl.
- ▶ A City that cleaned itself up. Got rid of the drug addict and homeless crisis, but more importantly, a leader in climate emergency action.
- ▶ A city that even more than today, lives up to the vision of being a hub city for VI. Also, a city that offers more tourist opportunities to retain some of the people who would normally just drive through. Waterfront, foreshore and forest / trail ideas are ones on which I think the city should concentrate.
- ▶ a city that focuses on the wellbeing of everyone, including the indigenous communities rather than developing/sprawling housing for developers and the wealthy. More social enterprise focused on a welcoming open community. A variety of housing with co-op housing, mixed use, and rental that is affordable in the walkable/bikeable radius of town.
- ▶ A city that has a healthier, bigger, busier and brighter downtown. A city that is a welcoming and lovely place for performing arts, and is attractive to touring acts. A city that continues to invest in park and waterfront development, as well as continuing to seek and implement innovative and forward thinking strategies to eliminate homelessness.
- ▶ A city that has embraced its natural areas and systems, and their ecological functions as critical to adaptation to climate change and community resiliency.
- ▶ A city that has less traffic congestion, air pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions, because most people are using the excellent public transit system, cycling or walking.
- ▶ A city that has parks everyone can use, lots of tourism, and protected heritage neighbourhoods.
- ▶ A city that has safeguarded it's natural spaces, cared for each other and worked cooperatively with other levels of government
- ▶ A city that has stopped growing.
- ▶ "A city that has Sustainable and renewable neighbourhood energy projects ( wind, solar etc.). A city that pays rent to the Snuneymuxw nation to acknowledge the fact that we occupy unceded lands. A city that collaborates with Snuneymuxw on fronting Indigenous culture, place names, historical events, places etc (like changing the name of Chase river). A city that has or is planning playgrounds, meeting areas, and community garden space in all neighborhoods. A city that encourages alternative transportation, (car shares, bus bikes to take kids to school, better bus routes). A city in which no one is homeless, where

being homeless is not criminalized and one that actively pursues mental health and addiction treatment and accommodation. Where the city actively pursues partnership with groups and resources to solve the problem, tiny houses built by VIU construction students etc.

“

- ▶ A city that is abundant in locally produced food and goods, encourages green transportation and has a vibrant downtown that is walkable and free from automobiles.
- ▶ A city that is beautiful and welcoming, full of opportunities and places that family and friends can embrace cultures and the outdoors. Downtown will be bustling and the waterfront will be utilized by all and not simply for rich land-owners. Paths and bike lanes will provide walking and cycling connections to access all of Nanaimo's attractions but also will provide key connections so individuals can commute. Transit connections and frequency will be increased so that more individuals opt to bus instead of drive.
- ▶ A city that is built for residents and families and not tourists. Tourists want to visit places with a strong sense of self. I would like to have my friends and family come visit us and see the ocean, biking, walks, hikes and beaches and culture (first nations, art, music).
- ▶ A city that is free of crime, pan-handlers and traffic congestion.
- ▶ A city that is full of life. Uber could be a thing! Lots of music, entertainment, dreams of being better. A downtown where you don't have to feel bad kicking the homeless dude off your work doorstep at 9am!
- ▶ “A city that is fully accessible and safe to Bike through. If Vancouver can do it, so can we!”
- ▶ A city that provides for opportunities for all age groups in a fair and equitable manner
- ▶ A city that remains affordable in terms of housing, that has some increased density, that has supportive housing spread throughout the city and all city neighbourhoods
- ▶ A city that supports and encourages local agriculture, food production and distribution.
- ▶ A city that transitioned from housing retirees to welcoming families.
- ▶ A city where there is no homelessness, where walking and cycling trails weave throughout the city and along the waterfront. Where the city has planted food producing trees, where there are more food forests and food producing areas - roof-top growing, community gardens, community greenhouses. Where eco-friendly living options exist and are promoted.
- ▶ A city with a thriving waterfront that welcomes walkers and bikers (instead of just cars).
- ▶ A city with accessible natural areas, varied shopping and dining opportunities, locally-produced food sources, safe schools, and where interaction is encouraged and facilitated between young and old.
- ▶ A city with actual good public services towards all ages. Better transit with double decker buses/ using the old trains to transport people from Woodgrove- Chase river. More tourism activities hockey arena and better service to the mainland
- ▶ A city with greater focus on protection of the environment, especially our green spaces and waterways, in which all of its residents have affordable housing.
- ▶ “A city with healthy vibrant arts and culture  
A network of interconnected bicycle pathways for leisure and commuting

A home grown healthy food network that encourages sustainable farming and supports future generations of local farms

Neighbourhood community building

A wide understanding of how this community can grow to be inclusive of many cultures

Widespread acknowledgement and respect for Indigenous knowledge and rights

The city as an interconnected member of a west coast cultural network

Adequate support for homeless populations that encourage humane and empowered improvements to their lives and circumstance

Adequate housing that remains affordable to a growing population and is not overtaken by the investment market

Vital interconnections between the Vancouver Island University as a hub for thinking and the City of Nanaimo. I'd love to see partnerships among leading thinkers that can enrich public knowledge and help the city to innovate achieve its key goals such as environmental sustainability and transportation planning.

"

- ▶ A city with no garbage strewn about no unauthorized graffiti on our buildings and the ability to go for walks without feeling threatened.
- ▶ A city with reduced homelessness and no open drug or sexual activity.
- ▶ A city with sidewalks - where people can safely walk around (most residential neighbourhoods don't have sidewalks???) Even the new ones!!!) A city where neighbourhoods have areas to assemble - park/public space with integrated commerce. Departure Bay has begun to try to make this happen (Drip Coffee at the waterfront). Moving away from strip-malls (which are always half-empty) to more mixed residential/commercial - creating spaces for local businesses (not big boxed stores) and more affordable housing options. Wouldn't it be great if elderly could safely walk (on sidewalks) from their homes to a local grocer? Getting exercise, being in community. I wonder how many actually have this option now? A city where new moms can go to a park and have a coffee from a local shop, rather than having to go through a drive-thru (chain restaurant) in order to caffeinate. We have space to do this in Nanaimo. We have beautiful parks, but in most cases you have to drive, it's not safe to walk (especially for the elderly and parents with young children) and once you get there you are disconnected from everything, forcing you to get back into your car if you want or need anything. It's a shame. And a result of some poor planning. We can do better.
- ▶ A city without the high number of homeless. Not sure how we address it as its the climate that attracts people from other parts of the province during the winter months.
- ▶ A clean affordable lifestyle focused on our natural and historical heritage.
- ▶ A clean city that cares about the arts and the working class
- ▶ "A clean healthy and safe city.  
Take the bike paths off the streets and build safe ones through parks, and beside the roads so that non savvy riders like little children can use them safely.  
Mandate more indoor parking, two and three car garages for houses and more spots for apartments. That would be much safer and provide less opportunity for break and enter crime."
- ▶ a clean safe community that RECYCLES EVERYTHING.
- ▶ A clean safe downtown, revitalize the downtown and empty buildings. Talk about Nanaimo's history.
- ▶ A clean waterfront city that takes advantage of the natural beauty. Currently, ugly abandoned buildings line one of the most spectacular views in the world. What a waste.

- ▶ A clean, green, pristine beautiful city dominated by walking and cycling and beautiful gardens, with character neighbourhoods and a pristine regional district, dependent on bicycles, exiles, electric cars and transit for transportation, with the huge transport trucks replaced by the train, and along side the regional train track, a cycling and walking path from Victoria to Port Hardy.
- ▶ A clean, safe city that embraces music, art and a diverse range of restaurants (more on the water too, hello it's right there!). Would love to see a more self sustaining community relying on all the wonderful food our local farmers work hard to grow every year. AND A TRAIN. Please oh god please. Why oh why we have so little trains in this country is beyond me, so beyond me. A train that connected this island would make life so different and so wonderful.
- ▶ A clean, safe city with less social disorder/addiction problems, and with increased recreational facilities and improved traffic flow and downtown parking opportunities.
- ▶ A clean, safe community with great opportunities for work, education and outdoor recreation.
- ▶ A clean, safe, and vibrant community that is aesthetically pleasing.
- ▶ A clean/green and vibrant city that prides itself upon inclusion of all diverse peoples, backgrounds, and ways of life. A place that supports and caters to our youth and elderly, and promotes a healthy lifestyle.
- ▶ A cleaned up and truly vibrant downtown where tourists have a place to go. If and when the cruise ships return make the stores open (as they do in Europe) so they have a place to shop, eat and walk without fear of being hassled or robbed.
- ▶ A cleaned up green city that shows people take pride in it. A city where residents can get the services they need.
- ▶ A cleaned up historical area that will attract locals and tourists.
- ▶ A cleaned up safe city. Homeless problem taken care of not bandaid solutions bring in psychiatric help. To see the city beautified. More tourist attractions such as the potential sea wall idea from departure bay to downtown. Creating a great downtown atmosphere connecting old city with downtown and downtown to departure bay. This I think would bring in a lot of tourists and a lot of money.
- ▶ A closer link built to the mainland connected possibly by fast ferry supported by growing
- ▶ A community rich in outdoor activities so that our children and grandchildren can continue to enjoy nature.
- ▶ A community that has finally embraced a truly sustainable framework. For example, the City / Region has made strategic and timely investments in public transit, active transportation, local food production, restoring degraded natural habitats, and the like.
- ▶ a community that I can get around without driving. Period.
- ▶ A community that is nimble enough to take advantage of the opportunities available through new technology. E.g. new transportation technologies (autonomous/electric vehicles), health care – genome tech, and providing ample opportunities for affordable recreation as we move towards less employment due to increases in robotics.
- ▶ A community that is resilient, self sufficient, caring and compassionate. We need to be ready to take care of each other with the coming shocks of climate change.
- ▶ A community that welcomes diversity and supports people with meaningful work paid or volunteer. A stronger connection to Snuneymuw First Nations and shared leadership.
- ▶ A community with no poverty, and a safe vibrant downtown.

- ▶ A completed waterfront walkway from Departure bay to Downtown
- ▶ A creative, connected and climate conscious coastal community that appreciates diversity and actively works to provide quality services, supports and diversified employment opportunities for citizens.
- ▶ A culturally vibrant and diverse small city with substantial affordable living options and a greatly expanded waterfront walkway/path from Departure Bay to South End and Snuneymuxw community.
- ▶ A culture of Peace and cooperation. A school system and other public facilities that encourage an awareness of religious and cultural differences and, more importantly, similarities, and respect for all – in particular, a place where the population understands the TRUE history of our development including destruction of cultures and natural resources, and has moved to correct attitudes moving forward
- ▶ A destination city for everyone. Cleaner, more small businesses, Vacant and derelict properties developed, attract more industry to the area and generate more jobs possibly higher paying. We are a pass-through for a huge amount of the travellers to and from our island, can we make it more of a destination some how? Promote the beauty, convenience, ultimate-central location for everything VanIsle. Expand our marina to attract more boaters, we could have a massive subsidy program brought in to promote locally made EVERYTHING! This would be a great way to come out of the covid pandemic, setting our community up to be more independent, growing small business, using up smaller existing retail locations. Build a friendlier community that supports itself and each other
- ▶ A destination for healthy green sustainable tourism
- ▶ A destination for tourism and business which offers consumers, neighbours and residents opportunities too co-exist in a sustainable environment. A city centre that optimises public spaces to bring people together to engage in discourse and activities that help to define Nanaimo as a place to live, learn and celebrate the embedded rich culture of the environment, especially indigenous culture. These spaces should be linked with boulevards offering walking and cycling routes taking you from the waterfront to Departure Bay and up to the University. We need to increase the footfall opportunities to bring people downtown, to enliven the area and make it more conducive to residents, students, tourists and businesses. A pedestrians bridge should be built from the waterfront walkway that lands directly on to the Diane Krall plaza and into Commercial street (which should be an extension of this plaza and pedestrianised). If the waterfront is one of our big attractions then it should end in the 'gift shop'!! Also, if we are serious about being in the conference/ convention business then we need to design our facilities accordingly and look to create partnerships with the University. Again, this goes to Nanaimo, truly understanding what it wants to be when it grows up, and getting the community on board with promoting this.
- ▶ A developed waterfront... closure of the casino ..... a cleaned up downtown..... less homelessness and drug use
- ▶ A diverse and vibrant community that grows intentionally and uses smart and green infrastructure, but doesn't fall to the extreme unaffordability of Vancouver.
- ▶ A diverse city that is accessible to everyone and easy to get around.
- ▶ A diverse community that is the meeting point between the world and the chill, beautiful Vancouver Island. A destination with so many other destinations in arm's reach.
- ▶ A downtown area that we would feel safe to walk around
- ▶ A downtown revitalized, with no empty derelict buildings, thriving small businesses, lots of parking, more plants, and no heavy drug users and homeless people having to live in the streets.
- ▶ A Downtown with pedestrian only cobbled streets and cafes and shops that spill out. The Downtown

would make a great place for cruise shippers to go for a stroll... A beautiful, European style destination fit for glossy brochures.

- ▶ A downtown you can actually walk around without fear of harassment. A modern recreation center with arena.
- ▶ A dynamic city with a plan for growth, opportunities to learn and find a range of quality employment without having to move to Victoria or Vancouver.
- ▶ A free transit system that travels throughout/around the city. More places for people to visit for example museum and galleries. If homeless people are a problem give them places to go.
- ▶ A fully functioning downtown core that is safe and supports retail & entertainment for extended hours. Relocation of homeless and itinerant population to designated areas for treatment, rehabilitation and life skills training. A thriving tourist hub that will not surprise international visitors in a bad way, upon their first visit.
- ▶ A fun and family friendly place to live. Conscious development means that neighbourhoods are connected and make sense with close by amenities. Preservation of the beautiful parks that distinguish Nanaimo
- ▶ A future where there are no single use products like plastic shopping bags, straws or coffee/drink cups. Where there is a reduced number of homeless people, and more support facilities for those with mental health or addiction problems. And where female hockey has grown so there are more options for girls.
- ▶ A green active city with interconnecting bike & walking pathways that will help with climate change & keep our residents mind & body healthy.
- ▶ A green and sustainable city that is affordable, inclusive and diverse, that provides opportunity for all, that cares and supports all its dwellers' (both human and natural) well being
- ▶ A green city designed to promote community cohesion, cultural engagement with our First Nations founders & leaders, and a variety of housing options/ affordability.
- ▶ A green city that supports citizen's efforts to lower carbon footprint via solar panel subsidies, green public transit and plentiful EV charging stations, while prioritizing public spaces, such as parks, trail networks and community gardens.
- ▶ A Green Socialist Utopia. But I'll settle for a city with a heart and a populace with a sense of common purpose.
- ▶ A green sustainable city with cultural neighbourhoods that have mixed demographics.
- ▶ A green, community friendly city that offers a viable and affordable alternative to the expensive urban hubs of Vancouver and Victoria.
- ▶ A green, sustainable city with cycle lanes, parks and community amenities with good access to health care.
- ▶ A green, sustainable, thriving community for my daughter to grow up in, the way I felt growing up here in the Dover community, but that feeling all across Nanaimo.
- ▶ "A heart between the ocean and mountain that sustainably connects people and places.
  - sustainability: ecological, economical, long-term
  - connection: public transit, infrastructure, safety
  - places: tangible and intangible"

- ▶ A high speed ferry allows for increased tourism. Downtown hotel and convention centre are attractive for large business events. People are able to access medical treatment in Nanaimo rather than going to Victoria or Vancouver.
- ▶ "A housing base that reflects the economic makeup of the population. Great bike paths which will also encourage a major eco tourism industry like in Quebec. City managed affordable housing for our most vulnerable. "
- ▶ A large hockey arena, hopefully not paid by the city. More recreational space and more tourist attractions. Also we need to push for the province to fix the parkway and add overpasses. Also for nanaimo not to be a hot spot for homeless across Canada to gather in free housing.
- ▶ A leader in climate action. Not afraid to take big, drastic steps!
- ▶ A lively downtown that has been cleaned up and one feels pride in. The homeless situation moved to a less desirable location. The downtown waterfront expanded with more shops and restaurants, and the area from the ferry docks to downtown cleaned up by removing aging, boarded up buildings and replacing with restaurants and shops. A grandville island type of area either in the area by the boat docks or on Newcastle island, offering free public transportation.
- ▶ A longer beach front walkway / bike lane with restaurants and green spaces to picnic with your family.
- ▶ A lot of commercial activity is centered on North Nanaimo, which leads to excessive traffic. Some commercial development in the south would remedy that. However, see comments re the Sandstone project above.
- ▶ A massive influx in population, people streaming in from all over the country, and elsewhere, and snatching up waterfront/view property. The city needs to make its green initiatives clear to new comers with a must more versatile and consistent cycling and walking and public transit plan. They need to think, "if I'm going to live in Nanaimo, I won't be driving much anymore."
- ▶ A medium sized city with no highway running through it connected by a world class system of sidewalks, bike lanes and transit services.
- ▶ A more attractive downtown; appealing, pedestrian friendly streetscapes; better maintained properties; light industrial/technical businesses and services moved out to an industrial park
- ▶ A more developed and vibrant downtown with more trails and access to the waterfront. More affordable housing options for low income families. Continued preservation and access to nature, parks, and trails. Continued economic development and job creation.
- ▶ A more energy efficient and less fossil fuel reliant city.
- ▶ A more green and humane place for all kinds of people to enjoy the natural beauty and abundance of this land.
- ▶ A more sustainable future for Nanaimo! Let's be a community that makes big and small decisions based on economic and environment factors to ensure we are building a smarter, greener City
- ▶ A more tourist friendly area
- ▶ a more walkable waterfront from departure bay to downtown
- ▶ a much more dense and developed old city centre, less housing sprawl in the outer city and more focus on building up and revitalizing the beautiful heritage buildings of the downtown core
- ▶ A much more walkable and bike friendly city.
- ▶ A n open and diverse town with opportunities for everyone from child to senior. This includes better job



opportunities (keep the talent), good schools, affordable housing, maintain or increase parks and green space and carefully monitor commercial and residential development,

- ▶ A Nanaimo in which 50% of commuters use public transit for most of their transportation needs.
- ▶ A Nanaimo of 15 years ago
- ▶ "A Nanaimo that learned from the mistakes of the past and made serious improvements to social programs to deal with homelessness, poverty, wealth disparity, gentrification, systemic racism, a failing mass transit system, etc...etc..."
- ▶ A Nanaimo where drugs and associated crime has been abated, mental health and homelessness has been addressed,
- ▶ A Nanaimo where everyone feels welcome, has adequate housing, work, and a healthy and active, safe lifestyle.
- ▶ A Nanaimo where fewer people need to own cars. More people work from home or have better commuting options.
- ▶ A Nanaimo where it is much easier to ride bikes than to drive a car to school or work. Where the parks are well funded and well cared for. Where the hospital is a place where we trust the care we receive and we get timely care. My son says he sees a Nanaimo that is all electric and that shuts down the oil companies which jives well with my craving for more quiet! Lots of green space!
- ▶ A Nanaimo with a vibrant downtown area. The waterfront is so beautiful it would be nice for that to be taken advantage of. It would be nice if there were more thriving small businesses in the downtown area to attract people. I hear about people moving to Nanaimo all the time it would be nice if the downtown area could be an area for people to walk around and shop.
- ▶ A Nanaimo with LOTS of Greenspace, an excellent public transit system, free post-secondary education for all, youth, and seniors representation on City Council (perhaps a designated space for both youth and for seniors.), focus on Green Building and both affordable and supportive ("Housing First") housing.
- ▶ A Nanaimo with lots of high-paying industrial jobs in green industries, such as hydrogen production and distribution, solar and wind equipment manufacturing, and value-added wood manufacturing such as mass timber products.
- ▶ "A Nanaimo with more density and walking biking friendly, that has more interconnected parks and trails for its entire length of sprawl and more town/village square design in clusters.

And one more thing: fix / naturalize and connect to surroundings, once and for all the wasteland that is Diana Krall Plaza. Hint: Victoria's Bastion Square!"

- ▶ A Nanaimo with some affordable rental apartments, but mostly low density neighborhoods with no high density/high rise condos and townhouses. More rec Centers, green, sustainable infrastructure, recruitment of more family doctors.
- ▶ A nanaimo with the homeless problem under control.
- ▶ a nanaimo without homeless camps, where these people are transitioned and empowered to contribute to common societal goals... where the general public are also empowered to be an actual society.
- ▶ "'-A national leader in tackling drug abuse and poverty  
-Lively, vibrant downtown supporting small business owners and drawing tourism  
-Affordable and safe housing for all"

- ▶ A nature-loving city that takes care of our most vulnerable citizens (i.e. seniors, people without homes) with compassion and care, and engages in meaningful reconciliation actions with the Snuneymeux Nation.
- ▶ A new park at 103 Lotus Pinnatus Way. 30 km/h speed limit on neighbourhood streets. More walkable neighborhoods – improved infrastructure along busier streets, and livable neighbourhood streets where it feels safe and welcoming to walk or bicycle. A diverse array of housing (and more affordable). A minimum grid of protected bike lanes in south / central Nanaimo. A bridge to Sayutshun. A natural waterfront park for the south end neighbourhood. A vibrant, more pedestrian focused, downtown. Pedestrian focused neighbourhood commercial centres . An increase in protected heritage buildings – especially in the old city quarter (the old school on Selby) and the south end (more protected houses in the Haliburton area). Allowing gentle density throughout the city. Excellent public architecture. Formalization and improvement of trails through Colliery Dam and a new access point off Howard (or close to it). Improved sense of community at the neighborhood level. An equitable distribution of parks and playgrounds throughout the city. Improved public art. Less dog shit in city parks. Bus Rapid Transit linking a sustainable Cable Bay development in the south up to a redeveloped Woodgrove Mall urban node in the north end. Active transportation infrastructure along the edge of the Nanaimo River Estuary through the Sandstone development to Cedar Road. A very large new waterfront park at Cable Bay. A walkable neighbourhood in Hammond Bay. A new park on the Nanaimo River at a location suitable for swimming. A forested park lit after dark. More concession facilities (food and beverage) in some parks. Allowing alcohol consumption in some parks. Some covered and lit playgrounds. Restoration, improved access, and park designation for underused natural areas along the Cat Stream. Trails expanded into the west marsh at Buttertubs. Less giant lot size minimums for rich people ('rural character'), more choice for letting people live where they would like to live while reducing driving subsidies (I know this is a bit contradictory.... maybe the NDP will change the LGA to make this more feasible?)
- ▶ A new playground at Departure Bay. More cafes and shops, or community spaces that make Departure Bay feel like a community (similar to the Shipyards in North Vancouver or Olympic Village in Vancouver). Nanaimo's downtown is lacking in a huge way so I'd love to see other areas get a better community feel so there's an area for my kids to hang out as teenagers. The trails are amazing here but the choices for mom's to take their kids and hang out is limited. I'd love Nanaimo to feel more homey. I also believe the homeless and drug use near Old City Midwives is a big problem. How can this be addressed?
- ▶ a nicer and cleaner downtown for the ships and tourist.
- ▶ A nicer waterfront presence, more addictions counselling for addicts.
- ▶ A nurturing community where we see all walks of our community cared for and help given to those who ask.
- ▶ A place culturally and socially connected to its unique location, the water, the land, and the people. It is diverse and resilient and supports all community members equitably.
- ▶ A place for homeless people and more mental health clubhouses. Places for them to go for support, meals, counseling, etc. Keep them off the streets. A beautiful downtown with shops and beautiful buildings, no empty lots and abandoned stores. Better transit, bike lanes and walkway from departure bay to downtown
- ▶ A place people are proud to call home, a place where young people want to be and call home, and a place that is desired to be a part of.
- ▶ A place that has available housing and employment for all residents. We would have proper treatment facilities for those with mental illness and addictions. Transportation would be available to all areas of the city. The downtown would be considered safe by the citizens.

- ▶ "A place that my children can return to. Where they can find good employment and afford to live. Where they can enjoy nature, recreation and culture. Where they can raise their own children. Where these grandchildren can be well educated and enjoy all that Nanaimo has to offer.  
"
- ▶ A place that will attract young people as well as early retirees who want to live a vibrant hub city with plenty of options for entertainment, boutique Shopping and world renowned eateries.
- ▶ A place where city meets nature. I would like to see more conveniences and a cleaner downtown area and old city area that would attract more visitors as well as the preservation of trails and nature. At the moment, I don't see downtown as an attraction, it barely enters my mind as a destination spot in the community. I tend to think about the trails and views that the city offers. When I think of downtown charm I consider Comox. It would great to see a space that carries charm but still has more of a city feel.
- ▶ A place where I can have picnic without getting accused of being a delinquent addict. Maybe a place where I dont have junkies hanging out under my bathroom window all day and night. Just another perk of living downtown.
- ▶ A place where more local businesses are present than chain businesses. Where small business can make a living.
- ▶ A place where more people are confident walking, cycling and using transit than today a place that encourages the growing and eating of local food and recognises the environmental costs of our collective choices, striving to make better choices going forward ; a place that encourages affordable developments that use less energy saving us money in the long run; a place that considers triple bottom line accounting when making decisions because we know that anything else just offloads greater costs onto people in the future.
- ▶ A place where more young families can afford begin their lives and raise their children with fewer barriers to finding full time employment and affordable housing. A city with less urban sprawl and more density and walkable and cycling neighbourhoods.
- ▶ A place where Nanaimo embraces its strengths and works to fixing its weaknesses. It's strength is Nanaimo's proximity to other communities as well as its diverse and overall pristine natural areas.
- ▶ A place where our children will be able to afford to buy homes and stil have a good quality of life
- ▶ "a place where seniors can easily access medical and cultural resources  
"
- ▶ A place where young people and young families can come to work and recreate, with low carbon footprint and sustainable lifestyles. More bike lanes, regular bus schedules with buses that run every 30 minutes or more (so that the schedules are predictable) with continued access to forests and trails on all sides of the city.
- ▶ A pleasant, vibrant community for all age groups,emphasising our natural beauty such as harbour, lakes, and mountains.
- ▶ A proper downtown that reflects its natural beauty. Linked trail systems. Housing developments that pay attention to aesthetics (ie. ban vinyl siding!! it's ugly and not fire proof anyway). Nanaimo has the natural beautiful geography to be a mini Victoria. It has the recreation capacity to keep up with places with Cumberland and Squamish.
- ▶ A properly developed waterfront with accessible walkways and shops.
- ▶ A recreational facility ie pool, gym in Nanaimo north and also a mental health/addiction care facility.

- ▶ A reduction on homeless and drug use And crime. The people are starting to get tired of the homeless thinking they can do anything. Do you know they whistle at night to help eachother steal? How is that not a gang?
- ▶ A renewed downtown with lots of activity for residents and shoppers-- cultural and family friendly events (like the evening downtown market). An improved bus system with several different sized vehicles available and the capacity for customized pick-ups and drop-offs at identified neighborhood locations. Public spaces in all areas of town and increased emphasis on maintenance - more garbage containers and more tending to greenery, supported by community committees. Development of a volunteer culture at city hall, to support civic pride through participation in the city's signature celebrations (bathtub race, silly boats and dragon boat races as well as the VIEX along with new events showcasing the city's diversity.
- ▶ A resilient community, where local and family business can blossom. A community that cares for the mental heath of their participants . A city where new families feel encouraged to own their own homes because the market allows it to be that way so we can build our community for the better. Homeless people may have resources for their addictions and basic needs.
- ▶ A revitalized and perhaps repurposed Downtown and Old City Quarter - the Waterfront is a greatly underutilized gem that needs some attention.
- ▶ A revitalized downtown where we can be proud to show it off to tourists.
- ▶ "A robust biking and public transit infrastructure modelled on what's currently offered in smaller communities on the mainland. They have buses every 10-15 min on major routes so you don't have to rely on a car. There are separated bike lanes and plenty of safe locking infrastructure that encourages a healthy active lifestyle. This would also mean more community gardens to increase food security and encourage education for seniors, homeless, children and youth. This builds communities that are ready for COVID-like disasters since we are self-sufficient by design. Reach out to the folks at Pacific gardens co-housing. There's lots of knowledge there.  
Oh and the eye-sores in the centre of downtown will, let us pray, be rejuvenated into affordable housing, cafes, artist studios or something other than the graffitied burned out embarrassment in the centre of our city."
- ▶ A safe & clean city to live, work, play & raise families in.
- ▶ A safe and environmentally friendly city with supportive housing and social services to deal with homelessness and criminal activity due to addiction
- ▶ A safe and vibrant downtown that people can enjoy. It has such untapped potential and the city needs to help.
- ▶ A safe and vibrate city. With more community events that attract tourism. Kids events. A place for youth and kids to go that have no where else. Like a ymca.
- ▶ A safe city featuring suitable housing for all, with socially supportive neighbourhoods, reduced reliance on fossil-fuel transportation, shared commitment to resolving conflicts.
- ▶ A safe city where everyone takes pride in the city.
- ▶ A safe city without drug houses (tent cities) littering communities and more enforcement on the small percentage doing this.
- ▶ A safe diverse welcoming community.
- ▶ A safe, affordable and GREEN community!

- ▶ A safe, family-friendly city with diverse job opportunities. A leader in drug treatment and mental health supports reducing the impacts of homelessness on business and communities. A city working in concert with its university to encourage research that will help drive future projects and guidelines to be scientifically, economically and socially sound.
- ▶ A safe, thriving, sustainable, diverse + inclusive community. A welcoming place visitors want to come and experience instead of drive through on their way to a different Island destination of choice.
- ▶ A safe, welcoming, vibrant downtown. Increased arts and cultural activities. Preservation of green space.
- ▶ A safer downtown, a more vibrant nightlife, more outdoor healthy activities for kids and teens like the new skate park in Hairwood Park is wonderful
- ▶ A safer more affordable city.
- ▶ A safer more vibrant downtown core and Old City. No street camps such as on Wesley Street. An enriched harbour front and walkway. Pedestrian zones in downtown core with expanded retail and services. A beautiful gateway into the City from the south, not burned out or mullered buildings and lots. Expanded oceanic industries and ports. Various "districts" throughout the City: distillery/brewery district; arts and culture district; gastro district; market and crafts district; marine district; converted Port lands district; entertainment district; historical district; ethnic districts; etc.
- ▶ "A safer, denser and revitalized downtown. A waterfront walk from Departure Bay Beach to Chase River. No more strip malls. A true University Village, which was in the City's master plan, but instead we got another strip mall, Tim Horton's and dollar store. Sidewalks and street lights in Harewood. A Nanaimo Police Department answerable to the mayor that is accountable and actually enforces the law. A leaner City Hall. Lower property taxes. Leave Newcastle Island the way it is. Stop giving developers exemptions like penny candy.

But really Nanaimo circa 2010 would be fine by me. I'm a simple man. "

- ▶ A safer, greener city with a vibrant downtown core.
- ▶ A serious transition towards active transportation infrastructure, a completed waterfront walkway, waterfront condos, townhouses, apartments and floating homes taking place of the scuzzy, ugliness of a waterfront we have now. The cruise ship terminal waterfront area finally developed into useable parkland. Commercial street closed off to cars. A better sense of pride taken on our city infrastructure. Derelict houses, vacant buildings and empty lots developed into thriving businesses and houses. Departure Bay without the polluting ferry terminal, but instead with high density housing coupled with beautiful waterfront parkland, marinas and floating homes and businesses. Lots of traffic calming and enforced lowered speed limits, especially in residential areas.
- ▶ A shift in thinking to a 50 year plan where Nanaimo becomes a destination City due to its position as a transport hub and walkability/bikeability. We should set the example for the rest of Canada.
- ▶ A shift to a friendly, clean and creative community that has texture. It lacks identity, a sense of place and community.
- ▶ A solution needs to be found for the homelessness and drug problem in Nanaimo. It is taking over the city. The sad part is so many of these people aren't from here but it makes sense as climate wise if you are stuck outside in all of Canada this is the place with the best climate for it. Unfortunately, no one seems to have a solution.
- ▶ "A south end Recreation Facility similar to OWCC  
Vibrant Downtown"

- ▶ A strong sense of community with a clean, safe, vibrant downtown.
- ▶ A strong, compassionate, connected community where people are able to access affordable housing, but also programs, supports, and events that enrich their lives.
- ▶ A stronger sense of community with alternative transportation options (ie electric vehicles and bikes) and affordable lifestyle
- ▶ A sustainability focused Nanaimo focused on sufficiency through neighbourhood public utilities generating their own wind and solar power, local waste management beyond burying it south of the city and a robust travel network that may include a revitalized Island Link train or tram system.
- ▶ A sustainable city being a leader in environmental preservation, clean energy and a healthy vibrant city.
- ▶ A sustainable city working to manage the housing problem.
- ▶ A thriving and equitable community that values its natural assets.
- ▶ A thriving cultural community that cares for the needs of those less fortunate. A community that prioritizes green spaces and green practices.
- ▶ "A thriving downtown with culture, shops and restaurants. Transportation avenues need to be addressed. Less traffic lights. The parkway needs to be able to accommodate all the development. Maybe make use of the railway with a train that travels from Chase River to North Nanaimo or beyond."
- ▶ "A thriving, bustling downtown that has people living and working there. Our downtown should be a tourist attraction, not a sketchy ghost town that scares people away. In line with this, improve the aesthetics of the island highway through downtown so it looks less like you're driving through Compton. Overall beautification of our city. Improved public transit, as currently it is near impossible to commute to specific destinations off main routes at any regular interval. Additionally, market our town to millennials in urban centres who want to buy a home and have a yard and be near nature. Having our city attract young professionals will increase our municipal budget, inject our city with culture and energy, and minimize the voices of those who reject progress and want nanaimo to stay the same sad way its been forever.

But it is very important to know that nanaimo is known as Surrey by the Sea basically everywhere in BC and beyond. But we know nanaimo is beautiful, safe, and thriving, so why not get that message out?? seriously, please brand this city better and actually advertise elsewhere. We need more young professionals to move here."

- ▶ a town that has overcome its rough past. A city that isn't in the national news for another dysfunctional reason. a business friendly destination that attracts younger career oriented people.
- ▶ A very clean green and sustainable city without stressing infrastructure.
- ▶ A very green city that is locally sustainable with food and other essential services. More affordable housing for low income and vulnerable citizens. Continuing focus on Truth and Reconciliation. Celebration of racial, gender and cultural diversity.
- ▶ A vibrant and welcoming downtown core. More affordable housing for single people so they don't have to have 6 roommates to have a roof over their heads. Better transit. My pet peeve is how awful the transit system is here. When I moved here from Kamloops (where I lived for 7 years without owning a car) I was quite taken aback by the poor timetabling and scheduling of the buses here. I was forced to buy a car to get to work here as the bus schedule was made by someone who obviously did not take into account the needs of the main users of the system (students and retail workers).

- ▶ A vibrant arts community that supports new and emerging artists in being successful, and encourages new art forms while supporting existing arts initiatives. I think it's a real uphill climb for most artists in our community, and we have a drain where artists leave because there just aren't the opportunities here. I'd like to feel like I have a lot of opportunities as an artist.
- ▶ A vibrant city , with many exciting things to offer . Free language training for anyone that wants to learn a different language. Get passenger train up and running.
- ▶ A vibrant city that can attract and sustain cultural diversity and inclusiveness. A community that protects and promotes the natural environment. Investment in the development of the beautiful inner harbour and seawall, providing connectivity, opportunities for farm market places. Food grown locally. Improved local opportunities for quality, post-secondary education. Work opportunities that provide a living wage and affordable housing for young people.
- ▶ A vibrant city with a bustling downtown. Reduce homelessness, drug issues, crime... Designate more green spaces and improve current green spaces. Invest in street trees. I especially want to see the Millstone River Trail completed. I want to see single-family neighbourhoods protected while nodes see densification. I don't want lots of development on the other side of the highway keep that for nature and rural living.
- ▶ A vibrant city with charm. A bustling waterfront where tourists want to come.
- ▶ A vibrant city with many recreational facilities and programs. A city with a well used multiplex, more pools, ice arenas, skateboard parks etc. A downtown we are proud of, were people come together and are not scared.
- ▶ A vibrant community that has housing for all configurations but not everyone wants to share space with everyone. Some people have worked hard to have a single family dwelling and don't want to not have that option. This will kill Nanaimo as a place to raise a family.
- ▶ A vibrant community that supports arts and creative endeavours while celebrating the natural beauty of the area.
- ▶ A vibrant community well connected with biking trails, thriving local businesses and an emphasis on the natural landscape. A community that has protected wild green spaces, promoted outdoor recreation and healthy lifestyles for all of it's residents.
- ▶ A vibrant community with many accessible (through signage and/or accessible to varying physical abilities) outdoor activity options throughout the city, more options to celebrate our local resources (eg. a small aquarium; a cultural centre celebrating the local Indigenous history and culture), and greater care, understanding, and support to those struggling in life (including when those struggles involve substance use, homelessness, etc).
- ▶ A vibrant community with sustainable businesses, local food production, that is walkable and livable for residents and with less strip malls
- ▶ A vibrant community, safe, law enforcement.
- ▶ A vibrant creative community with housing for all; more walkable friendly and safe streets, paths, parks and neighbourhoods; a thriving downtown and an accessible waterfront for informal outdoor activities as well as formal events and festivals.
- ▶ A vibrant cultural hub with a supported symphony, theatre and dance companies, and affordable venues for community rental. A performing arts school in the conference centre. Thoughtful zoning for tiny houses and tiny house communities.

- ▶ A vibrant downtown
- ▶ A vibrant downtown and properly developed Port 1 space along the waterfront in that area. More useful and multi-level gov't resources targeting not only affordable housing, but the services required to support low-income, addicted and traumatized residents.
- ▶ A vibrant downtown waterfront public development similar to Granville Island that will create employment and support local makers of all kinds while keeping it low rise so no current views are impacted. Businesses, retail and office space can create jobs where people can more easily commute and therefore help our traffic situation which is increasing with subdivisions being built where cars are a necessity. Create more waterfront park space, build or buy the empty Jean Burns property for a multi use area, retail, business, medical professions etc to help revitalize our precious downtown. Don't build more social/supportive housing downtown. We already have shelters downtown that attract people with drug addictions and they create so much crime in the area. Spread these services/housing throughout the city as declared in the Nanaimo Official Community Plan
- ▶ A vibrant downtown where people feel safe. Not letting people, developers or builders construct ugly buildings.
- ▶ A vibrant downtown with bike lanes, truly accessible space for all, free from cars/ trucks. Supported housing for those who need it (parents with kids, seniors, folks with addiction and other issues). Green power for our town: robust public transit, electric run, installed solar and wind power systems. Access to healthy, local food with an established market site downtown. Leadership and input from Indigenous, BIPOC and disabled folks.
- ▶ A vibrant downtown with pedestrian streets, a walkway all along the waterfront to Departure Bay Beach and linked trails to enable safe walking and cycling from one end of Nanaimo to the other.
- ▶ A vibrant downtown with public transportation access options from all parts of the city.
- ▶ "A vibrant downtown. Unfortunately unless the mentality of city management changes, it will never happen. Leadership and vision is totally lacking. We waste money on white elephant projects"
- ▶ "A vibrant downtown.  
A Science World/Discovery Centre type of project, by the water downtown, as discussed already, would be fantastic for Nanaimo families and schools, and would be central for the whole Island. It would attract tourists and give a purpose for travellers to stay a while in Nanaimo, instead of just passing through. The addition of a fast foot ferry to Vancouver, as so often promised, would open up all kinds of interactions (work, tourism, etc.)  
After Covid, all festivals are a great way to unite the community, as well as the Night Market downtown attracted all of Nanaimo.  
A big all year indoor market (like Granville Island), (in the waterfront empty lot by Maffeo-Sutton Park, instead of a highrise building that would hide many people's view, would be perfect), open every day with all kinds of vendors and cultural attractions would be very nice for the population of Nanaimo.  
No empty buildings downtown, lots of small stores, cafes, restaurants, arts, skateboard park in the lot of the old ACME restaurant, farmers market, ... pedestrian friendly downtown :-)"
- ▶ A vibrant downtown/old city area where you don't have to worry about the existing crime and fear from the tent city residents.
- ▶ A vibrant harbour town which embraces the thriving capitalism of local business, with housing costs and a communal social safety net to help people can envision a future for their family.
- ▶ A vibrant healthy community with a focus on local business and local people.

- ▶ A vibrant inclusive city that encourages community instead of being run by realtors and developers who encourage false and unsustainable economic growth. This should consider environmental concerns and equity and justice.
- ▶ A vibrant waterfront. We have an unbelievable opportunity with some of the waterfront here that is mediocre at the moment. Cafe's, restaurant/bars with plenty of open outdoor space mixed with local markets like Granville Island and Lonsdale Quay. Accessed by a pedestrian walkway and small cute train or something that is quick, efficient, and free for residents. The waterfront and downtown core should be the focus. The passenger ferry to Vancouver needs to be a priority and completely subsidized by the city. The city should buy up and develop rental housing in the area of the new ferry in order to provide long term income to support the ferry operations. This rental housing should be market-based, not subsidized, with LOTS of 3 bedroom spaces that encourage families. New community facilities should be built as well near this area. Folks should be able to live here and go to the city conveniently for work.
- ▶ a vibrant, green, sustainable, inclusive community. One where everyone feels they belong and where there are services and supports for all members of our community.
- ▶ A vibrant, rejuvenated old city area with less of a rundown feel. More and better facilities closer to town and south end rather than focusing development on north nanaimo. A sea wall expansion to departure bay. Improvement of departure bay area with well designed sea front buildings and facilities. More and safer cycle lanes and better public transport. More side walks to facilitate more of a walking city.
- ▶ a vibrant, safe community that is open for business
- ▶ A vibrant, safe downtown attracting tourism and local commerce.
- ▶ A vision of the future would include Nanaimo residents cycling around the city on an increased amount of paved bike paths, legally enjoying alcohol in public parks (increased transit and cycling options make this a safe activity), the homeless/drug addicted population has been facilitated in a rehabilitated way (no longer an eyesore to the downtown core), a vibrant downtown core with abundant nightlife and housing possibilities for a low wage earning millennial demographic.
- ▶ A vital downtown with great accessibility for islanders and mainlanders (fast ferry?) Stop the urban sprawl and hire planners that can see the big picture. Complete the waterfront walkway all the way to Departure Bay beach and beyond if possible. Darn Frank Ney for selling off the Hammond Bay waterfront without a plan! Wouldn't it be nice to be able to walk from downtown to Pipers Lagoon and Neck Point!
- ▶ a walkable and bikeable downtown that is safe and fun. A light rail system between South and North Nanaimo!
- ▶ "A Walkable downtown that has Lots of interesting shops and restaurants (no vacant buildings), where I feel safe walking alone in the evening  
A system of multi-use non-motorized parks and trail networks surrounding the town that are maintained through parks funding and agreements with local recreation groups. A system of motorized trails separate from this to help keep motorized users away from non motorized trails.  
More emphasis on bikeability rather than driving - many parking lots are poorly designed (small)
- "
- ▶ a walkable/cyclable city
- ▶ A warm, culturally diverse, medium-sized city with an inclusive and diverse population that values abundant natural spaces and healthy living over unnecessary, single-purpose development.
- ▶ A waterfront city resembling a cooperative rather than a corporation. A place where young people

have visible opportunities to look forward to, seniors can grow old in place without the anxieties of affordability, or fear of default residential care, the dissolution of inward-looking cliques, and tin-pot business cartels. A local voting system electing counselors to neighborhoods rather than on personality and personal interests.

- ▶ A welcoming green city filled with a diverse population. More parks, green spaces and waterfront for all citizens to enjoy.
- ▶ “A well connected system of bike lanes/walking paths and transit throughout the city and into regional district.  
An operational foot ferry connecting to downtown Vancouver  
More new development downtown especially around the cruise ship dock”
- ▶ A well-managed, affordable city, with moderate traffic, lots of green spaces, a beautiful walkable waterfront with cafes, outdoor patios, small shops. Homelessness, drug use, mental health issues should be largely resolved through good social supports. New developments should be required to complement, not detract from, beauty of the neighbourhood
- ▶ A year round farmer’s market facility in the central part of the city. Encourage major housing developers to renovate crap houses in the middle of the city so that those neighbourhoods can improve. Discourage outside developers and use local companies as much as possible.
- ▶ A zero net GHG emission city. Either a usable railway, or a bike/walk trail for the E & N
- ▶ Accessibility, traffic and poor driving are my main issues living here. The city was very poorly developed without sidewalks and areas to walk. There is a huge issue with the homeless population, addiction here now.
- ▶ Accessible and safe bike routes connecting to all areas/neighborhoods, fun and accessible things for locals and tourists to enjoy like a local ale trail, the downtown core to become even more vibrant, colourful and clean.
- ▶ Accessible to nature, thriving city, bustling downtown, pride in neighbourhood, liveable city with strong economy
- ▶ Active and healthy life style facilities for all, but esp seniors
- ▶ active transportation connections between our parks and greenspaces – to bike, walk and run – utilizing the amazing and beautiful waterfront to create a connection between downtown and other neighbourhoods. – mini walkable community hubs.
- ▶ “Actual change and progress. Stop saying “no” to every big idea.  
Look at current assets of the city and re imagine how to make them a draw for tourism and locals. “
- ▶ “Added walkway on waterfront to Departure Bay. Bring in mental health and addiction facility for people to stay and get their lives back or proceed to mental health living centre. Lots of outdoor activities and parks and trails. More recreational activities, dances for 50,s 60,s people to keep healthy. The council to quit forming useless committees, spending money on pet projects without proper tax payer input before decision making and having secretive meetings.  
”
- ▶ Address homelessness, mental health and legalize drugs for the addicted.
- ▶ Address homelessness. There’s a sense that downtown is unsafe and dirty
- ▶ Advocate and include as many indigenous cultural events, preserve historical identity

- ▶ “Affordability for families and low income people. Better planning to protect natural areas. Revitalize downtown to make the most of beautiful waterfront. Improve diversity of cultural activities.”
- ▶ Affordable and available housing. Vacancy is so limited, I lived in AirBnbs for three months before I found a place. Which is basically just leaseless tenancy with no rights and very expensive.
- ▶ Affordable and inclusive. A vibrant downtown where people aren’t “scared” to shop, and also where the homeless aren’t victimized.
- ▶ Affordable and safe living for the law abiding, tax paying majority of the population. Not continually pandering to the vocal minority in this city and in this country.
- ▶ “Affordable homes, a city that is more self-reliant and less reliant on tourism. Roads no longer have potholes. Parks have been protected from the developers and homelessness is fixed, making a day trip to paradise easier.  
I picture Nanaimo as a welcome, homely small city, with only careful development instead of a race to become the next Victoria or Vancouver.”
- ▶ Affordable housing and supports for local small businesses
- ▶ Affordable housing for extended families. Affordable spaces for start up businesses. I want us to be proud of Nanaimo, we are amazing, in spite of our challenges. And please please please don’t let gentrification take over our (down)town. Nanaimo is NOT a retirement community!!!!
- ▶ Affordable housing in “ALL” areas of Nanaimo
- ▶ Affordable housing– not apartments but actual houses for families. Dealing with homeless and mental health and addictions. Recognizing First Nation culture and its history here. Slow development in areas that impact the environment and habitat
- ▶ Affordable housing options for all with programs on-site to support a variety of community needs. Healthy, active and engaged citizens who live in a vibrant city that offers arts, culture, and recreation to its residents and tourists alike. Continued value placed on green spaces so people can enjoy nature and it is preserved. More people using active transit on bikes, walking, scooting, skateboarding, bussing, etc. in parks, trails, and commuter routes. Economic diversity for our youth and children to remain in the City with viable, dependable jobs. Increased opportunities to host sport tournaments, regattas, multisport games, etc. for Sport Tourism.
- ▶ Affordable housing, lifestyles and living wages. Better cycling routes throughout Nanaimo. Preservation of our park lands and accessibility to them.
- ▶ Affordable housing, more accessible mental health and addiction resources, more areas to socialize and gather (cocktail bars, event spaces, etc.)
- ▶ Affordable housing, reduced homelessness, many protected green spaces/large parks.
- ▶ Affordable housing, safer downtown core with small businesses that can succeed. Job opportunities and affordable education opportunities.
- ▶ AFFORDABLE RENTS/HOUSING FOR LOW INCOME PEOPLE.
- ▶ Affordable, a place of innovation and green ideas.
- ▶ Affordable, cleaned up, rehab programs, better traffic dont make nanaimo Victoria
- ▶ Affordable, growing city in physical size and population with ever increasing job opportunities and new

businesses.

- ▶ “Affordable, socially conscience, environmentally Proactive, no “towers” in the city. Cultural diversity, proper services for mental health and substance users, ending homelessness. “
- ▶ All ages and interests being accommodated. More promotion of the arts to create unique spaces. At the museum, there is a video that details options for the city – might be worth another look.
- ▶ all people will have adequate housing
- ▶ Alternative energies, community gardens, initiative for food security, home gardening,
- ▶ Although residential development is very important, we need to balance this with adequate recreational green space to encourage local activities.
- ▶ Amenities and necessary goods coexist with existing wilderness/nature in all neighbourhoods with main modes of transportation being walking/cycling/other people-powered devices. No gas cars at all – only electrical/other energy-efficient or climate friendly options.
- ▶ Ample environmentally friendly public transit, walking and bike routes. More higher density on existing residential lots allowing for multi-generational housing for families. More preservation of existing parks, trails, wild spaces. More outdoor recreation opportunities, pickle and volley ball courts. Another frisbee golf course, more skateboard parks, basketball courts, and another outdoor pool with a longer season (it is warm enough here to expand the outdoor season)!
- ▶ An accessible waterfront city with pathways stretching from Departure Bay to Chase River
- ▶ “An active city with life and vibrant colours. Lots of things to do to keep people interested and active. Something that would attract tourism. Something unique on the waterfront.  
”
- ▶ An active healthy city that is a leader in providing alternative energy living.
- ▶ An affordable place to live for all, not overtaken by Mainland retirees.
- ▶ An affordable safe place to live
- ▶ AN Art Centre; affordable theatre opportunities; better city building plans(there are too many poorly designed strip malls, with many remaining empty). Neighbourhoods where you can safely walk to shops. No homelessness. More stringent controls on building developers so that they construct aesthetically pleasing, quality & affordable buildings.
- ▶ An attractive city known for its green spaces, cultural diversity and cultural activities. A city that has overcome its old image as a hard-edge working class community with lots of poverty and crime.
- ▶ An attractive city that tourists are not afraid to visit. Affordable housing and childcare. Green city.
- ▶ “An culturally rich and diverse community that is friendly, welcoming and provides opportunities for all ages and backgrounds.  
”
- ▶ An environmentally sustainable city with a strong sense of community.
- ▶ “An improved downtown.  
Lots of nature preserved and public parks accessible to all.  
Everyone has proper access to mental health professionals including but not limited to psychiatrists, counselors, psychologists. “

- ▶ An inclusive and diverse city with a vibrant downtown and affordable housing options for all.
- ▶ An inclusive, green, walkable, bike able, affordable, an income-diverse town that provides ample opportunities for people of ALL ages to stay where their planted (if they want), find affordable housing, take advantage of the city's services. Right now, this city primarily serves those who already have significant capital or are moving to the Island from other more expensive markets. What about life-long Islanders? What about our youth? Where will they go as cost of living keeps rising? Who will build and sustain this community over time if we continue to only attract and retain wealthy retirees???
- ▶ An inclusive, welcoming seaside city that specializes in the arts, sports, and economic growth of small locally owned businesses.
- ▶ An increasingly connected community where our institutions – city / schools / VIU / businesses / cultural groups work together on common issues. A downtown that has recovered from Covid and other recent challenges and regularly draws people from the whole city for culture. A place that has lots of options for getting around and lots of different types of homes to meet everyone's needs.
- ▶ Ana affordable, inclusive, family-friendly and vibrant waterfront city that sets the standard for tackling homelessness and drug addiction.
- ▶ another pool, more/better bike lanes
- ▶ ANYTHING to prevent the on-going Class distinctions of the areas that we live in – a more cohesive and caring society.
- ▶ “Appropriate care facilities for the mentally ill and the drug addicted would transform this city.  
”
- ▶ “As a resident of the City and the Protection Island Neighborhood, I would really like to see 1. the City work with the Port Authority to develop a community usable dock that would support vehicles so that residents could load and unload boats. This is our main transportation and logistics and right now there is no access without paying for it. It is back breaking as a father, trying to transport all the items a family needs to and fro.  
2. I would also like to see an effort to provide community moorage on Protection Island we are in dire need of safe, moorage space. As for moorage on the Nanaimo side, I would like to see a dedicated secure space for boats from residents of Protection Island.  
3. I would also like to see safer parking for resident's vehicles as the parkades are not.  
4. Better garbage and recycling facilities that are clean and accessible to all residents.  
5. I also think there needs to be a storage location on the harbor so that our island residents can store bicycles as it is impossible to carry a families bike across everyday but bike theft is too risky in the harbor.  
”
- ▶ “As an artist, I am very pleased with the temporary sculpture program. This makes visits to Nanaimo a nice experience. However, I believe that Nanaimo should create a massive sculpture that would draw people from Victoria and the surrounding island. Something on the same scale as the horse sculptures east of Edinburgh, Scotland. Such a sculpture would make Nanaimo a place where anyone coming over to the island would simply “Be a Must” to include in their itinerary. It would put Nanaimo on the map and generate millions of dollars for the island as well as for Nanaimo. The temporary sculpture program is great. But it does not draw people to Nanaimo to see them. The kind of sculpture I am talking about would be a huge magnet to Nanaimo. I would propose something in the \$3million dollar range and be approximately 150 feet tall. The draw would generate ten times that in one year alone. My son and I would create such a piece.”

- ▶ As detailed above... better shopping. A splash pad/community area for families.
- ▶ As we live in a climate that receives minimal snowfall, I would love to see increased bike paths to encourage bike commuting. Would also like to see the expansion of parkland (purchase from logging) and support the already developed recreation areas such as South Benson bike trails.
- ▶ Ban all backyard burning including fire-pits. Do everything to improve air quality. Control cats running loose, killing birds and pooping in gardens. Address homelessness.
- ▶ Beautifully situated on the water, Nanaimo is one of the best examples in B.C. of a culturally vibrant, environmentally conscious, green city.
- ▶ Become a true leader in dealing with the struggling population by giving them meaning in their life. Help people become useful and contributing members of our city.
- ▶ Become much more pedestrian friendly including greater security from criminal activity resulting from drugs and the so called homeless element.
- ▶ Being able to enjoy the waterfront and wonderful parks
- ▶ Being able to walk downtown on side streets without walking on the railway
- ▶ Being able to walk through the downtown and waterfront without worry for personal safety
- ▶ "Being realistic three things:  
-A solution for the homeless & crime  
-Finish our waterfront walkway  
-More pickle ball indoor courts "
- ▶ Best access to diverse employment and housing through inclusion of First Nations governments and cultural revival. Should be a showcase of peace and community free of racism and bigotry.
- ▶ Better and more timely access to city services. Curb the insatiable spending to keep our city an affordable place to live.
- ▶ Better access to major thoroughfares; reduction in the homeless population (and the consequences of having areas for the homeless); if we indeed have an increasing number of homeless, then they need better and more access to mental health; which leads to increased funding for police to deal with the crime involved we NEED a seawall that connects from Departure Bay to the BC Ferries at Port Place Mall!! This has been far too long in coming! It would help tourism, and give Nanaimo a great name for even a more beautiful ocean and walkable city!
- ▶ Better access to nanaimo's waterfront, a safe and bustling downtown, more services to south end. Improved streetlights, sidewalks/bike lanes developed. More ways for community members to meet. Less garbage/litter, pride in our neighbourhoods with better garden/greenspace areas. I want to be able to safely walk my dog at night.
- ▶ better bus routes through residential areas, more green spaces. keeping the character of the 'old quarter', more practicing doctors
- ▶ "Better bus system.  
More affordable for family's.  
Better selection of business.  
Use of the old big stores (or use them for in door farmers markets?)  
Have better attractions."
- ▶ better business to attract tourism downtown. new property developers to remove old, unused and

derelict waterfront properties and replace with businesses to attract tourism. improve the port place mall to attract tourism and allow people to feel safe to hang out downtown. This would mena better programs for the homeless and people with additions to help get them off the streets.

- ▶ Better community resources, updates to hospital and health care sector, better traffic planning as more housing is built (built roads for future not right now)
- ▶ Better cycling network. Way less homelessness and drugs downtown. Modern community amenities and modern rec facilities. More business parks for companies to locate to.
- ▶ Better cycling routes. Support downtown shops. Indoor recreation such as public tennis courts.
- ▶ Better housing options that create affordable shelter for everyone (including homeless). More attractive downtown core...renovation of empty buildings facing harbour front without building huge high rises that block views (communities such as Richmond on the mainland keep their buildings to a low level), moving Mills & warehouses off our ocean front to allow a 'sea wall' parkway in our harbourfront area (much as Vancouver did when building Expo 86 site). These suggestions would enhance the City for residents and would also encourage tourism. If we want to have cruise ships enter our port then we have to have something to offer them. Vacant buildings in the downtown area could be used to allow Indigenous people to display their cultural artworks if the City provided support by providing inexpensive space. Also, bus schedules listed at bus stops along with easy connections throughout the city and even to neighbouring communities. If the City is going to promote commercial businesses to share residential neighbourhoods, then noise abatement and noise bylaws should work for everyone as well as visual lines that are pleasing to all.
- ▶ Better parks and trails, improved tourism, place for small business to grow, less government interference.
- ▶ "Better public transport and proper shelters for passengers, especially for those people waiting for buses for the hospitals. It seems so wrong that there is no shelter at the stop (Country Club Mall) for those going for hospital treatments. Many have canes or wheelchairs, or are just slow in getting to a stop from a very distant shelter. Please have somebody who has some intelligence who checks into these important concerns.  
"
- ▶ Better spending by the city, isolated drug rehab facility, harsher punishment on drug users and theft.
- ▶ Better traffic flow / less homelessness/ less crime
- ▶ Better traffic flow, clean up crime and open drug use, more park space, develop commercial opportunities along the waterfront.
- ▶ Better transit options, more recreational opportunities, more tourism attractions
- ▶ better transit, better housing, and help for the people on drugs. and by help i dont mean a safe place for them to do drugs, i mean actually trying to break their addiction.
- ▶ Better transportation system. A hospital with more services and specialists. Options to offset being isolated on an island. Easier and cheaper access to Vancouver.
- ▶ "Better waterfront development, street art (love the new murals BTW), more urban parks (not just sports or forest)  
More affordable condos with business in the first floor like Vancouver a bit. No building really tall to not obstruct the view (except in downtown) Approving the project of South Nanaimo ( I saw online ) condo, parks, bussines. Be the greenest eco- friendly small city in Canada. Light rail like the onee in Kitchener that connects all the RDN area but with a different modern design  
(please no red!!) sorry it's long! Lol."

- ▶ Better ways for seniors to get around. Bicycles and skateboards don't work. Electric cycles are dangerous as it is hard to hear them and many think they have the right of way on the sidewalks.
- ▶ big and crowded city
- ▶ "Bigger shopping mall and a theme park for tourists to attract more business!  
Also it'd be nice as a mother of 3 young kids ... waiting for the fair to come once a year for 3 days is not enough! "
- ▶ Bike laned
- ▶ Bike lanes everywhere, tree lined streets and parks filled with excellent examples of the biodiversity of our region, close and collaborative ties with the Snuneymuxw that celebrates and supports their well-being. Many areas to roam and thoughtfully developed neighbourhoods that foster community and walkability. Lifting up of local business and artisans
- ▶ Bike-friendly city (bike lanes, secured bike parking areas), densification – avoid more urban sprawl, keep rural/agricultural areas rural – eg Cedar, greater connectivity in trail systems, innovative traffic management solutions (eg roundabouts)
- ▶ Bring back a China Town (involving the Chinese community). Please get rid of that horrible A & B Sound building. good grief – why is it still standing!!!!
- ▶ bring to train back
- ▶ Building on the city's development successes, continue providing a sustainable growth trajectory to ensure a growing number of residents have easy mobility, decent job prospects, affordable housing and quality recreational services. Plan for emergency resiliency and preparedness, primarily for fire, flooding, and earthquakes.
- ▶ Buildings built to net zero or near net zero energy standards. High density downtown core with a range of housing types. No more big box stores, housing included in mall sites. Housing and supports for the homeless.
- ▶ "Bulking up social services rather than a punitive ""crime and punishment"" reaction towards homelessness and affordability in general.  
Also bulking up transportation alternatives, taking into account how a healthier population moves more without using vehicles so much."
- ▶ Buses that can take you at least close to where you need to be and close to hiking and outdoor recreation. Affordable housing across town and not just downtown. An even spread of businesses instead of everything being downtown. A cleaner healthier ocean and land. Less homelessness.
- ▶ Business friendly, supportive of innovative entrepreneurs, clean, free from street crime and homeless individuals.
- ▶ "Businesses that provide jobs where people can grow their careers. There is no industry for people here to have professional jobs. Be a tech hub. With the cost of housing going up we need jobs to pay mortgages. Find a way to clean up downtown, give it soul. It has little to attract residents. With covid more shops are closing. We need strong tourist attractions that will bring money into our city. People need to be more friendly and stop attacking everyone. There needs to be a shift in attitude.  
"
- ▶ Bustling with top restaurants and beverage outlets and a bustling downtown and waterfront. Boardwalks that connect downtown and departure bay and perhaps more oceanfront tourist spots like f&b etc.
- ▶ By 2030 I would hope that the homelessness and drug users will have been helped and dealt with

- ▶ By-laws that require registration and visible identification of bicycles used in public areas by means of a license plate. Issued only after successful completion of a test of knowledge of traffic rules and knowledge of rules that apply specifically to the riding of bicycles on city streets and property.
- ▶ Cities on Vancouver Island (including Nanaimo) should model their design after cities in Europe (specifically Holland) to improve the quality of life for their residents, and eventually become examples of how walkable, livable cities should be designed.
- ▶ City funded and led rental housing initiatives, densifying downtown and other areas with low rise infill. Dedicated rental zoning with incentives for affordability mix.
- ▶ City that attracts visitors and tourism with parks and shopping and downtown entertainment. Continued growth with a plan
- ▶ City that respects the important role of native ecosystems, values the elements of local ecosystems, biodiversity, ensures the near and distant future city vision prioritizes the importance of our green and blue native ecosystems in our community's well being.
- ▶ Clean & sustainable. The focus should be on people's quality of life. With the elderly demographic growing significantly within the next ten years, it is time to ask what impact that will have on the health care system. We should move away from car-focused and put a major emphasis on physical activity and active transportation. creating spaces for people to walk and get away from car-focused societies. Having proper active transportation corridors is something that will assist with that. moving towards sustainability is also a very good idea as our demographics change to support that Nanaimo will be a vibrant place for many years to come.
- ▶ Clean and a city with Law and order and no promotion of drugs more help for people getting off drugs and a stop to enabling
- ▶ Clean and safe community where young families are choosing to live and investing in their community. And a destination for others to visit.
- ▶ Clean and safe for our future generations.
- ▶ Clean and safe outdoor spaces, stop development that border park areas and reuse already developed real estate, empty lots, etc.
- ▶ Clean and safe.
- ▶ Clean streets, sidewalks and boulevards. Make Nanaimo downtown viable and attractive for visitors and residents. Help the business succeed and bring people to the area by making them feel safe and comfortable!
- ▶ Clean trails and air. Zero homelessness. Affordable houses. More business and work opportunities.
- ▶ Clean up the downtown and get rid of the homeless and their associated crime and drug use
- ▶ Clean up the drug use and crime.
- ▶ clean up the homeless and basic clean up trash around town
- ▶ Clean, bright, nature orientated with little traffic.
- ▶ Clean, accommodating of all socioeconomic groups (with clean, safe homes for young people and their families), safe streets with more walking/cycling infrastructure. More waterfront access, easier to get to - ie a waterfront path that goes along the water, to at least BC ferries, but Departure Bay would even be better.)
- ▶ clean, environmental focused, housing for all, improved parks, more recreation and tourism opportunities

- ▶ “Clean, green sustainable industry and food production to attract young families and make us less dependent on imports.  
Lower cost housing.  
Canada is aging and many Boomers will retire here. Although bicycles sound good many cannot bike and have access problems. An increase in transportation services like Handidart, the promotion of ideas for elders to connect to and assist each other (and younger people) through co-housing and other community building methods. ”
- ▶ “Clean, Green, Compassionate, Welcoming and Inclusive. Zero tolerance for racism, misogyny or ageism.  
”
- ▶ Clean, green, environmentally friendly and totally self sustainable .
- ▶ Clean, green, safe community with an abundance of new parks, trails and outdoor activities with reduced traffic congestion and containing urban sprawl.
- ▶ Clean, safe, accessible, progressive, regenerative, resilient, preventative rather than reactive.
- ▶ Clean, safe, affordable, VIBRANT.
- ▶ Clean, welcoming. A downtown that isn't a series of emptied closed down, shuttered buildings or holes in the ground interspersed with used needles, tarps, excrement and homeless people.
- ▶ Clean,green,quiet,walkable safe, able to enjoy living regenerating biodiversity, gartyoak meadows include butterflies, alligator lizards,bluebirds all life
- ▶ Cleaned up and culturally revived down town. More Pickleball facilities
- ▶ cleaned up downtown area, more waterfront businesses, more sidewalks in residential areas that don't suddenly stop (Harewood specifically)
- ▶ Cleaner city, much less homelessness, more revived in the downtown area (use the vacant lots and buildings), small businesses and boutiques, a better more welcoming 'entrance' to the city from the south (Nichol Street is unsightly), more support services for mental health and addiction (not just housing), better use of waterfront, extension of the sea walk to Departure Bay.
- ▶ Cleaner safer community where if you leave a vehicle unlocked people aren't walking around trying to open them. Let's get ride of needles in parks and make people accountable for their actions.
- ▶ “Cleaner with less druggie homeless people walking around ripping people off  
I'd also like to see another outdoor lacrosse covered box beside the nic  
The harrwood one is nice but in the wrong location with poor parking and no change rooms for games and practices. Having one at the nic would make sense. ”
- ▶ cleaner, nicer, way less homeless/public drug & alcohol use/violence/crime etc
- ▶ cleaner,safer more green spaces and more affordable apartments for people age 50-64
- ▶ Cleaning up the city , addressing homelessness that is overwhelming our city . Making Nanaimo more attractive to investment and growth
- ▶ Coming together generationally to support local businesses and people
- ▶ Commitment to clean, sustainable city; leader in strategies for homelessness and poverty reduction; clean-up of the downtown / old quarter: major sections are derelict slow down traffic!
- ▶ Committed to building a sustainable city; preserving green spaces; committed to ensuring there is housing for all types of households, committed to supporting local business while encouraging/

growing tech sector ensuring higher education programs that meet future job demands encouraging/helping social enterprises to grow in the community implementing operational objectives that benefit the community such as social procurement; provide opportunities for Nanaimo to come together as a community; continue to grow the arts

- ▶ Community gardens, actual exits and entrances to parkways, not traffic lights
- ▶ Community housing and less homelessness crime downtown. Clean up corridor on hwy 1 between Halliburton and Nicol street.
- ▶ Community oriented, excellent park system, quality waterfront access, vibrant arts and culture scene, clean, good employment opportunity.
- ▶ Community pride and Welcoming feel
- ▶ "Community space and gardens with ALL housing dev. Stop cutting the trees with dev. Plant hazelnut trees & hemp for all our paper needs (many jobs)."
- ▶ Community with a strong, convenient and affordable transportation system, recycling and environmentally sustainable living and good range of employment options.
- ▶ Community, sustainability, a permanent market (like the root cellar or Red Barn Market in Victoria and Duncan!), tons of outdoor play space for exploring and adventuring, protecting our eco systems, sweet local shops, restaurants etc. less focus on the heinous strip mall eye sores that Nanaimo has become famous for. A cleaned up Downtown where people feel safe to hang out and explore with supports for local businesses to thrive.
- ▶ Complete the waterfront walkway from Departure Bay to Chase River. Create an interconnected system of the parkway trail, rail trail, waterfront walkway and other feeder trails throughout the city. Our biggest asset is the beauty of our surroundings and recreation opportunities is the most often cited reason for people moving to Vancouver Island.
- ▶ "completed waterfront walking extensions.....Wow! will be an amazing lifestyle, tourism, local feature, waterfront walking destination—all ages and all diversabilities will enjoy this when it happens. Also development or cleanup of all our abandoned Commercial properties. continuation of bicycle and walking routes& accessibility. "
- ▶ Completed waterfront walkway from Dep Bay to Cruise Ship Terminal, abandoned buildings /lots downtown transfered and built by developers with financial acumen, Less transient drug addicts laying around our streets, Terminal Ave. N remove industry and replace with commercial and residential useage. Tally Ho developed into upscale housing/hotel/recreation area.
- ▶ Completion of the walkway from Departure Bay beach to downtown Nanaimo.
- ▶ "Connecting green spaces and walking corridors throughout the entire city. Continue to revive rivers and streams to sustain aquatic life. Light rail to other communities. "
- ▶ Connective, inclusive, diversity, a city that prioritize addressing social determinants of health/wellbeing. Walkable neighbourhoods, slow communities, local economies, recreation opportunities, supporting our youth + elders, remembering our heritage (living on Indigenous land and building opportunities for reciprocity with our Indigenous communities/members)
- ▶ Continue beautifying Nanaimo. I imagine the Downtown waterfront as the welcome center of VI. This would involve an Overhaul to the area where cruiseships dock, cleaning up downtown as a whole, and

making it attractive to existing citizens, national and international tourists, and business owners. This would involve supporting existing businesses and dealing with the homelessness in a huge way.

- ▶ Continue expanding areas for outdoor recreation. With the growing population we will need more parkland plus indoor facilities ie pool and gyms etc.
- ▶ Continue on with excellent work Mayor Kroger & council are doing. In addition I want a centre for Fine & Performing arts. This centre would be a drawing card for our community.
- ▶ Continue to add to the parks and trails systems. Increase density in current neighbourhoods and restrict urban sprawl. Mixed housing in all neighbourhoods to encourage communities not ghettos either rich or poor. Mixed use in new buildings e.g. retail/office plus housing in same buildings to encourage "live and work" areas. More patio homes for seniors who want an easier life style but do not want to live in condos. Must have transit close to patio home complexes or have services within walking distance so do not need to use a car.
- ▶ Continue to be able to enjoy the ample hiking areas. Actually being able to afford a place to live, without having to worry about becoming homeless. Continue to support small, local businesses. Would love to see the downtown area revived and vibrant again!
- ▶ Continue to work toward more sustainable and independent local economy. Focus on shared bounty and resources and build infrastructure for sharing and growing together in communities.
- ▶ Continued infrastructure improvements and strong local government
- ▶ Continuing to promote mid to high density housing close to amenities such as shopping, food stores, recreation facilities so people of any age can walk for services. Keeping those communities with space (housing with some neighbourhood privacy) intact as they are becoming fewer and fewer with City rezoning to higher density. A community with diverse living options will continue to bring in new members to our community.
- ▶ Continuous Sea wall!!! Pls
- ▶ "Control over the drugs and crime. Implementation of all the resources needed for those suffering from mental illness and addiction. I want to feel Nanaimo is a safe community again where we can all get out to enjoy our parks and nature and all the events that are put on throughout the city. Our population is growing at a fast rate and will likely continue to for years and decades to come.

We need to be thinking far ahead when it comes to infrastructure and make changes now. Many areas of the city are not going to be able to handle the continuing increase in traffic.

To have a hospital that is not constantly over capacity. "

- ▶ Could we have some sort of economic development that doesn't involve tourists? I hate the tourists, and hate the damage to the environment, brutal increases in traffic and an economy based on rampant capitalism (lots of disposable income to throw around.)
- ▶ Covid19 has also given opportunity to Nanaimo. People and employers are more willing to be flexible with distance working. Connecting to the mainland is a major priority until more diversified jobs can come to the city. Sandstone is an excellent boost to bringing nanaimo into a new future. Continued investment in the downtown core to bring life back to a sorry Old City.
- ▶ "Create a very attractive downtown area, where residents and tourists alike could walk safely both day and night, without being harassed or attacked by junkies or other weirdos.

Also, nothing looks worse than that big hole in the middle of downtown – how long is that eyesore going to be allowed to be left like that by your Building and Development Departments.”

- ▶ Create more local neighbourhood ‘villages’ featuring grocers, cafés, independent shops, hair and nails etc.
- ▶ Creating a city that honours and promotes an inclusive society, rich in indigenous, multiculturalism, as well as a diverse commercial and artistic community
- ▶ Crime and drug addict free.
- ▶ Crime free neighbours. People not afraid of things being taken
- ▶ Crime reduced, more police on the streets, people who don’t have a rooted history in this city moved onto where they came from if they are not contributing to a healthy economy.
- ▶ Culturally Diverse, Inclusive & Affordable
- ▶ Culturally vibrant city that celebrates diversity.
- ▶ Cut red tape for small business, look at growth in Calgary 2014 to 2016 when civic impediments removed. Brew pubs that allow dogs! Distilleries, late night food and markets. Clean up downtown, sorry druggies and thieves you are simply not welcome.
- ▶ Deal with the rampant drug/homeless problem instead of just hoping it will go away. If you continue with the two shelters on Labieux and Terminal, make the residents of these places accountable for their actions. Check to make sure they are not hoarding stolen possessions in their rooms.
- ▶ Dedicated city owner mountain bike trails. There are hundreds of trails in the surrounding area that are on private land and technically illegally built. They are maintained by mountain bikers, clubs and volunteers. If the city was to dedicate a section of land, or negotiate with the RDN a location for trails and maintain them this would give Nanaimo more tourism, more community involvement and establish a better reputation as an outdoor community. (Ex. Cumberland, Squamish)
- ▶ Defined green spaces that are not just holding spots for development. A vibrant, walk-able downtown that has many eateries and shops.
- ▶ Definitely more seniors residences as our population ages. With sufficient staff to manage well.
- ▶ Definitely need a Entertainment/Event Centre such as the one that was voted down. An avenue that would bring bigger league sports and concerts to have people from up and down the Island bring their tourist dollars here for event. People would even come from the mainland for a big name act. As is, all entertainment dollars leave Nanaimo to go to Vancouver or Victoria to see such entertainment :(
- ▶ Dense development downtown. Condo towers with retail and restaurants to attract people.
- ▶ “Dense town centre/neighborhood centres with an emphasis on bike/pedestrian navigation and accessibility of services. In other words the opposite of urban sprawl. Parks and pedestrian routes/ greenways connecting corridors between neighborhoods.

Progressive zoning updates to face the challenges of the housing crisis that would allow for increased density and affordability while reduce the negative impacts of sprawl on natural areas and inaccessibility/vehicle oriented nature of sprawl.

Restrictions on strip malls, box stores, and large chains to create space for local businesses to flourish. This leading to a more unique and vibrant Nanaimo as well as community oriented commerce that fosters an economic system that is more localized and returns resources to the region instead of syphoning them off to multrinational corporations.”

- ▶ Dense vertically integrated multi-use walkable urban nodes interconnected by a teleferico network, with surrounding suburban areas heavily used for market gardens selling to a multi-stakeholder co-operative of small greengrocers eliminating food deserts. Local sewists, woodworkers, craft food processors, etc marketing bespoke and diverse wares through local co-operatives as conveniently as buying from mass market retailers.
- ▶ "Density downtown, more business downtown. Bike lanes and slow down traffic. Less new development in undisturbed areas and more parks!

Also I am impressed with Departure Bay, I love that people are hanging out and there's that coffee shop, with lots of people out and about traffic has slowed right down. I remember as a kid being around the Kin Hut parents were always worried about cars going 60kmh. If only they brought back Terry's Save-Rite (the grocery store that became 711)."

- ▶ Density, walk-ability, community engagement
- ▶ Derelict free with removal of drug addicted homeless from community view. Redevelop industrial areas to house and contain them with rehabilitation and government assisted work programs and enforce rehabilitation! If they can't be rehabilitated....force institutional relocation.
- ▶ Develop Bown road into shopping district with connected portch for easy walk along the street for easy window shopping.
- ▶ Develop the 15-min neighbourhood hub where everything a person needs is a short distance away, i.e., a 15-min walk or bike ride.
- ▶ Develop the water front without loosing the dock space, people come here for the ocean and boating don't take that away add to it.
- ▶ Developing and expanding our waterfront from downtown to the departure bay ferry terminal. Lined with restrautns and as variety of other attractions. We call ourselves "The Harbour City" but seem to have nothing to show for it.
- ▶ Development of hubs in suburban neighborhoods which provide basic goods and services within walking or biking distance and more mixed use development going forward. More complete bike path network, especially as e bikes are becoming more common and biking Nanaimo's sprawl will become more realistic.
- ▶ Development that includes housing, recreation and commerce linked with public transit , walking and biking trails.
- ▶ "Diverse - in community make up  
Inclusive - of all cultures  
Adaptability - to changes climate and influx of new residents  
"
- ▶ DO NOT CHANGE THE ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW REGARDING ROAMING CATS
- ▶ Do something about the homeless, clean up all the garbage, everywhere, from residential areas to country living
- ▶ Do something with Nanaimo's amazing natural potential!!! Encourage waterfront development I can't believe that we don't even have good waterfront restaurants when our harbour and city is rich in scenic opportunities.
- ▶ Don't try to emulate Victoria. Nanaimo should focus on being Nanaimo. Connection with outdoor

recreation, focus on being the 'Hub City' for surrounding central Vancouver Island communities and provide a great/affordable place to raise a family.

- ▶ Down by the ferry there is so much empty amazing waterfront retail space. It has the potential to be a Granville island market type place! Fish mongers and produce and locally made treats
- ▶ Downtown hub cleaned up and made easily accessible, linked to mainland, diverse small business to draw people in.
- ▶ Downtown is a vibrant place where tourist actually want to come and visit. Soooooo much potential! Seawall extension, no more holes in the ground or abandoned buildings, more restaurants along the seawall, granville island style market place by the departure bay ferry, etc. We need to be proud of our city and change the perception that other have of Nanaimo. There are many beautiful places that will never be discovered until the first sights that people see are fixed. Step 1: Fix what passerbyers see first!
- ▶ "DOWNTOWN REVITALIZED- help the homeless and drug addicts get off the street AND put them in treatment centres ...look to see what other cities have done, make the downtown a walking area only and transit only like Portland. Have SAFE biking lanes everywhere and ENCOURAGE walking to shops FOR STAPLES /RESTAURANTS , PRESERVE PARKS "
- ▶ "Downtown vibrant with no more vacant properties, streets filled with shoppers and those who used to be homeless among them.  
"
- ▶ "'Drastic decrease in green house gases....  
 -more bike and pedestrian paths., ie along Hammond Bay, Uplands Walk...etc..  
 ..less cars and smaller electric or hybrid cars with incentives like: smaller electric buses running more often; rebates for buying an e car: recycle gas cars thus creating new jobs;  
 Increase parking fees for cars;  
 -green building codes;  
 -replace gas furnace with heat pumps; replace gas hot water heaters with electric; ban wood burning stoves and fireplaces  
 -no pesticides and herbicides that pollute the environment;  
 -a circular economy teach how not to waste foods and to reduce garbage and waste encourage people to eat more plant based meals;  
 - Give incentives and education to grocery stores and other to stop buying over packaged food and items;  
 -create more new neighborhood gardens, encourage more young people to grow food;  
 -make it mandatory for children to bike or walk or take the bus to school; schools to have safe bike storages for students;  
 -more education to the public about the urgency of the rapid negative climate change and all of us are Stewart's to save outperform planet for future generations.  
 "
- ▶ Dynamic, creative & community-focused
- ▶ E & N railway changed to cycle/hiking trail
- ▶ E cars and bus, lots of birds, wide paths for bikes and pedestrians everywhere, bikes everywhere and less cars, more food growing, quiet, cleaner air and soil
- ▶ Economically vibrant city with expanding neighbourhods, diverse populations, transportation options and a less rampant homelessness/drug-use

- ▶ embracing the city's geographical strengths that come from its location, and improving services that mesh with these strengths.
- ▶ an emphasis on alternative modes of transportation – more walkable, bikeable, busable. Less suburban development.
- ▶ Encouraging people to use public transit and bicycles more and encourage a healthy lifestyle which would include the arts, recreation, education and health
- ▶ “Energy efficient lots of green space reclaim the waterfront from private property owners provide beach access lanes with meaningful parking areas  
”
- ▶ “Energy independent (nuclear, hydrogen, solar, and or wind)  
If the cable breaks from the mainland we are screwed  
Target dates to achieve net zero carbon city by 2040  
”
- ▶ Enhanced waterfront areas for residents and tourists.
- ▶ Enhanced waterfront with small shops and living spaces. A waterfront benefits everyone. A large treatment/mental health facility where all can get care. Change in petty crime laws so merchants are not at the mercy of criminals who know nothing will happen to them.
- ▶ Environmental, economic, social, cultural health and prosperity.
- ▶ Environmentally friendly, lots of green spaces, opportunities to walk, bike etc
- ▶ Environmentally healthy, connected with parks and trails, more outdoor amenities such as gathering spaces, covered courts or shelter type facilities, which are animated with programs, events, arts, etc.
- ▶ Environmentally, financially sustainable, progressive. A city that embodies caring for its residents – including marginalized populations – and the environment.
- ▶ Equitable and accessible to all. Without being a burden on taxpayers.
- ▶ Every one has a home stores are up and running . Most of all a better mayor and council
- ▶ Everybody has a place to live, public transit reaches every corner, the arts thrive, community cohesiveness is evident, we are approaching net-zero carbon emission.
- ▶ Expand and enhance the waterfront
- ▶ Expand city boundaries, improve downtown core, new hospital tower, less bureaucracy
- ▶ expand medical facilities to accommodate increasing population. Expand parks and recreation facilities to accommodate increasing population. Green spaces that are in subdivisions and are unsuitable as building lots are not parks. They are much needed and valuable green spaces.
- ▶ Expanding tourism industry. More hotels, attractions, outdoor events.
- ▶ Extend the public waterfront sidewalk and shops from Departure Bay to the Living Forest Campground.
- ▶ Extend waterfront walkway both directions, major biking networks, transportation hub at old tent city site, more enforcement of homeless people issues/theft, keep them out of downtown. We need a major tourist draw like rail to trail to Victoria like Kelowna did or huge waterslide complex
- ▶ Extend waterfront walkway. Lots of restaurants and cafes on the waterfront. Tourists spending \$ here.
- ▶ Extending the water front walk way

- ▶ Extending waterfront walkway going all the way to departure bay beach. Consistent, modern & longterm initiatives for the downtown core (something like the DNBIA but more modern). More progressive & younger demographic in our local government (council members & mayor).
- ▶ facilities improved for highschool sports
- ▶ "Family friendly  
Addicts gone  
Downtown cleaned up  
Rebuild old, empty buildings, leave green space alone!"
- ▶ Far less homelessness, a sharp reduction in crime, and courts that keep criminals who are unwilling to reform in jail.
- ▶ Fast ferry to Vancouver
- ▶ Feeling safe and vibrant. Focused on the arts, culture and community.
- ▶ feeling safe in my own home. having access to our diverse culture in many different forms
- ▶ Fewer homeless, preserved natural spaces for mental wellness and recreation opportunities.
- ▶ Fewer people, more green space, less noise and light pollution.
- ▶ "fewer street people. Improved waterfront park near Gabriola ferry, rail yard gone and a vibrant waterfront plan near completion, derelect buildings removed replaced with housing and retail.  
"
- ▶ Find housing and help for the people in need
- ▶ finish the seaside walk all the way to the Departure BAY ferry pleeeeeeze! and give incentives for property and commercial development all along there on Stewart Avenue along the walkway. rite now several abandoned businesses there. sooo sad!□□□□□□□□.
- ▶ First and foremost I would like to see a city without homeless people on the street. A city that encourages density but without destroying the character of already established neighbourhoods. A city that does all it can to protect the environment and plans with future generations in mind.
- ▶ Focus on a green new deal. Stop building new infrastructure without planning for bike lanes. Adapt city building codes and practices to enable more green building. Rainwater collection, increased insulation requirements, incentives for solar electricity and hot water. I didn't have kids because we've ruined this planet and even facing our own extinction, the bureaucracy and status quo of our society continues down the same doomed path.
- ▶ Focus on environmental sustainability, providing housing for the most vulnerable and families. Focus on First Nations leadership in regards to any changes and developments.
- ▶ Focus on tourism, bringing more money into the community so we can rebuild or refurbish all of the empty dilapidated buildings in the downtown core (eg the old A & B Sound building, the corner where Acme restaurant was, Nicol Street, the Tally Ho/Howard Johnson hotel – all eye sores) extend the seawall to Departure Bay. Nanaimo has so much potential!
- ▶ Food forests around Nanaimo which are able to sustain themselves as well as the wildlife and educate people around them.
- ▶ For Nanaimo to be more of an inclusive community and to restore communal spaces throughout the downtown core and north end. To prevent the segregation of persons experiencing different income levels. For Nanaimo to be a more pedestrian and cyclist friendly community, adding more walkable areas

such as sidewalks, paths and parks. Nanaimo should stop clearcutting parks to add more neighbourhoods and utilize the abandoned spaces to create more housing solutions that don't impact the environment. People come to Nanaimo to see the outdoors, not to see endless houses and industrial areas.

- ▶ For the downtown core to be revitalized and for the focus to make it a lively, vibrant downtown core that still retains much of Nanaimo's historical architecture. Also to push no motorized vehicles in the downtown core as well as structuring the city to foster alternative modes of transportation. To have a healthy, functioning and progressive mayor and council that will directly address and challenge some key issues that are plaguing the city. To have a stronger alliance with First Nations community and have more First Nations leadership in the council
- ▶ Free of criminal downtown and government homeless camps/ shelters that ruin our community
- ▶ fun and hipster with lots of local flavour, great local restaurants, funky buildings, craft breweries, like a mini portland, get away from ugly chain stores and development, too many housing with no amenities nearby and have to drive everywhere, look at Bellingham, WA as an example its the same size and has WAY more to do and looks way more aesthetically pleasing
- ▶ Fun safe city with more recreation opportunities
- ▶ Fun, active, lively. Harmonious community living.
- ▶ Fun, outdoorsy, tourist town that blends access to nature with a vibrant downtown and an inclusive culture accessible to all.
- ▶ Fun, vibrant and interesting downtown, lots of connected waterfront with wide accessible trails. Waterfront development, large malls developed into housing and commercial centres. Improved hospital and broader medical services.
- ▶ Functioning neighbourhoods with housing, small retail, community centres and natural green spaces and a reduced dependence on vehicles.
- ▶ Further development of the downtown core and waterfront along with overpasses along the Inland highway to reduce traffic congestion.
- ▶ Further development of trails and parks, plan to build another pool
- ▶ Future Nanaimo: a city that enables well-being (social, mental, financial, community and physical) for all citizens.
- ▶ Geared to income housing intermixed in residential/condo blocks so that the city does not become ghettoized. Compel absentee landowners to do something with their properties so they cannot remain vacant year in and year out (A and B Sound), make downtown streets pedestrian on the weekends to enable a market to flourish and businesses to expand patio space prohibit development beyond 6? 8? Floors so that the skyline remains unobstructed and in keeping with its heritage.
- ▶ Global Leader for multidisciplinary approach to homelessness and addiction. Thriving downtown because our community supports entrepreneurs with start up grants and incentives. More Community gardens and green spaces. City Permaculture flower gardens rather than annuals to offer sustainable beauty. Beautified route from the ferry through town to encourage people to stop rather than current run down look.
- ▶ Going for a realistic view. We need homelessness and it's accompanying issues (drugs, housing prices, theft, etc) to be dramatically reduced or eradicated in the next 10 years to not only improve the lives of many Nanaimo citizens but also to improve the overall look to our city. I also see Nanaimo becoming a large source of tourism on the island if we improve on our existing structures (especially downtown) and

if we bring in more attractions to the city.

- ▶ Good biking trails to commute across town. Thursday night downtown market reopened. No fireworks ( scares animals, costly) More public presence in trouble areas (drug use, ect.) Preserving park land like Westwood lake, and extending trails in that area.
- ▶ “Good transportation to the mainland  
Clean and sustainable city  
Solutions for homelessness”
- ▶ Great parks and recreation facilities, festivals and a vibrant downtown with community events. Dense living with good public transit. Specific policies to stop community sprawl and private vehicle usage.
- ▶ Greater cultural integration with Indigenous peoples and organizations (including businesses and community events). A more inclusive and vibrant LGTBQ2S community that feels safe to be visible. Very few to zero high rises. Clean up the empty building (or hole in the ground where Burns used to be). Do something special with the downtown (the rainbow walk and the upgrades to the old city quarter look great!). No more oil tankers (ack!) Anyhow. Don’t get me wrong, I love nanaimo!
- ▶ “Greatly increased safe cycling around town routes  
Tourist destination for excellent mountain bike trails  
Pedestrian only downtown core with great small shops/restaurants, less homeless/drug use”
- ▶ Greatly reduced crime, drug users moved away from the parks and waterfront areas, safety for people to walk anywhere in town, especially single women and young families. Have criminals prosecuted, serve sentences that are actual deterrents and provide justice for the victims.
- ▶ Green and clean would be front and foremost. But we must also remember the finer things that make us human. The ARTS. We really need an Art Center that would support the LOCAL ARTISTS. Originally the downtown art gallery was to be this, but the mandate has changed. We need a place to hold workshops, view Art Shows, have social gatherings. This is an area that also attracts the tourists. People travel the world looking and buying art.
- ▶ Green and healthy. Right now Covid is getting more people outside. Let’s support this change with our infrastructure planning. Bike and pedestrian lanes, alternate outdoor areas.
- ▶ “Green city with a vibrant downtown core, numerous transportation options and a lively entertainment community. A completion of the waterfront walkway from Dept. Bay beach to downtown Nanaimo would become the heart of the Harbour City and decisions finally made on vacant properties and other derelict projects that have been sitting idle for too long: Hilton Hotel waterfront site, Howard Johnson site, E&N railway etc. Re-engaging the public in a multiplex project on the Beban Park property as it provides several enticing options for a vision to attract concerts/trade shows similar to Victoria.

A stronger Emergency Management program with additional staff will be key to the City’s business continuity as the population is growing every year. A more robust program will enable the citizens to better prepare themselves for a future of numerous events we have already seen, and not limited to (wildfire, earthquakes, pandemic...)  
”

- ▶ Green city with amazing public transportation, car sharing, Uber options, more densified housing options rather than urban sprawl.
- ▶ Green city with no-car zones.
- ▶ “Green city, improved green public transit.

Decreased or totally eliminated homelessness – affordable housing and mental health support. Protected wilderness areas. Community hubs such as using schools after hours and on weekends for community events that encourages inter generational interactions. For example chess tournaments, card games, “

- ▶ Green energy everywhere. Nanaimo the green capital of the world.
- ▶ Green with enough affordable housing for all people
- ▶ Green, modern, active lifestyle for people of all ages and abilities
- ▶ Green, parks linked so one could walk/cycle/wheelchair from one end to the other, Community Gardens in the north part (many small parks are underused), rec facilities vibrant with community use.
- ▶ Green. Still friendly. Increased affordable housing options. Decreased ferry cost for island dwellers.
- ▶ Greener
- ▶ Greener, more celebrations & festivals!
- ▶ Grow and embrace people coming to be part of our city... discourage the elitist sentiment that growth is bad and the “island is closed”.
- ▶ Have a plan not helter skelter... we put in new boulevards .. then they fall into disarray
- ▶ Have more places to show off our beautiful ocean. Downtown is missing waterfront restaurants. More walkways, more attractions.
- ▶ Have the hole at the intersection of the Old Island Highway and Commercial street fixed up.
- ▶ Having more Housing options for lower income residents, more transit options to access more secluded parts of town
- ▶ HELL JUST HELL
- ▶ high density waterfront with mixed use commercial and bike/ walk paths. gondola up mt benson for outdoor activities and to put Nanaimo on the map for Mountain biking on the the Island
- ▶ Homeless and mentally ill people with the help they need
- ▶ Homeless go back to where they came from. People being jailed for disruptive actions. I.E. when Ruthford school was taken hostage, charges were basically thrown back in our faces by the courts giving two people basically off. Jail has a good ring for something like that and restitution for damages from all of them. Maybe their parents should be made to pay and little Johnny & little Susie might think twice about it next time.
- ▶ “Homeless, mentally ill and drug addicted off our streets. I’ve lived here for 30 years.

Our once pretty Downtown is ugly, full of homeless, drugs, sadness.  
Dirty, unsafe.  
”

- ▶ Homelessness eliminated. Strict street drug enforcement. Graffiti laws enforced.
- ▶ Homes for all, a vibrant downtown, and lots of arts and culture. A completed waterfront walkway.
- ▶ Hopefully the beautiful walking trails in Linley Valley and Lost lake area will be preserved. I would like to see all construction and development of this area halted. Hopefully in 10 years the pulp operations at Harmac will no longer be. The stench and air pollution is not worth whatever revenue is generated

- ▶ Housing for all, fewer cars, increased Bike lanes and transit, protection and support of farmers
- ▶ Housing with a price cap for families and people making less than, say \$70000.00 a year so the market is accessible to young families in Nanaimo. Not just people from the mainland coming over and turning what used to be a 100000 home into a 350000 home- for no good reason. Nothing about Nanaimo has changed that much in ten years.
- ▶ How about a plan to eliminate gas powered vehicles in the city by 2030 or even earlier. A proactive approach to homelessness where individuals are able to approach services before they become homeless. A policy to eliminate the current illicit drug trade and provide safe alternative sources for drug users. Guaranteed income from a joint Federal/provincial/city/business sources.
- ▶ I appreciate what tourism can bring to a community. I would like to see more avenues for tourists to travel to and from Nanaimo (walk on ferries, increased ferry services). This would also create more jobs that enables better affordability. I appreciate that a new baseball team will be playing in Nanaimo, and encourage the city to find other professional sports to be brought to Nanaimo, whether it is a local team playing out of Nanaimo, or to create events bringing major league sports (i.e.: Preseason NHL). Some ways, I like that my property value has gone up, giving me equity, but watching the homeless population increase, and knowing people that cannot afford to buy property, nor afford the ever increasing rental costs, I wonder if somehow a freeze may be necessary in the future. With property values going up, so to property taxes, which also means costs go up. Thinking about the benefits of recreation, if the fees continue to increase it will displace many people from experiencing health, wellness, and leisure. I believe it should be considered, one day to decrease fees, which will allow more people to attend recreation facilities--- and of course, more people coming in because they can afford it, means revenues should increase.
- ▶ I believe more social services needed and more jobs in this area, hiring people not just with diplomas and degrees, but trainable people with empathy and caring heart, when I did one practicum for substance abuse diploma, I had the opportunity to speak to and convince a man to get treatment. I was able to help a homeless, drug addicted fellow because of my own desire to help others and that I truly care for people, it wasn't because of my studies that I was able to help this man, it was because of my heart and he trusted me because he knew that I was genuinely trying to help and not a fake person, just doing my job.
- ▶ I can imagine Nanaimo as a proud and inclusive society that focuses on improvements to support a broad range of people. Nanaimo is unique in that it stretches along the waterfront from the South End to the North End. We have an opportunity to support a wide range of ages, interests and uses by improving the accessibility to this waterfront. Whether learning to walk or taking a jog, rolling by wheelchair or longboard, improving our waterfront accessibility will not only address climate change issues such as rising water levels and a need for greener transportation routes but the mental and physical health of all who reside in this beautiful city.
- ▶ I DO NOT WANT A HIGH RISE CITY!!!! I would like the city to be modeled on somewhere like Palm Springs or Naples or Paris, where there may be occasional high rises in one downtown area, but the rest of the city is limited to about 3 stories, with boulevards, trees, public art, wide streets, and a feeling of openness and natural habitation.
- ▶ I don't want our city being used under the UN guise of "sustainable city" !!
- ▶ I downtown to be proud of, where cruise ships and tourists can come, and walk and cycle or use their wheelchair or walker with ease.
- ▶ I feel that we need to help the people with there addictions ,even if it's opening a camp where they can all live and get the help they need. Our parks and streets are no place for homeless addicted people.

- ▶ I hope as planners you understand the significance of “vision” as it pertains to the development of a city. Asking people what kind a future they would like to have will not give you data you can use, and sets the public up for a planning procedure that is nothing but scam.
- ▶ I hope for a Nanaimo that has continued to set aside green space and has high-lighted the natural elements of our surroundings, while working to improve housing affordability and a sense of community and unity.
- ▶ I imagine clean and culturally vibrant city that is affordable for people at all income levels to live in.
- ▶ I imagine downtown buildings being cleaned up (old A&B Sound and Acme building) to allow for more businesses. A medium sized music venue downtown would be amazing (bigger than the Queens, smaller than the Port Theatre).
- ▶ “I imagine Nanaimo as having to main hubs: the Downtown/Old City area and Departure Bay. Both of these places are at a fraction of their potential. Departure Bay has at least three empty lots along the beach front and whatever is built in these lots will define the future of the area. If the right businesses are built, this area could become one of the best areas on the island.

I imagine Nanaimo as being an example for how other cities will handle mental illness and drug use. With the proper facilities Nanaimo could attract people from all over the country as a place where people can get their loved ones the help they need while also bringing professionals who would do the helping.

I imagine Nanaimo as having world class access to natural areas for the citizens of the city and surrounding area. The Nanaimo River is one of the gems of the city and I hope the proper steps are taken to preserve it as a place for people to hike, swim and enjoy the company of friends and family. Also, the Nanaimo Lakes is under appreciated and I my vision of the future sees this area being protected for the enjoyment of the people. “

- ▶ I look forward to the new possibilities of development that is green more Land set aside for parks, walking paths, bike lanes. We need more small self sufficient communities where you can live, work, play in areas.
- ▶ I love downtown Nanaimo, but it needs to be revitalized. Waterfront is beautiful, but the downtown core is looking a little weathered, and homelessness is not helping.
- ▶ I love the idea of an ocean discovery center in the downtown core. Something that educates people about our fragile ecosystem, the FN heritage in the Nanaimo area, and perhaps more store fronts downtown. I believe that not only would this bring in tourism but leave a lasting legacy for our children.
- ▶ I moved here from Vancouver in July 2019 and had my first child in August 2019. I am so excited to raise my daughter here and to put down roots in this city. I hope that Nanaimo sees the opportunity now to put in place progressive policies that find the right mix of density and historical preservation and environmental protection. I believe a really important policy that should be adopted is related to the suburban sprawl occurring especially in the north. This is just way too short term thinking. There should be incentives for developers to build smaller more energy efficient homes and to design neighborhoods for mixed residential and commercial uses so that ppl do not have to drive everywhere. All of the strip malls should be reimagined into mini neighborhood squares or “zocalos” where ppl can walk around, sit on a patio and drink a coffee, and get to know their neighbours. Bike lanes and public transit should be at the forefront of all new development. Because Nanaimo is growing so fast and still has lots of room to grow, it’s imperative to prevent the suburban sprawl that happens to so many mid-sixe cities, especially knowing that cars are not are future with the realities of climate change. Build neighbourhods for a walking and biking friendly future and with awesome stores and meeting spaces close by. I imagine a Nanaimo where every neighborhood has a cute coffee shop, pub, bakery, park, nd central meeting area.

- ▶ I remember when I was a kid and every Sunday my dad took me to see the cannons fire at the bastion. I love our new museum, and all the events we have. Nanaimo has endless potential for community events and programs, we have a great history in Nanaimo and I don't think most of our community are aware of most of it. I would LOVE to see the museum, or a historical society do more to excite people and involve our nanaimoites to get involved in civic pride.
- ▶ I see a city that has continued to prioritize parks and green spaces, particularly in terms of protecting the waterfront and limiting high-rise construction within 5 blocks of the harbour. I see a city that promotes and takes full advantage of the rich cultural and economic possibilities in our beautiful downtown core.
- ▶ I see a town that cares. Cares for its people, its environment and its future.
- ▶ I see a vibrant and thriving Nanaimo community that is filled with so much green space. It is full of great recreational choices, educational offerings and rich cultural entertainment that many people of diverse backgrounds and age levels can be thriving and happy here.
- ▶ I see a vibrant, bustling, clean and safe downtown With many streets that contain a variety of shops, entertainment and dining options. I see Nanaimo as a destination rather than a city you just pass through.
- ▶ I see Nanaimo being a thriving city, still rooted in small town friendliness. Better health services, for everyone, including more available mental health and addiction services, appropriate to the population, and an abundance of housing for singles, seniors, families, mental health, addictions, diverse abilities, in multiple housing types, sizes, and configurations.
- ▶ I see Nanaimo continuing its efforts to be a green city with improved recycling services, expanded and linked bicycle paths, greater housing options including densification of single family properties (suites, carriage homes), and expanded parks. Commercial development needs to be contained to the north end around Woodgrove and the south end. Creating opportunities for local groceries to provide options for getting food that don't involve getting in a car.
- ▶ I see the city take a leading role in addressing climate change. This means public transit would be convenient and accessible, bike paths will exist on most roads and there is less concentration of shops and services that require patrons driving to.
- ▶ I think addressing homelessness and cleanliness will make this an attractive place to visit and call home. By doing that it will help draw capital to this region so it can go through natural and sustained growth. With more capital a lot of the other issues will be resolved.
- ▶ I think Nanaimo should double down on what it already has and does best. Accessible, outdoor spaces. I think we could invest and support the hiking and biking communities to help build and maintain trail systems, make it safer and easier for people to walk and ride and also create more parks (especially off leash dog parks like Colliery Dam). When Colliery converted a section to off-leash the amount of people that started frequenting and walking the park in the off leash more than tripled! In fact, it's so popular, there is never any parking. People are parking on the side of the road to get to it. It's clearly something that Nanaimoites want more of.
- ▶ I think that Nanaimo has the potential to be an amazing city to live in and to visit, with several upgrades. The waterfront and downtown core are not utilized to potential. I would love to see areas cleaned up. Keeping with the facades of old architecture, like Victoria or Tacoma, with modernized interiors. There are too many OLD buildings, abandoned looking, that could be reinvigorated, reborn. Cruise ships would be a great influx to generate a healthy economy. Fix the homelessness, the theft and crime, the drug use....is a good start.
- ▶ I think there needs to be more things to do in Nanaimo for young people / tourists.

- ▶ I think we are good the way we are. Maintain the status quo. More things mean more cost to the taxpayer and I for one do not want taxes increased.
- ▶ I think we can draw on the best parts of other communities to guide us in what we want to achieve in Nanaimo. Downtown Nanaimo should be vibrant, busy, and filled with waterfront businesses, restaurants and bars. The derelict businesses and empty lots should all be forced out and redeveloped (Look at Downtown Kelowna for examples of this) There should be way more housing options for all level of income. We should be encouraging tourism and travel. Nanaimo should be a destination not a stopping point for supplies on the way to other locations. There should be resorts, better public beach infrastructure, improved recreation opportunities that take advantage of our natural environment. People should be able to both live AND work in Nanaimo. Finally, I'd like to see Nanaimo take advantage of the opportunities that it has and work with special use groups to build a better community. Look at how Cumberland has embraces the mountain biking culture and now it is a hugely popular destination for riders from all over the world.
- ▶ I want a city that is more affordable to live in, that has good bike commuting options, that protects and values its natural spaces, while being vibrant and diverse.
- ▶ I want a community where everyone has a place to call home, where individuals who are homeless receive assessment, access treatments if needed, and are helped up so they can live without providing challenges to the community.
- ▶ I want a green city, with renewable energy, and climate change mitigation strategies. A key feature is green park space well-integrated throughout with native plant species. Having mixed demographics achieved through integrative business/ residential/ park areas (mixing low socioeconomic status with high socioeconomic status). Ideally, small local businesses will be prioritized and protected to achieve better character and diversity while creating a more localized economy. Eventually, to tackle food insecurity, more food gardens would be standard throughout communities.
- ▶ I want a Nanaimo with strong social services and a safe space for everyone, especially the most vulnerable. I want a Nanaimo with a vibrant and active arts scene that is supported my the city and its facilities. I want a Nanaimo full of beautiful public spaces. Not only the natural park spaces but the designed spaces, like Diana Krall plaza as well. Beauty the city can take credit for and feel proud of.
- ▶ I want Nanaimo safe with courts, a mayor and City Council who work for me. I want a city that attracts business capital and tourists. We need more industry here and a lot better shopping. I'd love to see a safe place where we can shop for goods made by local vendors - not farmer's markets or craft shows but a year-round facility.
- ▶ I want Nanaimo to be a place that prioritizes people and nature over industry. A place where everyone can access the natural world, where trails are sanctioned and recreation in encouraged in an educated and respectful manner. A place where sustainability is the focus over economy and dedicated bike lanes are the norm.
- ▶ I want Nanaimo to be a safe, walkable, vibrant community where I can get from the south to the north end without having to even think about using a personal vehicle.
- ▶ I want Nanaimo to become a destination for people to visit, not a hub for other areas on Vancouver Island. Create a vibrant down-town (walking area, get rid of the trench where the old island hwy is now) and connect down-town with Departure Bay. And solve the homeless issue.
- ▶ I want Nanaimo to become a recommended place to live in for youths as well, whether it improves on keeping people in order, adding on better source of transportation or making better places for them to hang out in.

- ▶ I want there to be space for everyone who wants to enjoy Nanaimo – I want some carefully and thoughtfully created housing density, to bring costs down for people who need it (ie don't just allow developers to build densely if they're just going to build tiny luxury vacation condos for people – impose restrictions so that they build with less expensive finishings, livable sized homes) I want restrictions on what developers and also homeowners can do in terms of deforestation; I want more biking options so people can get out in a way that's inexpensive but safe. I fear unchecked development, because we see so many examples of how that benefits property developers and very wealthy people while making a city unlivable for most other people.
- ▶ I want to live in a green, sustainable, resilient community. I want our downtown and waterfront to be the heart of town, with easy active transportation access. I want our urban planning to stop allowing urban sprawl in the north end, and facilitate more community-centric development.
- ▶ I want to Nanaimo being a closed-loop circular economy. Nanaimo is in such a fortunate position to harness wind and wave energy, lands for growing food, etc. We can be a self-sufficient community that relies mostly on the resources and means that we have to build a sustainable and healthy place for people of all incomes and diverse-abilities to thrive in.
- ▶ I want to say a safe and friendly place for my daughter to grow up in
- ▶ I want to see 20 story high-rises downtown, 5 story high rises along Haliburton, Sandstone being developed and Nanaimo to expand and amalgamate with Cedar and Cassidy, for Cassidy to become a bedroom community, for VTOL's to be flying non-stop between Vancouver and Nanaimo via a new air transport hub on the docks, for a bridge to be built to New Castle Island so joggers and strollers could take their exercise running around it, for someone to build a paddle board and sailboat shop in departure bay for rentals, for homes to be improved and made safe, for back lanes to be paved and more carriage homes and tiny homes to be allowed off of laneways, for development of mountain top communities that are accessible by VTOL and for a new aquatic centre to be built near Extension Road
- ▶ I want to see a "people friendly" Nanaimo....more gathering spots with accessible restaurants and coffee shops that are NOT in a mall more creative use of outdoor space.
- ▶ "I want to see a city that attracts innovative businesses and entrepreneurs because it's a healthy, livable place for everyone. A city where a healthy environment is seen as crucial for healthy citizens. Development should be balanced protecting green space and quality of life for all. Tourism is fine but we can't and shouldn't rely too heavily on it.  
In 10 years Nanaimo should have finished connecting the whole city with bike lanes and paths. Hopefully by 2030 we have housing/ treatment for the homeless/ mental health/ addictions population of Nanaimo. No more tent cities or encampments. "
- ▶ I want to see a city where it is obvious that pride is evident. I want a city that has zero tolerance for graffiti, crime, garbage in the streets and drug use. I want to see a city where homeless addicts are sent into care instead of being allowed to stagger around in and out of traffic screaming threatening other people and causing chaos. If these people demonstrate that they can't care for themselves in the community and are a threat to others they should be institutionalized.
- ▶ I want to see a city where we feel safe to walk in ANY neighbourhood we wish. I want to feel that my own home and belongings as well as myself are safe. I would love to see a multitude of transit options i.e. Monorail, Trains, LRT etc. connecting small city centers throught the area. We need to create more walkable communities, old European style of living.
- ▶ I want to see a city where you can walk down the street and not be called horrible names and have death threats thrown at you. I want to live in a place where I don't have to look out my window in the middle of the night to look for prowlers.

- ▶ I want to see a City which is more more aware of what it is and accepts that. I do not want to see administrations attempting to lead development rather than controlling it. I would like to see the notion that Growth is Good gone from our ideology. We need to be on a growth diet...
- ▶ I want to see a city with better active transportation options and safer streets for our kids and elderly people to walk around.
- ▶ I want to see a community that has a vibrant downtown core, rather than a series of strip malls. I want to see a waterfront where you can walk from the research station, all the way to the Gabriola ferry terminal.
- ▶ I want to see a community that is more vibrant and close-knit – this means more public, green spaces and communities events, vibrant local businesses and an interesting arts scene. I also see a Nanaimo with strong supports for people with mental health and addiction issues, as these two issues are the main drivers of homelessness. I think of course decriminalizing drugs and providing clean opioids would be a great help (although I know this is something we can't do just at a local level). I want to see less cars on the streets, with more, and more reliable, public transit. I also see a Nanaimo with thoughtful development, rather than plonking down giant box stores and apartments everywhere.
- ▶ "I want to see a community that shows leadership in inclusiveness, in diversity and culture"
- ▶ I want to see a community where people are not struggling to stay housed. I want to see a city that has REALISTIC affordable housing costs, not articles in the paper that 2 bedroom apartments for 1800 dollars is considered affordable for people earning 50-60 thousand dollars a year (gross income).
- ▶ I want to see a friendly Nanaimo without gated communities or segregation by income which I think may be coming. I want to see more play areas for healthy growth and not row after row of 4 story buildings. I know! Let's keep well executed neighborhoods to the size that they already are and improve the areas that desperately need it. Nicol Street comes to mind. If we must indulge in Urban Nodes in the future lets make sure they are on vacant land as not to destroy the neighborhoods around them. We need the city planners to stop thinking that we will be the next Vancouver because we won't be.
- ▶ I want to see a future Nanaimo where there are no homeless people to be seen in our downtown core because they have A) a place to live, and B) a job to go to. This will result in a downtown core that we can celebrate, feel safe to visit, and actually be proud to showcase to the rest of BC, Canada, and the world.
- ▶ I want to see a lot of parks and reservations of forests kept untouched. It would be really nice to have more bike paths around, especially around the waterfront. Downtown needs to have a cool vibe with lots of restaurants and shop fronts. It's getting there but it has so much potential that is just falling to the wayside.
- ▶ I want to see a more colourful and lively city. It seems almost every new building or structure in this city is being painted grey. Dull, boring, unattractive, lack of life. I would like to see a fun and active city with lots to do. Something to bring people out and active. I would like to see some creativity, more people coming to the downtown area. The boardwalk extended to the ferry terminal, maybe to Departure Bay if possible.
- ▶ i want to see a more green planet friendly Nanaimo
- ▶ I want to see a more vibrant downtown area, like Granville Island or Lonsdale Quay.
- ▶ I want to see a more vibrant downtown with empty lots/decrepit buildings transformed into spaces for business, community and art. I dream of the downtown to departure bay walkway being joined, and ongoing protection of our natural outdoor spaces. I dream of radical change in how we approach those afflicted by mental health and addictions – including progress in housing and a safe drug supply

model (like Crossroads in East Vancouver). I dream of more recreation, entertainment and art facilities/opportunities.

- ▶ I want to see a more walkable Nanaimo. Where trails connect, sidewalk exists in all neighbourhoods. The waterfront along the entire city is accessible by all not just the few that own property. A plan that can help the homeless population have housing. And programs that help them with their physical, mental and emotional struggles.
- ▶ I want to see a Nanaimo and its government which resolutely and consistently pursues a few key strategic objectives.
- ▶ I want to see a Nanaimo that breeds kindness and helpfulness. I want a Nanaimo that is ensuring everyone who lives or visits here is adhering to strict environmental laws/protocols. I want a Nanaimo that encourages people to get involved and make Nanaimo feel like it has a very strong sense of community. I want a Nanaimo that rewards those who are conscientious of others, the environment and themselves.
- ▶ I want to see a Nanaimo that has a vibrant downtown with lots of restaurants and coffee shops with live music and open mikes in them, and small specialty shops, lots of arts and culture, especially in Theatre, hopefully better bus transportation especially out to Ladysmith and Cedar, better traffic control on Nicol Street and some other roads, and all the empty buildings fixed up and re-purposed.
- ▶ I want to see a Nanaimo that has finished projects it starts: e.g. the waterfront walk-way and has beautified and improved the Downtown and adjacent neighbourhoods. Residents of all areas of Nanaimo should find something to draw them to the Downtown node.
- ▶ I want to see a Nanaimo that is educated about barriers and fosters inclusivity.
- ▶ "I want to see a Nanaimo that prioritizes sustainability! Safer bike lanes and side walks, support for businesses to move toward zero waste, better access to public transit, more local food systems (community gardens, support farmers, farmers markets), and just seeing sustainability imbedded in every decision made.  
I also want to see help provided to the homeless and to those suffering from addiction. Providing housing is a great step. I know they're receiving some help now, but it is certainly not enough."
- ▶ I want to see a Nanaimo that retains its affordability and character, while allowing for growth and change. I want it to be a place where retired me (in the future) will be able to get around without a car. I want it to be a place where my young adult son feels he can have a successful career and life, without having to move away. I want it to be resilient in the face of climate change.
- ▶ I want to see a Nanaimo where all persons have a home supports in place to assist people with mental health, drug and alcohol issues
- ▶ I want to see a nanaimo where I can take my grandchildren walking downtown and to the parks without the worry of transients approaching us, or openly using drugs.
- ▶ I want to see a Nanaimo where recycling actually works, the homeless crisis is moving in the right direction (and Nicol street isn't a horrorshow where business go to die), and the waterfront walkway plan is completed.
- ▶ I want to see a Nanaimo as a great vacation spot, for tourists, safe, clean, tons of parks, outdoor's, more transit options in rural areas. Improving but keeping prices the same
- ▶ I want to see a place free of homelessness and drugs. But I don't think the hard working tax payers should have to pay for that to happen. Strict laws and consequences should be the answer. People should have to pass a drug test in order to get funding.

- ▶ I want to see a revitalized waterfront and better use of derelict or run down properties. A Granville island type market would be wonderful. Better dining scene (more diversity) run by small businesses rather than big box chains.
- ▶ I want to see a safe and prosperous Nanaimo, a thriving arts and culture scene, More restaurants, movie house, hardware store, the Main Street blocked to through traffic. Change commercial Street and terminal Avenue to better names drawn from I First Nations suggestions.
- ▶ I want to see a vibrant downtown and a multi-use walkway from downtown connecting the city and taking advantage of the natural waterfront. I want neighbourhoods to have sidewalks so people can safely walk from place to place.
- ▶ I want to see a vibrant downtown and more dining access along the waterfront, extended seawalk, vibrant retail sector, and some bloody life, not just an old folks town with no change. We need festivals of all kinds, not the kind with kiosks set up and selling Chinese garbage. Nanaimo has such a beautiful setting and it is wasted. Stop clearing all the trees and building monster houses. Put some thought into suburban development. The city looks awful.
- ▶ I want to see an end to homelessness and an end to the criminalization of drug use which often accompanies it. The future should be greener: no fossil fuel vehicles, more safe trails and walkways for pedestrians and bicyclists, protection for green spaces and parks and for areas of "wildness" throughout the Region; real train service up and down the island; no motorized boats on lakes within the city limits. Finally, I would like to see a plan that builds neighbourhoods rather than back to back mini malls that don't even connect with one another (Bowen Road for example.)
- ▶ I want to see downtown densification it's a little late but I would like to see agricultural land used to help make us more sustainable; every new subdivision house is making our future more uncertainl.
- ▶ I want to see kids playing in parks without finding needles. I want to see clean streets and neighbours talking. I want to see the small businesses downtown thrive on locals and tourism.
- ▶ I want to see large scale buildings and projects for the nanaimo area, we need to grow and get bigger.
- ▶ I want to see mental health , addictions ,and homelessness addressed.
- ▶ I want to see more culture. More art. More young people coming together and creating new things.
- ▶ I want to see more emphasis on bike trails and lanes to encourage biking not just for fun but for shopping, running errands etc. Communities where people can walk or bike to all their services are the way to go. More infrastructure to support electric vehicles will be increasingly important as we wean away from oil and gas. Climate change is frightening, and upon us, and we need to adapt asap.
- ▶ I want to see more parkland and accessible walking, hiking and cycling trails throughout the city, with bathroom facilities. I want to see more public access to the ocean. I want to see more recreation centres throughout the city, with a much richer array of programming for all ages. I want to see more attention to beautifying the city with plants and trees. I want to see community gardens in all corners of the city. I want to see Nanaimo as a progressive, diverse, thriving city that is innovative and alive. City council and city management needs to transform and become progressive community leaders.
- ▶ I want to see Nanaimo a resort town, with fishing piers, a variety of good quality non-chain restaurants. I want to see mom and pop shops. I want to see cruise ships come to Nanaimo and not be embarrassed. Build some large resorts, build a massive hotel and casino, improve the water front, expand the marina, increase the amount of rental housing and put an end to this insane amount of people with very little capital overhead to cover their asses during natural disasters like covid from buying up multiple houses and renting them out as Air B&B or student housing. Nanaimo is a bit short of AFFORDABLE rental option



for large and medium-sized families. We should be encouraging large rental companies. WE need to stop this insane habit of having Large empty retail lots and spaces in Nanaimo. Get some use it or lose it clauses. Look at terminal park. You have a beautiful piece of land where the grocery store used to be. Mountains on one side Ocean view on the other. WHY THE HELL HASNT THIS BEEN TURNED TO CONDOS? You could easily have a mix of retail space below and condo's above. And lets not forget snow removal during the winter? Have a look at how edmonton does it. Bylaw enforces it, and charges offenders for snow removal. Edmonton also hires homeless to work at the recycling and refuge facilities like dump etc. Hires homeless for city workers of all kinds to get them off the streets.

- ▶ I want to see Nanaimo as one of the most (if not the most) sustainable cities on Vancouver Island. I would like to see Nanaimo increase accessibility to active transportation by reducing the number of personal vehicles in the city and increasing bikes lanes, increasing public green spaces, addressing social issues such as housing and drug addiction, and take other actions needed to support the community and address climate change.
- ▶ I want to see Nanaimo as taking a leadership role in climate action to reverse effects of climate change.
- ▶ I want to see Nanaimo become the most attractive option for people to relocate to in BC if they have to leave their current location.
- ▶ I want to see nanaimo being an example of how you can turn a problem into a solution for all where we have become one to solve our homelessness and provide easy access to treatment addiction and mental illness concerns. I want my kids to feel safe playing downtown without having to explain mental illness, addiction or violence.
- ▶ I want to see Nanaimo continue to be inclusive, recognize it's past by collaborating with Snuneymxuw, and work towards finding resolutions to homelessness issue.
- ▶ I want to see Nanaimo without people sleeping in the street or on the floor in front of everyone and especially tourists. No drugs used in public and no needles on the floor that our kids can walk on. I want to see a longer sea wall walk. Also creating a nicer and bigger beach in downtown nanaimo or south nanaimo would attract more people and tourists.
- ▶ "I want to see Nanaimo, and our elected and non-elected leaders, to take advantage of the cities best features and create a vibrant city. With our vast trail and bike systems, sea wall, and close proximity to the ocean, forests, & mountains ... Nanaimo should be the most physically active city in Canada !! This will attract people to visit and live here, and if done correctly, it will also attract business and create employment opportunities.

After Vancouver, Nanaimo should have the longest and best seawall walk/bikeway of any city in BC.

Nanaimo could fairly easy become the trial riding, mountain biking capitol of Canada.

But if Nanaimo is to move forward towards changing itself, we would need to change our image and appearance -- the city government and community would need to come together to clean up and vastly improve our key areas of the city starting with our downtown and then the southern corridor entrance ( from the airport on north to the downtown area ). You can't get our own Nanaimo residents, let alone visitors to our city, excited and proud of our city with empty deteriorating buildings or lots, ugly rundown business buildings, unkept properties as the first thing that people experience when coming into Nanaimo south or north, and/or driving through downtown and other parts of our city. "

- ▶ "I want to see our streets safe, stop aiding and abetting those that don't help themselves. Our city should get out of business deals and learn to govern. Bike riders should have to

pass a drivers test, be insured, be licensed, follow all the rules of the road and start paying for bike lanes. Wages and benefits for government workers should come down and get in line with the private sector.”

- ▶ I want us to be more like Victoria but affordable.
- ▶ I won't be living here so I no longer care unless the city starts to make some serious changes as checked above.
- ▶ I would be happy if we could get back to where we were ten years ago. My hope is not to see garbage and encampments everywhere. Also that our downtown becomes that vibrant place we have talked about for years. The A&B building needs to go. To be honest, right now, I am not looking for anything except less crime and more community safety.
- ▶ “I would hope that Nanaimo continues to balance its recreation opportunities , with the fact that it is a real city not just a vacation spot. I hope that it maintains and even adds to the green spaces in town , connecting them so they can be reached by bike or foot instead of cars , and making these spaces accesible for all types of disabilities. I would hope that council embraces others ideas for change . Lots of residents have travelled to many places and have seen things that give them ideas for Nanaimo, not everyone is an “ideas” person. On every team we need a mix of personalities/outlooks, including ideas people , as well as epolpe who look at the project from all angles as well as people who get things done in an efficient way. ( We don't all have the same talents).  
If we could include a mix on advisory groups for example : people with various disabilities need to be included in and advisory group discussing solutions for the diabled.”
- ▶ I would hope to see less crime in Nanaimo. So more help for our homeless population. The community must come together to achieve this.
- ▶ I would like for Nanaimo to be more inclusive and for safe homes to be available for all people, regardless of their wealth. Homes are a human right. Not a commodity like it is in Nanaimo today. Access to better housing would alleviate so many issues that trouble Nanaimo today.
- ▶ I would like it to drop the prizes of land and houses so more people have a chance to get a home.
- ▶ “I would like Nanaimo to be accommodating to all people. We need to recognize and respect that Nanaimo is built on unceded land. I would like traditional place names to replace colonizer names or at least stand beside them. I would like the city to be greener. To encourage and develop neighbourhood solar and wind power hubs. Encourage sustainability. Community gardens. Community live stock perhaps. Maybe an area interested urbanites could collectively keep small livestock, goats, miniature cattle, horses and chickens. I would like perennial attractions that we could continue to bring our children to, like Science world, expanded art galleries. Co-op housing.  
”
- ▶ I would like Nanaimo to have a thriving downtown core with a denser population of housing in that area to support businesses, restaurants, etc., hand in hand with housing options for disadvantaged populations, at the same time as ensuring that green areas, forests, and shorelines do not become so over-developed as to lose all of what makes Nanaimo unique and beautiful.
- ▶ I would like the idea of urban forestry and climate change resilience to be a priority eg:the bikeways are fine but its yet more impermeable surface – if you're going to take land why not take abit more land – say 6 to 10m and have 3m hard surface and the rest to plant native trees – shade, carbon sequestration, bird habitat etc. I like the quirkiness of Nanaimo and would like to see that retained – and would hate to see it be a replica of a generic bigger city.
- ▶ I would like to a see a vibrant downtown Nanaimo and the Old City Quarter(which is currently barely surviving). Get North End idiots to shop locally instead of going to Walmart. Commercial Street between

Bastion and Albert a no-car zone. Less Shopping malls, more street markets/craft/farmers markets. Food trucks all the time (without making owners jump through hoops) in places like Maffeo Sutton Park and Departure Bay Beach area. Although "the Hub City" is a great slogan for business /commercial enterprise, I hope in the future we find a better way of selling Nanaimo to tourists. Let's be viewed as a destination, not as a hub (ie: a jumping off point to better destinations!)

- ▶ "I would like to brag about the self sustainability and community driven events and developments. Mental health programs in place to help those wanting help and getting off the streets. More affordable housing."
- ▶ I would like to get the criminal drug addicted element off the streets and in jails or rehab otherwise you are doing nothing to fix the issue just more to create it - Our city shouldn't be in the business of creating homeless drug addicts - I would then like to see the city give permits to big hotels and develop a skyline from DT to Departure bay making the hotels continue the infrastructure for parking walk ways etc
- ▶ I would like to have more sense of community. Don't know how that would be implemented.
- ▶ I would like to Nanaimo become a more sustainable and culturally diverse community where green policies are prioritized.
- ▶ I would like to recoup the City from 10 years ago...no zombies infringing on private properties and businesses.
- ▶ I would like to see a city with affordable housing, a creative approach to homelessness, and an environmentally responsible jewel in BC
- ▶ I would like to see a clean, green sustainable city. Less cars, lots of green space more food produced locally.
- ▶ I would like to see a community much like the one I moved to in 1995. Get rid of the stakeholders who wish to use crime to make other peoples lives miserable. I am all for helping those who want and need help and or those who are trying. But I draw the line at those taking advantage of the system
- ▶ I would like to see a greener and more resilient city; local businesses, lots of green spaces, more bike lanes, improved transit.
- ▶ I would like to see a live downtown that brings community together and attracts tourism. Homelessness is a huge issue so more needs to be done to bring it under control. Ideally I would like to see Nanaimo as live as Victoria is considering is has a privilege position and has 2 ferry terminals. Nanaimo is missing out a huge opportunity attracting tourism because really there is no reason for tourists to stay and play in Nanaimo.
- ▶ I would like to see a more pedestrian/cyclist friendly Nanaimo with an extended waterfront walkway and improved public transit. I'd like so know that our seniors are taken care of and have good access to housing, activities, and services. I would like more culture in Nanaimo, be it through the arts, restaurants, or events and festivals.
- ▶ I would like to see a more technological Nanaimo where the city helps and supports companies moving to the digital age. It seems not enough priority is given to how technology can improve people's lives in Nanaimo.
- ▶ I would like to see a more vibrant and densified downtown. More people need to live downtown to make it amazing and walkable! Way too much car culture in Nanaimo. Also, a land use plan for Protection Island where I live (currently there is none).
- ▶ I would like to see a more vibrant downtown with lots of businesses and tourists coming specifically to

Nanaimo and not to the surrounding communities. I would also like to see a final solution to the transit problem in this city. Stop wasting time trying to improve the bus system. Just build an LRT along the old Island Highway and then create bus hubs that connect to it. I would also like to see more big, open parks that have the space to play games, go for a picnic, and spend time. We have enough parks that are shrouded in trees and meant just for walking. Finally, I would like to see more diverse employment opportunities so that young people can work well paying jobs and be able to own a house here and not just a condo.

- ▶ I would like to see a more vibrant mixed use waterfront to attract tourism and celebrate our First Nations heritage and the beauty of our surroundings
- ▶ I would like to see a Nanaimo that has housing costs under control and homelessness abolished. A city that has the idea of sustainability as a pillar in both the environment and economy.
- ▶ I would like to see a Nanaimo with a truly revitalized downtown, waterfront, and an increased dedication to increasing park/green space within the city, and developing new land use agreements in surrounding areas for mountain biking and hiking trails to better allow citizens to enjoy their unique landscape.
- ▶ I would like to see a new sports centre with a pool in the north end so I can drive less. Would also like to see more community centres. People are shopping less and less in brick and mortar stores but still want to go out to do things.
- ▶ "i would like to see a re-invigorated Downtown and South Nanaimo, but I fear that vision is fading because the nails in downtown Nanaimo's coffin were forged by previous Mayors and Councils (primarily Ney and Korpan) who encouraged highway retail mall development all the way to Woodgrove, and suburban sprawl that has effectively deprived the downtown from having any ""urban mass"" that could support a revitalized Downtown.

Today the heart of Nanaio, i.e. where most people live, shop and participate in cultural events, is in the northern reaches of the city which is where most Nanaimonians live and where most new housing is being built.

It is also where most retail and other services are available. ihous"

- ▶ "I would like to see a separate trail for mountain bikers at Westwood lake. This is a serious safety issue as the trail is not wide enough to accommodate foot traffic and bikes. I have a young child and have had many close calls with bikers speeding around corners and coming up behind without warning.

I would like to see another disc golf course as it seems to be one of the world's fastest growing sports. The course at Bowen park is fantastic but has become very busy so it would be nice to have another option. Disc golf attracts many tourists who travel just to play at Bowen and there would be more potential to host tournaments. "

- ▶ I would like to see a vibrant downtown, North area, South area,..... with NO BEGGERS. ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO BE RESPECTFUL TO ONE ANOTHER. Try for EXCELLENCE in this city. Do not accept mediocrity..... Big challenge here.
- ▶ i would like to see buildings constructed where people can buy and own a unit in them, not be forced to pay market rents forever. the term affordable rentals is bullshit. i read an article about "affordable rentals" and a 2 bedroom condo was 1400 a month. these massive condo rental buildings get constructed with low interest government funding, so the developers make maximum profits, then they sell the building to a REIT or other investment firm and their goal is to maximize profits for investors, so rent is kept as high as humanly possible, and the average person suffers because of it. we NEED to create affordable housing

that can be owned by people, not rented! this is the key that is missing. or we need to restrict how many units a single company or entity can own. otherwise we end up with 4 corporations owning 4000 units, and they control the rental market and fix prices to their benefit.

- ▶ I would like to see cleaner streets and parks. It would great to have more bike lanes that make it safer for bikers, and I would like to have more side walks for pedestrians. Having more affordable housing would also be huge, in all areas of the city.
- ▶ "I would like to see continued improvement of our downtown and waterfront. I think we have a great baseline and lots of potential. Currently there are a number of run-down/empty/crumbling properties in the main downtown core. Building or renovating on these lots would be a big improvement that could bring more residents and tourists into the area.  
I'm not sure what is the right solution to the drug and homelessness problem but I don't always feel safe downtown if I walk just beyond the main commercial area due to groups of people hanging in doorways, some of whom seem unstable/unpredictable and some of whom are openly using illegal drugs. While I feel compassion for the people who find themselves in these situations, I am unsure how to help and I think it adversely affects our image as a city.  
More bike routes and more comprehensive public transit – including a train linking Campbell River to Victoria with stops along the way would help us leave our cars at home more often."
- ▶ I would like to see downtown cleaned up and addictions being treated rather than just shoving people into housing or just letting them run rampant in our streets.
- ▶ I would like to see downtown Nanaimo on commercial street and a few surrounding streets to be vehicle free. Allowing public to walk on street and enjoy what downtown had to offer. Extending biking paths on roads to allow more people to take advantage of city without fear of getting hit by cars. My biggest hope is that we take bigger steps to become more economical. Such as removing all plastic bags from stores, getting ride of single use plastic containers. More roof top gardens, more education in schools to grow own food.
- ▶ I would like to see everyone have a safe and clean home. I'd like to see access to mental and physical health practitioners FOR FREE for people with an income under 65k. I'd like to see police that show up when they're called and bylaw officers that enforce all the bylaws not just the ones in the downtown core. Ideally, I'd like to see affordable living, clean streets, and feel safe to walk through my own neighbourhood....since there's more than one school in it.
- ▶ I would like to see FAR less homelessness and drug use. It makes our beautiful city look awful sometimes. The crime from these people is horrendous. In order for Nanaimo to be a truly desirable place to be, we must address this issue.
- ▶ I would like to see increased accessibility and efficiency to services such as police, mental health, fire and ambulance. I envision a community "hub" where these services can be housed and accessed together. I would also like to see improved water system where our water is considered of highest quality (see Paris, France). Drinking water accessible throughout the city along with washroom facilities. I envision continuation of our waterfront walkway north to Departure Bay and south to the Estuary. I see improved care and management of our homeless population with safe housing, increased access to mental health and addictions programs. I also would love to see Commercial street closed to traffic, which would allow for opportunities for street and farmer's markets, outdoor dining, shopping and entertainment
- ▶ "I would like to see more areas that are focused on parkettes, meaning small places of greenery, and fountains, to sit and enjoy the peace and beauty of life on the Island.  
These could be scattered around in different parts of the city. This should be included in the newer areas of "suburbia" as well, to make it more people friendly. Not just parking lots. Plant more trees in these

areas. North Nanaimo Mall has tried to do that on the Canadian Tire side. Vancouver has some of these park like areas downtown, with “living walls” and benches. Add sculptures or large rocks for interest. Cherry trees.”

- ▶ I would like to see more density downtown with more culture (i.e. restaurants). Terminal Avenue would be more green and appealing to walk down/look at. It is important to have the derelict or empty properties downtown developed to make it a nice place to visit. I would like to see the people without homes, housed in various areas around throughout the city to spread out the density of affordable housing.
- ▶ I would like to see more focus on art and culture. It is hard to find here, yet art is the heart of any community and adds to the vibrancy of communities. I would like to see a welcoming community art centre for all. More art.
- ▶ I would like to see more green space, bicycle and pedestrian friendly roads
- ▶ I would like to see more help for the homeless. This problem has increased since I was a teenager. I never saw homeless people on the streets in nanaimo. I am 56. I see alot of them downtown area. They need help and the businesses need support.
- ▶ i would like to see more homeless people getting help, better rehabilitation programs.
- ▶ I would like to see more housing options, development shouldn't just be infills and estates.
- ▶ “I would like to see more large scale buildings, like 20 or 30 story buildings, with more investment into our military presence, and training.  
We have the beautiful place, we just need a larger funner feel downtown waterfront.  
More business, to attract more people, need a fair or something fun to go do.”
- ▶ i would like to see more small houses ie more affordable homes, not just social housing apartments. Why do houses need to be big and “high end”? I would also like to see “mini” housing capability and classes or programs to build them. Would also like to see incentives for people to clean up their properties esp blackberries and broom.
- ▶ “I would like to see more vibrant tourism i.e. use of the cruise ship dock for either ships or something else. I would like to see more availability of affordable rehearsal and other artistic space. I would like to see more access to public transportation. ”
- ▶ I would like to see Nanaimo as the first green and sustainable city of BC on the island.
- ▶ I would like to see Nanaimo be a bold, future-forward city that models environmental responsibility, sustainable energy and transportation, and capitalizes on the outdoor possibilities of the location.
- ▶ I would like to see Nanaimo become a popular tourism destination for outdoor adventure seekers and marine recreation
- ▶ I would like to see Nanaimo continue to be a safe, family friendly community with a focus on the natural environment.
- ▶ “I would like to see Nanaimo develop affordable housing not only for Nanaimo residents in core housing need, but also with a vision of poaching artists from stunningly unaffordable Vancouver. I've already mentioned the idea of intentionally developing an arts community to economic development officer Amrit Manhas and to leaders in Vancouver's arts community -- everyone I spoke with expressed interest. I envision a sort of tourist-magnet Sausalito that would still have ties to Vancouver as the central arts marketplace, at least at the beginning; a magnet that would attract provincial and out-of-province tourists, and also day-trippers from Vancouver, particularly if a downtown-to-downtown foot passenger ferry were in operation. I also really want to see the entire waterfront opened up to bicycles, at least from

Duke Point to Lantzville. Tourism for all Vancouver Island might be improved if lengthy sections of bike path like this were linked up island-wide and overnight hostels built.

“

- ▶ I would like to see Nanaimo leading the way in finding an adequate solution to the homeless and crime problem in the city. It would be refreshing to see the City of Nanaimo have a fair but firm hand in changing the direction that these issues are pushing the city in.
- ▶ “I would like to see Nanaimo progress in the avenues of culture and sustainability. I would like to see the city take a more inclusive approach to minorities currently in the city. I would also like to see the city showcase Nanaimo's rich heritage around town. An idea to do this would be plaques in the locations of the old Chinatowns and the jail where Ukrainian Canadians were interned during the first World War.

As for sustainability I feel like there is always room for improvement. I am fascinated by the idea of creating pollinator corridors. With the inclusion of pollinator corridors it would be nice to see Nanaimo be one of the first major cities to gain the pollinator friendly status.”

- ▶ I would like to see Nanaimo somehow gain more of the appealing characteristics of towns like Chemainus (which wasn't all that appealing a few years ago), Courtney Comox and Cumberland. The homeless issue is huge and I'd love Nanaimo to be a forefront leading city in this issue. It's difficult, but I believe an institution of some sort, that will allow these people to live the lives they choose, provide them with help if they choose it, or not, all with the intention of providing them the drugs they need so they do not steal from their neighborhoods or endanger our residents.
- ▶ I would like to see resources spread across the city and more accessible bike infrastructure along Bowen (or in the vicinity). I think the growing bike infrastructure has been great for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists and helps make everyone feel safer and allows people to get around faster.
- ▶ “I would like to see roads/streets with steep hills plowed more frequently as well as roads to NRGH. I don't necessarily mean College Heights (but I'm sure they have their issues). I mean roads within other Nanaimo areas that leave you feeling trapped when you have a snow covered street and you can't go out nor can emergency vehicles get in.  
And also by 2030, I would hope we'll be staffing a second hospital. “
- ▶ I would like to see supportive housing to help all of our addicts and mentally ill as well as more options for seniors. I want the extension of the waterfront walkway to be complete. I like the development of so-called 'complete streets' and would like to see more of that.
- ▶ I would like to see the city REIMAGINING itself to the basic services that it had 25 plus years ago
- ▶ I would like to see the homeless crisis ended and I would like to No longer see open drug use. I would like to see a cleaner city. I would like the mess from the homeless to be cleaned up. No more needles laying around on the ground and no more human faeces on the streets.
- ▶ I would like to see the prices for all houses, apartments and living situations to be lower. There is no reason someone needs to pay \$1600 for a one bedroom apartment. How do you expect our generation to make minimum wage and pay for housing, gas, a car payments, hydro and a phone bill. There is no possible way, the jobs offered here don't pay enough money for that. As of right now i'll have to live with my parents all the way through university because I won't be able to afford the cost of living on my own and school.
- ▶ I would like to see safer walking and biking access to the community and more events and activities in the North of Nanaimo
- ▶ I would love to be able to visit all areas of Nanaimo and feel safe to explore our city without being

accosted by people with drug addictions and criminals. It would be fabulous to be proud of our city that takes pride in our local governments.

- ▶ I would LOVE to see a city that has bike lanes everywhere and accessible transportation. I would love to see a city where tourists aren't just stopping here on their way to Tofino or Victoria (I worked in hospitality). I would love to see a city that has affordable housing, community gardens and sustainable environmental friendly practices, definitely way greener than we are right now.
- ▶ I would love to see a downtown revitalization with loft living and businesses living in harmony with the residents of downtown. That has been a vision of mine for many years. Our downtown is dying and it's too full of history and culture to let it die!!
- ▶ I would love to see a huge reduction in poverty and homelessness in Nanaimo along with environmentally sustainable homes and businesses. I would love to see us colonists working peacefully together with our Indigenous neighbours. I know that much is under the control of the provincial government but there is still a lot we can do and we should continue to lobby the government for sustainable change (cancel Site C and LNG).
- ▶ I would love to see a huge sea wall from Neck Point to the Nanaimo River. I would like to see a gondola to the top of Benson with a trail network maintained by the city. At the same time I would like to see easier access for walking and parking for seniors through the town and the homeless and mental ill helped in a manner that would positively impact the rest of the citizens.
- ▶ I would love to see a Nanaimo that has an incredible sense of local community while also celebrating and welcoming the diverse cultures represented here. I'd love to see a vibrant and beautiful downtown Nanaimo with a world class parks system. I would also love Nanaimo to be famous for honouring and celebrating our First Nations, giving them a central voice and role in shaping and defining our city. It would be a city where churches, non-profits, community groups and private citizens would willingly participate in the betterment of our city.
- ▶ I would love to see a Nanaimo where people don't dump their trash out indiscriminately along roadways and in rural areas - where people respect their community and nature.
- ▶ I would love to see a place for homeless individuals away from downtown. So many business owners have struggled and I am somewhat fearful going downtown by myself with small children.
- ▶ I would love to see an investment into Nanaimo's downtown and waterfront. Nanaimo's waterfront to become a long, public pathway for all to enjoy. More support for small, local business and creativity downtown (new restaurants and shops, creative outdoor spaces). More bike paths and bike lanes along the road. More collaboration with the Snuneymuxw nation in the history and culture downtown. There is a lot of pride in Nanaimo have an elected Green party MP - let's showcase how green Nanaimo can truly be.
- ▶ I would love to see better housing and it being more affordable, little to none homeless people, more job opportunities for the homeless and in general better tourism so Nanaimo would be known for someone better than bar.
- ▶ I would love to see better use of our beautiful waterfront with more walking/biking paths and a connection of the sea wall to Departure Bay.
- ▶ I would love to see Departure Bay turned into a "social village". With its already amazing waterfront it would be so good to see more pubs, restaurants, clubs, shops etc down at the Departure Bay waterfront area to create a hub of nightlife in Nanaimo.
- ▶ I would love to see downtown revitalized, we used to go there often but now, because of the drug litter (e.g. needles etc), vomit in the bushes and getting asked for money or needing to avoid people who are

high/drank we don't. We miss going to the businesses and the library but it just doesn't feel welcoming or safe. I would also like to see more access and protection of outdoor space for recreation, particularly along our beautiful waterfront. We have a lot of waterfront but only a few places to access it - I still love the idea of a longer waterfront walkway that connects Departure Bay and downtown.

- ▶ I would love to see Nanaimo be more family-oriented, but also with a strong downtown presence that accommodate Young and or childless adults. I support the idea of having Commercial Street be a foot traffic only space, and would love to see that area be used for more events
- ▶ I would love to see Nanaimo becoming one of the primary thriving cities on Vancouver Island. The city will lead in health and wellness endeavors and support local sports clubs and fitness clubs. We are outdoor enthusiasts who care about the environment and who strive to grow our city every year.
- ▶ I would love to see public tennis indoor at the Westwood tennis club. I am there 4 times a week and I would love to see the facility remain open.
- ▶ I would love to see the city buses running on renewable energy. I would love to see the homeless program put in place in Edmonton, Alberta implemented in Nanaimo. The program gave the homeless a place to live. Everyone should have the right to a home. We don't win unless we all win.
- ▶ I would love to see the sea wall extend from downtown to Departure bay. Be more lenient towards beach fires (have an option to reserve firepits for free for tax payers)
- ▶ I would love to see the waterfront area more accessible, especially downtown. I've lived here 2 years and when I first came here I expected more accessibility to the waterfront. I had imagined restaurants and coffee shops and piers to walk out, but was surprised to see that there was only a smaller area for this and it seemed so detached. I think there is so much potential for the waterfront area and I know there's been talk of developing more the south side of downtown's waterfront.
- ▶ "I would love to see the waterfront walkway improved. The paved pathway needs to be widened and the walkway should be extended all the way to departure bay and down to chase river. The parkway will no longer have traffic lights and will be 3 lanes each direction. I would love to see an amusement park on the island."
- ▶ "I would love to see this city at peace. With a vibrant downtown that is welcoming and supportive of the arts"
- ▶ I would love to see us address poverty with affordable house in more resources for all marginalized populations including families. Programs for new parents that meet them where they are at that can be on going. Employability training programs expanded that include self development such as the one that runs out of Foodshare. I can never for the life of can understand why they are constantly fighting for those contract dollars. Outreach street teams that actually have time to build relationship with our homeless population. Even though some service are provided they often work in isolation. There was a time where there was a community to action committee that had all social services provider represented for brain storming, goal setting and take action initiatives. Rcmp, social planner and politicians were included. We worked as a team to address our issues and then there was a crisis team off of that that worked to identify specific high risk members of the community that were presenting across all services and they would work together to help them. It was brilliant.
- ▶ I would prefer to attend consultation meetings where City Transportation managers and General managers of Engineering and Public Works have not already made up their minds. Calling it a Consultation process is an insult to the tax paying public citizens of Nanaimo.
- ▶ I would really really like to see more recreational opportunities for the tax payers who are working and

have limited times to stay fit. An indoor tennis facility would be an excellent addition to our community.

- ▶ I would want to see a better transit system whether that is a sky train or more bus routes and a better restaurant industry.
- ▶ I'd like to not see homeless people when I drive through certain areas. The rental crisis doesn't help the situation. I'd like to see more affordable housing for people that rent. I'd also like to see more younger families buying houses.
- ▶ I'd like to see a more inclusive waterfront development reaching from departure bay to the Nanaimo estuary. We need to re consider our spaces and use already urban areas to increase density creating incentives for some of the old empty buildings to be redeveloped into something our community needs (old a&b sound, old acme, old save on foods at terminal mall etc.) I'd like to see a permanent year round farmers market where we can access food ground our surrounding areas. I'd like to see the city stop making arrests for drug possession and start focusing harder on criminal networks and the larger picture of the criminals plaguing our city. I'd like to train transportation between Victoria and Nanaimo re introduced. Key agricultural areas surrounding our community need to be protected and preserved for future food production.
- ▶ I'd like to see a Nanaimo that continues to offer unparalleled natural beauty and wonderful community spirit but which also has reduced crime, public drug use and homelessness, and a strong economy.
- ▶ I'd like to see a sustainable, diverse, caring community that is working together to mitigate and adapt climate change and deal with demographic changes like aging populations and the need for more immigration.
- ▶ I'd like to see more outdoor events, vibrant downtown, more food trucks at waterfront, departure bay, Westwood lake etc. (and make it easier for businesses to operate food trucks). I'd like to see a big leading step into green energy solutions like solar power being used around the city.
- ▶ I'd like to see Nanaimo become a destination and for there to be lots of opportunities for jobs and small businesses.
- ▶ I'd like Nanaimo to be a leader in green jobs (jobs that help the environment in big and small ways and that include everyone, even marginalized folks).
- ▶ I'd like to be able to walk Downtown and the City Parks and have them be safe and crime free with no drug addicts camping on City streets. I'd like to be able to walk the Parks without being confronted for money by drug addicted criminals. Safety is HUGE and Nanaimo is failing miserably. I'd like to have a safe City free of filth and garbage and needle strewn streets.
- ▶ I'd like to see - 1) a vibrant downtown, 2) thriving neighbourhood centres with shops and services, 3) more parks and green spaces, 4). more active mode personal transport (go e-bikes!), 5) diverse and clean value added businesses, 6; wide ranging recreation and sport to appeal to people of all interests and ages.
- ▶ I'd like to see a busy, productive port. I'd like to see renewable energy businesses making parts or innovating new technology that can be sold elsewhere in the world to reduce human impact on climate. Keep supporting electric car charging. In 10 years I'd like to see cycling and walking and scooters having priority over the car downtown and in other designated areas with a really good system of connecting safe bike lanes. The bike lanes would have the same priority as car roads for snow clearance, cleaning up grit, etc. Housing would include ample higher density going up to get the views, and every tower would have affordable housing with units owned by BC Housing and allocated to the low and no income people in our city. There would not be low income ghettos like the downtown Eastside. I hear we will accommodate 77,000 newcomers in the next decade. Let's do a great job of building neighbourhood

environments with services like groceries and gas/EV charging and convenience stores and coffee shops so that neighbours can get to know each other. Keep up the great work of building community centres and recreation facilities and don't forget the young people. Skate board parks, etc. for our teens. Extra people will also hopefully bring better health services. All the major diseases should be treatable in Nanaimo in 10 years.

- ▶ I'd like to see a city that is dog-friendly and bicycle-friendly. I want leash laws to be better-enforced and also more access-friendly off-leash dog areas. I support separated bike lanes.
- ▶ I'd like to see a city with a focus on leisure and recreation – physical and intellectual – that has figured out the homeless situation and addiction issues. Easy access to mental health programs for lower income people. An active community response team to deal with violence and abuse (physical, mental, emotional) that is easy to access. A beautiful, vibrant downtown with events and unique shops and boutiques, and green space. Lots of parks – both wild and cultivated. Better access and information about parking downtown (there is currently only one sign pointing to a parkade). Clean up of the Terminal Avenue part of downtown (corridor through the gully). Expansion of downtown to surrounding area by pleasant, clean walking paths.
- ▶ I'd like to see a continuation of the park systems , heritage preservation , the commercial possibilities and housing we have now . Id also like to see the E&N railway used again .
- ▶ I'd like to see a Nanaimo that gives people of all ages, income, and circumstance the opportunity to feel secure and be proud of where they live.
- ▶ I'd like to see it be a greener place.
- ▶ "I'd love to have a community arts centre with exhibition and performance space, studios, maker space and workshops, classrooms.  
My ideas for combatting homelessness would need to be implemented Canada-wide to be effective, but there I'd like to see a limit on foreign ownership of property, and AirBnB-type rentals limited to rooms in people's homes, with no stand-alone houses or apartment rentals allowed for less than 1 month term."
- ▶ I'd love to see a safer, more vibrant, downtown core. Better access to affordable housing. Creating multipurpose spaces that can host housing, entertainment/community space, and businesses. Also creating a larger entertainment space to attract talent to Nanaimo, encouraging tourism.
- ▶ I'd love to see a vibrant downtown and waterfront accessibility. I think all incomes thrive with vibrance and life giving spaces.
- ▶ I'd love to see bike lanes utilized and improved throughout the city (longer than 200m). Id love to see some new solutions to the homeless/drug users. I'd love to see downtown flourish and be a comfortable place for me to go (as a young women I dont go downtown alone due to homeless and drug addicts). I think with the trial access we have in Nanaimo we could be using mountain biking and trail running as more of a tourist attraction.
- ▶ I'd love to see more active transport by far. I want to see safer intersections for pedestrians and cyclists and all vulnerable road users. The weather here is not a barrier to getting outside all year round. It should be easy to cycle to school or to the mall or cafe. The sidewalks should be wider like the new section of Bowen Rd with the raised bikelane. And there should be sidewalks on EVERY road, I'm thinking of places like Hammond Bay rd where there is no sidewalk for long stretches...
- ▶ If things continue the same way I think our city will look somewhat like east haystings, our property values will have dropped as Nanaimo will become more and more undesirable as out bordering towns become more appealing. If we are able to get this shitshow under control and make it appealing for new downtown businesses and focus on bringing life to Nanaimo downtown core I think it could really give us

a fighting chance in becoming the connector town for Vancouver and a great tourism destination. We have the port for cruise ships let's make it so that cruise ships want to stop here.

- ▶ If we are going to shelter the homeless we should choose a dorm type setting with a cafeteria to offer a healthy meal 3 x daily. Encourage the tenants to contribute to the community.
- ▶ I'm walking along a completed ocean front path, marvelling at the range of people enjoying the thriving new businesses that have been created south and east of the downtown core. I'm looking forward to stopping in at the year round Farmer's / Craft market on my way home to buy local ingredients to cook a lovely meal for the new neighbours who just finished building a new house in what was once a vacant industrial lot.....
- ▶ Improve downtown Nanaimo
- ▶ "Improve or enforce vegetation around empty or vacant buildings, including sites that need to be cleaned up very much sooner than later.  
Re-align the old Island Hwy away from downtown. Consider an outer hwy west of Mt Benson. Move Gabriola Island ferry to Duke Point. Open Gulfview to through traffic. Hammond Bay Rd – significant increase in development has resulted & will continue to increase traffic volume. Develop alternative route to move traffic away from Hammond Bay Rd. Install traffic circle at Departure Bay Rd & Hammond Bay Rd, also at Departure Bay Rd & Uplands Rd.  
I agree that our public spaces are enriched by art but not graffiti or murals. "
- ▶ Improve the waterfront and down town more like Vancouver , less industrialized
- ▶ Improve transit!
- ▶ Improved public transit (people have to get to work on holidays, too); extended waterfront pathway system, passenger ferry to Vancouver
- ▶ "Improved roads. The walkway at Swy A Lana is terrible & someone is going to get hurt."  
"
- ▶ Improved social programs, mental support, declined homelessness. Improved programs for families and seniors.
- ▶ In 10 years from now I would love to see Nanaimo have more Indigenous owned businesses and rental opportunities where they make money from their land, rightfully so. I think Campbell River is a good example of what I would like to see. I image buses that take people who can't get to certain nature areas available and filling the city with accessible green spaces that are safe. I image more thriving housing market economy that is accessible. I also image more efforts with the homeless population and addressing the root causes of homelessness instead of these reactive programs. I image more small businesses thriving and more local markets with food and other goodies. I image me feeling proud to live in this community because of the efforts of reconciliation, small business growth, accessible transportation and housing.
- ▶ In 10 years Nanaimo has many more affordable and supportive housing units and has cut down on homelessness. Nanaimo has many more harm reduction services that are spread throughout the city, to lessen the harm of drug addiction. Nanaimo has many more bike lanes, better public transit system, more sidewalks (especially in the south end of town). Nanaimo has more community gardens and more parks. Rock climbing areas are protected, well signed and promoted. More promotion of trail riding areas.
- ▶ In 10 years time, I do NOT want to see Nanaimo's population increase to the size that is being projected. If the City continues to allow more development for the rate of growth it foresees ( or just wants for an increased tax base?), we will not be the Liveable Region which REIMAGINE NANAIMO should be striving to

maintain. You can't have it all.

- ▶ In 10 years, I would like to see small businesses being encouraged as the dominant businesses, not the big box stores. I would like to see the priority placed on making Nanaimo a good place to open a shop where competition is fair, and where locals don't have to get in their cars to drive to a concrete mall where all goods are cheap and mass produced in China.
- ▶ "In 10 years, is there still going to be a massive hole where the acme building was? What about A&B Sound?  
Nanaimo needs Less Krog and Less Crime."
- ▶ In 2030 Nanaimo is a prime tourism destination on Vancouver Island. Nanaimo's friendly people have welcomed newcomers from far and wide. Nanaimo has a thriving downtown, with many stores, restaurants and music venues. Night markets draw big crowds twice weekly. Our farmers markets boast large varieties of organic vegetables and whole foods. Local artists and craftsmen have successful businesses selling their wares to locals and tourists alike. Our beautiful oceanfront seawall runs from Departure Bay to Duke Point showcasing many musicians and buskers. Our visitors say they wish they could stay longer.
- ▶ In 2030, I want to see many people using and enjoying a well-developed walkway and parts system that extends from departure Bay to the estuary. I imagine people most often getting around by transit and other means aside from personal vehicles. I see more density, but not at the sacrifice of green. I see even more, healthier street trees and urban forest.
- ▶ In 2030, my Nanaimo is connected and supportive, and Council and community recognize that there is no "us and them" about this place we call home. From those who face multiple barriers due to mental health and substance use challenges to those who are most fortunate, we are absolutely united in our resolve to lift each other up.
- ▶ In my vision of the future, Nanaimo has addressed the issue of affordable housing and homelessness. I would also like to see us develop more ways to combat climate change, such as improved public transit, rooftop gardens, solar panels, etc.
- ▶ "In Nanaimo you can spend hours enjoying the natural beauty by hiking, sailing, whale watching or even walking the sea-walk. Or, for something more artsy, there is downtown with it's patio restaurants, street music, arts and culture!  
"
- ▶ In the current decade
- ▶ "In the document, a Cultural Plan for a Creative Nanaimo 2014-2020, the City identified Cultural Vitality as one of the four pillars of sustainability. That same report recommended using arts and culture as a valuable marketing tool for Nanaimo's Tourism and Economic Development Strategy. Developing shared workspace for artists was one strategy. However, Nanaimo is one of the rare cities that does not have such a hub, nor does the Economic Development website reference art and culture except for filming.  
"
- ▶ "In the next 10 years there should be improvements in transit with as many bus as possible on various routes .  
Need more job opportunities especially for the youth to remain and work here.  
"
- ▶ Inclusive affordable community for all
- ▶ Inclusive and accessible

- ▶ Inclusive and green. Social and safe.
- ▶ inclusive and healthy – homes for all people. work for all people. opportunity nanaimo!
- ▶ Inclusive community consisting of neighborhood enclaves each connected through civic governance but each celebrating their own strengths. Traffic congestion needs to be addressed as does the proliferation of homelessness ( provincial responsibility)
- ▶ Inclusive, vibrant downtown, multi-mode transportation
- ▶ “Inclusive, vibrant, authentic, connected;

Diverse people feel at home here & proud of it, they feel like they have opportunities to learn, grow, connect & thrive, they feel safe, they are engaged in their communities”

- ▶ Increase density resulting in increased services such as: public transport, health care, recreation and commercial opportunities.
- ▶ Increase of tourism attractions and merchant opportunities that all cultures of Nanaimo can interact in to create jobs and awareness of our natural amenities.
- ▶ Increase recycling stations and improve ways to develop a circle economy.
- ▶ Increase VIU availability and add the land that I think is federal as in 10 years more will be attending and Nanaimo has the chance to be a world wide Educations centre.
- ▶ Increased access to nature. Reduced cars on the road, via improved cycling, public transit.
- ▶ Increased active transport, a transit system that actually gets people moving in an efficient way, and a downtown with thriving local businesses. More accessible water. For a city built on the water, there is about 2!! Places that you can really sit and eat or drink in a restaurant by the water.
- ▶ Increased community events. More help for homeless people and those with drug addictions.
- ▶ Increased environmental sustainability (city is too sprawled–too dependent on driving), stronger sense of community/connection, increased accessibility/inclusion, love/acceptance of all our residents even those that are struggling–less of a divide
- ▶ increased green space & structured density rather than wily–nily
- ▶ Increased green spaces and a MAJOR focus on climate action. Improve the safety for cyclists in Nanaimo so that fewer people need to drive – decrease congestion, improve air quality, have healthier citizens.
- ▶ increased opportunities for family entertainment during poor weather. I support a science centre
- ▶ “Increased support for our downtown,help being incentives for llocally owned businesses,create the desire to have a ‘hub’ in our city centre.  
Would love to see a movie theatre back downtown.Address the empty buildings.  
What are we going to do about the rising homelessness.With the impact of Covid and homeless people we are seeing a deterioration in Downtown Nanaimo. “
- ▶ “Indigenous Cultural Centre, more park space, nature trails  
”
- ▶ Indigenous reconciliation in our local economy
- ▶ Indoor tennis facilities
- ▶ Indoor tennis facility

- ▶ indoor tennis more retail availability housing for homeless
- ▶ Indoor tennis opportunities would be a good idea. With opportunities for seniors to play.
- ▶ "Industry should continue: Port, fishing, sawmill, pulp mill, , so there is manual and less skilled work available.  
Development as a tourism hub.  
Encourage working young people to move here: make it easy to start a business, encourage a range of affordable housing. Avoid the fate of a ""retirement community"".  
"
- ▶ Innovative senior housing and senior activities focus
- ▶ Inspired and led by Indigenous wisdom, a thriving sustainable, environmentally conscious and responsible community united in the care of people and our natural world.
- ▶ Intelligent population densification. Stop urban sprawl. Have one vehicle ferry terminal, one walk on which should be located downtown. Have one bus terminal that serves the ferries, seaplanes, YCD, helicopter and the new LRT which we must have.
- ▶ Intercultural population that doesn't need a car to get around and has a place for everyone in its social fabric.
- ▶ intergrate new development wth services parks and bike routes . complete water front walk way from denture bay to down town.
- ▶ "It is difficult to project how developments will go or what markets for housing will be like 10 years from now. But in general, I would like to see some changes come into effect. Commercial St. should be closed to vehicle traffic and turned into a pedestrian zone with businesses allowed to utilize the street as patio space; and give more support to the Night Market (which was probably the best thing to happen to Downtown in 25 years). I would like to see the waterfront walkway project complete or well under way with a broader vision to create social architecture in those public spaces.

I would also like to see the Pit at the old Acme building dealt with; and this issue is going to be pressing for the city to address. The bulk of downtown is built upon fill from the coal mines. If there are environmental concerns about redevelopment should a building burn down like with what happened, the city needs to step up and handle it. This is the city's problem. Even if it's a new generation in office, the office they hold was the one who allowed the Nanaimo Harbour to be polluted and desecrated with the fill from the coal mines.

I would hope that there is more collaborative effort with Snuneymuxw First Nation the MOU/LOUs are a step but until further action is taken upon them it is just a gestural token. There is major opportunity for respectful development to take place that can totally reimagine our waterfront and harbour but Snuneymuxw needs to be involved; having reviewed some of the master plans that engagement is simply not present. And developments will not go through without Snuneymuxw's consent. "

- ▶ "It was good to see the Reimagine nanaimo stencils on the sidewalks at the park  
"
- ▶ It will be ruined in 10 years. We need to stop all the crazy building and selling our Island to outsiders
- ▶ "Ive lived in Nanaimo my whole life since 1989. We need an aquarium and other fall and winter indoor activities in this town.  
Once and for all we need to attract and pave the way for interested investors.  
There is basically nothing we can do with our kids from Nov to Feb indoors outside of the malls.

It would also be great to see us have a functioning train again. I know countless people who would use it to take a fun trip downtown as well as to Vic or even Ladysmith. It would be extremely popular would even be considered a recreational activity.”

- ▶ Jobs other than minimum wage service industry and seasonal tourism. They do not pay the rent or a mortgage. Resource jobs need to be a priority; especially forestry.
- ▶ Keep improving infra structure for pedestrians and bicycles.
- ▶ Keep some more green spaces instead of turning them into industrial parks and subdivisions. Build up not out.
- ▶ Keep urban sprawl to a minimum. Encourage downtown growth through tax initiatives and support for the business owner that doesn't cost them money they don't have. No more malls on the outskirts of town.
- ▶ keeping of green spaces. too many trees are cut down., in new sub divisions.
- ▶ Kids playing at parks without having to look for needles first. A bustling waterfront, where businesses are thriving and not having to close up due to crime. More gardens throughout the city.
- ▶ Larger entertainment facility and arena and a clean and safe downtown area
- ▶ Largest city on the Island with diverse and vibrant economy!
- ▶ Leading city on the west coast regarding climate change. This means carbon neutral, as well as massive investments in electrified public transit, waste management (including expansion of recycling and composting), active transportation, and more.
- ▶ Less cars, less pollution. We live on an island, we are not leaving here for the big city feel. We are soon going to be like Victoria or Vancouver: Put the breaks on it.
- ▶ Less cars, less strip malls, more side walks, more pedestrians/bikes/e-bikes, a completed seawall (departure bay to port place), priority for pedestrians/bikes on the E&N trail intersections, way more supportive housing and/or affordable living options.
- ▶ less cars, more walkable living areas, better transit
- ▶ Less crime in every area of Nanaimo
- ▶ Less crime, affordable housing for young families.
- ▶ “Less crime, drug use, graffiti, vandalism, and shopping carts. No homeless camps in front of business or in parks. More restaurant experiences on the waterfront for north Nanaimo. ”
- ▶ less crime, less drugs, less homeless, more affordable living for seniors
- ▶ Less crime, lower property taxes, fewer garbage rules
- ▶ Less density more parks and green spaces while preserving the character of neighbourhoods
- ▶ Less destruction of natural areas in the name of construction of residential and commercial areas
- ▶ Less drug addicts and mentally ill roaming the streets, less low level crime like vehicle break ins, bike and personal item theft. More small “island” style businesses like coffee shops, restaurants and unique shopping stores. Nanaimo is starting to look like an American corporate ran city which offers very little options to eat or shop at anything locally owned.
- ▶ “Less drugs/crime and homeless

Less money spent on bike lanes and more on improving traffic conditions for cars, buses, trucks. Nanaimo  
"

- ▶ Less fear of safety more downtown community and culture, better roadways and bike paths, community gathering spaces, no homeless, more plants and art and no single use plastic, eco spaces, bigger addiction lgbtq disability indigenous support centres, defunding police where needed so there isnt another incident in the city where people needing mental help assistance end up assaulted.
- ▶ Less focus on big box shopping and more focus on interesting and independent businesses. Find ways to make it easier for small businesses to thrive in Nanaimo. Traffic
- ▶ Less growth, the city is growing to fast for infrastructure, hospital, schools and amenities. Stay as a City of 100,000
- ▶ Less high density developments,
- ▶ Less homeless population, more affordable housing.
- ▶ Less homeless, more security to prevent car break ins, NO safe drug use injection sites as this just welcomes more substance use.
- ▶ Less homeless; better support systems in place.
- ▶ Less homelessness and affordable living for young single adults.
- ▶ less homelessness, less drugs and crime, safer feeling, more activities for the youth
- ▶ "Less malls along the highway, more focused commercial areas and convert the rest back to multi-use housing / recreational use. The old island highway has many locations (terminal for example) that don't contain much value to the community that can't be found at brooks landing or country club right down the street. The extra store fronts just lower the adjacent store rent values because they sit empty and drive up property values unnecessarily because the space has been used up and can't have houses built.

Buy Benson back from forestry... Squamish would never sell the chief, Vancouver would never sell Grouse, Whistler would never sell Blackcomb. Clearly there's a pattern of tourism paying the bills and Benson has the views/location and potential to be on that list with the hiking, mountain biking and climbing it offers."

- ▶ Less malls, improve downtown, more bike lanes, less single family dwellings.
- ▶ Less noise, less pollution, greener, more paths, more food gardens, a year round tower farm....have reduced greenhouse gases by a large amount.
- ▶ Less of a place for only the rich with high rise condos & huge homes, more of an inclusive 'green' city with vibrant neighbourhoods with a wide range of housing. More housing that is built in a way to include community spaces & neighbourhood interaction. An attractive & vibrant downtown with a wide range of community & cultural events accessible to all.
- ▶ Less people
- ▶ "Less people or no people living on the street  
Services for youth and adults for substance use (treatment and recovery, prescribed opioids, harm reduction sites, supportive housing) that is affordable or free  
Economy that has good paying jobs  
Affordable housing  
I want my kids and grandchildren to be able to live, work and play here so we have multi generational communities that take care of each other  
"

- ▶ Less toxic and corporate culture and more artistic grassroots culture
- ▶ Less vehicle traffic, more food grown in urban areas, more environmentally conscious development and wilderness protection, vulnerable population having shelter and resources to support their health
- ▶ “Level downtown and start fresh  
As long as the highway bisects downtown it will not succeed...unlike Courtenay or even Duncan.”
- ▶ Like to see more accessible bike lanes with E Bikes at the forefront of making the lanes a priority.
- ▶ Limit development, maintain neighbourhood character, increase park space.
- ▶ Linked trails for safe cycling as well as full waterfront walking trail means my home is in paradise.
- ▶ Lively downtown and other areas of the city which encouraging citizens to use transit and/or bike to check out markets, entertainment, local business-to-business partnerships. Markets throughout the year (inside and outside). Lots of art throughout the city. No more big box stores. World-class infrastructure for cycling/scooters/walking that link throughout city and the trail systems. Working together with other VI eco-tourism business and park/trail systems with transportation options (rail and buses) where people would stay in Nanaimo and have day-trips/travel to, for example, Cumberland for biking or Cowichan valley for fall wine tours.
- ▶ Lively downtown where people can go to have fun and not be afraid.
- ▶ Lives within its financial means, improves natural systems (which in turn, reduces costs, improves quality of life and resilience) and addresses systemic social inequities
- ▶ Local experiences that our community can share in a safe way, healthy food systems and healthy entertainment outlets by centring resources around a local maker community, active transportation and local food producers.
- ▶ Localized neighbourhoods. City incentives to turn neighbourhoods into agrihoods. Private/public partnerships on adaptive investments. The city has a goal to increase its urban tree canopy by 4% ... imagine if its goal were to increase urban food production by 20%! How can we support neighbourhoods to transition into AGRIFOODS!
- ▶ Look to other locations that are thriving communities for inspiration. Nanaimo has a fantastic downtown that could be reimagined similar to a Granville Island style shopping area. Encourage new businesses to the downtown, clean up the area and encourage and support unique small businesses in the area. Develop live work areas within the city and redevelop the abandoned and derelict buildings rather than allowing them to sit empty in prime real estate.
- ▶ Lots of awesome walking paths along the waterfront downtown. Update some of our grass fields for sports
- ▶ lots of green space and recreation, more all weather and indoor facilities , particularly tennis indoor facilities, improved traffic infrastructure and more bike lane accessibility
- ▶ lots of green spaces. more public art. good schools. lots of public amenities. (pools etc)
- ▶ Lots of greenspace, safe walking paths and vibrant and safe downtown
- ▶ Lots of options of getting together and socializing. Lots of bike lanes and pedestrian-friendly movement/ transportation, large and well care-for park space, lots of options for all ages and price-points access to arts and culture activities. A bonafide university town with a vibrant campus life, some of the best professors and most regionally applicable programs. A strong university creates a strong, sustainable economy.

- ▶ Lots of walking trails for families and dogs throughout the region. More supports for schools and hospitals.
- ▶ Love your neighborhood weekend. One weekend a year at the end of summer—where the City encourages block parties to get to know your community, upcycling unwanted items, and sharing food. Kid friendly. For some areas, meeting up at the nearest local park would be best.
- ▶ Low income housing for Seniors. Less high density development in the North end.
- ▶ Low/no homelessness and a really long waterfront walkway.
- ▶ Maintain and enhance parks system. Increased walking and cycling trails (including sidewalks along major roads – Departure Bay/Hammond Bay). Get the waterfront walkway done (through to Departure Bay). Facilitate better connections with Vancouver (passenger ferry). Continue to rehabilitate our salmon-bearing creeks. Supportive housing in place (without creating ghettos).
- ▶ Maintain some neighborhood feel by keeping high use roadways to the periphery of neighborhoods instead of going through them.
- ▶ “Maintain the community as a family friendly place to live. Needs to be affordable...Not just a money pit for rich foreign investors. Make our streets safe to walk with much needed sidewalks. Stop the speeders.”
- ▶ Make buses free to reduce cars on the road. Use taxes from gas to pay for the free transit.
- ▶ Make downtown great. There’s so much open land and potential. It could be somewhere that people want to go to. Making and Marketing Nanaimo as a Mt biking destination is a no brainer. People would come here while also going to Cumberland for a biking vacation. Won’t be expensive to do either.
- ▶ Make single family homes possible for those who wish to have one
- ▶ Making use of our amazing waterfront– putting citizens first instead of industry.
- ▶ Many more bike routes need to be built for commuter and recreational use
- ▶ Many parks, green spaces. Businesses should not be allowed to cut down trees the build new buildings when there are empty buildings that could be repurposed. For example, dodds furniture and lazy boy destroyed a lovely forested area when they could have occupied the Sears building or other.
- ▶ Many things are still the same, like the amount of wild space and the tall trees. A focus on protecting and supporting locally-owned ventures has created unique and vibrant business hubs in every neighbourhood. Lifestyle writers who pass through Nanaimo delight in discovering arts, food, beverages and experiences unique to our area. Nanaimo is known as the beating heart of access between Vancouver Island and the Mainland. Its flavour is unique hinting at all the different communities and cultures within and beyond the gateway of our city.
- ▶ “Market Nanaimo properly in order to not only attract tourism but businesses that may consider opening offices here. A seawall to show off the strengths of our city. Celebrate our indigenous culture & history (tourists love that stuff and we also develop kinship with our indigenous brothers & sisters which might lead to a little more self-worth and not such disproportionate number of indigenous youth on the streets + less homelessness etc etc.)  
Stop thinking in the past & move forward with ideas.  
When our family moved here 5 years ago from Vancouver, our first kayak around the harbour we couldn’t help but see all the potential it was like what I imagined English Bay would have looked like decades ago... big disappointment since in seeing the city go in the opposite direction and reinforce all the negative

ideas people from elsewhere think of this city (ie 'armpit of the Island' 'Surrey by the Sea' 'strip mall city' etc)"

- ▶ Market type downtown and help for businesses to succeed by having more events, security and encouragement to be a gathering place.
- ▶ "Massive investment into Nanaimo hospital. The absolute prevention of anymore destruction of areas such a Linley valley/ Nanaimo River. Stop the micromanagement, such as cat regulations and spend more time and energy on the abomination that is the drug/homeless situation "
- ▶ Maximize Nanaimo's natural strengths (ocean front/access to nature/central van isle location). Expand seawall. Create low-rise housing with mixed areas for businesses on the ground level in downtown. Expand the distillery district as a tourist destination. Incentivize renovation of older buildings downtown (tax breaks?) to attract businesses to move in. Redevelop old Tally Ho hotel.
- ▶ Mental health facilities and more drug rehabilitation centres to get people help. Don't turn a blind eye to what is happening in Nanaimo. It's also too late now to turn things around.
- ▶ Minimum wage residents living comfortably and not struggling paycheque to paycheque. Can afford a house on single income. Put a income limit (based on size of suite)on rentals to minimize homeowners asking too much for legal rentals.
- ▶ Mixed diversity, well planned and tended natural environment, and a crime free goal.
- ▶ Modern! Look to Europe and learn
- ▶ Modernized downtown with no decrepit old buildings on every third corner. The streets are not littered with crackheads. You can feel safe to walk those streets. People can afford rent AND food. Less of a tourist base and more focused on the residents (let Parksville, Tofino, Victoria be the tourist hubs). New buildings getting built every year.
- ▶ Modernizing downtown. Clean up graffiti. Replace "lost" buildings.
- ▶ More access to waterfront and walking pathways through neighborhoods to make parks more accessible by foot or bike. More trees and protection of trees and green space
- ▶ more affordable home for low income people and more drug treatment centres
- ▶ More affordable housing
- ▶ More affordable housing for all
- ▶ "More affordable housing  
Less street people/drugs"
- ▶ More affordable housing, improved transit, access for all to recreation opportunities, reduced crime rates and drug use and homelessness, improvements to the 'look' of Nanaimo (i.e., remodeling what the town looks like, road improvements and safer sidewalks/cross walks for pedestrians), and a greater sense of community.
- ▶ More affordable housing. Better public transportation. Less homelessness
- ▶ More affordable housing. Improvements to the university to allow for larger student population (larger cafeteria, more library seating). More homeless shelters.
- ▶ More alternative forms of movement than vehicles. More education to vehicle drivers about sharing roads that don't have sidewalks or bike lanes with other non-vehicular traffic. We're still a pretty redneck city when it comes to vehicle drivers.

- ▶ More areas for walking especially downtown. Diana Krall plaza is a dead duck. Revitalization with outdoor music might help.
- ▶ MORE ARTS
- ▶ More bicycle lanes/routes for sure for sustainable and healthy living. More playgrounds for children in the Westwood area. Less housing density. Preserve green space.
- ▶ more bike and pedestrian routes, particularly along the waterfront
- ▶ more bike and transit friendly, community hubs, less sprawling mini malls
- ▶ "More bike lanes and all-abilities-access paths throughout the city and along the E&N trail.

Fewer people without homes, and better help for people who struggle with mental health and drugs on the streets.

Safer downtown neighbourhood so that my female friends feel safe to walk by themselves.

More murals and other art installments.

I also think future developments should have restrictions on house size. Big houses are excessive, wasteful, unaffordable. A green future is one where people live in smaller homes and more densely packed neighbourhoods."

- ▶ More bike lanes, more help for homeless
- ▶ More bike paths to get around the city. Less homelessness and more affordable housing.
- ▶ More celebration of the diversity we are seeing in our community and a clear plan for the enhancement of the arts & culture. We also need more housing and treatment centres for the homeless & drug addicts.
- ▶ More clean public transit. More wind, solar power. More individual cisterns for summer watering. Tree planting after fires. More physicians and walk in clinics.
- ▶ More community green spaces, community gardens. Take for example, the Green Thumb land that is to be developed, it can become an eco-village and co-housing plus food producing gardens. We need to produce more of our own food on the island again.
- ▶ More culture, vibe and utilization of our waterfront areas. Old derelict buildings reinvented into other smart uses.
- ▶ More cycle paths, wider roads.
- ▶ More cycling and pedestrian friendly. Embrace the idea of neighbourhood nodes. Preserve parks. Diversify recreational opportunities.
- ▶ More cycling paths and green space
- ▶ More decent jobs. We push away big business. They don't want to invest.
- ▶ More decent paying job creation and opportunities. Trying to eliminate the large amount of homelessness and crime. Increase Mental health services and group homes for mentally ill.
- ▶ More density, better bus system, market VIU to make Nanaimo a University town. We need more business development; attract more investors to develop properties like the Tally Ho.
- ▶ More doctors!

- ▶ more effort at building a populous downtown area and discouraging the car centric culture that is destroying the liveability of our city.
- ▶ More effort to develop the downtown area. We need more business to establish a presence in the downtown area.
- ▶ More facilities for sport, leisure and entertainment for both residents and visitors
- ▶ More ferry and travel options to and from mainland . finish the gaps in this town that leave it looking half dead . The rest will fall in place.
- ▶ More focus on creating community focused spaces – expanded waterfront, cleaned up downtown, support for social issues (not just housing, but treatment). Also more focus on sustainability.
- ▶ More food security and sustainability initiatives
- ▶ More green buildings. Any development should be tied to green energy use.
- ▶ More green friendly architecture. Consider an outdoor mall or more courtyards. Society has progressed passed the need for large, grey, maximum surface area buildings (whether they are cheaper to build or not). The city will benefit greatly from the tourists that find the infrastructure attractive, and in the long run we will have lessened our impact on the environment.
- ▶ More GREEN space especially along waterfront, fewer pavers, everyone housed or sheltered, clean and vibrant downtown, more well-paying employment, safer for bikers, Departure Bay walkway, more Snuneymuxw cultural “attractions” and education
- ▶ More green spaces and walking, cycling paths, cleaner waterfront
- ▶ More green spaces, cleaner downtown.
- ▶ “–more green spaces, public park spaces, Outdoor recreation spaces, bike lanes, covered outdoor spaces to promote outdoor community areas and connection, in addition to Nanaimo being actively involved in mitigating the impacts of climate change, and taking action to make nanaimo more sustainable and reduce environmental impact. “
- ▶ More green spaces, side walks with lighting in the South end. More garbage cans and garbage clean up. This City has a gross amount of litter.
- ▶ more green spaces, sidewalks, bike lanes, less traffic, better transit – rapid transit line. A decent waterfront walk, coffee shops, quay from Departure Bay to the estuary.
- ▶ “More green spaces. Nature is a priority over development. Cars are NOT the priority, people are. More safe walking and biking spaces. We do NOT look like a mini Vancouver.”
- ▶ More help for homeless, drug users
- ▶ More help for marginalized individuals so our neighbourhoods are safe again.
- ▶ More housing diversity, more neighbourhoods with charm and smaller scale shopping opportunities. Not just big box stores. More parks and outdoor events. Especially musical events. More jobs and drug treatment and counseling. A younger vibe. Green initiatives. Promoting cycling. Want to see Nanaimo be ambitious and shake off reputation. Like Glasgow did.
- ▶ More housing, more supports for homeless & low income. More Snuneymuxw voice & representation.
- ▶ More inclusive and less overt racism. Shining lights on historically offensive colonial “monuments” such as the bastion and firing of the cannons as “attractions” is shameful and embarrassing at a time when the rest of the world is moving toward social justice and truths. Denying our community truths Implies we

are all accepting if these racist monuments and not worthy or equipped to navigate educated truths.

- ▶ More inclusiveness and events!
- ▶ "More job opportunities  
Better garbage management"
- ▶ "More job opportunities, better transportation, free public transportation for students all age,  
Extended seawall walking trail, walking bridge to new castle Island "
- ▶ More jobs modernization of transit more youth out reach more community outreach
- ▶ "More live entertainment opportunities, a place to host a bigger crowd for concerts and comedians and maybe even Broadway shows like Les Mis and such. That would be incredible!  
I also really love the idea of the ocean discovery centre I hope that is still going forward. I love those touristy things (i.e. Science world, museums, etc.) and would love to be able to do those things in my own city! :) "
- ▶ More local businesses, the end of large corporate Big Box stores, development of local economy.  
Moratorium of development, especially condos.
- ▶ More localized shopping and amenities in the Southend reducing our footprint
- ▶ More mental health and addiction supports and a wider range of housing types and prices making nanaimo a safer and healthier city for all.
- ▶ More money spent on parks and the waterfront
- ▶ "More nature and green spaces (we have more than enough kids playground parks, how about some native plant gardens, rose gardens, meditation spaces for outdoor use similar to Tamagawa Gardens at VIU, wildlife ponds, etc.),  
limit on land for development purposes & focus on building up, high rise style, rather than out better roads and infrastructure (stop putting traffic lights on the highway, it needs merge lanes and ramps, not traffic lights) "
- ▶ More of a neat & tidy and beautiful place where I feel joy in just exploring our town and community events.
- ▶ More opportunities for community cohesion -all ages
- ▶ More opportunity to experience world class arts and culture for all income brackets. Do not want high density city with congestion, traffic jams and smog. Affordable housing for all.
- ▶ "More outdoor pickleball courts. A covered yet outdoor venue would be good too. And another rec complex like Oliver Woods in South Nanaimo, say Chase River area  
"
- ▶ More parks and access to beaches and the ocean
- ▶ "more parks and greenspace. more high density residential.  
Downtown gentrification. less commercial sprawl.  
"
- ▶ More parks and less housing development
- ▶ More parks and open spaces. In addition to traditional single family housing, keep multi-family development focussed on low and mid-rise buildings, well-spaced apart, lots of green spaces. Eliminate or at least minimize high rise and high density developments.

- ▶ More parks, and the maintaining of those we have.
- ▶ More parks, especially along our waterfronts. Make them accessible for those with mobility issues. Develop Departure Bay into the shining star it could be...add more shops, the Drip was a good start, artsy shops perhaps, tourist shops, places to buy lunch. Make new developments have small commercial hubs with a corner store, a cafe and small shops people can walk to with neighbours. Do not make a metropolis like what is planned for the Green Thumb Nursery lands, that will make me leave Nanaimo if that goes through. I have been here 30 years and I find it is not the charming community it once was. Adding more fast food restaurants is not what the locals or the tourists want. Let's be more like Qualicum and not allow chain stores and drive thrus. OH and leave some trees!!!
- ▶ More parks, park corridors and wildlife corridors connecting across and through Nanaimo. Less vehicle traffic due to better public transit, innovative and radical shifts in economic, social, cultural paradigms and solutions that benefit all sectors of society. Nanaimo looks beyond city boundaries to the health and well being of the whole Island for generations to come.
- ▶ More people able to choose active transportation options. Networks of connectivity for walking and cycling.
- ▶ More people more houses more money more everything when we need to have a 1 kid per woman law like China because the world is overpopulated
- ▶ More people riding bikes, more density around downtown core. Removal of run down strip malls. Reconfiguration of old island highway. Loved the Thursday night markets.
- ▶ More population growth, more job opportunities for young adults/families, and please clean up the look and ultimately the vibrancy of our downtown as a tourist experience.
- ▶ More programs and systems in place to deal with the homelessness and crime in town. More money for policing.
- ▶ more public spaces, downtown markets, affordable housing.
- ▶ More public spaces. More waterfront walkways. Less open drug use.
- ▶ More recreation opportunities for adults.
- ▶ More recreation through parks and rec for all. Pool at Oliver Woods. More bike lanes to keep traffic lower. More mountain biking trails and facility for hiking and mountain biking at doumont.
- ▶ More residential downtown
- ▶ More rewinding of city areas. People like natural that why the move here. If you cut it all down it might as well be Toronto
- ▶ More safe running trails. Waterfront accessibility. More smaller spaces for commercial small town start ups to be able to access. Currently there seems to be a lot of restrictions with covenants for all the strip mall type areas. For example, only one coffee shop here. If the city could provide some more North End small town commercially zoned areas that would be nice.
- ▶ More senior parking
- ▶ More sidewalks
- ▶ More sidewalks and bike lanes, increase sustainability and climate change measures, make housing affordability a priority
- ▶ More sidewalks, less crime, less homelessness, options for drug addicts

- ▶ More small community rec centres so there isn't such a reliance on driving for 20 minutes for an activity. More considerate development around parking congestion
- ▶ More small local commercial areas, coffee shops/ restaurants and less big box stores and fast food joints (Great example on top of Rutherford road). More Roads and pathways better suited for human powered transportation. Cleaning up of the downtown/waterfront areas, currently many eyesores.
- ▶ More small off grid sustainable homes, built healthy. More accessible gardens and fruit trees for the public. Changing existing by laws for farmers to be able to build small home communities on their land to help and educate people on how to grow food and helping each other out on a daily basis.
- ▶ more small-scale, neighborhood spirit
- ▶ More sustainable employment to attract and keep young people in Nanaimo.
- ▶ More sustainable! Less care traffic, more walkable communities with shopping, etc as part of the community. Emphasis on sustainable building practices, less McMansion developments.
- ▶ more sustainable, more affordable with increased density in new developments and without an expanded footprint of the city that would make our problems with urban sprawl even worse. our parks are our cities pride and will hopefully be strengthened through proper investment. humane and compassionate solutions will hopefully ease issues with homelessness, addiction and poverty.
- ▶ More tourism, more revitalization downtown, less homeless people
- ▶ More transit, running on electricity, and lots of safe biking and walking ways make it easy to get around the city without burning fossil fuels.
- ▶ More urban areas free of the noise and smell of traffic , clean and healthy swimming holes , public access to Nanaimo River guaranteed in perpetuity, clean healthy oceanfront, vibrant fun and healthy community events. a healthy population( no one suffering from poverty, addiction, homelessness ). healthy local food growing, beautiful market spaces. Also because we live in a temperate rainforest we need more public space to gather or play inside and outside protected from the elements.
- ▶ More use being made of public transport, enabling more to enjoy the public spaces and parks
- ▶ More vibrant downtown, more local restaurants and small businesses, improved public transit, more green space and parks and fast ferry to Vancouver
- ▶ More vibrant downtown, more work opportunities
- ▶ "More vibrant neighbourhoods where there is greater community feelings...  
Creating a link for seniors who live in care homes that want to garden have options to do so"
- ▶ More walkable city. Hammond Bay is a busy road and used by many students daily. I would like to see complete street design there. Not only Hammond bay needs complete street design but the fact that the student was killed last year crossing Hammond Bay on the crosswalk shows how dangerous that part of the road now.
- ▶ More walkable trails in Nanaimo as the pace of development has far exceeded establishing walkable green spaces.
- ▶ more walkable, connected, community oriented; less focus on seniors, more focus on families with children who have been moving to Nanaimo in the past years; more affordable housing developments, as opposed to executive style developments; more attractive, colorful facades in the city, as opposed to grayness; more effective law enforcement and a safer environment for children to grow up in; more cultural events; more support for local, small businesses.

- ▶ More waterfront accessibility and increase parks. Appropriate lands adjacent to salmon streams all the way up the stream to its source, a larger tourism industry. A more diverse community throughout Nanaimo. Densification of existing single family homes to accommodate carriage houses and basement suites for affordability. Support our local university to encourage growth in that sector.
- ▶ Moving rather spontaneously from Toronto was a bit of a shock, it took a year but I love it now. I do find the shopping/selection limited – Courtenay and Campbell River, which I believe are smaller population-wise seem to be able support a more vibrant retail scene; I don't know why that is. I would rather buy local than having to rely on behemoths such as Amazon. Encouraging and supporting new and existing merchants would benefit the city.
- ▶ "Much more bicycle safe access.  
Homelessness situation properly dealt with ie don't just build homes or apartments .Human capable educated help is needed to have their lives actually move forward.  
BCAA car "" sharing program like Vancouver has."
- ▶ Much more gardens and art. And opportunities for those struggling to feel acknowledged and supported, and to give them an opportunity to give something beautiful back. I foresee nanaimo become a major rehabilitation space and we need to start taking the steps to make sure we succeed, or else we fail miserably. We are the center of a big island, we need to make sure that core can hold the weight of the sickness of our society.
- ▶ Multidisciplinary approach for homelessness providing housing, mental health care and rehabilitation for addiction. Support and incentives for downtown businesses to encourage unique stores to attract tourism. Permaculture gardens, stops between highways and hallway strips to add to biodiversity in the area. The city does not allow companies to own large lots and allow the building to be unused and fall apart holding back the evolution of the community.
- ▶ Multiple compact town centres, that are walkable to meet daily needs
- ▶ Museum and cultural centre on the waterfront to showcase indigenous community contribution to BC. Long House. Rapid Transit being built to join Victoria and Naniamo on existing rail lands with walking/bike paths below. Wine train with sidings to purchase wine from different regions along the line.
- ▶ "MUSIC. ART. OUTDOOR ACTIVITY SPACES.

GET RID OF THE DERELICT BUILDINGS OWNED BY OUT OF TOWNERS AND LET THE MASSIVE AMOUNT OF CREATIVE/ACTIVE CITY DWELLERS HAVE INPUT ON THE SPACES. Welcome to Nanaimo off the ferry is just a sad joke with dumpsters stinking up the area and empty but beautifully zoned buildings and pubs. YUCK. NOT COOL."

- ▶ My future Nanaimo is a vibrant inclusive green city with varied neighbourhoods linked by walking and biking trails. The transit system provides easy access to cultural/entertainment/recreation hubs. Our city provides both wild and natural parkland as well as an accessible trail winding along the waterfront with spots to stop and rest at low buildings showcasing local artists and entrepreneurs, refreshment choices. The ocean discovery centre will rival only Newcastle Island for star billing.
- ▶ My Nanaimo should be modern, clean, and safe
- ▶ Nanaimo – a city where diversity in all forms is celebrated with affordable living, vibrant arts and exceptional, expanded recreation facilities (ie. pool in the north end!)
- ▶ Nanaimo 2030 will be an affordable, enviromentally focussed destination city in British Columbia.
- ▶ Nanaimo as a "hub city" encourages driving to green spaces for enjoyment, ideally the city continues

creates, grows incorporates green spaces into city projects limit the need to drive to enjoy nature

- ▶ Nanaimo as a green city working with many solar powered green homes, electric cars, enforced speed limits. A clean place where residents can feel safe, enjoy nature and culture, raise families, retire. A game changer and leader when it comes to the homeless – get them out of downtown and away from residential areas. Build something similar to a commune/farm in a safe place away from the city with support services, housing, rehab. Provide training for those who would like to work, provide art classes, a library, provide fruit trees and gardens and vegetables to grow and sell. Insist the province have mental health facilities. Help those with no hope and no future see that there is hope and there can be a future past drugs and alcohol. And if that isn't possible provide housing away from residential areas and away from downtown so people aren't put at risk.
- ▶ Nanaimo as a green, community oriented city where values are centered around connection, movement, nature and creativity.
- ▶ Nanaimo as one of the places for visitors to stay on Vancouver Island, not just a hub to Tofino, Victoria or Campbell River. Make Nanaimo more beautiful, extend the oceanfront walkway to Departure Bay, upgrade the city centre (old-island hwy trench). Lots of it is related to contaminated sites but the City can play a more active role in this. Remove eye-sores like the two fenced off areas at the Country Club mall, one of them looks like that for more than 12 years!! Bare, messy, fenced off in the middle of a commercial/residential area!!! The fenced off area across the Courthouse; in the middle of town!! Give me a break, we look like a dump to visitors. If you want our city and citizens to feel good about Nanaimo, start cleaning up these areas, upgrade other areas like the ocean front, and stop encroachment on green spaces. Solve the homelessness and create more affordable housing. Don't go for the short financial gains but focus on the long-term benefits. If tourists like to stay and visit, your residents will be happier as well.
- ▶ Nanaimo can be a vibrant, diverse and respectful place to many people, who call it home. Homelessness is something of the past as everyone moves forward to make it a better and more socio-economic and diverse place.
- ▶ Nanaimo could develop into a network of walkable neighbourhoods; each with access to schools, housing, employment and recreation linked by pollution free transit.
- ▶ Nanaimo has a segment of the population that is best described as "redneck". These are individuals who believe in and often exercise "white privilege". This combined with the homeless problems and the inherent mental illness and drug abuse serves to depreciate the quality of life in Nanaimo.
- ▶ Nanaimo has an enviable location with two ferry terminals to Vancouver, easy access to Victoria, and is a stepping stone to the entire Island, with a beautiful harbor and stunning natural amenity. But instead of being a Destination that is enjoyed, Nanaimo is a location that is passed through by tourists. Nanaimo needs a drawcard for tourism, to save our restaurant and retail industries adversely impacted by Covid-19.
- ▶ Nanaimo has become a hub for digital nomads, attracting international telecommuters who spend a week, a month or a year working from Nanaimo while playing in Tofino, Vancouver, Mt Washington, and Whistler. Widespread cycling, walking and transit use. Pedestrian only zone downtown along Commercial. Seawall extended to Departure Bay and cruise ship terminal. Neighbourhood groceries within walking distance (think Superette). Incentives will have led many homeowners to convert lawns to food forests and gardens. Public food markets are available somewhere in the city daily throughout the growing season. Homelessness reduced by increased facilities throughout the city. A fast ferry link connects to Vancouver and Victoria. Free public wifi is available throughout the city. Biochar use is widespread for new carbon-capturing infrastructure projects.
- ▶ Nanaimo has become a safe and desirable city again thanks to mandatory treatment for drug addiction

in closed institutions, esp. for those who support their addiction by committing crime, since the legal system was failing everybody rather badly-- not only the addicts, but esp. the general public. This has also generated new employment opportunities for medical staff, psychologists, coaches, guards, teachers, etc.

- ▶ Nanaimo has focused on embracing on our most impressive feature - the beauty and health impacts of our natural surroundings - and keeps this front and center in planning the economy and built environment. This helps attract citizens who appreciate a healthy, nature-centered lifestyle.
- ▶ Nanaimo has local food sources and a free public transportation system. PAC (parent advisory committees) resources are shared throughout the school district so that resources go equally to schools. Neighbourhoods are more economically diversified, more government subsidized housing/ co-ops that are inter-generational, live music is subsidized by the city so local restaurants/venues can afford to host music.
- ▶ Nanaimo has managed to attract worldwide attention as a vibrant community to live work and play. Once viewed as the place to pass through Nanaimo now the place to be and once you have had your fill of what the city has to offer you can experience more of what VI has to offer.
- ▶ Nanaimo has the doors to tourist from 2 ferry terminals and public highway going North & South. Nanaimo should work on enticing the travelers to stay in Nanaimo to shop, dine, and attend arts & sports events. Adding events and points of interests to the travelers will boost economy and promote growth & stability in Nanaimo's future
- ▶ Nanaimo has the most vibrant downtown area that engages arts, culture, education, entertainment and is a community hub
- ▶ Nanaimo has the potential to be a world class city with the natural surroundings and being a hub city. The biggest challenge is there is a negative and divided culture. Crime continues to get worse and trying to help those people is just making things worse. Please lobby the province to provide much needed mental health care to the community. Any kind of community events will help develop more of a sense of community
- ▶ Nanaimo in 10 years will be a vibrant city with a clear identity. Nanaimoites will be PROUD to live here! We honour community, the environment, and our entrepreneurial spirit. Nanaimo will be a vibrant, affordable city for people who enjoy and active outdoor lifestyle
- ▶ Nanaimo in 2030 will be a bustling, environmentally-friendly commercial and tourism destination that provides creative activities and services for an increasingly aging population, as well as encouraging newcomers from around the world to settle in a supportive community.
- ▶ Nanaimo is a clean, green city with large amounts of green space strewn throughout housing areas. The stars are visible within city limits, the waterfront walkway stretches to Departure Bay.
- ▶ Nanaimo is a destination!! We are a vibrant community. Businesses are thriving, people want to move here and take advantage of all the beauty with the world.
- ▶ Nanaimo is a friendly, person centered city. Surrounded by nature's beauty Nanaimo is the jewel in the crown of Vancouver Island. City council listens, collaborates and cares for its citizens. It's streets, parks, waterfronts, streets and businesses are safe, clean, vibrant and accessible.
- ▶ Nanaimo is a gem just waiting to be polished. Place making strategies with solid outcomes can make Nanaimo a true leader in sustainable living, urban renewal and a destination of choice.
- ▶ Nanaimo is a leading community that practices and promotes a sustainable community and economy that protects the ecosystems and enables all community members to be successful. Poverty has

been eradicated their are active community support mechanisms available to all that promote health, education and well being.

- ▶ Nanaimo is a lovely, green, safe, vibrant harbour city with cultural and recreation opportunities for all ages and interests. It is a model for other mid-sized cities on how to respond effectively and positively to the mental health and drug addiction epidemic that consumed the area in early 2020's AND is a leader in climate change response.
- ▶ Nanaimo is a place where people want to live. It has great access to outdoor recreation and a real community feel.
- ▶ Nanaimo is a premier waterfront city that attracts visitors and investment across a wide spectrum of culture, demographics, and interests.
- ▶ Nanaimo is a safe space for everyone and a gateway to Vancouver Island.
- ▶ Nanaimo is a terrific launching point for those coming to visit the island. A dedicated bike park or trail network similar to those on a Valemount or Cumberland would be a huge asset to the community and locals alike. We have an incredible backyard and access to some great terrain. Let's solidify ourselves as a mountain bike destination.
- ▶ Nanaimo is a vibrant city with lots of arts, affordable housing for all, creative ideas and lots of green spaces.
- ▶ Nanaimo is a world leader in using the resources of civic government to create a city that is an affirming, positive, environment that ensures that innovative solutions and resources are available for all its citizens to live in dignity.
- ▶ Nanaimo is attracting young and talented individuals from larger urban centres with an unsurpassed combination of quality of life, affordability, cultural and recreational offerings, location, and skilled jobs. The city was improved by attracting a more educated and skilled, young population.
- ▶ Nanaimo is gross downtown. The waterfront in and around Port Place mall is ugly beyond words. The north end could use some sort of entertainment "district" instead of everything being focused downtown.
- ▶ Nanaimo is the multicultural Outdoor Mecca of Vancouver Island where neighbours help each other out, crime rate is less than 1 , and outdoor activities abound. Old, young and children enjoy green spaces all around the city, residents and vistors enjoy natural beauty, trails and lakes right in the city (areas like Westwood Lake and surrounding area is protected from development. ) Roundabouts replace lighted intersections. Tourism is focused on natural surroundings. Business attracts film industry. Nanaimo is a right-sized city where residents and visitors are safe to live, work and play.
- ▶ Nanaimo is very forward thinking and we are extremely green thinking. We have an amazing recycling centre, year round access to local food, gardens at all the schools, a safe bike lane system, free public transit, Commercial St is closed to vehicles and has a weekly market as well as patio restaurants everywhere and a bike hub where you can repair and safely lock your bike. Lots of free outdoor music and dance events. Murals everywhere. A waterfront trail system.
- ▶ Nanaimo needs a vibrant downtown, more like most other municipalities on the island. Empty buildings and holes in the ground need to be dealt with, particularly in the downtown core. I think those if us who live here stop noticing what it really looks like. I feel for any downtown business owner. They are good people who are gambling against the odds. Nanaimo needs an extended waterfront with restaurants and places to pop in and out of.
- ▶ Nanaimo needs more community arts spaces for artistic and cultural events to occur. I would love to see a more thriving arts and culture scene, with traditional and non-traditional spaces for theatre events and

more availability for teaching spaces ie. studios

- ▶ Nanaimo needs to be future looking and realise that we are not a small town anymore. With the right planning and investment we can be a great small city in BC.
- ▶ Nanaimo needs to decide if they are going to allow growth or not. The price of a property is outrageous and it's all because of supply and demand. There are huge tracts of land which remain undeveloped and unavailable. Why easy Supply and Demand
- ▶ Nanaimo needs to have an extreme variety of jobs to keep our youth here and to bring new ones. We need to stop being too focused on being a retirement-centric community.
- ▶ Nanaimo needs to start realizing that it is a city a not a small town, the population is large and growing. A second hospital. Remove the street lights from the "Highway" and put in overpasses. Get the rail line up and running for moving people, there needs to be other ways to travel from here to other parts of the Island as people have to travel to or from Nanaimo to Work and School. Tourism would be nice but there is no real draw ie: Great Wolf Lodge for families, a spa like the Kingfisher for couples/adults. People on the mainland look at Nanaimo as the place you get off the Ferry, not stop and stay. Green bins are picked up every week, is there a cost recovery with it; for example: once a year sell compost from the collected green bin over the year. Cats be licensed like dogs, with cats having to be kept to the owners property (getting tired of finding cat shit which is toxic to people especially pregnant people in flower and vegetable garden beds), not to mention seeing missing cat signs because they have been hit by cars, eaten by other animals.
- ▶ Nanaimo should be clean, fresh and reflect on our province "Beautiful British Columbia". Program and housing for the homeless can clean and protect our fears of the streets in our city. Affordable housing for all. Clean-up groups for our oceans, streets and highways. Our own police force in Nanaimo with the help of the RCMP. Better rules implemented for our criminal justice system. If we implement these ideas into our city, I believe we could be a safe, clean and important city that people would not only want to live, but visit from around the world.
- ▶ Nanaimo should be; an affordable community for people who work here, focused on becoming environmentally sustainable, and a community that listens to all the voices in our town, including First Nations.
- ▶ Nanaimo should look at added density in it's urban borders. We should be looking to develop upwards and inwards instead of cutting more forests and developing outwards. Urban sprawl is a real issue that separates communities and cuts into much needed land that needs to be protected.
- ▶ Nanaimo should remain a small city which embraces its natural assets, does not perpetually frown on appropriate development, provides real opportunity for workers to maintain a good standard of living, and has excellent social services to support those in need.
- ▶ Nanaimo should strive to become a destination rather than a "gateway" by leveraging the endless assets available as a result of location, demographics, economy, etc.
- ▶ Nanaimo that is still affordable (not becoming another Vancouver or Victoria for prices) bus system that is efficient so we don't have to drive places connected waterfront walkway from the ferry to downtown; increased small businesses; kindness towards people who are struggling with mental illness and addiction; bike lanes on most roads; school district has a vision and is known for quality of public education
- ▶ Nanaimo to become an outdoor recreation hub, for hiking, mountain biking, bmx, and skateparks
- ▶ Nanaimo will be a city that supports inclusivity, accessibility, and diversity. It is convenient to travel

through the city without an automobile. Access to parks and open spaces is available.

- ▶ Nanaimo will be a vibrant city where people want to work, live, visit and invest.
- ▶ Nanaimo will be world renowned for its friendly accepting citizens who work well together in professional teams mindful of social justice, the preservation of the many forested and beach areas to be grounded in nature, for our healthy sea life because there are restrictions on harbouring container ships, and emptying of human waste from cruise ships. Young families with parents employed from home in IT and Ai positions take in children from other countries as exchange students. Their families come as ecotourists thus giving job opportunities to the graduates of VIU ecotourism good paying jobs. Seniors with Alzheimer's live in a community with social workers in the roles of baker, banker, market cashier, police, bridge/ skating/dance/piano /singing partners etc thus giving the residents self esteem and continued purpose. Restaurants, the symphony, live theatre, Nanaimo Opera Society all draw tourism from across North America and Asia.
- ▶ Nanaimo will have overcome its social issues with creative and inclusive solutions and will enjoy a reputation as a progressive and exciting place to live, work, and start a business in. The city will become even more beautiful through thoughtful development and mindful focus on public spaces. Downtown will be safe and charming. The population will grow and businesses thrive as more and more people from across Canada choose to invest in our community.
- ▶ Nanaimo will no longer be prioritizing growth which is the reason we have pollution issues
- ▶ Nanaimo would be a bright and vibrant community with lots of arts and culture but also, medium to large businesses will open and operate here to attract more young people to come and work here. We would have a foot passenger ferry to be able to access Vancouver more easily and we would reinvent our seawall to include more hospitality places (why can you barely find a patio that faces the ocean?!?) and to connect downtown with Departure Bay. We would also see another large tourist attraction such as an underwater ocean museum that doesn't 'capture' the ocean life, but allows us to view it in our natural environment.
- ▶ Nanaimo, the home of your stay on Vancouver Island. We are the hub of the island and welcome you to explore our island, using Nanaimo as your base.
- ▶ Nanaimo's attractiveness is in its coastal views, protected areas and healthy lifestyle opportunities (hiking, biking, walking). Give Nanaimo a distinctive, classy, memorable theme that reflects these and display them in banners and tourism efforts. Add to Nanaimo's beauty with more gardens and flowers. Make a lasting impression!
- ▶ Need signs posted for every park and parking lot in Nanaimo, and have the park lots and parks enforced. We need more enforcement, otherwise our property is abused. A city should have understood discipline, for legal and illegitimate folks.
- ▶ Nice grassy areas to enjoy time out with pets. A covered area for people to sit when it rains
- ▶ NO 5G only fibre optics. Less LED - even though it's cheaper it's not healthier. Too much blue light.
- ▶ No car idling allowed. reduce reliance on cars by making more bike lanes, increasing bus service. re-imagine Woodgrove by making more of a pedestrian street scape (reduce car parking and make more of a walk friendly street scape in the parking lot (like west vancouver mall). plant trees in paved areas too. all the malls need a re-work so they have smaller retail space and less reliance on cars.
- ▶ No cruise ships. We don't need any invasion by daily tourists. Sustainable tourism is much better. Put a swimming area off the crab dock (on the South side). Clean up downtown. House the homeless. All good.
- ▶ No druggies on the street no pan handling updated buildings 24 hour restaurant better bars and night life

place for teens to go like a teen Center maybe bring the drive in back . Gates in all underground parking so you pay before entering safer!

- ▶ “No free-drug handout sites. No needle exchange site. Instead that money is funnelled into accessible rehab for the drug/alcohol addicted who actually want to clean up their lives. It would be nice to have a city known for rehab rather than free drugs. And only if you have been a resident of BC for 5 years or longer. All the other junkies can go back their respect provinces and clean themselves up there. I am not willing to pay for for newly-arrived junkies to bleed me/us dry.

The shelter at the Unitarian Hall on Townsite needs to move. I've lived within a block of this site and it has been operating for at least 5 years, probably longer. I have had enough and can truly say ""Not In My Backyard"" any longer. Let other neighbourhoods like Rutherford, Cilaire, South End etc experience the warm fuzzy feeling of housing ungrateful drug addicts and homeless people. I am sick of having human shit (probably full of hepatitis B & C) deposited on the perimeter of my property weekly.

And on a happier note: start building the waterfront walk-way through to the Biological Centre.”

- ▶ No homeless on street or near 7-11
- ▶ No homeless people in Nanaimo. People riding their bikes and e-bikes everywhere (with no theft), bike connectors everywhere, a multitude of neighbour hood sun/rain shelters that people can bring their folding chairs to, and sit a chat.
- ▶ No homelessness, rapid appropriate treatment for opiate/mental health issues
- ▶ No more 'towers' on the waterfront. Take a stand, do not let the realtors take control. USE LESS CONCRETE - look for other alternatives. No more palm trees and succulents, encourage native plants.
- ▶ No more development. Sustainable development is a farce. It doesn't exist.
- ▶ No more drug addicted homeless downtown!!!!!!!
- ▶ No more enabling the homeless, get them out of here. Our property values are going downhill because of the amount of crime; no one wants to live here or move here.
- ▶ No more high rise buildings in the downtown core that obstruct the waterfront. ALL future development based on human scale design that encourages a sense of neighborhoods. Neighborhoods need services rather than just being places where residents eat and sleep. Expand pocket parks in neighborhoods so that they become attractive places for people to relax and meet their neighbors. Parks can be more than swing sets and jungle gyms, although these are useful for parents with small children.
- ▶ no more people
- ▶ no pedophiles spending their weekends running restaurants, hiring young Women. Safe places to work without sexual harassment. safe drug supply, I will have teenagers. Support for trauma, and recovery. Help with vet bills. inexpensive ways to eat out, have teas or coffee, cookies etc. Food security, ways to gather food for those in need, connections to resources. We have many resources, but accessing them is by luck! I would like places to dance without alcohol. acceptance of difference!
- ▶ “No poverty  
No homelessness  
No open drug use  
Gentrification of old dilapidated areas of Nanaimo  
Partnering with First Nations of beneficial developments  
Keeping ahead of problem traffic patterns

Continued development of green spaces  
Meet environmental targets for pollution

Opportunities for all residents of the city to enjoy a safe and vibrant life"

- ▶ Noise bylaws enforced, so a much quieter city and neighbourhood. No obnoxious load cars, rucks, and motorcycles. No car racing. Many electric vehicles, bikes and walking. less air pollution.
- ▶ Not a hub city but a place people want to live. No fossil fuel use especially by the city. Electric golf carts and bicycles over gigantic trucks. Outdoor cafes/meeting places in noise free bubbles.
- ▶ Not a shithole
- ▶ Not like an overgrown jungle but a distinct and tasteful unique island culture center. i.e. Tesla vs Isaac Newton.
- ▶ Not what it is now, it was a peaceful community one you could raise children in, now nanaimo is a drug community with open use and be careful where you go here anyone smart will get out soon there will be nothing but low barrier houses, and open drug use legalized all over Nanaimo.. scary.
- ▶ Number one item we need to address is homeless problem that is mostly fueled by drug abuse!
- ▶ One of love, acceptance, inclusivity, and not an ounce of hatred, cynicism, or intolerance.
- ▶ One serving the recreational needs of an aging population.
- ▶ One that houses all its citizens in affordable housing provided by off market residential development and encouragement for the repurposing of older buildings for multi-family residences. A city that is steadily densifying not sprawling in order to achieve sustainability A city that has preserved its historical character by supporting character design in its older neighbourhoods through the building permit process and enforced by bylaws. A city where public transportation and separate bike lanes provide easy transportation for all. A city where public enjoyment of natural spaces and respect for wildlife is supported by a healthy public parks system. Without a no roaming bylaw for cats, wildlife is not supported! Remember, 70% of the wildlife that humans are directly responsible for killing are killed by our cats. (See Smithsonian Report on the Impact of Free Roaming Cats on Wildlife)
- ▶ Open up the waterfront from downtown to the Departure Bay ferry and include continuous walking/ cycling paths, lined with interesting shops, markets, book stores, restaurants.
- ▶ Our city ensures responsible, sustainable practices to protect the environment and quality of life for citizens.
- ▶ our downtown area and waterfront developed for the enjoyment of walking traffic and visitors.
- ▶ Outdoor ecotourism destination without the high costs of the mainland. World class mountain biking without the whistler prices
- ▶ Outside pool at Departure bay like at Stanley Park / Kitsilano. Take away that field of grass where the canadian geese poops by the kin hut and make a nice outdoor pool with small water slide overlooking the ocean and redo that old park. Especially when the waterfront walkway gets done it will look amazing.
- ▶ Parks and greenspace left alone or added to and connected. Fix the downtown – such a disjointed mess of unconnected areas. Such a disaster of urban planning but it has so much potential. What a waste.
- ▶ Parks, expand the waterfront walk area, Colliery Dam is a GEM! Make sure it is not destroyed.
- ▶ Pedestrian friendly, lots of little businesses downtown, lots of planters & small trees downtown and all of the drug addicted people in treatment and/or recovered and leading healthier lifestyles.

- ▶ “Pedestrianize from the waterfront to include Front & Commercial with covered outdoor patios and walkways.

Reroute traffic to make as much of this happen as possible”

- ▶ People of Nanaimo have adequate housing, health care, food and recreation/social connections to live happy and productive lives.
- ▶ People without homes housed, more access to all for mental health, less carbon dioxide, more money to policing for training towards mental health and First Nations treatment, a kinder more thoughtful police force is always needed. More arts and culture, better traffic flow in clogged areas, walkway along departure bay connecting to bc ferry, Stewart ave and downtown. More safe spaces for our vulnerable access to have solace from the hardships of life and Weather.
- ▶ People’s needs are met
- ▶ Placing more value on open spaces and making major improvements to the homeless situation
- ▶ “Please build on ramps and over passes on the park way at all the intersections. There are way too many accidents and all of the traffic lights cause massive delays for commercial traffic and pollution.

Spending millions on bike lanes is not the answer. New electric cars and trucks are becoming more efficient and affordable.. our city and island is too spread out and not many want or us bikes.. the city just keeps getting bigger and removing lanes for cars will just add more congestion.”

- ▶ Plenty of affordable housing and increased support for addicts and less fortunate. A vibrant and safe downtown area.
- ▶ Preservation of natural environment over urban development
- ▶ Preserving community and neighbourhoods. Have an Empty Home tax in line with Vancouver and Province. Regulation of Air B&B in the community. Less sprawl, more redevelopment, (low rise) and density in older areas like downtown, Harewood, south Nanaimo, Brechin, respecting the character of the neighbourhood and heritage elements
- ▶ pristine natural areas, pristine waters (no more freighters outside departure bay, getting outside into nature outdoor fitness opportunities and bright indoor spaces to escape wildfire smoke events that last days, peaceful with mitigation of road and industrial noise that seems to vibrate the city night and day; a caring compassionate society where everyone is enabled to attend to their basic needs
- ▶ Prosperous , Safe , Vibrant
- ▶ Protected and expanded green space; a vibrant, safe, reenergized downtown core with lots of unique restaurants, art galleries, etc. that is a cultural hub (lots of live music and performances in the theatre and throughout the area – street performances, etc. – think European!) with easy access to the beauty of nature; less crime and homelessness due to supportive programs, guaranteed income, housing options for low income people.
- ▶ “Protected greenspace and wildlife habitat. ID and promote urban farmland (ie: 5 acre farm). Pedestrian friendly city.”
- ▶ Protection of green spaces and water access. Improved walkability: neighbourhood cut throughs; sidewalks; connected parks. Light rail transportation; improved bike trail system. Revitalize downtown. Fisherman’s wharf. Promenade walkway connecting downtown to departure bay.
- ▶ Put some emphasis on electrical vehicles by providing more public and low cost charging systems.

Improve roadways to avoid future traffic congestion.

- ▶ Put some serious money into cleaning up and improving the downtown core and waterfront. I grew up in Nanaimo, and have seen it turn into the Surrey of Vancouver Island. The heart and soul of a community the size of Nanaimo should be the downtown, not the strip malls and sprawl we've ended up with.
- ▶ Quit paying Bureaucrats exorbitant salaries to run our lives. Read George Monbiot's 'Out of the Wreckage' for clues about how to put the future of communities back into the hands of it's citizens.
- ▶ Redevelopment of malls with residential, waterfront development starting towards ferry terminal in Departure with waterfront path. Residential in downtown continuing.
- ▶ "Reduce crime and homelessness. Solve this problem is vital to our community thriving.  
A new hospital -  
Bike lanes and walking paths throughout  
Neighbourhoods with amenities within walking distance to reduce need to get in car to drive  
Continued cultural events, Port Theatre community support  
"
- ▶ Reduced (hopefully zero) homeless population suffering from mental health and addictions related issues
- ▶ Reduced crime, disincentives for homeless people to come here, reduced City spending that results in reduced property taxes.
- ▶ "Reduction in poverty and homelessness.  
Much improved facilities for those suffering with mental health and addiction issues.  
We need a world-class resort near Nanaimo (not Parksville).  
If we are going to go after tourism, we need better beaches with parking to accommodate all, or shuttle buses maybe from malls to beaches, major events, concerts so that you can park at the mall and be dropped off there when the event is over.  
We need to cater to RVs. We have travelled a lot and one of the best things in other cities were municipal RV parks. Maximum stay 3 days, laundry and shower facilities, no more than 30/night with a shuttle to downtown. We took the shuttle all the time and went for meals and shopping and left the RV parked, especially in places where we didn't know the City or we were tired of driving.  
"
- ▶ Regular and affordable transit throughout the region, re-purposing the railway to be a city tram system, connecting neighbouring regions by frequent and affordable transit. Creating separated cycle and foot paths (many cars ignore the strip at the side for cyclists) and designated cycle and pedestrian areas at 2 way and 4 way stops - along European models. Enforcing a green roof and / or living wall policy for all flat top retail buildings and ensuring that all office and retail buildings comply with a policy which ensures that at least 50% of windows can be opened to allow for fresh air circulation. Put it in a nutshell: look at Europe and the vast majority of countries around the world and start to imitate. There is absolutely no excuse for 70% of not doing the same. And saying it costs money is NOT a valid answer. These solutions, once implemented, are so, so, so much cheaper than what Nanaimo and region currently does.
- ▶ Reimagine Nanaimo as a cultural, recreational and social centre with focus on diversity and Indigenous reconciliation, avoiding the strip mall and horizontal development practices.
- ▶ Restoring downtown to a more beautiful state, deal with the empty or burned down buildings, try get the drugs off the streets of Nanaimo so our homeless can try get the help they need. Just housing them isn't enough and it doesn't last as they can't look after themselves in their current state.
- ▶ Resurgent downtown, aided by highrise condo buildings in historic city core.

- ▶ Retention of green spaces and parks, decreased homelessness, less lights on the parkway.
- ▶ Return to village concept. This will reduce single vehicle use and assist in reduction of carbon & other pollution. Any construction near waterfront should be set back 500 ft.
- ▶ Revitalize downtown to make it a more inviting place to go rather than a place to avoid as it is now.
- ▶ Revitalize the downtown core.
- ▶ “Revitalized downtown and finish waterfront walkway  
Build a detox and rehab centre for the druggies, and get them off the streets. It’s too frightening to even go downtown “
- ▶ Revitalized downtown, more tourism and more sense of community in all parts of Nanaimo.
- ▶ Revitalization of downtown so we have a vibrant core. I’d like to see the seawall expanded to other waterfront areas. It seems that the City of Nanaimo has completely given up on downtown and is now trying to push for a North Nanaimo town centre and a South Nanaimo town centre which is a horrible idea. Nanaimo is Surrey 30 years ago and it cannot be permitted to turn into what Surrey is today.
- ▶ Robust community that honours our farm land and encourages business/entrepreneurship. Increase public transit frequency. Have more public events that will draw more traffic to downtown core. LIMIT franchises, give the local shop a chance to survive. Encourage a focus ie. restaurants/farm/agriculture create a food scene or mountain biking anything!
- ▶ Romantically I would love to see Nanaimo take advantage of its waterfront and scenery. A large outdoor salt water pool, a long sea wall expanded, a strong stance against polluting our waters and preserving our wild life.
- ▶ Safe and accessible waterfront, parks and trails (waterfront trail expanded to Departure Bay). Super ice area and hotel for recreation tournaments and tourism.
- ▶ Safe and clean for residents and businesses. A place where people thrive is a place that recognizes the limitations of environmental carrying capacity and stay within those limits. Do not turn Nanaimo into some Uber developed mini Vancouver of endless concrete which is dead to all natural vitality.
- ▶ Safe and clean neighborhoods, healthy, fit population walking, biking and enjoying the amenities of the city, a thriving arts community, a beautiful city with many reasons for tourists to want to come here
- ▶ Safe and clean.
- ▶ Safe and vibrant downtown with many options for activities for families and individuals. Perhaps continuing to extend the walkway system that was already planned to take advantage of our beautiful waterfront areas. I would like to see free access and even a bridge to Newcastle where concert series, markets and festivals could be held (like Stanley Park and Prince’s Island Park in Calgary). The Departure Bay market should be reopened and be an all year Farmers Market or Quay like they have in Victoria, Vancouver and Seattle.
- ▶ Safe and walkable downtown and surrounding area.
- ▶ safe areas, sense of community
- ▶ Safe city with connected active transportation routes
- ▶ Safe City with green spaces – vibrant community that has thriving small business , support for those living on the streets to find housing and healthcare (mental/physical), addiction and treatment.
- ▶ “Safe injection sites. Crack down on drugs and prostitution through proven secure housing and support schemes. Then a beautified and more expansive water front, extend commercial street beautification’

to beyond Hwy 19 towards the Cambie. Develop the land around Port Place to be both industrial for solid income and also tourist for bringing in youth and interest.

Bring back the train to Victoria and actually start it at a useful time from Nanaimo so commuting can be done to Victoria in the morning! Like 6am?"

- ▶ Safe neighbourhoods including crime prevention, low homelessness, walkable; Culturally vibrant including support for activities for seniors such as music, gardening, walking) Good Distribution of mixed-income housing across the city. Tax rates can't continue to be out of step with salary increases or ignore inflation on basic needs. People love Maffeo Sutton- get the full waterfront boardwalk done.
  - ▶ safe streets- homeless housed- drug addicts in treatment
  - ▶ Safe streets, no visible homeless, no visible drug use, more vibrant downtown core, more cultural events, more immigration, more diversity, fast ferry to Vancouver, more tourists to support businesses, better bus transportation.
  - ▶ Safe vibrant city with good transit options.
  - ▶ Safe vibrant city with less strip malls and more community hubs. Clean up and expand existing parks. Better lighting and safety - Community policing bike patrols in parks. Support for the arts - port theatre, VIS, music festivals.
  - ▶ Safe, accessible, sustainable, culturally diverse, and full of a variety of recreational opportunities that support all levels of skills (from beginner to competitive).
  - ▶ Safe, affordable, clean, inclusive city with more access to waterfront recreation (restaurants, bars and trails). Continued access to beautiful Newcastle Island.
  - ▶ "Safe, affordable, friendly.  
Nanaimo had always felt that way, aside from the current climate (homeless, drugs, needles)  
"
  - ▶ Safe, clean community
  - ▶ safe, clean, natural parks, vibrant recreation centres and opportunities
  - ▶ Safe, eco friendly, green, vibrant. Friendly for all ages.
  - ▶ Safe, healthy, vibrant communities, public green spaces that are welcoming.
  - ▶ Safe, welcoming, affordable, culturally vibrant, healthy, inclusive.
  - ▶ Safe. Business friendly. Affordable (property taxes, services).
  - ▶ Safe. Naturally beautiful. Not congested.
  - ▶ "Safe.  
Spend money on rehabilitation services and housing for those who want to beat addiction or face homelessness "
  - ▶ Safer roads!! Better speed enforcement with speed bumps, etc
  - ▶ "Safer, more vibrant and active downtown.
- Safe, usable bike lanes throughout the Hammond bay corridor "
- ▶ "Safety, semi pro baseball team, large sports centre to bring in a team in the Western Hockey League which would also bring in concerts.  
"

- ▶ Same amount or increase in green spaces. Affordable housing for medium income families. Affordable and diverse childcare options. No more homeless setting up camps on streets or empty lots.
- ▶ Scary to think about how many more homeless people there are on our streets than there were 10 years ago. I cant imagine what it will look like in 10 more years unless something is done (temporary housing is NOT the solution, especially accross the road from the biggest sports complex in the city). I cant even go for a walk in the participark when my child is at soccer because it has been over taken by drug addicts.
- ▶ “Seawall extended from Departure Bay to Nanaimo River estuary as planned. Assistance for homeless, housing and food but also and more importantly addressing causes...eg mental illnesses, drug and alcohol addiction “
- ▶ See above
- ▶ See above... We seriously need a mechanism for monitoring our ambitions routinely, not just every 10 years.
- ▶ Seeing the waterfront behind Port Place utilized to include: residential, community centre, vendors, artists, restaurants. I lived in Vancouver for 20 years and Granville Island is a great example on how to use the waterfront space.
- ▶ Separate cycle paths to reduce or ideally eliminate cycling on same road as vehicles.
- ▶ Shady mile
- ▶ Showing itself as a tourism destination while preserving the beauty of the island.
- ▶ Sidewalks and proper bike lanes, boulevards. Beautification efforts and aesthetic planning. Cohesive neighbourhood design (North Nanaimo is terrible for this; literally can drive through and see the different neighbourhoods as they were built, all patched and piecemeal) Underground hydro utilities to avoid distracting from our beautiful views. A harbour walkway that extends along the north shore.
- ▶ Sidewalks in all neighbourhoods so people do not have to walk in the road. Benches at frequent intervals (every 10 minutes) along major walking routes to allow use by people with limited mobility. More frequent public transit along the main highway and to the university from departure bay. Make the E&N trail more appealing to walkers by adding shade and some separation from the highway e.g. shrubs and flowers.
- ▶ “Slower population growth as it’s ruining our city. There is no need to continue to grow like a cancer. Lets get used to a steady predictable growth. More tree cover in areas of Spec homes. A healthy downtown with no cars on Commercial St. and some traffic calming along Front St and certain key areas throughout the city. Enforcement of a noise bylaw for cars and motorcycles. Free parking on the perimeter of downtown and a good transportation hub.  
I would like to see a greener and healthier urban forest with less clear cut on steep slopes and stronger environmentally driven policies guiding development.”
- ▶ slower population growth, smaller homes, fewer cars, more neighbourhood services, less concrete and asphalt, ... but getting people to change their lifestyle is very difficult.
- ▶ Small auto sustainable connected neighborhood’s, let’s be different from the world and have a community that loves each other
- ▶ “Smaller gardens, but more community gardens. Opportunities for urban farming. Narrower roads, one-direction. With tree covers. More stormwater catchment buffers (like in the developments close to Buttertubs. No extra malls until the existing malls are finally used to capacity. No new big gardens and houses until the empty lots are used to capacity.  
A downtown where the current gaps are filled by amenities for daily life. (AB sound building should be a

connector, now it is a divider. Downtown should offer amenities for residents, not only tourists. No more white elephants (conference centre, port theatre, arena's.)"

- ▶ smaller housing lot sizes to allow for freehold title not just condos
- ▶ Smaller population, lower density.
- ▶ Smaller, more rural, much less crime and assault risk.
- ▶ Smart and sustainable growth – promote the unique character of each neighbourhood while retaining green space and minimizing sprawl.
- ▶ So exciting! I would love to see Nanaimo as a leader in sustainable communities. A bright, vibrant downtown core. Safe and accessible ways to navigate the city via bike or foot. A place that exudes creativity, ingenuity and spark. A diverse community that takes care of each other. A place where there is endless possibilities of outdoor adventures and the infrastructure to support it. I fully believe Nanaimo has such amazing potential.
- ▶ Social challenges are supported and managed as well as a city that promotes an active lifestyle.
- ▶ Somewhere more attractive to youth and young families. We need to make nanaimo as much about youth and family as it is for elderly populations.
- ▶ Sophisticated cultural city with excellent services and recreation opportunities that still maintains a small town feel, and increasing community vibes that is inclusive to all.
- ▶ Spread social services throughout the city. Stop centralizing social problems on downtown. Work at rebuilding core and move out words. Support density and small business downtown and waterfront. Find an identity.
- ▶ Steady on the future is malleable.
- ▶ Still lots of forests in tact in town (not just turned into man made "green spaces"). Healthy bike to work environment, bike lanes. More green infrastructure with living roofs. More local community gardens to have local food security.
- ▶ Still lots of green space, a vibrant downtown core, and more bike lanes
- ▶ "Stop spending on social programs ... Federal / Provincial headache.. were spending on it no matter what Alderman Turley states
- ▶ Strong local food system, with a relatively low barrier to entry for new farmers. Dog friendly developments, a safe place to leave my dogs at the shopping centre would encourage me to walk there. Excluding dogs from parks makes me angry, kids need to learn to get along with dogs. I am respectful of parks and other people (pick up after them and don't let dogs approach strangers uninvited), jerks should be asked to leave parks, but my dogs will be better socialised if they are more integrated with the community and not excluded.
- ▶ Strong neighborhood communities with a lot of walking/cycling/interaction, with lots of trees. Small and moderate sized housing options that are affordable and environmentally sustainable. A wonderful community for kids, seniors, and everyone in between. An accessible waterfront that enables multiple uses. A responsive and integrated city government that promotes safety and livability in a consistent way.
- ▶ Stronger City council that is for all the people, bringing in better job opportunities, get our crime down, remove campers from all parks clean up this city as the Jewel it was once before not the cesspool it's become today

- ▶ Support for those in margins with homelessness and stronger partnership with Snuneymuxw first nation
- ▶ Support systems in place to help people who are at risk of becoming addicted to drugs earlier in life. Support for local therapy centers so they have better resources to help children with mental/ developmental health challenges.
- ▶ Supportive housing for those who need it, safe places for recreation, inclusivity for all , and continued community events and pride.
- ▶ Sustain and improve the access to green space and nature, improve the state of down town and resolve the homelessness issue, strive to keep recreation affordable and accessible, and build a sense of community.
- ▶ Sustainable, environmental initiatives that could attract people both visitors and residents to our city.
- ▶ Sustainable. Improving outdoor systems and transit for less cars. having publicly funded rehab and mental health task forces to assess the underlying causes of our homelessness crisis. Subsidies for small farmers so that locally grown can be the norm, not the exception.
- ▶ Taking care of our youth and our elders. Having youth addiction and all youth services in one area. Getting youth and elders together more. Connecting more youth to nature.
- ▶ That you stop using the UN global imagine 2030 platform and create our own Nanaimo plan. We should focus on our city and create what is right for us.
- ▶ The a&b sound and Jean Burns buildings replaced. More active transportation and better connectivity within the city. More employment opportunities.
- ▶ The biggest problem facing mankind today is global warming followed by pollution by plastics. I want to see a prosperous tightly knit well integrated electrically powered community with a population that has the wherewithal to enjoy a decent standard of living. Electricity generated by some version of nuclear power, a technology robust enough that the Americans have over eighty warships so powered.
- ▶ The City of Nanaimo should strive to develop family friendly neighborhoods with sufficient density.
- ▶ The City's first priority should be to address the climate crisis through enhanced building code changes. All other matters are secondary.
- ▶ The downtown area in ten years would be growing rather than being abandoned to the homeless and to criminals.
- ▶ The downtown is such a waste... so many torn down empty lots and ugly buildings that people see everyday. Could be so much better!
- ▶ The future Nanaimo is a one of community, people taking care of each other and looking out for each other, where it would be weird not to know your neighbours, where your kids feel safe to walk or bike to school or the parks. Nanaimo would be well planned with sidewalks and bike lanes that better connect the community. A vibrant downtown taking advantage of the amazing natural features it already has!
- ▶ The future Nanaimo that I want to see has a much smaller city government and much lower taxes. The future Nanaimo I want to see takes care of sewer, water, roads and schools that's it. Get back to the basics and quit making the bureaucracy larger and larger. The overall number of employees and programs need to be reduced and kept in control and the taxpayer needs to have lower taxes on our residences and businesses. Furthermore the entire system of building and construction permits and renovation permits needs to be completely overhauled and streamlined as it is costing untold millions of dollars for the individuals applying for these permits through the various layers of bureaucracy, fees and absolutely unnecessary delays due to city of nanaimo government inefficiencies.

- ▶ The hub for vertical farming! Let's be forerunners in environmentalism while supporting our local economy.
- ▶ The Nanaimo that I want to see in 2030 has benefited from more cohesive development planning in the south end, resulting in a lot of opportunities for people to live, work and move around without vehicles in the downtown and Harewood areas. The City has invested in beautification grants that has improved the overall polish of the community.
- ▶ The ocean walkway from departure bay to the ferry terminal and the discovery marine cemetery.
- ▶ The one thing I'd like to see in the city is more bicycle lanes. Roads like Hammond Bay are dangerous to ride and need to be improved. I'd also like to see more indoor and outdoor pickleball courts. It's a growing sport that really needs the cities attention.
- ▶ The parkway express could use overpasses instead of lights, more affordable housing and a more receptive community to helping the people who need it when they are struggling.
- ▶ The people of Nanaimo are strong, collaborative, green and community-oriented. We care about every person in this city. We know that by helping each other, we're strengthening ourselves. We care about our environment and acknowledge our privilege living on the unceded territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nation. We celebrate arts and culture because it's an important part of who we are. Our quality of life is high. Nanaimo is a place that values sustainable lifestyles where people come before profit. We're financially stable because we don't overspend. We make sacrifices in order to protect this planet and everyone's future. Nanaimo is the best city in Canada because we lead by example. We have reduced our dependency on fossil fuel. There are enough resources to go around, so we work collaboratively and think strategically. Nanaimo is a strong community and we share our gifts with each other and our visitors on this beautiful land.
- ▶ The Pickleball facilities are full, we need more places to play. These are the most used facilities in NANAIMO!!! It is an easy to learn cheap sport everyone can learn
- ▶ The present character stays about the same, resources for the homeless/drug addicted/marginalized are present and are used by the people who need them
- ▶ The same strong and beautiful city, but one that has dealt with the homeless issue to help the downtown - and more character and substance and livability in the newer commercial areas.
- ▶ The streets need to be cleaned up.....the city has become filled with drug addicts pushing around stolen stuff.
- ▶ The walkways we were promised several years ago and the ocean Center. Better housing.
- ▶ The waterfront fully developed and walkable from the ferry terminal to the Nanaimo River. Open to the public with no more large towers. Some smaller housing is ok, but not completely full of house. Some recreational or museum type places related to the ocean and our history, i.e. aboriginal, mining, fishing.
- ▶ The way things are going, it does not matter what I see nanaimo in 10 years. The way Seattle is now, is the way our island will be in 10 years .guaranteed. Now if you're talking fantasy, Mandatory mental health facilities, mandatory rehabilitation buildings, accessible buildings in Nanaimo. It's appalling to see how many buildings just have three stairs in the front and no ramp. Unacceptable.
- ▶ "The year is 2030. A foot-passenger ferry connects downtown Nanaimo to downtown Vancouver. The area surrounding the terminal has seen heavy investment from developers, constructing a large number of residential towers with commercial storefronts at their base. In order to meet the demands of a regular stream of pedestrians disembarking off of the ferry, the city has begun to move away from a car-dominated landscape by investing in walkable and bikeable infrastructure and drastically increasing the

amount of public transit flowing into its core. The crown jewel of this would be a rapid bus system looping around Nanaimo's core, travelling up third street, to VIU, and back down fifth street, fostering further densification along these routes, and allowing VIU to transfer its now unnecessary parking space into useful teaching space.

A campus in Downtown Nanaimo hosted in the Vancouver Island conference centre adds a much-needed boost of culture and vibrancy to Commercial street, with an abundance of cafes and boutique shops catering to the now year-round presence of students, Nanaimo's downtown becomes host to a thriving, youth-led arts scene.

Lastly, in order to combat the gentrification of its residents, the city has negotiated with developers now flocking to the area, allowing height restrictions to be lifted (further increasing density and developer profits), but in return, mandating that several floors be below market-rental housing, transferring some of that economic growth to the people and keeping the city somewhat affordable.

- Caelen Middleton

"

- ▶ Therapeutic community in a rural setting to deal with people with issues of addiction and homelessness
- Clean up the waterfront with parks, walking trails. Foot ferry to the mainland
- ▶ There is certainly stigma across the province regarding addiction & I am sad to see so little empathy from folks who have houses/jobs/support systems. I wish there would be a way to encourage community building instead of disdainful NIMBYs - many of whom taint the attitude for the rest of us who want to see compassion overall. It's a complicated & deeply human issue. I would love to see a way for folks to get along & work together.
- ▶ This is a beautiful city has so much potential to be a more attractive city. Than it is Just needs these changes.
- ▶ This very question was asked in previous City-sponsored surveys, but the years referenced were: 2000 and 2020. Here we go again, same survey, different year, with little to show as success. At some point this question and surveys like this are simple exercises in futility.
- ▶ Thoughtful growth and development: house those in need before clearing another North Nanaimo hillside for million dollar homes!
- ▶ To continue living in a place like Nanaimo, i would love to have more job opportunities which seems very less on the Island. So we see many students dont settle down here looking for better opportunities.
- ▶ To have better connected social services, a more thriving downtown, better transportation for all types of commuters, better forethought around urban planning and construction (plan for expanding roads and residential areas),
- ▶ To help people with affordable housing.
- ▶ To see a thriving, gainful, open minded, forward thinking, family oriented, professionally accessible community.
- ▶ To see rail service return to the island.
- ▶ Too expensive for many people to live
- ▶ Transportation has always been a problem. Nanaimo was used in urban planning textbooks in the 1980's as an example of how NOT to plan a city using strip development as the model. We need to move to a

“15-min City” model where people can walk or bicycle to work and services within 15 minutes of home. This model requires changes to zoning to allow businesses / services to set up in neighbourhoods.

- ▶ Treatment and addiction centres. We have a large First Nations community as well increases homelessness. They need help. It doesn't matter if you pave the streets, add more low income housing. These will come after we have a healthy city.
- ▶ Treatment centre for addicts and treatment facility for those with mental health issues, assigned camping areas for homeless, not in parks. Increased parks and trails/outdoor spaces. The waterfront walkway spruced up all the way to the departure bay ferry terminal. Less crime.
- ▶ TREE LINED STREETS and more larger parks with trails for walking and cycling connections them
- ▶ Triple the transit opportunities. Beautiful waterfront with tourism appropriate shops. Tourist information downtown. Extend and beautify downtown. Double the amount of new affordable housing (2-3 bedroom options). Provide solutions for people facing homelessness.
- ▶ turn Nanaimo into an outdoors destination – create funding for trail and mountain bike trail maintenance with dedicated teams to maintain.
- ▶ turning downtown/acme building area into a nice social pedestrian area, with shops of all kinds, cafes etc. Better eco conscious decisions for the future generations. More inclusive gathering spaces for ALL
- ▶ Turning the sprawl into smaller sub-communities, ideally with walkable amenities. Having an vibrant downtown core/business centre, bike lanes and/or trails throughout,
- ▶ Two new swimming pools, one in North Nanaimo and one to replace Beban. Clean streets, sidewalks and meridians. Trees and flowers along same in central Nanaimo as already is in place in China he North. More RCMP downtown, remove tent cities, incentivize small business downtown with tax breaks.
- ▶ Updated rules/roads for cyclers. I feel strongly that a bicycle should not have the same rules as a 3 ton plus vehicle. There must be a way to ensure our safety out there.
- ▶ Urban density, more bike lanes, better use of waterfront for hospitality industry creating a draw to the downtown, more park trails, less luxury condos, more affordable housing
- ▶ Urban food gardens and forests all over the place.
- ▶ Vacant abandoned lots where Acme and A&B sound need to be forced to sell or bought by the city. Deplorable that they have sat for so long! Why is the city allowing our downtown to fall apart and never fixing anything?!
- ▶ “Variety of affordable housing.  
Resources for seniors, eg. free programs, community centre.  
Maintain and expand our lovely waterfront trails to our parks.  
Supports for homeless, mentally ill and people with drug addictions.  
Less crime and vandalism.  
Wide variety of free community events. “
- ▶ VASTLY improved public transit options, and PLEASE allow Uber/Lyft!
- ▶ Very limited growth, do not encourage more tourism or expansion of housing.
- ▶ “Vibrant and revitalized downtown.  
High quality development  
Naturalized park areas  
“

- ▶ Vibrant city, lots of work for people, good parks and places that people can enjoy
- ▶ Vibrant cultural hub, much reduced homelessness and crime and increased economic development.
- ▶ Vibrant downtown
- ▶ Vibrant downtown and waterfront. Properly marked intersections safe for pedestrians ( trying crossing Hammond Bay at Norasea to catch a bus with a slow gait) safe bicycle routes.
- ▶ "Vibrant downtown that is enjoyable to walk around, shop, and enjoy. Positive ways of assisting homeless people find housing, jobs, and Healthcare."
- ▶ Vibrant downtown with extended waterfront walkway from south end to B.C. ferry. Lots of outdoor patios that are covered with heaters for winter. A bike/hike trail or light rail on the railway.
- ▶ Vibrant downtown with no empty businesses, no homelessness because all members of community have adequate support to improve their life, and a feeling of community where residents can walk and bike to enjoy their neighborhoods and beyond.
- ▶ "Vibrant downtown  
"
- ▶ Vibrant downtown, accessible waterfront (larger than it is now), boardwalk from downtown Nanaimo to Departure Bay Beach, major steps taken to tackle homelessness
- ▶ Vibrant downtown, solutions to the homeless crisis have been found,
- ▶ Vibrant downtown. No empty abandoned looking buildings or lots.
- ▶ Vibrant downtown a transit system that provides door to door service uniqueness and character of well-established neighbourhoods recognized and preserved more than lip service applied to traffic calming; supportive housing spread throughout the city; and an approval process for planning projects which enhances rather than demeans the opinion of the local neighbourhood association.
- ▶ Vibrant place to live with lots of shopping options, increase in outdoor amenities and public spaces, more safe cycling/walking options for commuting throughout the City.
- ▶ Vibrant public waterfront low crime. Mt Bike Mecca
- ▶ Vibrant safe downtown core w/ great entertainment and dining opportunities.
- ▶ Vibrant waterfront the drives the resurgence of the city centre
- ▶ Vibrant, community where people have their needs taken care of. Where people are safe to bring up their families. Where there are many types of houses to meet the diverse needs of the community
- ▶ Vibrant, culturally diverse, green city.
- ▶ Vibrant, growing downtown with significantly reduced homelessness
- ▶ Vibrant, safe, clean, thriving downtown that is free of the criminal, thieving filthy feces covered streets. I would like to see a permanent year round downtown Market with vendors, permanent and seasonal, music nights/festivals, talent shows, food trucks–fun times, not this depressing filth that is in place now. I would like to see pop up food truck/music festivals all over the town, not just downtown, Harewood, North End, Westwood lake ...Jinglepot area, all over the entire city! fun times, music food, gatherings, Jumbo-tron shows, vendors and artists selling things. A much enhanced transit system needs to be put in place so it doesn't take hours and hours to move around the city from north end to south end. Happy, safe, living in a clean well maintained city.
- ▶ "Vibrant, walkable, attractive downtown with an easily accessible path/sidewalk to the ferry!

“

- ▶ Viewing waste as a resource and following the guidelines and inspirations created by zero-waste movement.
- ▶ Vision statement (city in 20 years – 10 is too short a vision) “Nanaimo is an innovative, creative and vibrant city in which the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being needs of it’s citizens are fulfilled.
- ▶ “Walk anywhere at night without fear  
”
- ▶ “Walk on ferries.  
Continue the waterfront walkway in both directions.  
Develop the property beside the Gabriola ferry into a type of “Granville Island”.  
Affordable housing using average income for “our” region.  
”
- ▶ Walkable City, with a vibrant downtown core providing strong small business gRowth, arts and culture, and green spaces.
- ▶ “Walkable community  
Bike trails  
Community Engagement  
Sidewalks to provide safe walking routes “
- ▶ Walkable dense urban nodes interconnected with non-street transit
- ▶ Walkable neighborhoods and slow streets (Less and slower automobile traffic)
- ▶ Walkable neighbourhoods for all. No more developments that require car access. Increase in car charging. Smaller, more frequent and more dispersed electric transit vehicles.
- ▶ Walkable. Bikeable. Focus has shifted away from building strip-mall shopping and cul-de-sacs residential areas, to building neighbourhoods you can navigate on foot or bike – at the moment you are forced to drive to everything. This sucks. When you walk through your neighbourhood and see a piece of trash on the ground, you are more likely to stop and pick it up. You are connected to the land you walk. When you drive by garbage you either don’t notice it, or just think, “This place is a dump.” Which in turn leads to more people treating it like a dump. At the moment, Nanaimo is mostly a dump. It’s a dump with some nice waterfront.
- ▶ Walking in one of the many parks with well maintained trails and maps and location markers would be great. Riding a bike where you don’t need to worry about being hit by a car would also be good. Having a hospital that is not older than me (60years) would also be of nice.
- ▶ Walking/cycling accessibility dramatically improved waterfront accessible to all (reduction in industry, particularly in the south end) but administered and lead by the Snuneymuxw Nation; City signage and official documentation using the Hul’qumi’num language wherever possible.
- ▶ “Walkway adjacent to Old Hwy specifically the section from the Bluebird Motel to Rutherford Rd. It’s functional but nothing more than that: designed and built by people with no imagination. It offers nothing of interest. This highly visible path could be an artistic thread linking the north and the south. Just as other cities have used the basic form of an orca or bear to have them decorated in unique ways. Ours could be an arch spanning the trail in many locations, each one to be finished by a different neighbourhood of Nanaimo. Historical, ethnic and cultural backgrounds of these different neighbourhoods would create a visual representation of who we are and how we view the world around

us.

Something that speaks of community, flowing from the people not controlled by the administration. The city belongs to the citizens not City Hall.”

- ▶ Walkway from Departure Bay to Downtown
- ▶ Walkway that runs full length of downtown with bandshell area for free concerts, drive-in theatre, community clean-up teams to revitalize downtown with some paint, pull down abandoned eyesore buildings, more new condos downtown, free parking, a gimmick...something to attract visitors to our city center & make it unique! Lots of affordable programs for seniors and kids. Fix up Beban Pool, update the facilities @ Beban and Bowen Park, make Bowen park feel safe again, reopen free wading pool there for kids.
- ▶ Want to see a vibrant downtown and, most especially, redevelopment of the gully – that section of Terminal between Comox and Commercial.
- ▶ Water front that connects to departure bay. Learn from Kelowna on their lake front improvements. Recreation hub for the island.
- ▶ waterfront accessible and parks maintained so we can enjoy all of these
- ▶ waterfront walking/bike trail from departure bay to the downtown core. & more diverse culturally inspired public events.
- ▶ Waterfront walkway connectivity and more vibrant and friendly downtown
- ▶ Ways to enjoy the down town on foot or bike , to access shops and parks.
- ▶ We elected a green party. The city should reinforce to protect nature and people from climate change and disease outbreak by educating.
- ▶ We have the most waterfront arguably in British Columbia comment however we do not have a waterfront walkway that connects the Pacher be through downtown. This is a major oversight and something that should be addressed and actually passed in the council.
- ▶ We have to deal with our drug, crime, and homelessness issues before thinking about tourism/etc. because people will not come here knowing there's issues.
- ▶ We need a city that incorporates both the retired and elderly, and more young enterprising individuals with families.
- ▶ “We need a more lively downtown that includes living accommodations for all family types and incomes, hotels for tourists, interesting unique shops, restaurants and cafes. Nanaimo has a fantastic geographical layout and in developing Nanaimo high rises, condo towers should never be allowed beyond five storeys. In San Francisco, which has a similar geography, the height of high rise development is limited to allow everyone to enjoy the spectacular view.  
It would be fantastic to have a waterfront walk that extended from Departure Bay, through downtown Nanaimo to the Day's Inn or even slightly further south. Many great cities of the world have such walks and are very popular.”
- ▶ “We need a separate dog walking area long the waterfront. I frequently see dog feces on the walkway. Perhaps more bag dispensers and disposal bins might work.  
It would be nice to have more green neighbourhood walkways. ”
- ▶ We need more and better job opportunities for young people so that they can afford to raise their families here.

- ▶ We need more lower (below poverty level) income housing in areas where a person can feel safe and live a quiet life, have easy access to both food (shopping) and outdoor spaces (lakes and forests and ocean access). And, a resource to tell us about these things AND help fill out the applications (if needed).
- ▶ We need more medical services and a larger hospital. We need another pool and rec center in the north end. More care homes for seniors. It would be great to have a pool like Kits beach in Vancouver and the north end needs more sports facilities.
- ▶ We need more progressive senior citizen communities, and more walkable neighbourhood nodes. We need to deal with the complex issues of drug addiction and homelessness.
- ▶ “We need more than VIU and housebuilding for a sustainable economy. Support the efforts of business groups to try to attract more diverse employment to the region.

The very thing that attracts people to the west coast is what we’re destroying in this insane housing bubble. We’re clear-cutting everywhere to build houses with lawns nobody wants to mow. If we must keep the housing bubble going, could we at least look at the preservation of trees in our building regs? “

- ▶ We need one or two world class items that will draw people here. We currently lack any such amenities. A big wheel ride. An interactive mineshaft. An underwater marine center. An event like ironman. National training centers etc
- ▶ We need to focus on the shoreline and attracting tourism by creating attractions that are unique and world class, i.e. Ocean Discovery Centre.
- ▶ We need to improve downtown and the OCQ. Make it a destination for local people and eventually tourists again, after the virus is finished. Especially we need to keep away the boaters and tourists from outside of our country
- ▶ “We’ll flatten the curve of climate change by switching to renewables, retrofitting old buildings to make them energy efficient and electing governments that support science-based climate policies. We’ll have a just society that respects all people, land and other species.”
- ▶ Welcoming, warm, and walkable
- ▶ Well connected outdoor community spaces and parks. Vibrant downtown. Well attended and organized community events . Walkable communities within Nanaimo.
- ▶ Well planned road network instead of current hodge-podge. Proper, user friendly (runs frequently enough to make it usable) transit system; lose the fancy, expensive & barely used bike lane nonsense & accept the reality that families cannot take kids to daycare or school, get to work & back to pick them, up on the back of bicycles. Better attention to green space when approving development applications, instead of allowing one unusable lot that can’t be built on to be donated by developers. Make them meaningful park areas. Trails that are properly connected ie. south end to waterfront to Departure Bay. Investment in ALL areas of the City, not just the wealthier north end. Recreation Centre for Chase River has been promised for over 20 yrs & City is still finding excuses not to build it, in spite of huge growth at south end of city.
- ▶ Well, coming from Vancouver, I like the smallness of the City compared to the Lower Mainland, however as population grows the city has a chance to learn from mistakes and smart decisions made by involving people’s input, like you are doing here with this questionnaire.
- ▶ “What I love about Nanaimo is how clean and pristine it is. The easy access to clean and beautiful Mother Nature is an irreplaceable gift. It is a safe community and is an amazing place to raise a family. I want to see these continue to be so. I love improvements to parks. I use the bus sometimes and it would be nice for some areas to get more trips. Having to wait for an hour is a bit of a drag. But I understand one has to

take into account population size etc.

I also love our clean tap water. The water facility that was created recently was a fantastic idea. Let's continue with things like that. "

- ▶ Whatever you do DO NOT build condensed living such as high rises or lego townhomes. This kind increase in population density is what makes things like COVID-19 a nightmare.
- ▶ While retaining the wild, unmanicured margins (small scale: the blackberry bushes at the side of the road; large scale: the random, undeveloped chunks of town), development of infrastructure like walking/biking lanes, small parks, dense living spaces that will encourage ecologically sustainable and community-focused environments.
- ▶ Work and people in close proximity...less cars.
- ▶ World-class waterfront with a vibrant downtown. A mix of retail, restaurants, bars, services, residential. Lots of patios, sitting areas, walk/bike etc.
- ▶ Would like to see a vibrant pretty downtown core with more shops, restaurants and entertainment. Fill the empty spaces, provide retailers with rent discounts. Also, we really need to do something with the lack of transportation in this city. BC ferry service is a disgrace. We need a walk on ferry that goes to and from the mainland. Where is that??? It is time to provide that service. Ferry capacity is full every weekend and is unsafe.
- ▶ Would like to see the abandoned buildings either torn down or used
- ▶ You have to start realistically limiting expansion now to mitigate water shortages and live within our environmental means. Co-op housing, community gardens and small animal husbandry (eg. chickens, bees) providing food, education and work. Forests with selective logging supplying locally owned mills. Crafts workers producing items for local and tourism customers. Wood waste energy production, wave generated electricity.

Q8. If you were in a position to change or improve any aspect of Nanaimo now, what three things would you do? Please list your ideas in point form, in order of importance.

- ▶ - Build a 300 seat theatre for live entertainment. Check out the Roberta Bondar Pavillion in Sault Ste Marie.
  - Develop a plan for Commercial Street. ie. shut down the traffic, put up a canopy (Like Vegas only smaller), do SOMETHING to attract locals and visitors to downtown so that small business can survive and thrive. Create a 'thing' for people to talk about.
  - Finish the seawall. Create retail space for shops and restaurants all along it.
- Sorry, I have more! Pave the E&N corridor and create a bike/walking path. There are huge economic opportunities when we provide a reason for people to visit or move here.

If you build it they will come."

- ▶ "'- An end to homelessness by incorporating support into each of the new homes the province is intending to build. We cannot end homelessness by not providing aid in finding jobs and writing resumes. We cannot end addiction without providing counselling and addiction support services. The province seems to be ignoring this part of the equation and our City needs to be vocal about demanding it.
  - I would like to see pride in Nanaimo South and Harewood reestablished as it was when we first lived here 1969-1978.
  - Glad to see so much roadwork completed and please keep it up.
- ▶ "'- increase access to water for boating
  - provide access to fresh water (lakes) for dogs
  - stop the increasing population density."
- ▶ 1.change drug addiction to a health problem rather than a criminal one. 2, provide free drugs and rehab facilities to drug addicted and/or people suffering from mental health issues. 3 Provide support, protection, housing and medical attention to these people in need.
- ▶ "'- a long term treatment center for alcohol and drug addiction with transitional housing
  - remove lights on inland highway and install overpasses and off ramps. Do it now, traffic is only going to get worse.
  - rapid transit system"
- ▶ "'- Access to housing for homeless no matter the circumstance
  - Create garbage cans that look like cats (people are more likely to feed a creature looking garbage can) near Cat Stream (There is SO MUCH garbage there)
  - Focusing on renewable energy for electricity, transportation etc"
- ▶ "'- add a stop sign at Howard and 5th St
  - connect Parkway trail to VIU
  - make it safer to walk into downtown"
- ▶ "'- add more bike lanes, separate from cars if possible
  - build more sidewalks in the south end
  - build a real waterfront walkway from Departure Bay to Maffeo Sutton and encourage small shops, restaurants, and some small real estate development to increase foot traffic and add some life to the area. "

- ▶ “- Address homelessness and drug addiction with core housing projects and harm reduction.
  - Increase access to free active lifestyle options: bike lanes, trail riding, rock climbing, hiking
  - Increase food security by supporting farmers markets, farmers, helping people convert their lawns to gardens and plant food bearing plants in public spaces”
- ▶ “- Address the homeless and mental illness/drug use issues.
  - Extend the sea wall, including moving BC Ferries to Duke Point.
  - Update ALL crosswalks to be well lit and with flashing lights. “
- ▶ “- Adult mental health and addictions support. NOT injection sites or homeless shelters. Real support to assist people to get out of their situations. Counselling, treatment, life skills, job placement, supported independent living.
  - Focus on downtown. Rebuild, refurbish empty buildings, renew vibrancy.
 Create a cruise ship terminal. Tourism brings financial viability and supports small business.
  - Improve the bus system, build bike lanes, extend seawall to Departure Bay terminal. Nanaimo needs to be more accessible.

“

- ▶ “- Amend the city’s plan to increase RCMP budget and siphon those funds into developing low income housing and housing and wellness supports for homeless
  - Institute mandatory masks in enclosed public spaces (we need to stop the climb in covid cases, even if the island isnt as affected yet we cannot wait for the Province to force hands)
  - Toss the Port Drive Waterfront Master Plan in the shredder. Without Snuneymuxw engagement it is worthless and will never happen. Begin the conversation with SFN and then rebuild it from there.”
- ▶ “- An Eco Centre that showcases alternative technologies, solar power, hydroponics, aquaponics etc. Open to the public (Buchart Gardens) with a community garden arm and a community kitchen.
  - Inclusion of Indigenous communities for eco-tourism ideas and centre for learning and understanding Indigenous History in our area.
  - Affordable and diverse housing options.”
- ▶ “- Appropriate bike lanes and sidewalks on our busy commute routes (especially Hammond Bay Rd)
  - support and services for homelessness and families living in poverty

“

- ▶ “- bring in new businesses and restaurants to revitalize the waterfront
  - open a public market like Granville Island but smaller. Give the opportunity to showcase local growers, producers and artists.
  - give incentives to new businesses to create jobs that are not retail.”
- ▶ “- Build container housing, like Seattle is doing, to house the homeless
  - have enough rehab beds for those that ask for it
  - continue supporting and revitalizing the downtown”
- ▶ “- Build more bicycle routes.
  - Sort out the drug and homeless problem which will also decrease crime and violence.
  - preserve green space and prevent too many high density housing in Nanaimo.

“

- ▶ “- build overpasses for pedestrians and bikes across main transportation arteries
  - create alternative, well marked, bike paths that divert bike traffic from high volume traffic routes

- change by-laws to allow more diverse businesses to open in existing residential units ( ie small restaurants, coffee shops, retail) "

- ▶ ""- Change 40% of current housing projects to Clean/dry, affordable housing for people with disabilities
  - Develop a minimum of 50 detox and treatment beds for individuals living with addiction
  - Change building bylaws to include the development of rent to own tiny home development for low income people."
- ▶ ""- Clean up downtown
  - improve bike transportation
  - finish the waterfront walkway"
- ▶ ""- Clean up downtown, its kind of terrifying to park your car there
  - Revise how housing development works. Development permits are creating these massive cookie cutter neighbourhoods. They are great for prices but really diminish the character of a city. In addition the parkland that is mandated to be built are always afterthoughts. There is so much potential to build vibrant communities if the notion of development wasn't just a way for developers to seize on land that no one else can afford and burb out a bunch of look alike homes you could find in Calgary
  - Add more garbage cans in Nanaimo's parklands. Many parks just do not have enough garbage cans and unfortunately it leads to a lot of loiter in our forests and beaches. "
- ▶ Clean up the filth of downtown and take back our parks from 'tenters'. Put a lot more police into our neighbourhoods and support the police better. (add neighbourhood lighting so drug users/thieves can be seen and caught. Stop ridiculous spending on things like bike lanes while our town is on fire with the druggies and thieves, deal with the huge problems before stupid things like a bike lane.
- ▶ Clean up the street garbage, push public transportation. ,and encourage conservation.
- ▶ ""- Clean up/modernize downtown.
  - deal with the homeless situation
  - find a way to increase involvement when things are happening in the city "
- ▶ ""- CLEAR OUT WESLEY STREET
  - CLEAR OUT WESLEY STREET
  - CLEAR OUT WESLEY STREET"
- ▶ ""- connect waterfront walkway from the ferry to downtown and actively try to revitalize this corridor with the market and local businesses. This is a huge missed opportunity for Nanaimo.
  - stop urban sprawl and focus on density and walkability, enable people to live local
  - ensure business spaces that closed downtown due to covid are replaced with local businesses not chain stores "
- ▶ ""- continue to add recreational facilities for the growing population both young and old
  - work with Provincial mental health to curb addictions n homelessness
  - accessible, affordable transportation options"
- ▶ ""- Council that focuses on city matters on
  - Roads, sewers, water, sidewalks
  - stop social engineering"
- ▶ ""- Create a rehab for people in need ( I am not saying housing BUT Rehab FIRST)
  - Create a better downtown with more shops and restaurants (so many people cross downtown but never stop because there is nothing attractive enough)
  - Make sure that no homeless sleep on the floor at Port Place "

- ▶ ""- create a resource guide for products and services available in Nanaimo to encourage people to shop local
  - lobby and work towards proper and adequate support systems for the homeless including meaningful employment
  - create a think-tank to work with economic development. We have an amazing number of highly skilled individuals who have moved here who can offer ideas"
- ▶ ""- create more safe, walkable areas/trails in neighbourhoods, nature, and commercial areas.
  - support the port theatre's community theatre project. Choirs, theatre etc. really need the space.
  - add caution lights at all school crosswalks (especially Barsby area on Bruce)"
- ▶ ""- create permanent positions for Snuneymuxw leadership at the board level and city planning
  - focus on environmental stability and improvements- review by-laws to ensure the environment is a strong focus
  - create more low cost housing"
- ▶ ""- crime prevention
  - make Nanaimo less attractive to the homeless
  - improve our green spaces"
- ▶ ""- Deal with the homeless and drug use.
  - Ensure Nanaimo has indoor tennis courts.
  - Safe pedestrian crossings at all bus stops."
- ▶ ""- deal with the street people in accordance to their medical needs, all other vagrants need to leave town if they're just here to threaten the safety and livelihood of hard-working citizens.
  - build a mental health/addiction facility.
  - build a pool/gym facility in Nanaimo north."
- ▶ ""- Detox centers and Addictions support
  - Protect our green spaces
  - Acknowledge the first peoples of this land and what was here before colonialization."
- ▶ ""- develop and implement a climate emergency plan at the local level (see Seth Klein's book The Good War for ideas)
  - transition resources towards the mentally ill and the homeless in order to get to the root of the problem of poverty
  - develop an implement a plan for the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy resources, which would result in long term job creation"
- ▶ ""- Develop more SAFE active transportation routes all throughout Nanaimo
  - Address the downtown core, remove the casino, and multiple autobody shops/car dealerships, pawnshops, focus on putting in businesses that are going to attract people, not just benefit economic gain. Revitalize the old, rundown buildings.
  - Provide services to get a grip on the drug use and homeless population within Nanaimo. "
- ▶ " Directly work with social services to confront and assert options to reduce the unacceptable level and scale of homeless, mental health, drug use in the city core.

Be more activist in this regard: house and guide street people creating the most issues to ways off the street. Choice given to them is: here are ways we can help, you choose , and if no choice is made then police will be on your tail constantly.

provide work/volunteer options for these marginalized people to contribute back to their city by parks

work, cleaning up garbage, providing mentorship for others on the street to get help etc”

- ▶ “- downtown needs to be sorted out. Terminal Ave from Commercial to Comox needs a long overdue facelift. That stretch of road is not how I’d like my city viewed.
  - we dont have the heritage building of Victoria or event the small town charm of Cumberland. Keep creating a modern vibrant city and get over worrying about the past.
  - Homelessness is by far taking up too much resources with bandaied solutions. Why arent we looking at other global citys that have dealt with this? There needs to be some political reason, common sense and practical decision making. we cant just keep studying the situation. its time for solutions.
- ▶ “- Dramatically increase supports for people experiencing homelessness and addictions, including public relations campaign to reduce the incredible stigma associated with these predicaments;
  - Turn over the South End waterfront (Port Place Mall and south) to the Snuneymuxw Nation and have public declaration of reparations for stealing all of their land, particularly in this area and where the Departure Bay village once was
  - Develop specific and concrete limits on further residential and industrial development, in consultation with stakeholders including representatives for the watershed, native flora & fauna, local Indigenous nations, and affordable housing advocates. Determine how further development could be integrated into existing sites with strong environmental protections and price caps, and resist the input and lobbying from developers. “
- ▶ “- Drastically increase public transit in select areas
  - Increased density in the downtown core, with people living in the area
  - Improvements in walkable infrastructure
- ▶ “- drugs use and homelessness
  - downtown revitalization
  - tree retention “
- ▶ “- eliminate outdoor cannabis growing next to family homes and acreages
  - expand the waterfront walk-way, and encourage a higher-end restaurant or two to be close to the waterfront.”
- ▶ “- Encourage broad cooperation from the city, schools, VIU, cultural groups, businesses to do even more to work together on the city.
  - Build a sustainable city that is resilient to environmental and economic changes
  - make city more walkable and bikeable”
- ▶ “- encourage car sharing/Uber
  - preserve land from development (like Lotus Pinnata area)
  - develop more integrated bike pathways”
- ▶ “- encourage social inter-connectedness by supporting cultural activity in the evenings ad on weekends
  - encourage and support local small businesses to thrive
  - find ways to support safe walking and cycling to key city gathering areas and recreation spaces”
- ▶ “- end homelessness
  - end theft, crime, public drug use
  - reinvigorate the downtown core, figure out what to use old a abandoned buildings”
- ▶ “- enforce the law
  - attract more doctors

- attract more good private sector businesses"
- ▶ "'- environmentally sustainable practices. Let's start putting the earth first
  - affordable housing and mental health services
  - bike lanes and increased transportation routes"
- ▶ "'- expand and connect the seawall to Departure Bay and south of downtown
  - more sidewalks and better parking lots
  - I wish the people of Nanaimo in general had more compassion and understanding toward those struggling (with homelessness etc) and could see these as symptoms of systemic problems. Not sure any one person is in a position to change that, but would love to see it!"
- ▶ "'- expand walking trails.ie: departure bay waterfront, parks along streams in neighbourhoods
  - invest in tourism
  - encourage developers to mix single family developments with multi family. Ie: foothills"
- ▶ "'- Find a solution to the situation beside the Franklyn Street Gym: the homeless population needs support but downtown residents also deserve to feel safe in their neighbourhood.
  - Create a vibrant downtown shopping/cultural district by limiting car traffic on Commercial and promoting downtown events to bring people and new businesses to the area.
  - Stop granting building permits for big box stores until the existing vacant spaces are occupied (i.e. Save On Foods on Terminal Ave).
- ▶ "'- Fix homeless/drug issue
  - extend the sea wall
  - develop downtown (more shops/stores instead of empty/run down buildings)"
- ▶ "'- fix homelessness
  - establish rent controls to help families who are already here
  - focus on the working class for once, as they are your guaranteed economy; reducing wage stagnation and brining us jobs that aren't minimum wage is crucial."
- ▶ "'- Focus on fixing social issues impacting downtown it's the heart and gateway to the city.
  - invest in green spaces, parks, waterfront and urban forest.
  - Increase planting/ greening of neighborhoods and public corridors.
- ▶ "'- Focus on homelessness and support for addiction.
  - Densification of downtown
  - Connectivity of Trailways"
- ▶ "'- follow the objectives of the Official Community Plan for Nanaimo and maintain the character of neighbourhoods while densifying the City.
  - connect parks and trails within the City and make it easier to travel by bike or on foot
  - provide space for all industrial and light industrial (including car lots) on the edge of the City and away from residential neighbourhoods."
- ▶ "'- Foot ferry connecting downtown Nanaimo and Vancouver
  - Fully connected (and properly defined) bike and walking paths throughout the city
  - Development of the cruise ship dock area."
- ▶ "'- force the provincial/federal government to open treatment centres
  - increased social services such as MCFD
  - support the downtown businesses with safety and security so they can successfully run a business and

encourage customers “

- ▶ “- fund live venues
  - help the homeless
  - activities that bring together the family”
- ▶ “- fund mental health initiatives for folks living on the streets
  - create more studio space for cultural use
  - offer small business support and grant opportunities “
- ▶ “- get homeless out of downtown
  - help businesses downtown
  - events downtown “
- ▶ “- give homeless a safe and designated place to live and access to resources
  - sidewalks all across the city
  - more affordable e-bike rentals”
- ▶ “- Give incentives to go digital and assist companies struggling with this.
  - Clean up downtown and reduce homelessness in high traffic areas.
  - Help local artists by having a community space where they can show and sell their art that is more inclusive.”
- ▶ “- halt the destruction of green and forested areas and wetlands.
  - allow tiny homes
  - bring the services and shopping to the local neighbourhoods. I shouldn't have to use my car to go buy a litre of milk; it should be a short walk, not over an hour.
  - those who use the most services need to pay in proportion (garbage, water, sewer, power, roadways, “
- ▶ “- have security guards patrolling strata neighbourhoods and the hospital area - way too many car break-ins happening and nothing being done about it.
  - Implement Pre-natal care classes/courses as there are NONE in the entire city. Use a recreation centre gym where people can properly social distance, otherwise at least have something on zoom.
- ▶ “- have sidewalks and cycling line everywhere
  - have an annual awesome COVID safe inclusive artistic event
  - have affordable housing for all.”
- ▶ “- Have the City of Nanaimo actually listen to its citizens. It seems City Council, the Mayor and City staffers make decisions based on a predetermined agenda and 'just for show' pretend to listen to concerns residents raise
  - Stop clear-cutting every tree to make room for more apartment buildings that are far more expensive than the average person can afford.
  - Do something to encourage businesses to occupy empty commercial space. Approvals are being handed out to build more commercial, retail and office space but if you drive around there is empty buildings every where. It does not make any sense “
- ▶ Help the Homeless, extend walkway to departure bay like Stanley park, develop downtown core
- ▶ “- High Speed ferry
  - Improved medical services -doctors & testing facilities
  - Clean up downtown - homeless”

- ▶ ""- high speed passenger ferry to the mainland.
  - more hotels downtown."
- ▶ ""- Homeless issue to be improved with steps taken to address the drug problem
  - vibrant downtown, more small businesses, local establishments
  - \_"
- ▶ ""- homeless shelters
  - safe drug use for addicts
  - more recycling advocates "
- ▶ ""- homelessness
  - crime
  - planning a true waterfront to enhance"
- ▶ ""- Homelessness (getting these people off the streets and including them in a program created by the city to include them in getting them sober and clean to get them back on their feet.
  - Affordable housing for everyone. Rent prices for a one bedroom apartment is 1500 and higher. Those with disabilities or single mothers can't make enough money for a simple life in a month by working a 40 hour job at around \$18 an hour. (We simply need to get our housing back to the affordable price range for all)
  - A bigger recycling warehouse for those that recycle their bottles, broken items. (This will interest the public to get our city into the eco-friendly economy.)"
- ▶ ""- Homelessness addressed
  - Creative job projects - environmental, recycling, sustainable
  - Affordable housing for families"
- ▶ ""- Homelessness seems like an ongoing battle
  - Repurposing areas of Nanaimo like Terminal mall, to drive up desirability to actually create a downtown core, instead of 15 malls along an old highway.
  - More multi use development (Condos with storefronts) such as what is going in the haliburton area."
- ▶ ""- Housing and resources that work. The science is sound, the economic cases aplenty - there is no reason for the struggles we have.
  - Affordable housing that reflects the nature of the median income, not an average and not what white professionals can afford. This needs to be done before more families & students move here and need to live in their cars.
  - A stable downtown BIA"
- ▶ ""- housing and support for homeless people
  - extend seawall walk both north and southwards
  - more support, including space options for performing arts"
- ▶ ""- housing availability
  - housing affordability
  - improved public transit, bike lanes, and trail connections from Parkway to E&N"
- ▶ ""- housing for homeless with mental health and addiction supports in place
  - improved recreation facilities and programs
  - greater access to daycare "
- ▶ - I suggest changing (at least part) of the hut at Departure Bay into a change room and sauna for cold

water swimmers (could be either public or semi-private, like the outdoor pool at Bowen). Such facilities are available in other northern countries (e.g., Finland) are so great for health and community!

- ▶ “- I think that the Rutherford Mall (North Town Centre) should be turned into a sports and entertainment hub. There are a huge number of very large, empty retail spaces there. The City should either purchase part of the mall, or lease some of the large spaces and turn them into indoor soccer/activity fields, basketball or indoor tennis courts, etc. Other spaces could be leased to private interests for pubs/ restaurant use, or private activity facilities (electric indoor go-karts, virtual golf driving ranges, fitness studios, yoga studios, etc). It could be an incredible asset to expand Nanaimo’s recreational facilities in one convenient location.
  - Secure more parkland and develop it for use within the city’s boundary
  - Work to keep property taxes from escalating “
  
- ▶ “- I would create a program that rewards responsible dog ownership, such as local businesses working with the City to make licencing more common and responsible dog ownership rewarded or the City supporting education in exchange for reduced fines for dogs at large or dangerous dogs.
  - I would make multi-use pathways a priority. The idea for the Departure Bay-Downtown pathway is a really good one and would encourage more travel via alternatives to cars.
  - I would focus on making abiding by the law more attractive and more rewarding than not abiding by the law. The costs of rewarding people for good behaviour may be less than the costs of repairing the results of bad behaviour. “
  
- ▶ “- I would solve the homelessness issue
  - I would change the car-centered mindset of many residents
  - I would improve education on natural areas, ecosystems and their inhabitants, so that more of the population would use our natural areas with respect“
  
- ▶ “- identify a distinctive, memorable theme e.g. coastal life/beauty, reflecting the theme in professionally designed banners and tourism materials
  - beautify the city with more gardens and planted boulevards, especially along city entrance way, downtown and along primary travel corridors
  - develop bike trails along main travel corridors and connect these with other areas (like Victoria & Duncan have done... amazing!)“
  
- ▶ “- improve access to our natural spaces around Nanaimo, especially for ATVs motorcycles and 4x4 vehicles. This is what many residents AND tourists love to do, but instead we are harrassed, fined, and hogtied by forestry companies.
  - address homelessness and protect our most vulnerable
  - make commuting safer and more affordable by increasing transit and cycling culture, fixing viu’s broken parking plan. “
  
- ▶ “- improve accessibility to beaches and parks, including wheelchair access
  - increase mental health and rehabilitation services, especially close to the downtown core
  - develop a downtown market similar to Grandville Island or Pike Place Market“
  
- ▶ “- improve bike infrastructure
  - offer rebates for electric vehicles and increase number of charging stations
  - offer incentives for improving energy efficiency in homes. “
  
- ▶ “- improve housing for the homeless
  - increase policing downtown

-join the waterfront trail from Departure Bay to Piper's Park

"

- ▶ ""- Improve our downtown and south of downtown waterfront.
  - Build on the vacant lots in the downtown core.
  - Support the revival of a train to Victoria"
- ▶ ""- Improve the walkability & interconnectivity of various neighborhoods in & around Nanaimo
  - Implement a consistently reliable & affordable public transport system & bike network
  - Create various city centres throughout the city (look at Ladysmith, Courtenay, or Crofton)"
- ▶ ""- improve traffic congestion and start cracking down hard on vehicles with extreme exhausts and road violations
  - Remove offenders off the island who specifically came here for crime
- "
- ▶ ""- Improve traffic flow in and around the city
  - maintain wider roads that are pedestrian-friendly especially in areas experiencing significant growth in land development and subdivisions
  - improve zoning laws for religious gatherings "
- ▶ ""- improve walking and biking routes. Put in sidewalks where there are none.
  - think forward - protect the parks and create even more
  - make downtown a place people want to go (develop it! attract business, visitors etc)"
- ▶ ""- Improved provincial support to address mental health and addictions
  - Improved cycling/pedestrian transportation network
  - Leverage and invest in the city's natural assets and amazing waterfront experience to attract business and residents"
- ▶ ""- Increase cleaning and maintenance of City infrastructure
  - Lobby for more addictions detox/treatment beds
  - Encourage landlords to keep their rents affordable"
- ▶ ""- increase social supports / decrease crime
  - provide more support, space & opportunity for the arts (including music, & not just classical)
  - more outdoor festivals to foster feeling of community, bring people together & encourage tourism"
- ▶ ""- increase support for mental health, addictions treatment and counselling
  - no reduction in police budget
  - improve food resilience and incentives for eating local"
- ▶ ""- Invest in downtown and waterfront
  - Enhance Snuneymuxw history and culture downtown
  - Invest in environmental initiatives: more bike lanes, garbage diversion"
- ▶ ""- invest tax \$\$ in downtown to make it more vibrant and offer incentives to business owners to start new businesses there
  - Invest in public transit and alternatives modes of transportation such as car sharing and electric bike rental with various drop off points in the core
  - Tax invested in fast ferry to finally make it happen "
- ▶ ""- keep taxes in check. They are becoming a barrier for homeowners.
  - allocate more funds for recreation and entertainment to keep residents in town and attract visitors
  - focus on the homeless and people in need to provide housing and resources. "

- ▶ “- legalize harder drugs like the program they have in Sweden
  - reduce rents by 20% and freeze them for 5 years
  - build for our growing population and not for greed.”
- ▶ “- less development sprawl (no more furniture/big box malls!)
  - bike accessibility throughout
  - supports for homeless population”
- ▶ “- Low Income Housing for new families and people who are coming out of homelessness
  - Government-funded rehabilitation for drug users and the homeless
  - I see there is a focus on getting people biking more, maybe more areas to store bikes or rent bikes”
- ▶ “- make active and public transit more accessible (more/better bike lanes, improved bus schedules, encourage car-sharing and other more sustainable transportation)
  - invest in local food systems (support farmers, create community gardens in schools and neighbourhoods)
  - create low-barrier housing for homeless populations”
- ▶ “- Make an effort to encourage and possibly subsidize local food production (plant starter give-aways in early spring, not unlike the GREAT program Nanaimo previously instituted to subsidize the purchase of trees), which would lower the cost of produce when larger scale, and better position us for periods of food insecurity.
  - Encourage local developers to build up (large condos) rather than clear forests for another cookie-cutter subdivision.
  - Increase number of EV charging stations, ahead of the expect surge in vehicles over the next 10 years.”
- ▶ “- make compost mandatory for all apartment and condo buildings
  - put systems in place to protect drug users so less of my peers end up dead before age 30
  - Address the lack of child care so that women can get back to work “
- ▶ “- make tax rate more affordable by focusing on core services that cities are supposed to provide & moving away from so many special interest projects
  - make developers meet current regulations for development projects instead of always bending rules & granting variances, especially relating to parking
  - bring City contracts, especially fire department, in line with what our community can afford to pay, rather than comparing salaries to cities like Vancouver which have larger tax base, and vastly different job requirements. We have no big Port with dangerous goods, no high rises etc. Our firefighters, as well as many City employees, are very overpaid for what they actually do, and the rest of us who are funding those salaries can barely afford to live. Nanaimo needs to learn to live within its means in order to make it an affordable community to live in.”
- ▶ “- More affordable housing.
  - More policing
  - Options for homeless “
- ▶ “- more low income housing, rules on maximums for rentals
  - implementing more crisis care initiatives, it should not be the police responding to drug addictions and mental health crisis. Those aren’t crimes - let the police do their jobs and keep them out of mental health and addiction.

- vibrancy downtown, more to do, more accessible "
- ▶ ""- more medical doctors to accommodate the population of Nanaimo
  - homelessness
  - more affordable shopping for people who live in the south part of Nanaimo.
- ▶ ""- More parks, natural areas, trails
  - Increased walking and cycling infrastructure
  - A real transit plan"
- ▶ ""- more walkable and safer streets
  - clinics with new family doctors (especially in North end)
  - waterfront trail connecting departure bay and maffeo sutton"
- ▶ ""- move salvation army away from downtown and from plain sight. Terrible location
  - move Wesley street safe consumption site away from downtown
  - create a bylaw that will put pressure on these empty lots so they do something with them. "
- ▶ ""- No more homeless people setting up camp wherever they want and stealing from hard working people
  - Help these people access the help they need. Maybe they need to bring back institutions because the current system isn't working at all!
  - Better long term city planning instead of constantly ripping up the same areas on Bowen Road for example."
- ▶ ""- on off ramp at east wellington rd to reduce traffic at the Northfield interchange
  - build two more all weather fields and change rooms at Beban Park so we can host sporting events
  - Lobby MOTI to build an over pass at the exit by the welcome to Nanaimo sign by Woodgrove mall"
- ▶ ""- open up our arenas, theatres, restaurants to pre-COVID levels
  - be transparent about how COVID has affected our City socially, economically, and the number of deaths that have occurred. Do a study to compare to pre-COVID levels. Show some leadership on a local government scale.
  - stop pie in the sky 'climate change' initiatives"
- ▶ ""- Preserve any remaining natural areas and not allow development to occur
  - Add and improve green spaces throughout all of Nanaimo, especially in the busier downtown areas
  - "
- ▶ ""- prevent derelict boats collecting in the inner harbour
  - get homeless off the streets and out of parks"
- ▶ ""- proper composting and recycling systems for the city.
  - affordable housing
  - cleaning the city "
- ▶ ""- Protect & enhance nature and potential public spaces (one example is the large open space on 4th St, between Howard & Hillcrest, another example is the old-hospital site).
  - Smart zoning, meaning increasing (affordable) density on poorly used sites (such as malls) and no new bulk single family zoning, and encourage infill housing where it does not take away from nature.
  - Sustainability in resource & energy usage, local food resiliency, and daily life quality (ie walkability, bikeability, public/community spaces)."
- ▶ ""- provide all services needed to help homelessness and substance abuse
  - help local businesses

- improve services at hospital (ex. cancer treatments)"
- ▶ ""- Put criminals in Jail.
  - Do not allow hard drug use or mentally ill people to terrorize the citizens of Nanaimo.
  - Enforce illegal camping laws to the fullest. People should not be allowed to set up a tent wherever they want. "
- ▶ ""- Redevelop and/or promote redevelopment of the downtown to increase density and commercial businesses downtown
  - Increase ease getting in and out of downtown (Terminal and Nicol and Fitzwilliam corridor improvements)
  - Promote redevelopment of the harbour"
- ▶ ""- reduce CO2 emissions by increasing public transportation, creating a more bike/walk friendly community, and reducing the number of personal vehicles
  - subsidize addictions/health health treatment for people to access the without worrying about the cost
  - focus on a more compact city layout to reduce the urban sprawl that it damaging the natural habitat and biodiversity around the city"
- ▶ ""- reduce homelessness and improve affordability
  - increase walkability, bike trails and make public transport more efficient and green
  - foster diversity, inclusivity and make recreation programs more diverse and affordable"
- ▶ ""- relocate saw mills from the inner harbour,
  - keep any new harbour front building low rise,
  - increase harbour seawall and activities. Victoria harbour is a good example of increasing local artisans availability etc."
- ▶ ""- replace proposed and existing supportive housing with treatment facilities that have STRICT protocols about leaving the campus
  - improve the courts and laws that allow residents to feel safe and defend their homes when attacked; and not have to worry about getting sued by the criminal who illegally enters my home
  - change city council meetings in that councilors And the mayor hold routine office hours - as in weekly - to speak with residents about their concerns, explain how they voted"
- ▶ ""- Restaurant industry
  - downtown homelessness
  - Better transit"
- ▶ ""- revitalize the waterfront from Helijet to departure bay (rezoning, support community asset development)
  - focus on raising the tide for all citizens this means supports for homeless population and reduce crime rates"
- ▶ ""- safe place for children and youth to go. With supports.
  - under cover playground for kids all year.
  - clean up the drug use and homelessness "
- ▶ ""- seperating the life of elderly and youth (making a community that both generations can enjoy without running into trouble with each other)
  - programs for youth that contributes to society that doesn't seem too forceful but also is available to all
  - renovating old buildings that are scattered around Nanaimo for more profitable businesses that people would prefer"
- ▶ ""- sidewalks

- homelessness
- waterpark for the north end "
- ▶ '- social issues stemming from lack of affordable housing, drugs & crime.ex
- ▶ "'- special economic zone downtown to support downtown vibrancy
  - offers to pay return trip to return homeless people to where they came from
  - institutionalization of severely mentally ill people experiencing homelessness"
- ▶ "'- spread out commercial development to ease traffic and congestion issues
  - develop, through incentives, downtown commercial development
  - provide transportation improvements/alternatives to encourage people to use the downtown commercial hub more."
- ▶ "'- Spread out services and public infrastructure throughout the city (from pools to subsidized housing and social services). Concentrating it just isn't working.
  - keep up the bike infrastructure regardless of the ""taxpayer complaints"" in the Beefs. It makes a massive difference.
  - keep up the excellent parks & recreation programs as well as excellent city public works projects improving roads and complete streets. I look forward to seeing Metral Drive when it is complete!"
- ▶ "'- spread social housing throughout the whole community
  - stick to basics cleaning up garbage, emptying garbage cans, general maintenance
  - public safety "
- ▶ "'- Stiffer penalties for crime
  - bring back mental health facilities for those who desperately need them
  - special attention paid to improvement of the waterfront which I consider one of the most beautiful in the world, including extending the walkway and removing derelict buildings."
- ▶ "'- stop clear cutting land for strip malls and focus and instead focus on low income housing and housing density
  - buy land from logging companies to make sanctioned and dedicated trails in order to make nanaimo a ecological tourist destination
  - add a dedicated and separated bike lane to bowen road in order to truly connect nanaimo from down town to the north end
- ▶ '- stop encouraging the criminal element
- ▶ "'- stop issuing permits that use up arable land for housing
  - bring back smaller local schools because a school is often the central point of a neighborhood
  - work on bringing the city centre back downtown "
- ▶ "'- stop the needle exchange/free clean drugs to junkies idea
  - start the process of accessible rehab for residents only of this city (5 yrs or longer) (see Edgewood as an example but make that province/municipal funded)
  - rotate cold weather shelters to different areas of the city"
- ▶ "'- support the building of more affordable housing
  - create permanent outdoor stages/concert venues at Maffeo-Sutton Park and Diana Krall Plaza
  - create a local food centre/year-round indoor farmers' market space "
- ▶ "'- swing bring to new castle island (see V&A Waterfront cape town)
  - develop a vibrant waterfront (restaurants, tourism, businesses)

- passenger ferry to Vancouver”
- ▶ “- Tackle social issues such as homelessness, mental health, and petty crime.
  - Work towards fixing the legacy of ugly, sprawling, generic, car-dependent development.
  - More activities and events to appeal to a variety of ages and interests.”
- ▶ “- tackle the homelessness, street people and crime and drug problems. (I am aware that each has its own solution and comes under the responsibility of various levels of government, but these issues are viewed as a whole by the community)
  - develop tourism products and market & promote tourism to Nanaimo.
  - take a very strategic approach to economic development and create a 5 and 10 year economic development strategy and plan to execute. “
- ▶ “- Take a serious, positive stance on public transportation and active transportation infrastructure safety, connectivity and maintenance.
  - Get to work on one of Nanaimo’s main proud possessions, cleaning up and developing the waterfront.
  - get to work on traffic calming and traffic law enforcement.”
- ▶ “- transit. Complete overhaul of routes desperately needed
  - bike lanes – paint some lines!
  - support any/all transition/mental health/housing/addictions initiatives you can by partnering with other levels of gov”
- ▶ “- vibrant downtown core
  - waterfront walkway
  - ensuring new developments blend in with the neighbourhood they’re going into”
- ▶ “- Walkability
  - Benches
  - Neighbourhood identity”
- ▶ “- Well equipped, well funded rehab centers, not just for drug use but for mental health issues as well (Depression, Anxiety, Bi-Polar) plus those for neuro-atypical individuals ( ADHD, Autistic) to discover coping mechanisms, publicly funded and accessible to all who need it.
  - More mental health services; more Psychiatrists and easier access for those struggling and undiagnosed.
  - Affordable housing for all”
- ▶ “- while very challenging, figure out this homelessness problem
  - link the trail system and make it easier to travel via bicycles, walking, etc.
  - move away from Nanaimo’s history of strip malls and create great outdoor shopping/living/dining spaces – think like a city “
- ▶ “- work toward a relationship with VIU that would allow more citizens to access on a regular basis looking at parking solutions, use of empty space evenings
  - lobby for a passenger ferry to Vancouver run out of existing BC ferries facilities
  - work toward a liveable minimum wage and/or a GAI for Nanaimo “
- ▶ “- Work with police & judicial system to process charges quickly, so people can’t just get away with crime!
  - Focus on ways to make Nanaimo more sustainable for future generations, do our part to help soften the blows of climate change

- Provide programs for kids at risk so we try and catch kids BEFORE they become addicted to drugs and end up on Wesley Street"

▶ "

- 1) Address the Climate Crisis
- 2) Adopt the Calls to Action in the Truth & Reconciliation Report
- 3) Address homelessness and drug addiction

"

▶ "

1. Clean up Bowen park. It use to be a beautiful place.
2. Hire new city planners, to help us built more Urban amenities. More restaurants and less fast food. Less bandages on our social issues and building ugly box buildings. My examples are the lazy boy complex, or the addition on to city hall.
3. Hire more police to have better security downtown. "

▶ "

Work on homeless crisis  
Manage pollution and littering  
Green transit (train or tram system)"

- ▶ "#1. Have the open drug use stopped, any crimes need to be punished as the laws states, make the Federal Government be held accountable  
#2. Stop spending tax money on things that the taxpayers do not want, ie bike lanes and roads that take more space but take away safety from a driver's perspective  
#3. Start working with both Provincial and Federal on having a bridge built to the mainland, this will create many jobs, this can be done with a toll same as they did with the Coquihalla Highway thus taking all burdone off the taxpayers and remove said toll when paid off in full, this too helps remove a ferry service that is our highways system but is also used to hold the taxpayers on our island as hostages which has been and still is being done to this day, which is illegal. "
- ▶ "#1. Zero tolerance to people living on the streets. If there are tent cities or clusters of homeless shaggies encamped near business places & walkways, it scares users off. I like the idea that Victoria has where some level of government is buying up older hotels & house homeless people within a cluster of care.  
#2. Smaller busses that are travelling busy routes. In Nassau, we experienced this. A bus similar size to handy dart travelled a route, headed to a destination. I heard someplace it was a private business. In this instance the destination was downtown. Once the bus filled at the downtown location. It followed the route in reverse.  
3. Passenger, smaller, high speed Ferries that cross from Nanaimo to Vancouver. Has anyone thought of promoting a Nanaimo to Victoria ferry. A pocket cruise from Port Hardy to Victoria would be amazing. I would encourage a business to develop this. "
- ▶ "(1) build very small cabins for the homeless to shelter in for a nominal rental fee.  
(2) spearhead a work activity group to pick up all the garbage laying around Nanaimo  
(3) find a way to have dog owners charged when they throw their doggie doo bags in the bushes"
- ▶ "(1) Upgrade & attention to downtown & the businesses that reside there  
(2) Being comfortable with change & modernization  
(3) Mental health iniatives for the homeless & addicted (recognizing this may be a provincial or federal issue however, maybe the city can apply some budget towards iniatives that support this community). "
- ▶ "\*\* More green space when constructing new subdivisions  
\* No camping in our city parks....."

- \* Getting rid of invasive plants in our parks "
- ▶ **"\*** create a health institution to house the mentally ill and dangerous offenders
  - \* we have some good by-laws...starting enforcing them...therefore creating less animosity in neighbourhoods when a people act out. So many by-laws are broken daily and nothing is done - whether reported or directly witnesses by police. "
- ▶ " create/increase supportive housing, detox & treatment beds
  - \* increased outreach social service wrap around response to social disorder and homelessness
  - attract diverse employment opportunities without making Nanaimo a suburb of Vancouver."
- ▶ **"\*** Ensure there are easily accessible safe injection sites to reduce the number of overdose deaths
  - \*Increase affordable social housing (provide free housing to the homeless that are unable to pay even a little) to reduce the number of homeless on the streets.
  - \*Work to ensure those on social assistance are integrated into and become a vibrant part of community life in Nanaimo. Don't just try to hide them away try to integrate them--give them responsibilities, something to develop their sense of belonging and civic pride."
- ▶ **"\*** Get rid of the horrible container housing the govt brought in for the homeless - they don't sleep there anyway, they use it as storage lockers for all the things they stole from hard working people
  - Stop with the bike lanes. We've seen the anger from the residents of Victoria with the problems they are causing there. Bikes are not practical here...we have rain from Sept to April...it makes no sense! A bike lane on Front St is just plain ludicrous. It takes away much needed parking and moving trucks will have nowhere to park when residents move from downtown condos. It also makes it more difficult for seniors to cross the road.
  - Upgrade Departure Bay Beach area with shops and better parking (even if a block away by the sportsfield). This area is a diamond in the rough."
- ▶ **"\*** Take action to deal with the current and future effects of climate
  - \* Promote and enable greener lifestyles
  - \* Protect and improve the resiliency of our watersheds, through restoration of our streams, protection of our green spaces, and reducing the amount of impervious surfaces in our development areas. "
- ▶ **"\*** Waterfront Pathway that connects through entire city, including south for walking and biking
  - \* More character and livability in new commercial areas
  - \* Clean up the downtown and celebrate this area for the gem that it is
  - "
- ▶ **"\*\***mandatory treatment for drug addicts who commit crime
  - not destroying the last safe neighborhoods by planning another ""modular housing"" project for the ""so-called homeless"" close-by. affordable housing for those truly at risk of homelessness for other reasons than drug addiction, and not forcing truly homeless people into support facilities shared with addicts-- more support for those who want to improve their circumstances. "
- ▶ **"\*** build more supportive housing for those struggling with mental health and addiction
  - \*regulate (or ban) Airbnb's so that more 2ndary suites become available for permanent housing
  - "
- ▶ \*electric buses rather than LNG powered \*much more low income housing \*build many sidewalks
- ▶ **"\*** more waterfront development
  - \*tourism destination project - Such as cablecar to Mt Benson lookout
  - foot ferry to Vancouver"
- ▶ **"\*** Social planning - assistance to the elderly, disabled, mentally challenged to improve quality of life by

ASSISTING in research and in signing up in programs/classes/groups.

\*Public awareness – of events, subsidies, social groups, and assistance already available – by way of health care offices, shopping mall bulletin boards at food bank, etc

Discounted entry fees for the disabled to attend these events “

- ▶ “\*support affordable and supportive housing projects
- \*create an energy and sustainability manager position
- require net zero building energy standards for all rezoning projects”
- ▶ “ to solve the ongoing housing crisis, change bylaws to allow TINY HOMES (see comment above)
- \*issue building permits for very small, more affordable (town-)house units (less than 600 sf) where property taxes would be a lot less! (Townhouses as well as small freestanding houses.)
- enforce mandatory drug addiction treatment in INSTITUTIONS for people with addiction who come in conflict with the law (like it is practiced in Europe) “
- ▶ “. Remove temporary housing from downtown .... put it near a park NOT FREQUENTED BY FAMILIES AND CHILDREN. . INSTALL A SAFE INJECTION SITE NEARBY, HAVE A MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC NEARBY..... HIRE ADDITIONAL PSYCHIATRISTS...
- “
- ▶ “. Better recycling opportunities as well as educating the young so that it will be second nature to them
- . Yearly or bi-annual forums that are open to the public to discuss issues of importance to the people of Nanaimo, including discussions on how climate change will affect our area, as well as a more robust emergency preparedness system to inform and set up citizen’s groups, especially in the event of an earthquake
- . An annual festival, centrally located, featuring a wide range of goods produced in Nanaimo, artisans and artists of every stripe, also involving younger people and giving them a forum.”
- ▶ “. Breakfast programs in all school
- . Encourage First Nations to bring in hotel- casino.
- . Encourage horizontal growth rather than north to south “
- ▶ “. Create housing and supports for homeless people
- . Set aside vast areas of green space that cannot be developed ( our forests continue to come down)
- . Support ‘green’ initiatives wherever possible “
- ▶ “.clean up our parks May Bennett ex Schook Rd blackberries overgrown
- .if the waterfront is jewel.. keep it clean
- .clean the blasted sidewalks weeds etc”
- ▶ “• Clean up downtown area and make it prosperous for businesses and a destination for tourists.
- Enlarge and offer more restaurants and shops along our downtown waterfront
- Create a lively atmosphere for Departure Bay Beach “
- ▶ “ Develop a strong economic development office
- Reduce red tape at City Hall
- Finish our waterfront walkway.”
- ▶ “ More dignified housing for people in crisis, like the little blue houses by Mid-Island Tools
- Slower speed limits and street design to encourage slower driving along highways, roads like Hammond Bay, and 30km on all side streets
- Earthquake remediation and lead-free water to all schools (I know it’s probably a provincial jurisdiction, but it’s our schools and our city, and the current state is shameful)”

- ▶ “• Public transportation including walking, cycling and transit.  
• Infrastructure improvements to our city parks, including waypoint signage and picnic shelters.  
Restoration of the accessibility and transparency between our council and the residents.”
- ▶ “• Support emergency services  
Supportive of local government  
Stop taking on tasks that provincial and federal government should be looking after ( addiction and homelessness)”
- ▶ “• Transition housing for homeless  
•more mental health programs  
outdoor recreation programs for kids”
- ▶ •Allocate funding to Parks and Rec to validate infrastructure, accentuate facilities and increase tourism in the city as we have an abundance of activities for tourists to enjoy (See Revelstoke, Banff)
- ▶ “ Build/develop more affordable housing for all. Developers are too greedy to be tasked with this.  
Develop solutions (ie–supportive housing) for homeless that will not impact the community in a negative manner (ie– won’t increase crime)  
•Proceed with cat bylaw. I’ve been waiting for it for years. Cat owners don’t seem to care about anyone but their cats. The rest of us have rights to poop free yards, fishponds with actual fish, neighbourhood wildlife such as squirrels and birds etc...”
- ▶ “1 – Develop waterfront very wisely. Nobody wants a mcdonalds and chain stores down there. Ensure independent and local establishments can thrive – I like the “granville island” concept. Perhaps a covid-friendly designed open air market, some seafood vendors, etc. A VIU extension campus?  
2 – Look at all areas of city that currently do not have sidewalks, or only bits and pieces, and put sidewalks there! I live near Hecate St downtown – there is no sidewalk. This should be a priority to increase walkability in the city, and some streets are quite dangerous to walk at night for this reason.  
3 – Get the Dept. of National Defence range moved! ”
- ▶ “1 – direct most discretionary resources and efforts toward cleaning up this city and making it an attractive, safe place to live again  
2 – immediately order a 50 reduction in the number of city bylaws. That’s just a random number, it would just force the city to use their heads and keep the most important ones, the ones that really make sense and matter...and let go of all the rest of the nonsense that serves to do little more than complicate peoples’ lives unnecessarily  
3 – i would remind city staff, over and over again until it sticks, that they are public servants whose job is to serve the public, and make life better and easier, not as difficult as they possibly can. There are some great people there who work really hard and do everything they can to be helpful. Unfortunately those types of people don’t seem to end up in leadership positions.”
- ▶ “1 – Housing of all varieties and price points  
2 – More local business support that adapts to the times  
3 – Bike lanes that are well marked/signed, are safe (well lit and separated from traffic as much as possible), accessible and encouraged to be used by all ages and abilities (having various routes mapped that indicate hills, etc.)”
- ▶ “1 – stop to sprawl, condense the city.  
2 – more tree canopy. buying real estate for “the view” should be a thing of the past.  
3 – give incentives to business and services to make life easier for bicycle riders (shelters, bike security)”
- ▶ “1- a sports, entertainment, business facility  
2- tourist attractions

3-housing & influx of businesses”

- ▶ “1- Effective drug programs to support life  
2- Homes for the homeless and poor  
3- Support small businesses”
- ▶ “1 enforce bylaws to keep streets and parks clean and clear of street people  
2 housing and rehab spaces for street people  
3 clear and open communication about what is happening in our community”
- ▶ “1- enhance tourism  
2- develop waterfront area  
3- revitalize residential area around waterfront”
- ▶ “1- Expand sea wall with increased low rise mix use density along its length.  
2- Develop a comprehensive plan to deal with the drug use/mental health/homelessness problem.  
3- Promote the downtown core. It has so much potential but still has an image of being an undesirable place. ”
- ▶ “1 I’d renovate empty malls to put living areas in them such as Nanaimo North Town Centre and Terminal Park.

2 Introduce a high speed rail service stopping off at each major mall.

3 Clean up downtown, renovate derelict buildings or burnt down buildings for more living areas. Put homeless and give people with mental health problems the help they need.”

- ▶ “1 Indoor tennis facilities  
2 more pickle ball courts  
3 free ferries for seniors  
”
- ▶ “1 Open churches  
2 Channel funds to nourish community ( VIU events, farmer events, cultural events, etc)  
3 Create an actual sense of community’S ( VIU, foodshare, clubs & associations)”
- ▶ “1 reduce homelessness  
2 increase affordable rental properties  
3 improve transit services”
- ▶ “1- seismic upgrade & evacuation plan.  
2- affordable condos /flat.  
3- homeless, crime issue. ”
- ▶ 1- The homeless(drug abuse) issue 2- The affordability of property taxes so fixed income families can afford to live here 3- Do things that the taxpayers can enjoy □
- ▶ “1) Commit to new building regulations that preserve the urban forest, which is essential to the character, climate, and ecosystem of Nanaimo.  
2) Help Nanaimo’s tennis community which is about to lose its only indoor tennis facility.  
3) Find a new strategy for managing the interlinked problems of drug addiction/mental illness/crime/ homelessness that does not result in the spreading of crime across the city.”
- ▶ “1) Have City strategically identify a limited number of key neighbourhoods for development to satisfy

key market groups, This would include a strategic recognition of short/long term business/employment sectors, and practical take up rates.

2) Focus on inter/intra-city transportation links that would support these identified sectors/markers, and develop a timeline of construction that coincides with securing and satisfying these identified sectors/markets.

3) Focus on projects which elevate the livability for residents, and not on tourism. Tourists will be best attracted to visit a community, which first works for and is attractive to its residents."

- ▶ "1) I would get shelter for the Homeless.
- 2) I would stop rent increases for tenants. Owners can increase rent after a Move-out and Reno has been done.
- 3) I would add more Left Hand turn signals to existing intersections.

Plus I'd vote bad people off the planet.. I'm just saying, as it's not often that I'm in this position - lol."

- ▶ "1) Active Transportation
- 2) Placemaking
- 3) Tourism"
- ▶ "1) address homelessness and opioid crisis
- 2) update empty buildings and provide incentive plans for small businesses downtown
- 3) build walkway along harbour front & improve transportation options"
- ▶ "1) Address mental illness/drug use/homelessness
- 2) Develop Departure Bay and Downtown into city centres promoting local culture (art, music, food), local business (shops and restaurants (we need more ocean view dining), and festivals (more reasons for community gatherings and tourism)
- 3) protect and promote parks and natural areas; especially the Nanaimo River as a place for the community to relax and swim "
- ▶ "1) Affordable housing - do something about off island people driving up housing prices so much!
- 2) Own our drinking water supply and the nature around it
- 3) Pedestrians are a priority - more safe crosswalks and sidewalks shut down commercial street to cars"
- ▶ "1) bike lanes throughout the city.
- 2) clean up the downtown core
- "
- ▶ "1) Build mandatory rehab facilities for the homeless drug addicted criminal.
- 2) create tiny home lots and mobile home parks.
- 3) city wide bike sweep. Pick up all bikes that do not have proper ownership documents such as photos from purchase, receipts, SN and other identifying marks.
- Too many bikes are stolen daily and most times are found in the hands of the homeless. They use them to scout out their next place to thief or just to get around quickly. They even use little toddler bikes which is a total joke."
- ▶ "1) Change the funding increases to the RCMP to non-Police centred innovative programs to deal with addiction and social disorder
- 2) The city & RDN to create a housing corporation and encourage non-market housing alternatives

Abolish the term ""affordable housing"" from being used by developers

3) Improve funding and access to public spaces for cultural events "

- ▶ "1) Complete the seawall (a financial step back to move 3 steps forward)  
2) Support Harbour to harbour foot passenger only ferry (a dozen reasons why)  
3) Have city council (particularly the mayor) roll back their self-appointed raises (immediately after being elected was distasteful...try doing your job then take a raise with the community support behind you) in a show of leadership & solidarity with the community during difficult times for so many."
- ▶ "1) Complete the waterfront walkway from the downtown to Departure Bay.  
2) Purchase the 20 acres adjoining Linley Valley at Linley Road so they aren't developed  
3) Limit additional development of new neighborhoods (especially along crowded Hammond Bay Road) and instead focus on in-fill development, or re-development of properties for multiple smaller homes or duplexes."
- ▶ "1) connectivity of trails and green space to make city more walk-friendly  
2) more business-friendly environment  
3) tax breaks for home owners / property owners who invest in improvements"
- ▶ "1) Continue to lobby provincial and federal governments for funding to help with homelessness and affordable housing issues.  
2) Maintain growth but not to the detriment of heritage  
3) Work towards finding ways / opportunities for the waterfront to be a focal point"
- ▶ "1) Continued support for homeless people where they can be housed and have the supports they need on site, including safe drug administration, counselling etc.  
2) Continued improvement of bike trails and bike lanes, for safe cycling everywhere in the community.  
3) More affordable housing, i.e. government supported co-op housing."
- ▶ "1) Create a continuous walkway from the waterfront downtown to Hammond bay with the opportunity for small businesses along the way.  
  
2) Focus on connecting walkways throughout the city and creating an 'easy to read map' for walkers showing quicker (and nicer) ways to get around the city.  
  
3) Continue to focus on expanding cyclist routes in which they have their own lane to safely travel.  
"
- ▶ "1) create a hub of tourism like Coombs (something unique with Indigenous Cultural Centre  
2) create a Rainforest Preservation Centre with education and eco tours  
3) deal with homeless/drug/mental health issue"
- ▶ "1) Create a local food distribution centre in the Centennial Building  
2) Create a walking and biking infrastructure that is separated from the auto traffic.  
3) Turn the E&N line into a modern transportation system that carries passengers from Woodgrove to Duke Point with frequency and is supported by feeder buses and a walking and biking infrastructure."
- ▶ "1) Create bylaws that mandate all strata and rental properties require recycling and green bin collection.  
  
2) Commit that no new ICE City fleet vehicles will be purchased / leased / rented beyond 2025.  
  
3) Explore opportunities and invest in renewable energy projects. "

- ▶ "1) Create more walkable neighborhoods (the Old City has fairly good infrastructure but elsewhere is lacking.) It doesn't have to be sidewalks and boulevards everywhere but we do need reasonably direct routes where walking is safe, welcoming, and enjoyable. In some newer low traffic substitutions the amount of infrastructure seems excessive.
  - 2) Create a minimum grid protected cycling network. Please no more unprotected bike lanes between parked cars and the travel lane.
  - 3) Reduce vehicle trips per capita by reducing parking requirements and moving towards charging (more) for on street parking / managing parking & allowing for denser development throughout the city."
- ▶ "1) Create opportunities for affordable housing,
  - 2) Connections to Parksville area with secondary highway option,
  - 3) Increase parks/outdoor living space"
- ▶ "1) deal with homelessness
  - 2) eliminate street begging
  - 3) improve public transport"
- ▶ "1) Demolish Woodgrove and Rutherford malls and return the land to productive agriculture
  - 2) encourage through tax breaks and other tools, a diversity of businesses (not just used bookstores, second hand clothing shops and coffee shops) and services to relocate in the downtown.
  - 3) encourage the construction of a range of mid to high density affordable housing in the Downtown and South Nanaimo area."
- ▶ "1) DOWNTOWN CORE: Make the downtown core an attractive place to visit through incentives for businesses, housing the homeless, reducing car traffic / increasing foot traffic, maybe add a small playground for the kiddos by the library entrance (its so empty in that square...)
  - 2) SIDEWALKS/BIKE LANES: I know it is challenging given the north-south layout of Nanaimo, but the lack of sidewalks and bike lanes really forces homes into 2+ car ownership, so we will never be able to get away from the until people feel safe walking/biking from A-B
  - 3) PUBLIC TRANSIT: Similar to #2, more transit is required to get people out of their cars, and should include connection options to get people north to Campbell River and south to Victoria. Realistically due to cost, the E&N commuter train is unlikely to be restarted, so instead the transit options should focus on buses/e-buses with more frequent trips (at least 2x an hour during the day)"
- ▶ "1) effective programs and systems to help people with trauma and addiction fully heal and reintegrate into society
  - 2) make Nanaimo a model community in green technology, green building, green living and sustainability - zero emissions, no plastic bags, etc.
  - 3) a more united compassionate caring community"
- ▶ "1) Encourage light, non-polluting) industry and agriculture to give work to young people
  - 2) Promote neighborhood connections through schools, churches, restaurants etc. and small corner shops thus reduce need to travel.
  - 3) Lower cost housing and multiple housing options."
- ▶ 1) End homelessness through solid social programs 2) Establish artist studios and arts district in the city core 3) Create First Nations district area and establish co-nation legislation
- ▶ "1) Enforcement on open drug use. Mandatory treatment center. No safe supply.
  - 2) Connected active transportation routes, including waterfront walkway which is desperately needed instead of Departure Bay Road

3) Become a nature destination. Nanaimo has hundreds of km of amazing trail networks. Take a page from Whistler and Cumberland, become that destination for trail running or mountain biking or hiking. Build adequate parking at each entrance point. Assist local clubs with getting land use agreements. Stop bowing to Forestry operators."

- ▶ "1) Find a solution for the drug and homeless problem that doesn't involve sticking them in a ghetto  
2) more funding for schools  
3) start working on overpasses for the freeway"
- ▶ "1) focus on climate change, both adaptation and mitigation strategies as a city for resilience.  
2) Connect and expand green space and parks  
3) increasing diversity in business' to continue adding to cultural diversity and interest. "
- ▶ "1) Have covered amenities for parks/playgrounds for our loong rainy season – similar to Huddlestone park. This would have been super beneficial for everyone during Covid, too!  
2) Provide/plan for more waterfront public seating amenities and restaurants/cafes.  
3) Close Commercial street to traffic."
- ▶ "1) Help for people with addictions (housing, safe drugs and or treatment)  
2) More affordable housing  
3) More planning for higher numbers of traffic on the Highway. Build a commuter train so people can visit other cities and towns and not have to use their vehicles to travel up and down the Island. Link the train to buses into the City centres. "
- ▶ 1) homelessness crisis 2) recycling 3) walk on ferry to DT vancouver
- ▶ "1) I would promote an addictions center that focused on trauma to help those living in addictions have a home and deal with the root of the problem as opposed to a symptom. It would have wet and dry housing that was separate so people could graduate through a system. There would be a division that would support employment and work skills and we would help people get back on their feet.  
2) I would not excuse petty crime based on addictions. RCMP officers have mentioned that when someone commits' a crime but is suffering from substance abuse disorder, they are given a bit of a free pass. I would ensure that petty crime is not accepted, that people who care for their homes, neighborhoods and communities are better supported in these situations  
3) I would create a seniors community center attached to a campus of care. This would be a place for support groups for people living with dementia. It could have independent, assisted and complex care. It would have a pool for leisure and physio, it would have day cares and events for inter-generational living. It would have interdisciplinary team of health professionals including geri-psych, community supports like home support and social clubs, services for people who need extra support and guidance for all. It would offer education to the community at large and other professionals that can help support the industry by educating nurses, health care professionals, business owners and families. Our elderly population is growing exponentially and we need infrastructure to support it."
- ▶ "1) immediately do a deep audit and expose all the waste and inefficiencies of the city.  
2) Layoff or fire as many management middle-management and staff as necessary to bring efficiencies back into line and reduce overall city costs by at least 30%  
3) pass on the savings to the taxpayer and implement systems so that city government cannot just grow unchecked as it has for the last several decades."
- ▶ "1) Increase programs to help curb the homeless epidemic such as counseling, rehab and housing.  
2) Create more dialogue around the cities history. This includes recognizing the populations that help build Nanaimo into what it is today.

- 3) Create actual low income housing. 1100 a month in rent is not low income housing.”
- ▶ “1) Invest more in strategic upgrades to existing places and spaces. Clean it up! Show care
  - 2) deliver on your plans & commitments
  - 3) focus on sustainability, find ways to be innovative and show leadership.”
- ▶ “1) Investing in local social programs such as low-income housing, rehab facilities, education, low-cost counselling, fighting homelessness etc.
- 2) Investing more in the arts. Expanding the theatre, giving more money to the museum to expand its funding/staff, and giving funding to the city to hire arts/social science students for internships.
- 3) Road improvement. Especially where the water pools on the road way causing areas of danger. “
- ▶ “1) Lease 30 or more of 1 Port drive to the Community Land Trust of BC for 100 years for 1/year, with a nonmarket housing requirement clause.
- 2) Implement form based zoning strictly requiring street oriented MULTISTORY STACKED MIXED USE in node and corridor zones with minimal lot area permitted for parking (encourage under building and/or multistory parking) . Simultaneously ban new R1 zoning throughout RDN.
- 3) Interconnect urban node zones with a Teleferico (Transit Monocable Detachable Gondola)”
- ▶ “1) Less big box sub division with more balanced approach to development. Interconnecting trails among developments promoting walking and biking.
  - 2) Tax breaks / incentives for small businesses needing marketing support.
  - 3) More all year round multiplex facilities supporting sports like Tennis. “
- ▶ “1) Let the Province take over the City of Nanaimo
  - 2) Let SFN take over management of the Port of Nanaimo
  - 3) Let School District 44 take control of School District 68”
- ▶ “1) Lower taxes/utilities and make life more sustainable for residents.
  - 2) More parks, protection for wildlife.
  - 3) Build housing and support for the homeless out in the countryside with support, training, rehab, mental health help, away from residential areas and downtown.
  - ”
- ▶ “1) Make land available for supportive housing and an institution for people needing treatment for mental health.
  - 2) Use all measures available to redevelop the gully – stretch of Terminal between Comox and Commercial, including old Tally Ho
  - 3) Plant more trees, especially along Terminal from Milton to Metral/Rutherford.”
- ▶ 1) make support more readily available in schools and communities. Supports that don’t cost a lot, or anything, and that lead one to chasing their own tail trying to find answers. Supports and education that prevent a problem before it starts instead of trying to help a problem that has already started.
- ▶ “1) More affordable housing options
  - 2) Addressing mental health and addiction issues that lead to homelessness
  - 3) More support for local arts and culture societies”

- ▶ "1) new teaching hospital  
2) increase the waterfront walk to Departure Bay  
3) increase housing for the homeless"
- ▶ "1) No engine brakes in the city or highways through the city, ticketing noise polluters, load vehicles and car racing.  
2) Continue the sea wall walkway to Departure Bay and further south to city limits and connect parks by trails such as Bowen Park along Millstone River to East Wellington Park.  
3) Mitigate carbon pollution to improve air quality and to limit climate change."
- ▶ "1) Pressure the Provincial and Federal Governments to reintroduce institutions for the mentally unstable and addicts.  
2) Enforce littering by-laws. Promote picking up after oneself. Keep our city clean! People seem to be able to carry a container with a beverage in it, but it suddenly becomes too heavy when empty.  
3) Promote and attract more business opportunities and attractions within the city."
- ▶ 1) Provide adequate low-income housing, especially for the homeless. 2) Scrap high rise, high density developments. 3) Expand parks, trails, green spaces.
- ▶ 1) Provide affordable housing throughout the city 2) Ensure downtown/old city remains attractive and healthy for businesses 3) Move towards net zero climate adaptation (and prepare for earthquakes)
- ▶ "1) Provide focused compassion on the people without homes and in need of services to get them back on their feet, feel self-worth, and be contributing members of society again.  
2) Expand the Waterfront Walkway as a multi-use trail - Gabriola Ferry to Departure Bay.  
3) Expand the E&N Trail to Ladysmith and Parksville for active transit. "
- ▶ "1) Public transit  
2) Walkability  
3) Increased green space"
- ▶ "1) Put a fence and swipe card system around the city perimeter  
2) stop flow of illicit drugs to the city  
3) triple the number of police and make them care"
- ▶ "1) Radical action regarding downtown homelessness  
2) Complete downtown-departure bay walk/bike path  
3) Increase business/entertainment downtown"
- ▶ "1) Real action on homelessness, starting with actual homes and supportive services  
  
2) Get citizens involved in elections and municipal decisions. Too many people focus on things like Federal elections which get a lot of attention, but have very little impact to the region and to its citizens. Local government is more important.  
  
3) Transportation is a serious and growing problem. Public transport has major gaps in the region or is non-existing. We need ride-sharing to be taken seriously."
- ▶ "1) Separated bike lanes everywhere. Car-free pilot communities.  
2) Massive investment in arts and culture  
3) Incentives for opening businesses of all kinds in the downtown area. "
- ▶ "1) Shift the focus of policing and bylaw officers from harassment of homeless residents to one that serve the needs of marginalized populations.  
2) Protect current higher density rental housing and invest in partnerships, zoning and public programs

that ensure the dignity of Nanaimo residents with affordable below market priced rental housing.

3) Improved transit that has increased routing and is free to riders.

"

- ▶ 1) Start a campaign to remove ALL low lying brush, old branches & debris from ALL City Parks and areas. This reduces FIRE hazards, beautifies the Parks and eliminates hiding spaces for Homeless Camps and/or for drug addicted criminals to hide. It allows for easier cleaning and environmental grooming of Nanaimo Parks and open areas.
- ▶ 1) Start a pilot project for universal basic income. 2) Create programs and incentives to greatly increase local food production, such as planting food forests on public lawns. 3) Nullify all strata/homeowner/etc rules that prohibit residents from growing food on front lawns or hanging laundry to dry.
- ▶ "1) Stop using disingenuous planning procedures  
2) Start doing real and relevant planning  
3) Make a commitment to improve the administration of planning, the management of planning and the execution of planning so that planning can have a meaningful and positive impact for the benefit of everybody in this city.  
"
- ▶ 1) Support survival (and success) of existing local businesses. 2) Follow a proven successful method of relieving the homelessness –research other regions and other counties and find something that has worked for another city and give it a real shot. 3) Try to keep people thinking towards the future and thinking good thoughts
- ▶ "1) update and renovate old buildings and worn-out areas downtown  
2) promote tourism and more national and international corporations opening offices in Nanaimo  
3) update sports fields and soccer fields "
- ▶ "1) Widespread traffic calming  
2) Allow for more housing types to be built throughout the city  
3) South end waterfront park"
- ▶ "1) Work with different levels of government to support persons with mental health problems.  
2) Work for affordable housing and building communities, including tax penalties for vacant houses, speculators and stricter regulations for short term rentals.  
3) Support families, food banks."
- ▶ "1). Attend to the needs of the street people.  
  
2). Expedite development applications.  
  
3). Focus on developing tourism."
- ▶ "1)Affordable and reasonable access to garbage disposal and recycling facilities, And please get a proper bottle depot. I have yet to find anyone in British Columbia that recycles their empties.  
  
2) Beautify the downtown waterfront. Get rid of that hideous building with the green roof that houses the float plane facilities.  
  
3). Make the high speed passenger ferry to Vancouver happen."
- ▶ "1)build permanent housing specifically for addicted and mentally ill  
2)Enforce high \$ penalties on owners of buildings downtown who leave properties empty and falling

apart. Example the old A&B Sound building.  
Develop mixed use waterfront similar to Granville Island in Vancouver.”

- ▶ 1)Clean out street drug users. 2)Progress waterfront trail initiative 3)Revitalize downtown core.
- ▶ “1)Develop a clear identity and sense of purpose -- we need a common vision of what makes nanaimo unique and awesome (i.e. are we a harbour city, are we a gateway city, are we a green city?). Once that identity is clear, we need to expand into every aspect of life here.  
2) Develop our South Waterfront to be a central gathering point for all Nanaimo. A place we are all very proud to show off. A place that brings us together. A place that honours the connection between land and water.  
2) Improve accessibility through pathways and better roads, clear NODES of purpose. (i.e. the heritage district, the shopping district, the entertainment district, etc.) Nanaimo is too disjointing and many areas lack purpose today.”
- ▶ “1)Develop the triangular lot across Terminal from Commercial, by China Steps. That is really a hideous eyesore, and it is one of the first things a visitor sees.  
2)Complete the waterfront walkway/bike trail from Maffeo Sutton Park to Departure Bay  
3) Housing first’ -- encourage construction of affordable rental housing with a robust rules policy.”
- ▶ “1)DT has lots of homeless people(tourists going there because they think it’s cool place but after they are complaining that actually nothing interesting there but lots of homeless).  
2)Playgrounds visiting people with non leash dogs, it’s not safe for kids. Owners of dogs no pay attention to signs about no dogs allowed). Playgrounds are old( for example Rock City School and Cilaire school).  
3) I wish if Strong Start program will be in many schools of Nanaimo. In Departure Bay area currently no schools who provides this amazing program.”
- ▶ “1)Homelessness/drug epidemic  
2)More focus on local business  
3)Focus on tourism”
- ▶ “1)Work with VIHA to improve mental health programming.  
2) Require more affordable housing and mixed use for future building development  
3) Remove access to sugar-sweetened beverages in all public places”
- ▶ “1, Improve transit  
2. Get Uber/Lyft up and going IMMEDIATELY  
3. Promote farmer markets to make it easier to buy local”
- ▶ “1. Address the needs of the street people, introduce community policing. make the streets safe to walk.  
2. Revitalize the old city by allowing residences to be built above businesses along a car free Commercial St and the Casino.  
3. Encourage population growth in the old city.”
- ▶ “1. Addressing the homeless in the downtown core which discourages patronizing businesses and creating a vibrant urban core.  
2. Better use of existing space. There are lots of empty retail space & empty lots around the city, for example the empty waterfront lot on Front Street and the empty Sears building,  
3. Better integrate transport that includes Public Transport and multi-use trails. The current system has numerous gaps that encourage people to drive vice utilizing alternate means.”
- ▶ “1. Affordable and supportive housing so everyone has a roof over their head.  
2. Integrated transportation system including better transit and bike lanes.  
3. Support for neighbourhoods to keep their character and residential quality.”

- ▶ "1. Become a loud advocate for affordable housing  
2. Ensure that the city is practicing extreme environmental responsible practices and showcase those on the world stage  
3. Attract diverse businesses while investing in the downtown to create a vibrant city centre"
- ▶ "1. Build more affordable housing, including co-op housing, using the vast amount of underutilized brownfield space or extensive parking lots (that may go underused in the future when people don't all own their own car), to avoid more impact to natural areas.  
2. Decrease carbon emissions and energy use intensity in city facilities/projects.  
3. Build more bike lanes that make sense.
- "
- ▶ "1. Clean up downtown to make it safe, day and night by making property owners of derelict buildings, ""demo it or fix it to the Building Code"" mandatory. The junkies do not like to be around people working aka construction  
  
2. Make property owner of gaping hole in downtown Nanaimo accountable and to remediate it into something useful – hire an architect, like Ian Niamath, and an engineering firm, that has geotech as well, to come up with something that is agreeable to the property owner and beneficial to the residents of Nanaimo as well. Looks like crap right now.  
  
3. Make property owners of derelict properties that are visible from the Island Highway clean up their properties – for instance, that property that is behind the Concrete Jungle as well as the Old Jolly Miner pub that a neighborhood nuisance and is a waste of our tax dollars. There is no accountability for these property owners. For instance, look how long Amrikkos was allow to sit vacant – case in point!"
- ▶ "1. Clean up Terminal Ave in the Bastion St bridge area. Establish maintenance and appearance standards for properties in the area. Plant semi-mature trees, build planters and establish flower beds here to make the area visually pleasing for visitors to Nanaimo. First impressions count and at this time the area looks more like a dumpsite or an industrial slum than a part of a vibrant and beautiful city.  
  
2. Purchase or otherwise acquire the unsightly property (a chain link fenced hole) at the intersection of Commercial & Terminal. The burnt buildings were demolished several years ago but the ugly hole in the ground remains. It is not a tourist attraction and it does not leave a good impression with visitors. It should be repurposed into a small, attractive, people-friendly downtown garden/park. It could be a convenient and welcoming place for locals and visitors to Nanaimo. A place to rest on a park bench while taking a break from shopping or sightseeing in the downtown area would go a long way toward making downtown a more popular place than it is. Redevelopment of the opposite corner and the old A&B Sound building should be given consideration at the same time to produce a much needed aesthetically consistant project for a high visibility downtown location.  
  
3. Correct the homeless and the drug users problem in Nanaimo's downtown. Use the available survey data (obtain more or update existing, as needed) to determine the infrastructure and services needed to adequately counsel/treat, assist/train, institutionalize/provide housing for the various sub-groups that make up the homeless population of 400-plus individuals in Nanaimo. ""One size"" does not fit all needs drug and alcohol problems (over 50 of the Nanaimo homeless suffer from addiction) demand active treatment and counselling on an ongoing basis and apartment-style housing only an addicted individual has reached a stable plateau in his/her life. Treatment seems most successful in a live-in facility.  
  
Enforce existing laws as they apply to drug/alcohol sales and consumption, while encouraging creativity

in sentencing. For example swapping jail time for labour on city clean up crews could be explored.

Discussions regarding budgets, staffing and other matters will need federal and provincial presence and active involvement. Giving everyone's publicly stated interest in resolving the "homeless problem" it should be possible, given a dedicated and well reasoned approach by the city, to make a significant dent in the problem. "

- ▶ 1. Clean up the city while educating the public. For example the public thinks that the trailer units across from 711 are full of stolen goods. Is that true? If so, sort it out. If not, let us know. Show action.
  - 2. When an empty City truck drives passed garbage, it is disappointing and doesn't help motivate the general public. I don't mean encampments, I mean the single bags or pile of loose items that someone has thrown out of their vehicle.
  - 3. I would beseech all levels of government to challenge the federal government to balance the Justice System. Convert jails to accommodate the needs we face today. Catch and release is defeating the morale of contributing law abiding citizens. Big topic, when combined with covid, but to many the Justice System is looking like the Titanic.
- ▶ "1. Convene an emergency meeting of provincial feds and municipalities to plan what to do with growing homeless issue
  - 2. Develop an assessment tool to better understand the homeless. le: who is homeless due to losing job or home and could be helped now, who is so mired in their mental health they pose a problem for everyone and develop a low low barrier shelter for them staffed with appropriate staff so they are not terrifying everyone down town,
  - 3. Start looking for ways to help the people absolutely at the bottom - concrete cinder block shelter with metal fixtures to withstand the wear and tear with showers, washing machine, food and staff who know how to manage them
- "
- ▶ "1. Declare and develop a culture of Peace and freedom from violence by promoting and rewarding acts of kindness, self-sacrifice and inclusion
  - 2. Strive to include Indigenous peoples in all decisions, especially those relating to the restoration of protection of the environment in a true nation-to-nation fashion
  - 3. Reach out to addicts, offering very much improved detox, rehabilitation and follow-up support
- "
- ▶ "1. Drastically increase bike paths and have an incentive for children to bike to school and people to work.
  - 2. Smaller single home buildings with more food garden spaces.
  - 3. E cars and buses on the road and heat pumps in every home.
- "
- ▶ "1. Emulate the Netherlands and create proper city-wide bike and pedestrian infrastructure.
  - 2. Alter zoning to encourage higher density housing in hub areas, neighbourhood shops etc.
  - 3. Work with the province to find rehabilitation options to help addicts."
- ▶ "1. Establish a Housing First program, as has been done in Finland, and closer to home in towns in Canada such as Medicine Hat.
  - 2. Have planning focus on more having more walkable communities with access to all needed services; encourage commercial development in more isolated areas, avoid food deserts - e.g. Hammond Bay Rd / Departure Bay Road loop is an example of a high car dependant area.
  - 3. Better bicycling paths and connections. Some of the trail routes like along the Old Island Hwy are okay, but in other places bike paths seem to just come to an abrupt end (e.g. along Hammond Bay Road)."
- ▶ "1. Get Newcastle Island back from the Provincial government.
  - 2. Build the walkway from Departure Bay to ferry terminal.

3. Train from Nanaimo to Victoria. "
- ▶ "1. Get rid of the A&B Sound building and build affordable housing.  
2. Clean up the parks.  
3. Promote the restoration of our judicial/crime accountability system."
  - ▶ "1. Hire more specialists at the local hospital.  
2. Trades people are not always reliable about when they will come and follow up.  
3. Think like a big city; I am from Toronto and it sometimes feels like local politicians and staffers don't know that there are other ways of doing things. Not everyone who lives here is young and active."
  - ▶ "1. House the working poor and homeless in affordable housing.  
2. Put the environment first: no new development that isn't green, innovative and supportive of the local workforce.  
3. Do whatever you can to minimize fossil fuel use by making a better network of walking and cycling options that aren't just recreational trails, but actually get you where you want to go."
  - ▶ 1. Improve the downtown & promote downtown businesses 2. Eliminate homeless sleeping overnight in our parks 3. Complete the seawall project
  - ▶ "1. Improve the entrance to Nanaimo coming from the south.  
2. Extend the walkway from Dep. Bay to downtown.  
3. Make Commercial St. for pedestrians only."
  - ▶ "1. Improved housing with mental and medical support for the homeless  
2. Close Commercial Street to traffic  
3. Alignment of city fire with ambulance and community police services"
  - ▶ "1. Increase detox beds, mental health street workers and housing first initiatives to help the suffering people who are roaming the parks and streets in obvious distress  
2. Re-purpose the City owned Conference Centre as an Arts, Culture and Recreation facility open year round with programs for many interests and ages.  
3. License more food & beverage trucks for year round services in Swy-a-lana Lagoon Park"
  - ▶ "1. Make downtown Nanaimo safer (address homelessness, drug use, crime)  
2. Do something about the old A&B building and the hole in the ground across from it (Commercial St and the Old Island Hwy)  
"
  - ▶ "1. More resources for homeless and economically stressed populations.  
2. More pedestrian and bicycle friendly  
3. Better maintenance of parks (municipal and those held by partners)"
  - ▶ "1. Purchase & upgrade the existing railroad to a Skytrain-like light rail service.  
2. Take control of local food production, processing & delivery and run it as a nonprofit network.  
3. Like Qualicum Beach, ban all chain stores and restaurants. "
  - ▶ "1. Reduce the number of traffic accidents (and improve traffic flow after the accident).  
2. Improve community engagement (completing a survey is not engaging).  
3. Stop increasing property taxes beyond 3 ."
  - ▶ "1. Restructure the Building Permit Process to support the repurposing of existing buildings for more affordable housing for all family sizes. This would require speeding up the process and making it more transparent and logical. It would also require more flexibility in density varying with lot size, area, and

access.

2. Provide more temporary housing for the homeless like mini house villages to provide a roof over the heads of the homeless. I think that the temporary housing on Terminal Avenue is good, but we need more of this. We still have people camping out next to the Franklin Street Gym and in Bowen Park.

3. Pass a "No Roaming Bylaw" for cats so that the wildlife in the neighbourhoods and parks can survive and multiply. I should have the right to feed birds in my yard without fearing for their lives and I hate to see the baby ducklings rescued and placed in Bowen Park killed by the free roaming cats."

- ▶ "1. Stop decimating forests. We pay a high cost in the long run for developers to make a short term profit before they move on to the next suckers.  
2. Actively support local food production, involving all ages, providing education, land and infrastructure.  
3. Respect and involve First Nations in local decisions."
- ▶ "1. waterfront walkway to Departure Bay Beach  
2. sustainable housing, no more tent cities  
3. more acknowledgement of our indigenous community, their traditions, culture and art "
- ▶ "1. Work on dealing with all the homeless/helpless people hanging around  
2. Improve number of sidewalks and extend the harbour walkway  
3. Encourage more small business instead of big box stores and franchises "
- ▶ "1. Work towards a CVT trail model for the E&N corridor. Bring back focus to the Nanaimo Regional Rail Trail – extend the E&N trail initiative.  
2. Find a forwards looking plan to deal with the derelict properties (esp. open pit near china steps, and A&B sound building) that form the gateway to our downtown.  
3. Whenever possible, reduce community policing \$\$ increases and instead add social supports services and work with other levels of government on housing the homeless and providing them social supports."
- ▶ "1. Work with the province to get our homeless off the street and into their own apartments.  
2. Focus economic development on building a green economy. Renewable energy, building retrofits, New technology, and support for the artistic community.  
3. Work towards a green transportation system that includes better bus service, better bike lanes, and neighbourhoods where people park their cars and walk.  
3. "
- ▶ "1. "clean up the streets" and make Nanaimo safe to walk through  
2. make Commercial Street a pedestrian zone enhanced with retail and services  
3. provide affordable housing options"
- ▶ "1. A 'landmark' inner city attraction. Nanaimo lacks an effective 'hook' to entice visitors. For many years, Bernie Dumas, Chair of Nanaimo Ports Authority, pointed to a "lack of quality attractions in Nanaimo that would entice operators and passengers to visit, citing Butchart Gardens in Victoria, wine tours in the Cowichan Valley and the steam train in Port Alberni." (<https://nanaimonewsnow.com/article/524675/cruise-outlook-disappointing-nanaimo-port-authority-boasts-strong-shipping-year>). A major inner city attraction would also have the benefit of being a catalyst' for investment and renewal in our inner city.  
2. Major upgrades to the Nanaimo waterfront promenade.  
3. Permanent continuation of the Commercial Street Night Market, along with permanent reduction in traffic on Commercial Street and a long-term aspirational goal of this area becoming a pedestrian only public -square."
- ▶ "1. A comprehensive regional bike way network built to world-class standards within 5 years,  
2. A massively improved fare-free transit system.

3. A coordinated (bonus / malus ) strategy to reduce motorized traffic particularly the proliferation of large motorized vehicles such as SUVs and pick-up trucks. Currently, according to the Sustainability Action Plan some 70 percent of our GHGs in Nanaimo come from transport, and this figure is likely worsening as residents purchase these vehicles. "

- ▶ "1. accommodation & employment programs  
2. Continuous waterfront walking – cycling route  
3. Improve transit accessibility by tap –to – pay transit cards that have automatic uploading ability with discounted cost for students, children, seniors.  
"
- ▶ "1. Add and indoor public tennis facility.  
2. reduce property taxes \_ they are much higher in Nanaimo than other larger cities in B.C.  
"
- ▶ 1. Add another ice rink. 2. Improve the downtown space and specifically the section of the old island hwy between Comox Rd and Commercial which is uninviting, sterile, and not pedestrian friendly. 3. Push tourism and specifically our community as a place where the great outdoors meets a vibrant cultural centre.
- ▶ 1. address homelessness ( with emphasis on curbing drug activity by obvious dealers) , increase mental health support, encourage more green building ( ie. solar energy usage, and alternate power sources)
- ▶ "1. Address homelessness / drug use  
2. Continue to develop the downtown core  
3. Extend the sea wall to Departure Bay and south along to Cedar. "
- ▶ "1. Address homelessness and drug addiction  
2. Focus on downtown revitalization  
3. Beautify public spaces  
"
- ▶ "1. Address social issues  
2. Affordability  
3. Green spaces, trails"
- ▶ "1. Address the ongoing opioid and mental health crisis  
2. Affordable housing options for single persons  
3. Better transit schedules (not more buses – just a revamp of the schedule)"
- ▶ "1. adopt the motion unanimously passed by Council in April, 2019, that there is a climate emergency, as a filter through which to consider all City actions.  
2. protect our green spaces and waterways.  
3. provide affordable housing for our homeless."
- ▶ 1. affordable housing 2. homelessness 3. climate change
- ▶ 1. Affordable housing 2. Social challenges such as drug use and crime 3. Increased recreational facilities and trails.
- ▶ "1. Affordable housing.  
2. Reduce homelessness  
3. More Affordable education"

- ▶ "1. An Art Centre for local visual and performing artists Nanaimo.  
2. The roads are a mess all through Nanaimo. Pot holes everywhere! Dirty meridians too. Less bike paths.  
3. Don't put Supportive Housing for the homeless in nice neighborhoods! Put the supportive housing and treatment centers far away from businesses and neighborhoods. Look at what's happening in Victoria and here in Nanaimo! More crime, etc.  
"
- ▶ "1. Any new retail buildings should have to follow codes to maintain coherence of facades to create more of a sense of community.  
2. More places to walk to for amenities rather than having to drive. Somehow linking the downtown area. I think Terminal Ave. Is a problem. It cuts right through the downtown core, separating the town from the waterfront.  
3. Find a solution to housing for the homeless."
- ▶ "1. Attack homelessness: Provide mental health and housing for those needing it, getting those addicted into rehab programs, and socially assisted housing for those who can afford 1/3 of their funds for rent.  
2. Focus on food: support growing, and access to nutritious food/food education and the personal and societal value of a whole food plant-based diet.  
3. Improve trails and access to them - help Covid-weary citizens connect. Foster people connections."
- ▶ "1. Be a leader and example to the rest of the province in tackling homelessness and drug addiction.  
2. Clean up the downtown, increase police presence, offer more incentives to businesses and shoppers to go down there  
3. Develop a vibrant downtown waterfront. More restaurants with patios would benefit the community and tourism.  
"
- ▶ "1. Beautify the city centre and connect the sea walk with Departure Bay.  
2. Create more and diverse way for visitors to stay in Nanaimo.  
3. Promote and support small businesses in tourism. Tourism Nanaimo is not very effective and scattered over the City. Tourism can be a big financial driver for Nanaimo but we seem to focus more on health care and resources. "
- ▶ "1. Beautify the environment  
2. Review all policies with climate change in mind and revise as necessary. E.g. building bylaws, green roofs requirements for commercial buildings, parking lots (avoid heat and pollution sinks), solar hot water for households, etc  
3. Institute light pollution policy.  
"
- ▶ "1. Beautify the town it is an eyesore and has no flowers, no green grass, everything is overgrown and bleak and is depressing, other communities look vibrant and well cared for  
2. Less ugly chainstore development and replace with local stores  
3. Place focus away from the downtown and waterfront, rejuvenate other areas in Nanaimo it is ALL housing and ZERO amenities (ex: Hammond bay is all homes and there is no grocery store or things to do, this also causes higher car use because people have to drive everywhere rather than accessing amenities in their neighbourhood)"
- ▶ "1. Begin to ask people what they need in order to move forward. What is working for this population? What is not?  
2. Begin to eradicate the ""us vs them"" mentality.  
3. More access to resources such as mindful self compassion and DBT skills training for youth  
"

- ▶ "1. Better connectivity for non-driving – more walkable/bikeable  
2. More mixed residential commercial properties  
3. better transit "
- ▶ "1. Biggest issue which is pretty clear in my earlier answers is the homelessness/drug addicts/crime. Nanaimo needs to figure out what causes it and how to fix it. I'm not a homeless specialist but I'm sure some people have some good solutions.  
  
2. Stop with these ""revitalizing road projects"". You're taking perfectly fine roads, dropping thousands into them and putting trees down the middle and calling it ""revitalized"". They don't look any better and have wasted thousands of dollars. I am unsure if the Front St bike lane is still happening but \$400,000 to turn a two lane road and put BIKE LANES?!? Is that the best use of our money? Just awful ideas, with way bigger issues at hand. I understand trying to ""modernize an old city"" but that isn't it.  
  
3. Look into the housing crisis. Again, I'm no expert on housing, but when an old 2 bedroom suite can be rented out for \$1600 a month, theres some issues there. Especially since that same suite about 4 years ago would've been \$1000 at most per month. Whether it be the lack of housing, or maybe its the seasonal housing. Something with housing entirely needs to be fixed so people aren't going hungry to afford a roof over their head. "
- ▶ "1. bike lanes  
2. housing  
3. year round farmers market – specific building with commercial kitchen/learning centre/market and more"
- ▶ "1. Block development of any new high rise buildings (+4 stories), especially condos. Keep new residential construction low density/single family, except for affordable rental apartments in downtown/university areas.  
2. Build aquatic/rec/senior Center in North end.  
3. Recruit more family doctors"
- ▶ "1. Bring First Nation culture to the forefront of planning/development within the city.  
2. Create a more accessible central hub that people can walk/bike to easily.  
3. Provide more affordable housing for the elderly & disabled. "
- ▶ "1. Build at least two more community gardens of similar size and development as Beban Urban Garden Society, one in the north and one in south of the city. I would organize an educational program at each centre. Community education about food production and security would be the focus.  
2. Triple the size of Oliver Recreation Centre, and building a similar centre in the south area of the city.  
3.City would buy land to create parks that connect to one another (e.g. Linley area), and thereby encourage more walking and being out doors, in all seasons. For instance, Wally Creek is only partially developed. The stream needs to be restored, protected and preserved. A walk way for the entire Northslope area would be developed. "
- ▶ "1. Build more treatment facilities to serve addiction and mental health issues  
2. Build more alternative community learning centres, that offer art, theatre, dance for all ages...children, teens, youth, seniors"
- ▶ "1. Build, promote, and preserve natural spaces and outdoor recreation and tourism---this includes a stop to greenfield subdivision projects.  
2. Implement stringent environmental practices in new and retrofit development.  
3. Implement a strong, attractive marketing program for locally owned businesses."

- ▶ "1. Buy up as much of the remaining Linley Valley private lands and develop them as parkland.  
2. Plant lots of Windmill palms! We have a unique climate here compared to the rest of the country. What better way of advertising that?  
3. Have a gardening festival every year where people showcase their gardens."
- ▶ "1. Careful step-by-step planning to reduce homelessness.  
2. Crack down on people using drugs and other abuse. Stricter rules.  
3. Build a Community Arts center."
- ▶ "1. Change road dedications for cars to give more dedicated space to cyclists and pedestrians.  
2. Improve tree bylaws to protect large trees of significance from development.  
3. Improve crime by imprisoning repeat offenders of violence or thievery."
- ▶ "1. Clean up downtown and waterfront areas from crime and decay  
2. Make our waterfront appealing to cruise ships  
3. Have more short trip activities available for the cruise ship tourists"
- ▶ "1. Clean up the current homeless camps and develop a coherent support plan that doesn't simply push the problem to another unprepared community.  
2. Sign up for an epidemic tracking system with a local emphasis.  
3. Support a modern Island rail system."
- ▶ "1. Clean up the downtown core.  
2. Create well built, well designed housing that will not develop into slums in the future.  
3. Develop programs for Aging Out teens before they age out that would tap into an individual's aptitude and interests and provide them with some skills and self esteem to have a brighter outlook from that point."
- ▶ "1. Clean up whole downtown area. No murals please.  
2. Don't allow airbnbs in quiet, residential areas.  
3. Stop parking on Commercial Street."
- ▶ "1. Clean-up Wesley Street - that should NEVER have been allowed to foster like it has.  
2. Stricter security / enforcement regarding open drug use / vagrancy / panhandling in Old City Quarter and Downtown Core.  
3. Encourage / foster partnership with First Nation(s) and rebuild a vibrant Waterfront / Downtown and Newcastle Island region for community and tourists alike."
- ▶ "1. Close Commercial street to vehicle traffic (pedestrians only and expand patios into the street)  
2. Make a bylaw preventing people from parking on their lawns and storing seasonal campers/boats on their driveway (the northend looks like a junkyard)  
3. Animate spaces. Stop allowing developers from driving the agenda (e.g., the ridiculous La Z Boy and Dodds development at turner and uplands - that should have been developed as small shops/ restaurants to service the apartments/condos being built in Oliver Woods neighbourhood)."
- ▶ "1. Close Commercial Street to vehicular traffic (except Emergency vehicles) from Bastion to Terminal  
2. Negotiate acquisition and refurbishment of the old Tally-Ho and bus depot lands.  
3. Create a Zero-waste and recycling task force."
- ▶ "1. Combat homelessness  
2. Increase access to parks and recreation opportunities for all  
3. Improve the transit system"
- ▶ "1. Come up with a solution for people experiencing homelessness - provide programs or experiences for them that help them to gain self-worth, self-value and find a purpose. Maybe a community kitchen

program – or a community garden – or a drop-in centre with art classes or small jobs that could be done in return for food or clothing instead of giving out stuff for free.

2. Beautify the downtown core – it looks ugly and tired in many areas. Maybe people who are homeless could act as downtown ambassadors and do a shift of cleaning up garbage or something and in return get a hot meal – could be a collaboration between various organizations.

3. Just beautify the city in general – finish up some of the rough edges. For example, improve the pathways that connect different spaces. There is lots of weeds and graffiti and garbage – if cleaned up it might encourage more people to use them.

“

- ▶ “1. Complete the redevelopment of the Harbour Water frontage both north of the Yacht Club to the Departure Bay Ferry terminal and South of Albert Street to the Petroglyph Park in partner ship with the Alcoa Native Band and Neighbourhood.  
2. Create a Health Care unit to provide accommodation and treatment for the 50 or so of Homeless that need Mental and other kinds of Help. And for the other Homeless, as apprentices a separate Camp and Warehouse in which to build small-tiny homes with their labour going into a down payment for their own home; and then to continue work if chosen to build such homes for sale!  
3. To identify all public owned vacant lands and buildings and assess how they can be used for Demonstration projects the Lead to a more Sustainable Home Centred City’ in the Next Decade and onwards!”
- ▶ “1. Complete the waterfront walkway (to Departure Bay).  
2. Improve access to Newcastle Island.  
3. Sidewalks on Hammond Bay and Departure Bay.”
- ▶ “1. Complete waterfront walkway project  
2. Consider multiplex project on Beban Park property (space for building and parking multiple access/ egress routes proximity to highways and ferries for tourists/artists/vendors/trade shows)  
3. “
- ▶ “1. Completing bicycle/walking trails from Chase River to Departure Bay.  
Providing more public access points to the ocean and rivers (including preventing further construction on waterfront). For example, a popular and safe for children swimming spot where Cedar Road crosses Nanaimo River has now been closed off for development, robbing many families of a good recreation opportunity (I recognize this is outside city limits, but it serves as an example of what I mean).  
2. Upgrading park trails, e.g., acquiring land around Richard’s Marsh to build a trail and viewing platforms. Providing public ev charge stations in south Nanaimo.”
- ▶ “1. Connect downtown and departure bay with a cycling path  
2. Create a space for cyclists to move through Motel seven Park and front Street  
3. Revitalize the section between downtown, Stuart Avenue, and departure bay, with more cafes, bistro’s, restaurants, etc.”
- ▶ “1. Control the zombie population in town via bylaw and RCMP enforcement of existing laws.  
2. rezone the waterfront for 30 floor buildings and commercial on the street level  
3. Approve Sandstone development ASAP.”
- ▶ “1. Coordinate resources from all levels of government, First Nation groups and non profits to truly change to drug/ mental health/ addictions/ homelessness/ hunger problems.  
This will take health care, housing, jobs, policing, education. That list is not exhaustive but it’s a start. It is a complex systems issue.

2 and 3 – see #1

“

- ▶ “1. Council should focus on only spending money on things with clear benefit. If you spend money to clean up a river – you can see a clean river. If you spend money on generic “green initiatives” you see what? Harder business cases are needed.  
2. Look at ways to make lots and houses cheaper, with less fees, and more land available.  
3. Council should worry less about spending money and more on saving money.”
- ▶ “1. Crack down on crime  
2. Attract more people to buy up these abandoned retail spaces and open up more stores and establishments that will bring in customers and tourists.  
3. Clean up downtown, make it more of a desirable destination– even small towns like Ladysmith have better downtown cores! We need a few good tap houses, breweries, cool restaurants, more boutique shops– get rid Of the strip of mechanic and car rental shops right on the main highway. The whole thing needs to be redesigned!”
- ▶ “1. crack down on the junkies roaming the streets who are setting up camps and destroying nature and peoples property and possessions. offer them drug treatment, and if they decline, toss them in jail.  
2. start forcing land owners downtown to deal with derelict property. ACME burnt down how long ago? and its a concrete hole in the ground. looks like a bomb went off. Front street beside the pacifica has had plywood over the windows of a few buildings for years. Port place mall is essentially a breeding ground for crackheads and thieves. deal with them. downtown nanaimo is the most uninviting downtown core on the entire island.  
3. Encourage waterfront development!!! carlos obriens and the dinghy dock are nice places to eat and have drinks on the water but we have miles and miles of amazing shoreline! lets capitalize on it and attract some investment and tourism. victoria has a water taxi and all kinds of places to go on the inner harbour with walking trails etc. lets do something about it!”
- ▶ “1. Create a long-term plan for addressing homelessness, drug addiction, and mental health issues including creating more accessible housing and resources at the site of the old discontent city. The plan would also include more “stick”, not just more “carrot”.  
2. Create a beautification grant for businesses in the downtown/south end to bring the old character buildings back up to a polish that encourages investment, customers, and pride  
3. Identify busy neighbourhood roads that need improvements to be more pedestrian-friendly and less dangerous. Eg. 400-block of Bruce Ave. would benefit from traffic slowing infrastructure (sidewalks on both sides? median with plants?) and much better marking of the crosswalks (lights?).”
- ▶ “1. Create a plan to help the homelessness and opioid crisis in Nanaimo.  
2. Revitalize downtown core, less empty spaces.  
3. Support small businesses. “
- ▶ 1. Create a program for green bin dumpsters at apartment buildings
- ▶ “1. Create an art centre somewhat like the Old School House in Qualicum Beach  
2. Revise and expand the parks and trails – better signage, maps, and access.  
3. Revamp the Recreation Program – new, dynamic programming and build new activity centres.”
- ▶ “1. Create bylaws that address the growing waste problem (e-waste, plastic, etc. – see San Francisco’s by-laws for example)  
2. Tighter restrictions on private landholders wanting to cut down trees on their property  
3. Restrict development on previously undeveloped land”
- ▶ “1. Create multiple \*Community Land Trusts\* on public land, throughout the city, allowing prospective first-time home-buyers to get into the housing market at a significant discount, with the resale value of

the home based on a fixed rate that ensures housing affordability in perpetuity.

2. Insist that all new housing developments are income- and age-diverse by design, including people from all walks of life.

3. Dismantle restrictive building codes that prevent residents and investors from developing alternative and innovative forms of housing based on ecologically friendly methods. "

- ▶ "1. Deal with the homelessness, petty crime, drug addiction, and mental health crisis in our city NOW. This isn't minimally warehousing of the problem, which seems to be the current 'solution'. I know this will require support from the province... GET IT. Make it a top priority.  
2. Provide incentives for new types business to set up shop here. There is absolutely no reason Nanaimo has to have a predominance of low-end, service sector jobs.  
3. Do something about the level of pollution and stench emanating from Harmac. A good portion of our local economy is driven by tourism and I can't imagine the impression left on visitors who have to deal with the sulphur dioxide reek which blankets our city periodically, not to mention the effect it is having on the environment. "
- ▶ "1. Dedicate a year of community budgeting to solving the homeless issue. Rather than piecemeal attempts stretched over decades of housing the homeless or keeping people off the streets, really dedicate a large share of budgeting to getting ahead of the issue.  
2. More recreational areas. Especially another 2-3 ice sheets. 4 sheets for this community is lacking considering how many leagues and users there are.  
3. More push for a downtown core development. The burned down Acme Building and old A&B sound are the center of Nanaimo and are abandoned sites for years"
- ▶ "1. Densify the city  
2. Change road infrastructure to facilitate biking and walking as a source of locomotion within the city  
3. Redevelop Nanaimo's waterfront and harbourfront walkway  
"
- ▶ "1. Departure bay to downtown walkway/sea wall  
2. Protect/expand trails in Linley valley  
3. Address congested traffic areas "
- ▶ "1. Develop a 3 tiered system that will help reintegrate all homeless people first into a mental health care facility while receiving the drugs they are dependent on,(eliminate the criminal element by having the government provide) remain in this program as long as necessary until they move to level 2 where they begin a drug rehabilitation program. Stay there as long as necessary until they move to level 3 where they are given training and housing to help them rejoin society.  
2. Invest in developing the waterfront, create a vibrant urban commercial/residential neighbourhood with green spaces, bike lanes, parks, and a fishing pier.  
3. Destination Casino/hotel with a famous seafood restaurant on the waterfront.  
"
- ▶ "1. Develop Bowen road into Window shopping street from Northfield rd to Downtown.  
2. Street lights on Island hwy.  
3. Beautification of Island Hwy. "
- ▶ "1. Develop more affordable housing for seniors.  
2. Develop home based care, medical and supportive for seniors.  
3. Improve educational and sports opportunities for children and young adults, i.e. more pickleball."
- ▶ "1. Develop more social housing with appropriate services for targeted populations  
2. Build infrastructure to facilitate more active mode transportation to reduce car use;

3. Work with the province and the Feds to encourage zero emission battery electric transportation through bus fleet conversion and building out recharging infrastructure “

- ▶ “1. Develop the Departure Bay park area into a social and cultural distinct part of the city with restaurants, pubs etc. Minimal vehicle traffic and encourage public use of the beach for community events, barge stage, fireworks competition etc.  
2. Insist that Miller’s Landing pub area be cleaned up and developed. Terrible eyesore on the city  
3. Encourage Nanaimo North Town Centre to do something other than sit there as a ridiculously huge, vacant commercial space. “
- ▶ “1. Develop the waterfront 1 Port Drive to a vibrant mix of uses to attract more tourism which will help our small businesses.  
2. Build housing for those who need it along with treatment centres so we stop making it easy for people to come and get free drugs without any reason for them to change their lives/behavior. Nanaimo has become a magnet for this type of lifestyle and it cannot absorb anymore, especially downtown.  
3. Public consultation before decisions are made need to be first and foremost. Secrecy has not place in a democracy”
- ▶ “1. direct the rcmp to actually deal with crime and not just move it on to the next neighborhood. If they won’t, then start a regional police force.  
2. Look at neighborhoods and design each on with intention. Don’t slam apartment buildings up against single family dwellings. Have more parking.  
3. Band together with other municipalities to push the province to provide mental health and treatment for those on the street. “
- ▶ “1. E & N railway would be converted to a cycling path and connected to the Cowichan Valley trail network  
2. Establishing a Continuous greenway from Extension to Lantzville  
3. Extend the harbour front walkway to Departure Bay  
.”
- ▶ “1. Effective and accessible trail system to navigate the city safely using active transportation  
2. Create more of a community hub downtown  
3. Integrate the Snuneymuxw culture throughout the city”
- ▶ “1. Eliminate homelessness, despite this being a multifaceted problem  
2. Create a sense of community, where all citizens are aware of the needs of others  
3. Build a good walking and cycling trail to the summit of Mt Benson “
- ▶ “1. Eliminate the use of plastic bags and plastic plates, cutlery and cups. this is easy win  
2. Work with various groups and community members to improve the health and well being of those in poverty, those who are homeless, and those who are on drugs to ensure they have access to all resources concerning their health, home and food.  
3. Encourage and enable the growth of local sourced food both in the community and in the District, follow the Dutch model on food production.”
- ▶ “1. Encourage a green economy  
2. Significantly improve public transportation  
3. Encourage community nodes such that citizens are often able to fulfill their needs, locally. “
- ▶ “1. Encourage downtown business ie free parking and events  
2. Educational events or recreational events with free childcare  
3. Drug rehab. Jobs for homeless more involvement and plans. “
- ▶ “1. Expand our mental health facilities and treatment centers. I’m sure there are studies as to how to treat

street people and the ailments from which they suffer. Something has to be done. People are frightened of many of the street people and downtown is getting a horrible reputation because of it. We have lived downtown and we have heard them at night. It is awful.

2. I would designate one day a month, maybe a Sunday, when families, and/or children could go to art galleries, museums or attend a music venue for free. If the Louve can do it, why can't we? Unfortunately, Covid has put a crimp in our style.

3. Clean up the southern entrance into our City. Get rid of the lots that are used to store junk. If the owner of the lot needs a storage yard, they have to move outside the City premises or build a building to store the junk. I remember when Nicol Street was built, everyone was promised a fence for their front yard and they all matched. Now it is a mish-mash of different fences, some well maintained, some dilapidated. The trees are nice but it is not enough to give a good impression of our City. We need to move quicker on these things. Years go by and we talk and talk and talk about what we should do, but we never get around to doing it."

- ▶ 1. extend seawall 2. create kayak storage space near to ocean 3.
- ▶ "1. Fast Foot Ferry  
2. Densify the Old City/Downtown Core  
3. School in Old City: The Franklyn site has potential. Schools are dismal in the area. Perhaps a alternative school embracing sustainable industry in concert with the nation. In order for young families to come there needs to be quality education. It is one of the reasons we will be moving if there is no improvement in the coming years"
- ▶ "1. Find an actual solution to the large amount of homelessness. Not a bandaid fix  
  
2. Invest in development projects that build affordable homes (500k or less for a house)  
  
3. Invest in downtown to boost local business, make it feel safe, and make it the place to be!"
- ▶ "1. Focus less on housing homeless and drug addicts and switch to treatment options and mental health support.  
2. Make Nanaimo more attractive to businesses that provide secure and higher paying jobs.  
3. Be fiscally responsible with taxpayers money. Make those dollars work, focus on things that will improve the economy."
- ▶ "1. Focus new development on the Downtown Area and other existing hubs (Departure Bay etc.) to limit sprawl.  
2. Improve multi-modal linkages between Downtown and the surrounding areas (sidewalks, street trees, bike routes, extension of the waterfront walk north)  
3. Provide additional social resources to support homelessness and drug use"
- ▶ "1. Follow through with the mayor's ideas re the mentally ill/homeless/drug addicted.  
2. Improve transit  
3. Foot passenger ferry to downtown Vancouver  
"
- ▶ "1. Get provincial and federal government on board to deal with drug addicts in our city;  
Need proper residential treatment facilities...which is not the job of municipal government.  
2. Force owner of A & B Sound bldg AND Jean Burns building (big hole) to sell their properties or build... disgusting eyesores for everyone to look at year after year.  
3. Encourage small business downtown and beautify the streets with more planters"

- ▶ "1. Have adequate, treatment facility like housing for those who are truly struggling and create community first by law enforcement our entire community, kid's/elderly trying to navigate the downtown/parks safely is more important than rolling out the red carpet for whichever homeless person may come here from wherever and decide to cause trouble here. I have a huge heart for the homeless and people with disabilities and those who have been ravaged by addiction and ment health challenges. I think it is clear that, with respect to 'institutions', what is more helpful and safe for a loved one who is currently taking whatever drugs and spending cold nights with great fear for safety; to be wandering the streets as is the case now or to be in a facility where a team of caring individuals can help them achieve the best quality of life possible. Everyone is so concerned about rights for these people but the reality is that some folks have just basically lost their ability to make safe choices and greatly endanger themselves and the entire community around them – lose, lose.

We need to be a bit more firm in the care of these people as everyone can quite clearly see the current structure (E Hastings and all over BC) is ineffective.

### 2. Indoor recreational facilities.

It is great to hear that Woodgrove's new owner is interested in expanding the rec opportunities there. We need more options in the fall and winter.

### 3. Train! Get the train going again for travel in and through Nanaimo

It will be very popular."

- ▶ "1. Have city of Nanaimo hire dietitians to create a food security team and help to tackle food security issues in Nanaimo. I am shocked to hear how many people – especially seniors and children must access the food bank. People who are hungry burden the healthcare system and cannot be productive members of society. Island Health does not currently see this as a priority.
  2. Have team to tackle homelessness/mental health and drug addiction. I am shocked every time I go downtown and see the amount of people living on the streets.
  3. Have more city planning involved with development of housing etc. Much of Nanaimo requires a car to get around as it is so spread out. I
- ▶ "1. Have criminals prosecuted, serve sentences that are actual deterrents and provide justice for the victims.
  2. Stop open use of drugs in public places.
  3. Make the waterfronts & parks safe for families again."
- ▶ "1. Have something big, to attract more tourists.
  - 2.start building in the large 20 story buildings.
  3. Eventually start looking at sky scrapers, and having large scale factories here."
- ▶ "1. Help downtown and Old Quarter revive businesses and and brighten up the buildings with colorful coats of paint = employment and attraction to the area.
  2. Examine where more bicycle lanes can be added safely. The north end of the Parkway path needs resurfacing as is unsafe.
  3. Try to expand the number of patrons allowed in the Port theatre safely. We are starved for musical entertainment. "
- ▶ "1. High accident intersections reconstructed (i.e. Intersection at Hwy and Cranberry Rd)
  2. Easier access to Blueback beach without stairs (perhaps a more winding trail that's not so straight down?)
  3. Update North Town Centre mall, it once used to be a thriving busy mall when I worked there back in the

late 90s and would love to see it back in its glory.

“

- ▶ 1. Homelessness 2. Mental health 3 . Addictions
- ▶ “1. Homelessness and addiction challenges  
2. Bolstering small businesses  
3. Transportation options, infrastructure and incentives for greener, affordable options”
- ▶ “1. HOMELESSNESS and Drug addicts – fix the problem and make our city safer to live in for everyone.  
2. BIKE LANES everywhere. I take great risks biking in NANAIMO so I dont bike to the hospital along hammond bay anymore  
3. DOWNTOWN revitalization “
- ▶ “1. Homelessness is still a major issue and there seems to be a real challenge in getting these people into rehab facilities where they can completely change their current way of living.  
2. I would like to see more indoor facilities like Oliver Woods which could be used by the community. Oliver Woods is awesome but has very limited availability  
3. Downtown doesn't feel like a Downtown. It feels scattered and more of an area that you drive through rather than actively visit. I would try to get more major stores setting up downtown to attract customers.”
- ▶ “1. Homelessness  
2. Eradicating hard drugs + Supporting citizens with Rehab and any other needed support to get rid of drug use.  
3. Lowering the cost of living”
- ▶ “1. Homelessness  
2. Live downtown core that bring community together  
3. Job opportunities “
- ▶ “1. homelessness  
2. mental illness and addiction  
3. crime”
- ▶ “1. homes and shelters for people in need / crisis / transition  
2. mental health and addiction recovery support  
3. more safe needle disposals in parks / public spaces!”
- ▶ “1. House the homeless  
2. Tax The Rich  
3. Improve the transit system in order to remove the majority of gas/diesel powered vehicles from the road.”
- ▶ 1. House the unhoused. 2. Have areas of greenways/parks that are designated safe places to set up camp, and enforce removal of unsafe camps (keep the camps in places easy for necessary staff to assist with the issues of allowing people to remain unhoused.) 3. Improve mobility infrastructure for all citizens
- ▶ “1. Housing for all...including those who need more support...  
2. Community centres and community workers/social workers to help create safe communities in economically deprived areas  
3. Expand and extend the waterfront areas...similar to Steveston in Vancouver”
- ▶ “1. Housing the homeless  
2.lowering rent  
3.add more affordable rentals”

- ▶ "1. housing, addiction treatment and mental health support for homeless  
2. supporting the working poor with more opportunities to thrive in the community  
3. ensuring our seniors have access to age in place and outreach through home safety initiatives"
- ▶ "1. I would encourage & support ""Housing first"" to the extent currently needed  
2. I would put a policy in place that would make it very difficult for anyone to cut down trees.  
3. I would encourage more ""nature schools"" - getting youth out in/learning about nature, growing vegetable gardens. etc."
- ▶ "1. I would extend the E&N Trail to go from downtown all the way to Woodgrove. At the moment it stops at North Town Center and is inconvenient to travel from one end of the city to the other.  
2. I would create more bike lanes in the city connecting to the E&N and to each other so that cyclists and walkers can move about the city safely  
3. I would reinvest in the downtown. We have one of the most beautiful boardwalks on the water and yet we have many struggling businesses downtown. We need to encourage densification so that more people live and frequent the downtown area."
- ▶ "1. I would give incentives for people to add alternative energy supplies (through solar panels and maybe wind) to their homes.  
2. Use flat roof space in the city better - encouraging green roofs, roof gardening, bee hives or places for solar panels....  
3. Continue the waterfront walk all the way to Departure Bay."
- ▶ "1. Identify the features that deserve to be highlighted, ie, that set Nanaimo apart from other cities (the waterfront, for example) and play them up with good design.  
2. Beautification efforts for areas that are ugly (ex. intersection of Bowen and Old Island Hwy, and the trail along the railway needs trees and landscaping added to play up the feature and make it more appealing) Those are just 2 examples.  
3. Retroactively improve roads, sidewalks, bike lanes, and add as much character and beauty as possible (boulevards, etc). Make Nanaimo more pretty, like Parksville. Get rid of weird/goofy intersections, like the turn lane from Hammond Bay Road to Applecross. Every neighbourhood should have proper sidewalks! "
- ▶ "1. Implement a moratorium on greenfield development and focus developer's energies within our city core, so that we can properly build out walkable and bikeable complete communities.  
  
2. Related to the above: Ensure that heritage regulations are in place to protect the character of certain neighbourhoods or historically important homes/buildings before we get an onslaught of tear downs, as is what has taken place in Vancouver.  
  
3. Start working to vastly improve the environmental sustainability of the City through all manners - stop focusing policy decisions so heavily on the individual car and better support public transit options; fund better recycling/zero waste programs to reduce dumping invest in bike lanes/walking trails/E&N trail invest in the look and feel of Nanaimo to ensure it doesn't look rundown. All of these elements help to improve community state of mind, attract businesses, tourism, etc. "
- ▶ "1. Implement policies to stop suburban sprawl (max housing sizes, densification via incentives for carriage houses, build better bikes lanes)  
2. Incentivize small business development in old city quarter and downtown  
3. Open a few safe injection sites and support more community spaces for homeless populations (community showers etc) "
- ▶ "1. Improve active transportation infrastructure.  
2. Come up with a development plan for the north end that looks to remove existing malls and move

towards a more community-centric development strategy.

3. Improve access to housing for our most vulnerable community members.”

- ▶ “1. Improve education in elementary and high school making it more competitive  
2. Ensure affordable housing opportunities for all.  
3. Introduce more buses to reduce wait time for certain routes.”
- ▶ “1. Improve noise bylaws  
2. Make Nanaimo a dark sky refuge  
3. Limit development near green spaces”
- ▶ “1. Improve social acceptance of all cultures to respect the gifts each culture brings to increase good relations throughout Nanaimo.  
  
2. Stop negative stigma against people who are homeless and educate the public that many who are without a permanent home are not an addict.  
  
3. Provide additional rehabilitation facilities that are affordable for those under minimal wage.”
- ▶ “1. Improve the waterfront add some fishing piers and expand marina.  
2. Build a facility to house homeless, staff with trained social & medical professionals, and tie in programs for job retraining and addiction recovery. AND MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL AND INSTEAD OF A BANDAID FIX LIKE THIS. I would start Drug prevention programs and education to keep our people from becoming homeless and addicts. Education is the key here. It might be too late for some. But u will certainly cut the cycle if proper education and prevention programs are put in place. “
- ▶ “1. Improve traffic flow- remove lights on parkway  
2. Improve the waterfront and downtown  
3. We need to add a big attraction for more entertainment and restaurants “
- ▶ “1. Improve, redevelop, increase development, attract business to downtown Nanaimo. Downtown is embarassingly underutilized for a city in such a beautiful location. We should be encouraging restaurants and bars opening on the waterfront, and there shouldn't be a single undeveloped lot in the downtown core. We were once rated next to Kelowna as some of the poorest planned cities in the province, and now Kelowna is miles ahead of us.  
  
2. Improve public transportation infrastructure including Public Transportation. E.g. Older neighbourhoods that don't have sidewalks are dangerous for pedestrians as traffic has increased to avoid traffic on arterials roads. The Parkway Bypass has way too many stop lights (it's inexcusable the shortsighted to not use overpasses and cloverleaf exits) Public transportation is too unreliable for most people to use consistently. Why can't we make use of the existing rail line for have a commuter trolley between north/ south Nanaimo?  
  
3. There is no reason for tourists to visit Nanaimo. We need to improve tourism opportunities to spend money (especially downtown). We have a rich indigenous history and a long history of coal mining in this city but you wouldn't know it if you passed through town. The fact that the worst mining distaster in the city is marked by a poorly upkept plaque/sign at the bottom of Milton Street is kind of embarrassing. There's not enough effort made to educate people about the history of the area. Something like Duncan's totem self-guided walking tour would be great. “
- ▶ “1. Incentives for people to walk or bike to work or take the bus ...  
2. Stop the conversions from electric to natural gas in the homes now...go with heat pumps  
3.reduce noise and amount of car pollution from busy traffic ...use small electric or hybrid cars only low

bus (electric) fares. Extra levy on gas car and a double levy on large cars,,,,

“

- ▶ “1. Increase employment opportunities within large companies operating in town (i.e. BC Ferries, Harbour Air, Western Forest Products, Port of Nanaimo as examples)  
2. Increase capacity within community support teams to provide services for individuals experiencing homelessness and addiction  
3. Host events/online forums/create outdoor spaces that build increased connection and community between north and south Nanaimo “
- ▶ “1. Increase health, housing and other social services available to homeless and other low-income people in the city.  
2. Improve public transit and cycling infrastructure so that people don't have to be so car-reliant.  
3. Foster the downtown and harbourfront area as a place to shop, dine, and generally enjoy and support/encourage/grow other neighbourhood hubs (e.g. Departure Bay, Old City, etc.).  
“
- ▶ “1. Increase physical accessibility of public spaces and transportation infrastructure  
2. Supports for families with kids including childcare  
3. Address homelessness and mental healthcare “
- ▶ “1. Increased Public Engagement.  
2. Lead times for decisions which make educated Public Engagement possible.  
3. A schedule for routine Council meetings which does not require day to day monitoring.”
- ▶ “1. Inform the staff that the council has the final decision.  
2. Realize that tourism takes second place to improving life for the local citizens.  
3. Address crime and homelessness.”
- ▶ “1. Insist upon a return to real consequences for lawlessness.  
2. Balance the books by halting overspending especially deficit type  
3. Drastically reduce the tax burden to tax payers by bringing the City budget in line with the private sector costs.”
- ▶ “1. Institute a policy that all rezonings expire after 5 years if the project is not built.  
2. How is OCP to be implemented will there be a Planning committee composed of citizen representatives? How are neighbourhoods to be involved in future planning decisions? Presentation to committee? Presentation to Council?  
3. Community associations need to be involved at the beginning of the development process not after developers have “workshopped” their project with city planning staff and received tacit approval”
- ▶ “1. Institute public safety measures downtown that ensure personal safety, while not marginalizing the street population.  
  
2. Provide further social services (wraparound housing) to those suffering in the community.  
  
3. Frequent, reliable transit that covers major destinations without being a major inconvenience. “
- ▶ “1. Invest in strong planning – build and support a planning department with a commitment to ensuring appropriate development that balances densification with liveability and respect for heritage, to creating a built environment that strengthens connection, and to preserving and building on the characteristics that make established neighbourhoods like Brechin and the Old City so special. There are wonderful examples of alternatives to high rise, small space living that strengthen densification without compromising liveability and aesthetics.

2. Protect green space and environmentally sensitive habitats – Nanaimo has wonderful parks and wild areas, those latter highly vulnerable to development pressures and to overuse as the City grows.
  3. Invest in the organizations that help the homelessness and destitute to rebuild their lives.”
- ▶ “1. Link the waterfront to Departure bay and extend beyond Gabriola ferry port and into Commercial street (as above – pedestrian bridge).  
2. Offer small business hub and grant opportunities for small business and entrepreneurs. We have a university on our doorstep that could collaborate on this. Opportunities for graduates and local residents to be self starters and develop themselves (and the local economy) with support.  
3. Give the residents of Nanaimo a reason to be proud to live here – we need to promote internally and create ambassadors and this could be done by engaging with locals and reminding them why it is great to live here! This includes what Nanaimo is doing to overcome the issues facing it – be honest, be active!”
  - ▶ “1. lower prizes of real estate  
2. less wood cutting  
3. make the city bigger “
  - ▶ “1. Make downtown desirable – way too much effort has been spent pushing businesses out of the core.  
2. Create a development plan for the waterfront.  
3. Take over jurisdiction for the Port of Nanaimo. The NPA does not look after the best interest of Nanaimo residents. “
  - ▶ “1. Make downtown owners of buildings either occupy or sell. Have a business occupation requirement and consequence.  
2. Make more of our waterfront a ““place to go””. More shops, places to sit. Places to have a coffee etc.  
3. Have a plan and support to help homeless people get off the streets. ( I have NO answer to this one- it is too out of control)”
  - ▶ 1. make it less reliant on cars to get around
  - ▶ “1. Make Nanaimo the greenest city in Canada (drastically reduce fossil fuel, promote walking/biking/green buses, plant more trees, etc.)  
2. Promote collaboration (Get all citizens involved... people from different backgrounds. Listen to homeless people. Listen to kids. Listen to seniors. Ensure everyone has a voice.)  
3. Reduce homelessness. Obviously, this is a complex issue. However, I feel we can do it. Improve mental health programs. Improve access to affordable housing. Encourage ““back to work”” programs that assist people in finding meaningful employment. This is also related to the opioid crisis. Addiction/substance abuse is a big part of the challenge. Covid-19 isn’t the only pandemic. We need to decriminalize drugs and get to the root issues.”
  - ▶ “1. Make public transit more convenient and affordable  
2. Develop more affordable housing IN Nanaimo  
3. Have drawn bike lanes on more streets. Make cyclists feel protected when they ride. Make more separate bike/ pedestrian trails away from roads. “
  - ▶ 1. Make the downtown/waterfront better. There is so much potential to make it more lively and attractive.  
2. Get rid of the homeless tent community. I have seen high school kids go in there to buy drugs from the homeless people.
  - ▶ “1. Make Victoria Crescent & Commercial St pedestrian only.  
2. Improve bus service along Bowen Rd (only #40?!)  
3. Develop the Pit downtown.”
  - ▶ “1. Massive investments in electrified public transit so that no one needs to own a car in Nanaimo.

2. Changes to bylaws and zoning requirements to increase density, phase out inefficient heating practices, and promote clean energy production and consumption. This all includes subsidized solar panels and wind turbines, no more single family dwelling only zones, mass timber construction, several storey construction as the norm, and mixed-use zoning for more of Nanaimo.

3. Work with the provincial and federal government to help those most in need. Implement housing first policies (despite what NIMBY people may say), safe injections sites, evidence-based recovery, and stop using bylaw enforcement to harass homeless people."

- ▶ "1. More affordable housing (less homelessness)  
2. More focus on downtown, less driving everywhere  
3. More trails, green space and recreation opportunities"
- ▶ "1. More affordable housing for folks with pets  
2. Improved cleaning of parks & green spaces - more gardens/integrations of natural flora  
3. Better bus routes/more express routes from N to S Nanaimo & green spaces (I have a car now, but when I didn't it took me 45 minutes to access an area that took me 10 minutes to drive to)"
- ▶ "1. More affordable housing  
2. Address high crash intersection issues.  
3. Address homelessness and associated issues with ""street living"""
- ▶ "1. More bike lanes  
2. More public space and recreational accessibility  
3. Gap bridging between the south and the north"
- ▶ "1. More City activities for teens, currently a lot of the city programs end at age 12.  
2. Homelessness  
3. Incentives to have more businesses in the downtown area. "
- ▶ "1. More homeless support & housing  
2. More affordable housing  
3. More downtown businesses (fine dining, botanical garden, science based)"
- ▶ "1. More mental health and drug addiction programs.  
2. More programs for families and kids  
3. Protecting family oriented neighborhoods from developments that take away from their charm"
- ▶ "1. More parks created in areas that are ecologically sensitive (specifically the area between Hammond Bay and Wavecrest Drive, to start).  
2. More bike friendly, and consistently bike friendly (not disjointed).  
3. Bring back Terry's Save-Rite

(Just kidding about #3)

I would recommend looking at a book called ""Happy City"" by Charles Montgomery, it has some great ideas about how the design of a city affects us; I discovered it while studying Urban Economics. "

- ▶ "1. More physicians and walk in clinics.  
2. Limited growth.  
3. Clean rapid transit, including for tourists (convent ferry to park, to shop, hop on) "
- ▶ "1. More services for homeless  
2. More safe ways to socially connect especially for seniors and young moms  
3. Better bike lanes

“

- ▶ “1. More sports facilities  
2. New and better triage for homeless persons to enable directing them to proper corrective services  
3. Better Crime prevention focus  
”
- ▶ “1. More street trees planted.  
2. Enforce clean up of derelict buildings & properties.  
3. Proper housing and treatment centres for homeless. “
- ▶ 1. Move the homeless into a vacant building or two, with social services on site, possibly even a safe injection clinic to reduce the number of needles and drug users on our streets. 2. Add a fast ferry to Vancouver to attract more residents and investment into the community. 3. Come up a strategy to create more unity within the Greater Nanaimo neighbourhoods. Perhaps each neighbourhood could brainstorm together to come up with their own positive identities that could be marketed and appreciated by all. (ex. Downtown for its heritage and arts, Departure Bay for its beach and family focused community, South for its history, agriculture, parks and nature, North for its entertainment zone and shopping centres, etc.)
- ▶ “1. Nanaimo is a GREEN city! I still see lots of recyclables in garbage collection. I’d get city to go through garbage to increase recycling rate.  
2. Reduce. I’d encourage businesses to reduce packaging and pollution.  
3. As a hub city on the island, we need more EV charging stations to support people traveling from end to end.”
- ▶ “1. Offer more jobs. Don’t judge the people by the looks. They could be homeless trying to make their life better.  
2. lower gas costs, and housing costs  
3. lower insurance cost for teenagers. Sorry but \$3400 for just insurance is ridiculous. Make it lower and if they get in a car accident then raise it. Don’t judge them right off the bat. “
- ▶ 1. Our homeless population is out of control. 2. Crime due to the increasing homeless population is increasing.
- ▶ 1. People off the street 2. housing for Nanaimo people 3. Gafitti on the city
- ▶ 1. Place permanent traffic slowing methods on Departure Bay road beach section. 2. Establish alternative routes. 3. Keep the cats indoors!! PLEASE
- ▶ “1. Preserve and beautify historical old town because that’s the first place out of town people will see as a cultural identity.  
2. Maintain, increase and promote the city green spaces as a cultural identity.  
3. Promote and improved universities and colleges for out of town students vs than attracting workers due to higher paid rate from buildings or infrastructure improvements yet maintain a certain amount of consistent growth as needed.”
- ▶ “1. promote Nanaimo as the best place to live having good water, air, parks, and a clean environment with easy access to Victoria and Vancouver.  
2. provide tourist information centers, rent a car booths, tour operator booths, tour buses, etc. at the Ferry Terminals much like at major airline terminals. Ferry Terminals in Europe, Asia and even Africa have these services but a total void at all BC Ferry Terminals.  
3. promote businesses in the downtown core as the downtown is really a hidden gem – build or create something spectacular as a major draw like an unusual building, theme, or observation tower, etc,”

- ▶ "1. Promoting sustainability in the City and providing incentives to become a more sustainable city.  
2. Create more child care opportunities that are affordable.  
3. More affordable housing – the housing market continues to go up."
- ▶ "1. Protect all of the green spaces by purchasing undeveloped, forested land from landowners to protect Nanaimo's natural beauty.  
2. Make growing the Linley Valley's borders your number one priority – people come here because of the natural beauty – protection builds tourist dollars. Nobody goes on vacation to see subdivisions and strip malls, they go to see untouched nature.  
3. Sidewalks and bike lanes throughout the city. Specifically all along Hammond Bay as many people walk and bike from that area for work and recreation. It is a winding road that is dangerous without sidewalks and dedicated bike lanes. Accessibility to safe walking/biking will reduce the carbon impact on the environment as more people will feel safe and encouraged to walk and bike to where they need to go."  
"
- ▶ "1. Provide a comprehensive set of maps and data at an elemental level over time which can provide the basis for serious discussion of what Nanaimo IS, before trying to determine what Nanaimo should be.  
2. Make this data available on line.  
3. Provide a forum for discussion of the alternatives"
- ▶ "1. Provide a walk on ferry to and from downtown Nanaimo to downtown Vancouver.  
2. Enhance the downtown core. Give retailers a discount to occupy spaces that are empty. Pretty up the core of downtown. Provide more services, restaurants, shops, spas.  
3. Provide better transportation from Nanaimo to Victoria and also within Nanaimo."
- ▶ 1. Provide affordable housing for all, families, elders, students and low income. 2. To keep a sense of community don't allow empty homes created for speculators 3. Provide mental health facilities
- ▶ "1. Provide derelict property/building owners that they have 1 year to submit plans and 2 years to start building on their sites or imminent domain will be used to transfer land for development. Pay for an architectural design competition to get a proper vision and publicly shame those derelict land holders into action if necessary as they are damaging the downtown core in a way that will be impossible to recover soon (think East Van).  
2. Build the new walkway with DCC and federal/provincial money now. Purchase waterfront derelict sites and provide incentives to those who are willing to build now from Dep Bay to Cruise Ship Terminal. This will provide essential jobs for at least 2 years for the city of nanaimo.  
3. Remove transient drug addict population from downtown core into treatment, etc.. Your MLA is drug addiction minister so you have a 20' walk to her office to get this underway now. If you want housing then buy motels or tally ho and get them off the streets. Create bylaws against panhandling and loitering on city property."  
"
- ▶ "1. Provide housing and aid to our homeless population  
2. Give people priority over vehicles (and bikes), particularly downtown.  
3. Emphasize the beauty of the city and it's setting continue development in a sustainable, people friendly way (less high rise buildings). "
- ▶ "1. Provide local businesses with much more funding to help create jobs in the city.  
2. Help the homeless population with housing and drive homeless people out of downtown, which creates a less enticing experience for tourism.  
3. More innovative solutions for garbage, recycling and waste management."
- ▶ "1. Provide more affordable housing to meet all needs and budgets

2. Develop the downtown core into a car-free, vibrant arts, commercial and cultural centre
  3. Improve transportation options, including better transit and walking/cycling routes “
- ▶ “1. Provide solid and proven schemes to reduce homelessness, homeless camps, prostitution and drug dealing.  
2. Help small businesses survive and thrive downtown by reducing their rent or taxes  
3. Improve the bus system so it flows and connects much better”
  - ▶ “1. Provide supported housing options to reduce homelessness.  
2. Create a central pedestrian-friendly downtown transportation hub and shuttle service to improve connection between transit, BC ferries, floatplanes, airport, future fast harbour ferry and intercity buses.  
3. Develop incentives to attract digital nomads as online work becomes more prevalent, including high quality internet, diverse recreational opportunities, and easy transportation connections to regional attractions.  
”
  - ▶ “1. Public safety. Cancel the Firecomm deal and keep the dispatch center in Nanaimo. This is not the answer to overspending on a new hall. Recognize that Karen Fry was in direct conflict of interest in even suggesting it as she goes to her new position on the lower mainland.  
2. Support safe injection sites and work to find a solution every single day until the homeless situation is resolved.  
3. Improve Recreation Nanaimo. Expanded facilities in the north end to include a new aquatic centre, significant upgrades to the outdoor pool to include updated change rooms and a wading pool, expanded class offerings embracing diversity (particularly size diversity) and improved trail systems & maintenance. “
  - ▶ “1. Public Transit – Build an LRT  
2. Provide tax exemptions and incentives to businesses and developers in the downtown core to encourage economic growth, increased vibrancy, and building beautification/gentrification.  
3. Provide grants and other incentives for businesses to start up in the tourism industry so that we can start to attract tourists who want to stay in Nanaimo and not go to Parksville or Victoria to spend their money.”
  - ▶ “1. Put incentives in place to develop downtown and get condos and commercial buildings built there instead of elsewhere in the city. Too many empty lots just sitting around!  
2. Build more bike lanes, including segregated bike lanes and expanded bike lines connecting with the waterfront  
3. Stimulate small businesses coming into the downtown core: offer exemptions for business licences if businesses fit certain criteria or operate in a certain geographical area for instance. “
  - ▶ “1. Real concrete solutions to house our homeless population with proper support services to meet their immediate needs.  
2. Find creative ways to eliminate open public drug use with services for the users.  
3. Everyone needs to feel safe no matter where they travel around in Nanaimo. Whatever that takes.”
  - ▶ “1. Recognise that the homeless problem is not resolved by providing people with homes. Its an addiction/mental health crisis and needs to be dealt with as such. See ““Seattle is Dying”” and recognise that it’s happening here for the same reasons.  
2. Enhance the physical divide between The Old City Quarter and downtown and make the whole area more vibrant and appealing.  
”
  - ▶ “1. redevelop more older buildings downtown for commercial and housing and provide incentive program

for new commercial tenants

2. extend waterfront walking path all the way to Departure Bay terminal and create market-like destination at that end with fisherman's wharf
3. more medical facilities"

- ▶ "1. reduce crime  
2. provide adequate assistance to homeless population  
3. make Nanaimo NOT a destination for homeless from other regions"
- ▶ "1. Reduce crime, homelessness, drug addiction issues.  
2. Expand services for seniors (eg. community centre, free public transit for seniors)  
3. Expand waterfront trails/park system"
- ▶ 1. reduce crime/social disorder 2. complete waterfront walkway improvements and develop 1 Port Place waterfront land 3. increase downtown parking, esp. Maffeo Sutton Park area.
- ▶ "1. Reduce drug and crime activity.  
2. Overpasses to reduce traffic backing up on highway.  
3. More sidewalks and GARBAGE CANS!  
"
- ▶ "1. Reduce homelessness & crime / make our community safe again  
2. Create environment for growth of young members of society to want to live in Nanaimo , not an aging community eg. start up companies  
3. Create safe , pleasant alternative routes to bike or walk and reduce vehicle traffic"
- ▶ "1. Reduce overall emphasis on large residential & commercial developments and disallow high rises in the downtown area  
2. Support neighborhood community halls & community care oriented groups  
3. Maintain the beauty and accessibility of the downtown harbour-front by limiting encroachment by developers."
- ▶ "1. Relocate the stinky Duke Point industrial park (its a god awful smell when you first land in nanaimo and gives a really stinky welcome (not!)) and replace with attractive welcoming businesses or recreation that have more of a welcoming personality.  
2. Develop a community plan with broad input that focuses on expanding incorporation of natural resources/ nature, recreation and beauty. Keep the small town vibe but in a playful way.  
3. "
- ▶ "1. Remove homeless, crime  
2. Build Light Rapid Transit from Woodgrove to Downtown including university and hospital  
3. Connect and update all sidewalks in all residential neighbourhoods "
- ▶ "1. Remove the homeless population from Wesley Street and area permanently.  
2. Landscape and develop Cappy Yates Park into an actual park that links the Old City Quarter with Downtown and is a green space for residents and visitors to the area (this area of transition between Old City and Downtown is being developed with many smaller scale multi-family buildings). That this property could be a gem!  
3. Improve (e.g. access, night lighting, pedestrian rails, landscaping) these 3 pedestrian links within the Downtown: alley between Skinner and Chapel Streets (by the Old City Station Pub) the path/stairs connecting the end of Hecate St. to Cavan St. China Steps"
- ▶ "1. Remove the homeless, mentally ill and drug addicted off our streets and from our parks. Tents, feces, needles and garbage on our streets and parks – horrible site. Our once beautiful city has become ugly.

The circus behind SARC that's being allowed... is shameful. We have lost our god given rights.

2. Lower property taxes.

"

- ▶ "1. Remove the various homeless encampments scattered across our city. Make living in Nanaimo extremely unattractive to these types of individuals rather than inviting and accommodating them (Tent City I'm looking at you). The Salvation Army shelter is well-run, needed and tolerable. Walking past people shooting up heroin or smoking meth on Albert or Wesley Street in the middle of the day is another story altogether. Please make it stop. This was a nice city with some problems in 2010. Now certain areas are halfway to becoming the DTES/Strathcona Park in 2020. Please don't give them another inch, they will ruin this city.
  
- 2. Stop accepting funds from BC Housing and housing NGOs that help to destroy established neighbourhoods with criminal/anti-social behaviour and the open use of hard drugs. It is not working. It is bad public policy. It is tiring. Please stop, reevaluate and listen to the people that make this city work. Just because money is on the table doesn't mean you have to take it. Just say no. Property owners will thank you.
  
- 3. Break our contract with the RCMP and establish a Nanaimo police force that will actually enforce the criminal code. Fire bylaw officers that refuse to enforce bylaws that are on the books, or remove those bylaws instead of pretending they matter. It's getting real old, real quick."
  
- ▶ "1. Re-open all public schools for community members to meet and gain new skills using school installed technologies and facilities;
- 2. Have an arts centre that allows for rotating exhibitions of local talent and creativity;
- 3. Improve arterial traffic flow with appropriate signal lights as well as phase in incentives to reduce fossil-fueled vehicular traffic"
  
- ▶ "1. Repurpose the Conference Centre into a Medical Mental Health Centre
- 2. Build the walkway from Departure Bay to Downtown
- 3. Don't allow cars to park on narrow roads - which is most of them"
  
- ▶ "1. Resolve the homelessness crisis
- 2. Revitalize the waterfront from the Departure Bay Ferry terminal down to Esplanade to draw local and tourist populations; this area is huge in potential but greatly lacking in development
- 3. Where possible, seek to move the homelessness shelter on Island HWY and Nichol St to more inconspicuous location so it is not front and center of our downtown core, thus attracting the large population of homeless right to the downtown core. "
  
- ▶ "1. Rethink the manner in which city programs and services can best be provided and funded through outsourcing/privatization
- 2. Promote the construction of public inter-city light electric rail transportation connecting Victoria
- 3. Embrace renewable energy sources, divesting from fossil fuels."
  
- ▶ "1. Review the finances of the city of Nanaimo and cut the fat from the top.
- 2. Build a proper facility for the homeless that would include:
  - a. safe place for them to sleep
  - b. dining hall
  - c. medical, counselors, rehab, security
  - d. different areas for the different needs
  - e. If they are homeless Do not give them an option!!! Some may only need a hand up, but some need

serious help!  
Cats being licensed.

“

- ▶ “1. Roads, highways and infrastructure  
2. Affordability ( housing and food)  
3. More recreational facilities ( indoor track/gym/pool/tennis courts like they have in Regina)”
- ▶ “1. Safe place to leave my dogs at shopping locations (like a bike locker, but for dogs)  
2. Provide safe access and a good map of the DND lands out above Collier Dam for hikers. I like to hike up there and don't want to trespass, but have a hard time figuring out exactly where the lines are.  
3. Provide access for home owners to the compost we're contributing to for home gardens. It would give good value and reinforce the importance of putting the right things into the right bin.”
- ▶ “1. Safe streets to walk and cycle with investment in infrastructure that improves the modes of transportation and makes single vehicle traffic more challenging (e.g. make residential streets for local traffic only)  
2. Invest in public transit  
3. Do not allow new developments to clearcut properties and leave them barren of mature trees”
- ▶ “1. Safer sidewalks for pedestrians.  
2. Good access for mobility devices and safer parking for them.  
3. Cleaner sidewalks. “
- ▶ “1. Security downtown  
2. Resources for those in dire need (homelessness, rehab, mental health support)  
3. More bike lanes (Bowen rd, etc) “
- ▶ “1. Set up more health and addiction services for the homeless and needy. They need help and having an institution or somewhere to get medication and health care would decrease the problem.  
2. Revitalize the downtown core. It's beautiful and vibrant, but currently in the evening, its somewhere we avoid.  
3. Maintain the affordability of utilities”
- ▶ “1. Signs put up at every park, for activities. EG dogs on leash, dog business pick up, no peeing and pooping by people, no overnight parking and camping in select parks.  
2. Newcastle Ave all by itself. Guardrails are crumbling, and street is sluffing. Such a major street downtown has no sidewalk for most of it. Takes a master vision to create a plan for shoring up the embankment, include a sidewalk, maybe parking, Now it is difficult for two vehicles to pass from opposite direction when some cars are parked . Even fire truck would have problems in some spaces. People speed in QE 2 park. could be speed bumps. People camp/park overnight, and no washrooms, so guess what happens?! People pee mostly, and some poop, with no signs! The Newcastle Ave could be redesigned to allow for handicap from the bridge ( Lions Great Bridge) up to Newcastle AVe, and tiered, so folks could have access for fireworks display. Parking is not enforced presently...so attracts unsuitable vehicles to overnight, and more health hazard.  
“
- ▶ “1. social housing issues/crime/drug addiction issues  
2. recruiting and building the shopping scene here  
3. building a family splash pad/park in the north”
- ▶ “1. Solve social challenges of homelessness and drug addiction and related health and theft issues.  
2. Fix traffic congestion. Reduce the number of traffic lights and improve the flow of traffic.  
3. Have consistent sidewalks that connect through neighbourhoods for safety “

- ▶ "1. Solve the affordable housing crisis.  
2. Stop all expansion of the city until this is done.  
3. Subsidize green energy."
- ▶ "1. Stick to the community plans.  
2. Manage on-street parking.  
3. Figure out what kind of support the homeless population requires and get it for them."
- ▶ "1. Stop 5G from coming to Nanaimo – keep our city a place of wellness.  
2. Get street people off the street and into homes, health treatments and jail as appropriate.  
3. Make downtown and the waterfront vibrant and fun again. "
- ▶ "1. Stop permitting new commercial builds and utilize the many unoccupied buildings.  
2. Incentivize property owners to tear down old under-used buildings (such as along Stuart Ave) and re-vitalize the properties.  
3. Stop destroying treed areas."
- ▶ "1. Support small local business.  
2. Allow only diverse housing projects, mixed with shops and studio's (read Jane Jacobs). No luxury housing of bad quality.  
3. Improve Nicole street as entrance to Nanaimo."
- ▶ "1. Take care of the homeless, crime and drug problems  
2. Install sidewalks, underground service cables and filled in ditches in ALL neighbourhoods.  
3. Extend the waterfront walkway to Departure Bay and encourage developers to fix up the eyesores that are downtown"
- ▶ "1. Take steps immediately to reduce either traffic or the kinds of vehicles (carbon burning) that contribute to climate change.  
2. Encourage development of mixed neighborhoods with some (fewer) single family homes, multi-family complexes, shops and services within walking or biking distance of most people in the neighborhood.  
3. Reduce the city's dependence on a resource-based industry economy. Coordinate with the university and others to encourage tech-based and tourism-based businesses in the community"
- ▶ "1. Take whatever means necessary to foster locally-owned and operated businesses. These are the heart of community because they offer residents the opportunity to truly support ourselves and each other. Taxation on empty real estate, business support, bylaw support, whatever it takes. Look at places that have avoided being hollowed-out by box stores and follow their lead.  
2. Protect wild spaces  
3. Help resource-extraction businesses to operate sustainably and encourage more valuable use of the extracted resources. Not just mills but manufacturing. Not just fishing but packaged food export. "
- ▶ "1. Tear down everything on the Inland Highway between Comox Road and Commercial Street and make it much, much more pedestrian-friendly. The whole block is an eyesore and a scar on the downtown area. This is preventing the creation of a vibrant downtown/city centre which is crucial if we want to develop a sustainable tourism industry.  
  
2. When you drive off the ferry at Departure Bay, you come up to the Island Highway, and the ONLY way you can turn is right, to Parksveill, Qualicum, Courtenay, Campbell River. Yes, we direct tourists OUT OF TOWN!!!  
  
3. Use existing out-of-use buildings (the Howard Johnsons, for example) as homeless residences."
- ▶ "1. The City must change its appearance and image ( see the above paragraph ). If this does not happen,

it will be an uphill battle to have Nanaimo citizens motivated, and even energized, to “Reimagine” our city. Most citizens of Nanaimo, are no longer comfortable coming downtown due to the appearance and reputation of the downtown area. Rather than thinking it’s an eclectic, diverse, and unique -- after seeing the images themselves and reading media stories, citizens feel uncomfortable and at risk, and they will never change their attitude towards our city. Not only improving the rundown buildings and lots, but also we’ll need to change the homeless services so we can keep these folks from creating a negative image and environment downtown.

2. Make the Seawall walkway and trail system expansion, and the downtown waterfront development ( old CNN property ) a main priority. Seems like such a no-brainer and could have been done years ago using the money wasted on the Cruise Ship terminal and dock.

3. A fast ferry service to/from Vancouver would be a benefit to our city. But I also think that the first two items are first necessary in order to keep the fast ferry viable and profitable.

“

- ▶ “1. the City work with the Port Authority to develop a community usable dock that would support vehicles so that residents could load and unload boats. This is our main transportation and logistics and right now there is no access without paying for it. It is back breaking as a father, trying to transport all the items a family needs to and fro.

2. Better garbage and recycling facilities that are clean and accessible to all residents.

3. I also think there needs to be a storage location on the harbor so that our island residents can store bicycles as it is impossible to carry a families bike across everyday but bike theft is too risky in the harbor.

“

- ▶ “1. The current mindset in council that people are going to stop driving. With a growing population comes more vehicles, that is a reality. We need more parking spaces and more road infrastructure, not less. Stop allowing developers to decrease the number of required parking spaces and also require that developments with numerous suites require off street parking.

2. Bike lanes will not solve vehicle density issues. Again, increased population equals more vehicles, not less. Come up with solutions that don’t require removal of existing traffic lanes.

3. Transit needs a rethink to be more accessible and faster. When it takes 3–4 times longer for me to travel by bus vs car I will not utilize that service. Perhaps smaller busses on more routes might be an answer. “

- ▶ “1. The homeless problem  
2. More affordable housing  
3. More tourism for more opportunities in the future”

- ▶ “1. Truth to the monuments  
2. Truth in our museum  
3. New monuments that tell our new story and hopes for our future “

- ▶ “1. Turn the railway into a trail , for bikes or hiking that would connect Nanaimo to its neighbouring towns with opportunities for cafes bike rental etc along the trail.  
2. Connect the downtown Waterfront walkway with Departure Bay as well as the River estuary  
3. Create boulevard and empty spaces community gardens ( even if temporary) as all the overgrown empty lots do not give Nanaimo the appearance of beauty”

- ▶ “1. Use and build more on vacant lots and buildings downtown.  
2. Address homelessness and affordable housing.  
3. More tourism.

“

- ▶ “1. Waterfront walkway from ferry to Departure Bay  
2. Improvements to terminal/Nicol downtown  
3. More infrastructure for bicycles”
- ▶ “1. We are starting to look like a collection of strip malls and highways- please note question 7.  
2. Affordability, especially in housing, is becoming a serious issue.  
3. Preservation of heritage (downtown especially) and the waterfront.”
- ▶ “1. Work on mitigation and adaptation to climate change.  
2. Work on solving the housing crisis.  
3. Improve public transport.”
- ▶ “1. Work on the homeless population.  
2. Provide drinking fountains around town and in parks to lower single use plastics  
3. Offer additional recreation opportunities”
- ▶ 1. Work with federal govt (???) to find treatment programs -- not just free housing -- for drug addicted. 2. Build the walkway from downtown to Departure Bay 3. Work with ??? to fix the housing affordability issue. NOTE: I realize that only #2 is in your control. The other two issues are much larger than Nanaimo itself.
- ▶ “1. work with other levels of government to build thousands of units of affordable housing costing no more than 30% of pre-tax income.  
2. work with other levels of government and other communities to invest in tourism by building the island-wide bike path and system of hostels that I described in section 7.  
3. intentionally develop an arts community with links to Vancouver that are facilitated by a downtown-to-downtown foot passenger ferry.”
- ▶ “1. Work with the Province and Federal Governments to deal with the above mentioned homeless problem.  
2. Work with property owners in the downtown core to get buildings rebuilt and empty buildings dealt with (they are an eye soar).  
3. Keep working towards outdoor recreation as it is still one of Nanaimo’s Gems and attractions.”
- ▶ 1.A lot more protected park or park-like areas. 2. Continue to address social issues such as homelessness, addiction, racial discrimination - to fully include all people into our communities rather than creating silos. 3. Make Climate Change and First Nations Reconciliation priorities.
- ▶ “1.admit we have a special drug problem here. We need drastic services for safe use mental health care and life coaching services all in the same building for free. Let them focus on getting better instead of the next fix.

2.get rid of the lights on the highway.

3.blur the line between north and south end. Its getting very segregated.

“

- ▶ “1.Attract investors by incentivizing them  
2. Improve the building permit process.  
3. Find a solution to the homeless problem. ”
- ▶ “1.Bike lanes separated by concrete dividers from other traffic  
2.VTOL’s and a fast ferry to Vancouver asap  
3.a bridge to New Castle”



3/ find methods to encourage efficiencies and sharing of resources amongst NFP agencies"

- ▶ 1/2/3. Get homeless people off the streets. I don't feel safe walking in the downtown area. This huge problem, which I thank you for trying to solve, is not only terrible for the people living on the street, but wrecking the businesses in that area or anywhere these tent type encampments set up. I used to love to go downtown to walk & shop. Now, I only go if there isn't an alternative. I don't know how this gets solved. Is there a case by case probe done to see why someone is living on the street?
  - ▶ "1/pave over the rail track so all people can walk, stroll, run their mobile wheel chair, etc.  
2/keep the waterfront accessible for people.  
3/support education from kindergarten to the grave."
  - ▶ 1: Get the criminals in jail, make our streets safe. 2: Vet all homeless people, send those drug and alcoholic addicted and those with mental problems to treatment centres. 3: The city should get out of business ventures and just govern and oversee business.
  - ▶ "1-Get drug addicts & criminals off our street for good. And I do not mean free homes. They need to be in lockdown and treatment, or nothing.  
2-Create more of a Vancouver waterfront type situation all along Stewart Ave to Departure Bay, is lacking many empty buildings and lots that could be turned into a vibrant happening community on its own. Like Horseshoe Bay. It thrives year around, and Nanaimo is missing out on that opportunity by not investing or offering rebates to investors that may change their mind on building there.  
3- Improve our parks, and refuse all dogs in any public places. which also includes more bylaw officers to enforce things
- "
- ▶ "1-get the homeless off the streets by giving everyone a guaranteed income. The costs involved will be much less than all the current costs associated with the homeless.  
2-"
  - ▶ "1-increase the city workers who clean up the parks and streets especially in downtown and old city quarter areas as well as Bowen Park  
2-"
  - ▶ "A city with a comprehensive green public transportation system.  
A city with 100% effective recycling including loads of green jobs for manufacturing recycled products.  
A city in which there was adequate and affordable housing for those living on the margins of society"
  - ▶ "A foot ferry that allow short commute to Vancouver  
Housing the homeless population  
Promoting tourism all year round to help businesses "
  - ▶ "A seawall to Departure Bay  
Improved housing and support for homeless"
  - ▶ "A strategic plan that includes focus on: health, housing, economic opportunities, recreation, community and family. Substance use services as noted above developed and delivered  
Housing affordability for families and seniors  
Focus on creating industry and jobs in Nanaimo "
  - ▶ A strong movement/investment in getting those with mental health problems the help and support they need to be off the streets long-term - reducing crime. A continued movement toward being a cool community with great local amenities (think Drip Coffee, Islandish, Bodhi's, local yoga studios, places like

Gabriel's cafe etc). A strong focus on our outdoor environment and movement.

- ▶ A unified policing/harm reduction/mental health/housing support system, a passenger ferry link between Nanaimo and Vancouver, and incentives for new business owners.
- ▶ "a) Fast foot passenger ferry between downtown Nanaimo and downtown Vancouver.  
b) Improved traffic flow on Hammond Bay Road during road work."
- ▶ "'-Access to social/supportive services for homeless (or nearly homeless) and others  
-Climate adaptation and resilience building  
-Improve accessibility of city by investing in multimodal transportation infrastructure"
- ▶ "Acquire land and access to connect trails like Westwood, Doumont and Benson.  
Hire experts to help deal with problems of drug use and homeless population downtown and work on ways to move or reduce the number of people wandering the streets.  
Push for foot passenger ferry direct to downtown Vancouver and invest in more attractive downtown space, e.g. Extending waterfront walk, to draw in visitors. Unfortunately downtown doesn't feel super walkable (things are pretty spread out) so concentrating businesses/restaurants closer to create more walkability Or even having a walking-only square of shops With nearby wheelchair accessible parking would Help improve people's use of the area."
- ▶ "Actively recruit artists & young professionals to the area to help stabilize & diversify the economy.

Establish a housing corporation like CRD or Metro over the next 5 years to provide more housing options for lower income citizens.

Give young people from 16 years of age the ability to vote in local elections.

"

- ▶ "Actually Address crime and homelessness

Develop abandoned and unused properties

Encourage unique small businesses"

- ▶ "Add more bike lanes and connections from what's available now - both east to west and north to south. Hammond Bay Rd used to be a great cycling road but now - far too busy.

Better access to Hammond Bay Road at a few points in between Departure Bay Road and Rutherford Road to lessen traffic at either end (Hammond Bay in the north and Departure Bay Road in the south)."

- ▶ "Add more seniors residences  
Clean up the city  
Provide a mental health institution. "
- ▶ "Add numerous fruit trees in our city parks throughout our city.

Add more public parks. "

- ▶ Add overpasses on the parkway to stop the back ups and allow us to get around our city faster. Have a large venue for the WHL and large concerts so we do not need to travel to other cities. Fix the homeless issue with allowing free housing for Nanaimo residents only. Not homeless from across the province or Canada.
- ▶ "Addictions counselling

Homeless housing options with onsite counsellors  
A more tourist friendly downtown core"

- ▶ Addictions programs, better access to mental health supports, focus on reducing homelessness.
- ▶ "Addicts in supportive housing must do rehab, therapy, job training, become responsible  
Lower property taxes by economizing city government  
Enhance public transit and initiative to use it"
- ▶ "Additional homeless housing.  
Caps on property taxes based on income."
- ▶ "'-Address and help homeless people alot of this will solve the crime and drug issues too.  
-More affordable housing the rent has gotten so out of control.  
- clean up and give the downtown a face lift make it more inviting, interesting. For families more fun stuff to do like the good old days when the city was alive. 40 plus years ago. When parole could shop down there go for a milkshake. Not a boring old mall."
- ▶ "'-Address drug use and homelessness with community outreach programs and social assistance  
-improve transit and infrastructure  
-limit development and preserve nature before we lose it all"
- ▶ address drugs and homelessness...improve activity options for youth
- ▶ Address homeless and drug issues; do something with the downtown (especially address the hold in the ground AND the empty "abc raido?" building across the street - what a joke!) and better incorporation of First Nation peoples and culture.
- ▶ "Address homelessness and addiction in a meaningful and compassionate way.  
Include First Nations in city decisions and develop a plan for reparations and rent to account for unceded occupation  
Increase our green and sustainability efforts."
- ▶ "'-Address homelessness and drug addiction  
-Clean-up and renew downtown  
-Improve trails and beach accesses"
- ▶ "Address homelessness in a new way - treatment, mental health support  
Expand the waterfront  
"
- ▶ "Address homelessness  
Increase police services  
Clean up Nicol Street/Terminal Ave "
- ▶ "Address homelessness, addictions and squatter housing.  
Build a year-round farmer's market.  
Continue to build safe sidewalks, crosswalks and bike lanes.  
"
- ▶ Address homelessness. Ban all backyard burning including fire-pits. Control cats running loose, killing birds and pooping in gardens.
- ▶ "Address homelessnes and addiction issues.  
Create more bike lanes and neighborhood bike connectors."
- ▶ "'Address municipal infrastructure

- reroute, repave, or reengineer roads
- update city lighting
- improve city sustainable infrastructure
- ▶ "Address the drug/homelessness issue to support people who need it and to keep our city safe and to reclaim outdoor space that's been lost to drug use (e.g. park near Beban).  
Keep our existing wild space wild and don't develop it.  
Revitalize downtown.
- ▶ "Address the homeless issue  
Beautify the city  
Develop tourist draws. "
- ▶ "Address the homelessness  
Address the addiction  
Have harsher penalties for the daily theft that is plagued the city"
- ▶ "'-Address the Homelessness, and drug problem with treatment centres.  
-Expand downtown so that people actually want to go there.  
-Expanded the waterfront from downtown to the ferry "
- ▶ "Address the homelessness/loitering/begging issue  
Improve mental health programs and make them more accessible to those who need it, including drug treatment  
Encourage and enhance the beautification of the downtown area, expanding beyond the two blocks of Commercial Street and one or two blocks radiating from Commercial Street."
- ▶ "'-address the impacts of climate change, increase sustainability and protect natural areas  
-provide affordable housing, safe injection sites for the growing homeless population
- ▶ "Addressing homeless needs.  
Transit – bus and Handidart services  
Ensuring food security"
- ▶ "Addressing homelessness  
Making the downtown more attractive  
Make it easier for locally owned businesses to thrive
- ▶ "'-adjust zoning to allow for affordable home ownership.  
-compassionate responses to homelessness  
-chlorine free swim pools"
- ▶ Advocate for better response from the Justice system. Create more and better parks. Fund a full time cohort to aid in planning and developing community events.
- ▶ Affordability, homelessness and substance abuse
- ▶ "Affordable and safe non-car methods of transport  
Affordable new housing for all (focus on 2-3 bedrooms)  
Create widespread solutions to help the homeless and those facing challenges and addiction"
- ▶ "Affordable homes  
Increased employment opportunities  
Better acknowledgement/promotion of Nanaimo's outdoor rec opportunities"
- ▶ Affordable Housing

- ▶ “Affordable housing  
Better out door parks  
Clean up the down town as it was nice and safe.”
- ▶ “Affordable housing  
Safe substance use  
More community events “
- ▶ “Affordable housing for all, esp. 2-3 bedroom places  
Help for the homeless and those facing addictions / challenges  
Usable, cheap, extensive transit and non-car possibilities throughout the city”
- ▶ “Affordable housing prices to facilitate families who want to get on the property ladder but are currently locked out because of outrageous rates.

More downtown activity. Ignore complainers who don't like noise, for instance. Don't live downtown if you don't like noise. Ridiculous.

Thursday downtown market needs to come back. When it's safe to do so. Should be all year and the section of street they use for that should be pedestrian only (no cars no bikes) all the time.”

- ▶ affordable housing that reflects the low quality of life, better public transportation, removal of all derelict buildings
- ▶ “Affordable housing  
Crime reduction, intervention and containment. (1and 2 closely tied together)  
Focus on building Nanaimo as a destination (tourism, cultural opportunities – especially First Nations, and water activities)”
- ▶ “-Affordable housing  
-Deal with drug issues  
-have patrols in the downtown core to keep shoppers and visitors safe.”
- ▶ “Affordable housing  
Decrease in drug use  
Improve public transportation “
- ▶ “Affordable housing  
Increase mental awareness and housing  
Add bike trail along the rail road tracks”
- ▶ “Affordable housing  
More Job opportunities”
- ▶ “Affordable housing  
Protect environment from developers  
More access to mental health programs for youth”
- ▶ “Affordable housing  
Public transportation  
Providing care for homeless people”
- ▶ AFFORDABLE HOUSING, ADDRESS THE HOMELESS ISSUE, MORE PARKS FOR WALKING ONLY, NO DOGS ALLOWED.
- ▶ Affordable housing, more harm reduction for drug users and homeless, pedestrian and cycling routes

- ▶ Affordable housing, more police to clear crime and drugs, protecting the environment
  - ▶ "Affordable rentals  
Ease of walking, cycling and public transit  
Support of human and biological diversity"
  - ▶ "Affordable rentals  
SUPPORTIVE housing for those at risk  
Bessyer public transit"
  - ▶ Affordable seniors housing, working with DND bring back the trail system behind Westwood and improve homeless housing
  - ▶ "Affordable, reliable, and extensive transit network (increase by about 80%).  
Enforce a law that all retail, business, commercial buildings must have a minimum of 50% openable windows.  
Enforce a law that all viable flat or minor slanted roofs be made green roofs and that any building not able to install a green roof be made to install a green wall equivalent to a minimum of 70% of the roof area"
  - ▶ all weather / indoor recreation space better traffic / bike infrastructure protect green space
  - ▶ Allow food trucks more licensing and freedom to park where they wish, reducing the "rent" for businesses that are suffering, creating covid safe outdoor activities and gatherings in the hopes of saving peoples mental health
  - ▶ Allow more facilities like Edgewood to function in town to help the people who need to get clean. Provide more north end small commercially zoned areas, or allow more commercial zoning for residential areas in the North end. Have some running green space trails in the north end.
  - ▶ "allow small businesses inside neighbourhoods and move larger businesses like car dealerships and light industrial to peripheral locations
- improve the connections between green spaces within the city
- make public and pedestrian transportation a priority over vehicular transportation
- "
- ▶ "Alternative safe travel  
Environment Conservation  
Affordable Housing for low/mid budgets"
  - ▶ Although we need more hotels and accommodation downtown, the height of new buildings must be limited. Nanaimo must not become similar to Vancouver's west end. Nanaimo can do better.
  - ▶ "Am not a fan of low barrier housing,  
helping people that want help and abide by social strictures  
Enforcement and adequate prosecution of property and violent crimes"
  - ▶ "An art centre & Port theatre expansion  
A wider variety of affordable, quality housing  
A safer downtown by dealing with homelessness & drug addiction"
  - ▶ "Appropriate mount Benson and transform it into a tourism hub for biking, hiking, sight seeing. I'm thinking we need a gondola ( and good insurance) and a restaurant/visitor center at the top. Partner with the local Snuneymuxw First Nation, and show off our rich indigenous and settler history. The views are incredible and the bike trails are epic. What a lovely spot to take friends and family visiting from out of town to for a

drink or a meal in Nanaimo on high. Think Queenstown New Zealand, or Squamish.

Solidify bike commuting routes. There is a hunger to get out of our cars and ride bikes to work. Exercise and reducing our climate impact. Let's work towards this to make a healthier city. Perhaps we incentivize people to get out of their cars and ride their bikes instead. Less traffic on the roads and more exercise. Win win.

Let's attract people from around Bc and Canada to live in this great place. I moved here at 29 to put down roots and have met many others of a similar age who are doing the same. Let's continue to attract young people to settle here and build careers, and build on the existing diversity and vibrance. Perhaps this means funding VIU to expand its offerings.

"

- ▶ "Arts centre  
collaboration centre  
Mental health Police branch "
- ▶ "As the lower mainland continues to price young people out, Nanaimo needs to become more attractive to those looking to leave, or to those who are in a position to work remotely with occasional travel to Vancouver. To become more attractive:

1) Approve developments such as the proposal by Barefoot to develop Green Thumb Nursery expanding the Urban Node in the north end or the Sandstone project pursued by Seacliff for a south end Urban Node. Part of approving and encouraging development in the city absolutely sees Nanaimo improve building permit timelines. As a sprawling city, a singular "downtown" as we see it now doesn't seem sufficient. Should working from home become a more permanent result from COVID, smaller but more frequent urban areas would put everything closer to home potentially driving down the need for vehicles thereby reducing traffic.

2) Recreational Complexes. Using ice arenas as an example and excluding current conditions resulting from COVID, there is currently an insufficient number of arenas to satisfy the demand. Ice times for minor hockey begin at 530AM and Rec hockey games are starting as late at 10:15PM, 7 days a week. This is prohibitive and speaks volumes to the need of additional Rec complexes. With current facilities in place, additional facilities could be simpler and satisfy the simple need for additional fields of play (simple such as Burnaby 8 Rinks).

3) Reduce barriers to entry for small business such as shops, cafes and restaurants. For example, food trucks. Food trucks should be a simple business with little interference from city's. City-imposed bylaws and regulations aren't presently favourable to something such as a food truck business. 13 locations, 1 in north Nanaimo."

- ▶ Assessment centres for street people, appropriate housing for those persons, improve/increase public transportation from Nanaimo to airport, Ladysmith
- ▶ "Assist current property owners with incentives for creating either rental suites or carriage houses .

A city of 100,000 people should have a multipurpose arena to be proud of.

A Costco gas bar to provide completion to current stations and bring down prices"

- ▶ "Assist with homelessness/drug crisis in downtown area

Increased affordability for homes in the area  
Connect waterfront with series of pathways from departure bay to bc ferry

"

- ▶ Attract and support investment and smart tourism initiatives that position our city as the attractive place it can be.
- ▶ Attract businesses, passenger only ferry to mainland Vancouver , improve work opportunities
- ▶ "ban all billboard advertizing  
create safe drug supply and injection sites"
- ▶ "Ban gasoline automobiles and especially trucks to quieter the inland highway and promote bicycles. Plant lots of gardens and trees in mall parking lots and along E&N trail, promote gardening and veggio gardens.  
Beautify and extend seawall from Departure Bay beach to Cedar and clean up downtown, homeless, garbage, ugly buildings."
- ▶ "Ban single use plastics.  
Adopt a new economic paradigm that puts people and the Earth first  
Programs to educate people on the importance of protecting the Earth"
- ▶ "Ban us of shopping cars out side of commercial spaces. They seem to only be used to transport stolen goods.

Require bycles to be register like cars with licence plates attached to the serial number. This should reduce theft of them.. since they could be traced to the ower and if the serial number is missing they are clearly stolen."

- ▶ "BC ferry travel restrictions

Elementary school ( and high school, inclu. All educational systems) have more support for families at home and teachers.

That's all I got. Those are pressing.

"

- ▶ "Be really interested in historical aspects – not just lip service.  
Change city staff from ""This is what you get"" to ""How can we help you."""
  - ▶ beautify the inland highway. rail from nanaimo to victoria in the morning indoor tennis haha
  - ▶ "Better access to medical care (no need to go to Victoria or the mail and)  
Better access to transit that works
- "
- ▶ "Better dog parks  
Covered areas for humans  
Clean washroom facilities "
  - ▶ ""-Better EI for the people who really need it  
-Better transit system  
-no homeless on the streets"
  - ▶ Better long term infrastructure plans. Limit approvals of big box stores like Lazy Boy and Dobbs while large retail space such as the old Sears store sit empty. Only allow smaller scale multi unit residential, the

units at Torner and Uplands are way too large.

- ▶ “-Better mental health and addiction services in the DTC to actually do something about the rampant drug use. I understand this is a very complex issue with an expensive solution that isn’t going to be fixed over night but something real needs to be done when there are people openly doing hard drugs in the afternoon in front of kids with 0 repercussions.
  - Improvements to active modes of transportation. Again, another expensive and complex issue that can’t be solved over night, I understand. However, creating a more connected Nanaimo that isn’t so reliant on cars can lead to...
  - PARKING MINIMUMS. Get rid of parking minimums please or at least reassess some of the requirements in the bylaw. I really don’t want to own a car but I have to in this city.”
- ▶ “Better programs for homeless and addicts  
improve downtown core to attract tourism and feel safe  
promote/initiatives for developers to improve waterfront businesses (could be better than victoria with the right people in power)  
”
- ▶ “-Better public transit (Skytrain, light rail?)
  - More Jazz and cultural activities
  - An aquarium in the downtown area by the Port Place mall”
- ▶ “Better public transportation, improving sidewalks,  
More local and diverse restaurant “
- ▶ Better sidewalks. A rec centre in Harewood/south end. Transitional housing for kids coming out of foster care.
- ▶ “-Better Support Systems
  - Crime Prevention Programs
  - Affordable Housing “
- ▶ “better transit  
actually try and help the people on drugs  
better housing”
- ▶ Better use of the waterfront for neat pubs, cafes etc.
- ▶ Bike lanes/bike share program permanent, low rent housing for those who need it have accommodation for people who must access healthcare outside their community.
- ▶ bike lanes/paths, better community planning around business licenses
- ▶ Bike network, seawall and transport hub
- ▶ “-Bike trail that connects much of the NRD running along the existing train tracks
  - more parks and protection of existing green spaces
  - affordable housing built throughout the communities “
- ▶ “Branding or identity focused on outdoor recreation (more specifically mountain biking /or water sports). Securing land and developing more trails.

Improving the downtown. Developing the A&B sound building. Maybe a big chain clothing store like H&M.

Improving access to mental health and addictions. Attracting more psychiatrists and dealing with homelessness issues. “

- ▶ “Bring in businesses  
Find a solution to homelessness  
Transform the eye sores in the city”
- ▶ “Bring in the Nanaimo to Vancouver Fast Cat Ferry  
Re-route Terminal Ave that it doesn’t bisect commercial street  
Redesign Port Place mall and its surrounding area to be similar to a “Granville Island” market experience.”
- ▶ “Bring our hospital services up to par with the one in Victoria  
Provide more affordable housing  
Try to attract more businesses to Nanaimo”
- ▶ “Build a cafe/specialized library on the top of the hill in Linley valley so it is a destination spot.  
Add a community centre to the north end.  
Support houses to transition to solar shingles, heating a home in the winter is too expensive. “
- ▶ “Build a new hospital tower. The original tower is woefully outdated and overcrowded.  
Build a new community complex with a pool in the north end.  
Build co-op housing throughout the city.  
”
- ▶ “build a pool at Oliver Woods  
Increase gym space and activities for parks and rec programs  
More bike lanes connecting all of nanaimo so it decreases car traffic and increases bikers”
- ▶ Build a psychiatric facility that actually provides long-term treatment for the plethora of people in need
- ▶ “Build a salt water hydrogen plant or a compact nuclear power plant by 2030  
Get rid of the train tracks and build a city wide bike/walk trail system  
Build a kayak only launch facility in the harbour  
”
- ▶ Build a sea wall at departure Bay. House the homeless. Pass a bylaw to make pet owners including cat owners responsible for keeping pets in their own yards!
- ▶ “Build a supportive residential facility where drug users can rebuild their lives away from the temptations of the street. Many people may need to live for years in such a sheltered environment to regain their mental health and positive self image.

As the city grows, establish more large forest park/ recreational areas such as Neck Point, and Bowen park.

”

- ▶ “Build affordable housing  
Address homelessness  
Address addiction”
- ▶ “Build affordable rentals  
Address the drug addiction issue  
Address crime”
- ▶ “-build another hospital  
-increase and enlarge community centres

-improve the university and the malls"

- ▶ Build appropriate facility to provide supportive mental health/addictions care that is not within residential areas. More patrol in current areas where supportive housing is.
- ▶ "Build better relations with Snuneymuxw First Nation, and include them more in planning and government decisions.  
Provide more affordable and rehabilitative housing for those on the streets.  
Make public spaces more accessible for people with disabilities."
- ▶ "Build community  
Build outdoor spaces  
Build art and culture scene"
- ▶ "Build cycling/walking infrastructure.  
Work with provincial government to solve health/poverty issues  
More children reading books"
- ▶ Build facilities for addicts.. get them out of local spots, help stop the transmission and help save the younger generation.
- ▶ "Build facility outside NANAIMO for addicts  
More Pickleball facilities  
Revise downtown"
- ▶ Build indoor tennis facilities
- ▶ "Build mental health living facilities  
RCMP to do their job when called by public  
City to have more input and ideas brought to council as council works on our behalf"
- ▶ "Build more affordable housing and enforce protections against offshore purchases driving prices beyond local affordability levels.  
Revitalize downtown improve commercial mix (and access to parking) to attract people to downtown.  
Encourage more diversity of cultural life visual artists, live music, theatre and performing arts that appeal to a wider audience than OAPs"
- ▶ "Build more low cost house housing in all parts of the city.  
Put in more bike and walking lanes connection parks  
Plant more trees along the streets"
- ▶ "'-Build or create an ART CENTER  
-Create a safe and secure place for the hard to house, and put in place support, and teach them and help them to get off their drugs  
-"
- ▶ Build shelter cabins for the homeless. Have the homeless pick up garbage off of our city streets. Put a ceiling on rents, and make rentals available to Islanders first.
- ▶ "Build social housing  
Improvement to parks including ocean parks and walkway to departure bay from swyalana  
Tourist attractions to be built to attract visitors"
- ▶ "'-build the waterfront trail  
-work with law enforcement and all levels of government to clean up the downtown  
-continue to improve alternate transportation options so that people can get out of their cars"

- ▶ Build trail from Departure bay to ferry terminal
- ▶ Build treatment centers for the addicted and psychiatric facilities for the mentally ill. Homelessness overshadows everything in our city. Find ways to attract tourists to our city by cleaning up the streets and building attractions that show the beauty of our surroundings and heritage
- ▶ "Building opportunities for social engagement amongst diverse groups of folks to support connection/support.  
Address challenges like homelessness and poverty, which is more widespread than I think is visible.  
Keep supporting art/culture!"
- ▶ By laws limiting development. Invest in downtown with housing and business options. There's a giant hole in the main business area and an overpriced empty convention centre. How can you attract tourists if we offer nothing unique or pleasant
- ▶ Bylaws that safeguard elements. Continuity of Garry Oak ecosystems. Ensure all development includes restoration of native plants of Garry Oak ecosystems. Stimulate, engage the community in projects, programs, and conversations that support and understand the foundation ecosystems of our city. "A Sense of Place".
- ▶ "Calm the traffic on Nicol Street and Halbuton Street  
See if there's a covid friendly way of Doing a Christmas Market or at least setting up live music and lights on that 'new' waterfront space beside the Gabriola Ferry Terminal  
Maybe the Downtown Library or a couple other places can allow patrons to use their washrooms"
- ▶ "Change protocols for dealing with homeless population.

ie: stop handing out narcan like candy, take the money saving and get people into the programs they need. If they don't want help then reviving them over and over again (daily, I've heard of people being revived up to 11 times in one day -5500 worth of narcan) isn't going to help. I'd love to see the savings on cutting out aids and placing them towards actual help and how this would make a difference -work programs, ie city clean up, cooking at food kitchen, in exchange for necessities. I understand some of these people have such terrible mental health this is impossible. These people need counselling, and those that can't improve with counselling after ample opportunity need to go into mental institutions.

Enough low barrier housing, what about student housing, old age housing, young family working hard to get ahead housing.

I'd love to bring more life to downtown Nanaimo. Have events in the square more frequently, more outdoor patios. COVID-19 has done a great job of showing what should continue in terms of outdoor seating.

- ▶ "Change the court system. Something has to be done about the theft. Cops nab, judges let them go. No more homeless camps in established neighbourhoods. We pay frigging taxes. Someone will be hurt and hopefully not a ya paying citizen.  
Our ELECTED OFFICIALS ARE ALL JOKES STARTING WITH KROG (hometown boy does nothing) career positions on the public dole again. Do something that we pay for."
- ▶ "Change the speed limit lower to 40kph  
-create a team to interview homeless people (ie what they need to stop being homeless)  
-build more sidewalks"
- ▶ "Circular economy

-support local agriculture

-changes to the building codes bylaws to implement green practices and incentives for energy retrofits and moving away from fossil fuels"

- ▶ "City lots should be made more affordable.  
City should work to bring larger employers in to offer more diverse work opportunities. "
  - ▶ City with more life. Lots of colour (Gardens like Butchart or similar) More activity
  - ▶ "City-owned watershed and buffer zone, Nanaimo River Park, city-owned greenbelt.  
City-owned agricultural parks with allotment spaces for citizens interested in growing their own food and a year-round covered farmers market.  
Spearhead the revitalization of an electric rail corridor on Vancouver Island."
  - ▶ "Clean it up  
Provide a camp ground for the homeless- get them out of our parks  
Stop building dangerous bike paths on our streets-build them through our parks where they can ride safely."
  - ▶ "Clean the streets, parks, sidewalks.  
Increase outdoor markets, music festivals and promote them to help them grow and increase attendance and enjoyment.  
Stop allowing trespassing and vagrancy. "
  - ▶ Clean up / get rid of dead spaces downtown incentivize and encourage small business development downtown in as many ways possible; continue to improve and assist the situation for those experiencing homelessness
  - ▶ "Clean up and beautify all main thoroughfares through Nanaimo.  
Rejuvenate downtown as mentioned above.  
Hire more RCMP (and fewer consultants) and enforce our laws re tent cities"
  - ▶ Clean up big hole downtown, clean up the Casino and make ALL shop owners clean up the outside of their shops to make it more inviting, then clean up the inside of their shops.
  - ▶ Clean up derelict areas of the downtown; carefully review developers' proposals for quality new structures have more foot patrol/bike policing in the downtown core.
  - ▶ Clean up downtown - cleanliness and homelessness. Build high-end buildings on the existing demolition sites downtown. Spend tax dollars more wisely - bike lanes in a decrepit downtown are a waste.
  - ▶ "Clean up downtown and improve civic safety  
Continue bike path and trail development  
Continue road infrastructure and neighborhood improvement."
  - ▶ "Clean up downtown by grouping public services, housing and outreach away from the downtown core and businesses.
- Connect a walking/biking access along the waterfront from downtown to departure bay.
- "
- ▶ "Clean up downtown in terms of drugs and crime  
Give neighbourhoods more authority to deal with crime  
Make bikelanes a priority"

- ▶ "Clean up downtown. Beautify.  
Give homeless a place to go.  
Open tally ho to homeless.  
Many people who live on the streets choose to live on the streets they need other people in their lives, to avoid their own thoughts. "
- ▶ Clean up downtown...have city ambassadors to assist those in need..clean up some of the older neighborhoods like Harwood and Bruce Avenue
- ▶ "Clean up downtown; get rid of the vagrants, druggies and other derelicts down there. They are ruining a vibrant city and rotting the core of this community. You cannot help these people as they do not want to be helped. Quit coddling them and take a hard line.

Public transit is atrocious in the city. You cannot move between areas and neighbourhoods in a reasonable amount of time. People will continue to drive as this is a ""car city"" and traffic will continue to deteriorate. Take the leap and offer better subsidized transit. If you build it, they will come.

Cultural importance. There is little no culture in this city. Younger people want fun and interesting things to do and places to be. Think Commercial Drive in Vancouver. Also, let adults be adults, stop over-policing mundane violations like people have a beer at the beach or riding a bike without a helmet. It is insulting that there are enforced rules for normal people and then permitted anarchy for the homeless drug addicts."

- ▶ Clean up GARBAGE. Do something about the homeless, more parking
- ▶ "Clean up problem properties  
More architecturally diverse buildings  
More green space. "
- ▶ Clean up the city through mental health programs, extend the sea wall, develop mount benson trail systems for hikers and bikers.
- ▶ Clean up the downtown area. It is not very inviting, especially bad looking on Terminal avenue.
- ▶ "Clean up the downtown area.  
Deal with the homeless/crime.  
Encourage development without giving away tax money. (A&B sound, acme)"
- ▶ "Clean up the downtown. Move homeless out of main areas. Affordable housing. How many people downtown could benefit from a mental health facility? What is the homelessness due to drugs, mental health or just can't afford sage housing? Is there mental health workers and on the streets taking note of who is out on the streets and why? Is there a better place to move these people?"

Clean up the empty buildings in downtown. Driving through Nanaimo I wouldn't want to stop, or wander downtown. Why would a tourist.

Campaign to focus on outdoor tourism.

Create more mtn bike trails, hiking for various levels, zip lines, re open Mt. benson for people to drive up to the top, or have a gondola coming from the mtn to downtown nanaimo. "

- ▶ "Clean up the Homeless and Drug Problem  
Finish the Waterfront Walkway"
- ▶ Clean up the parks, i.e. removing dead wood.

- ▶ Clean up the parks... Beautiful new playground at swayalana but as a family we would never use it as the area is full of mentally ill and drug users
- ▶ Clean up this town . Give out food that hasn't expired. More affordable housing
- ▶ "Clean up vacant lots and remediate and improve soil by collaboration with master gardeners.

Grow more food crops to contribute to shared economy and food security.

Create education programs for community on master recycling, food security, alternative housing.

"

- ▶ "clean up/renovate abandoned lots and buildings  
improve bike paths and public transit  
add affordable housing as well as programs to address drug and alcohol addiction  
"
- ▶ Cleaner streets, safer bike lanes (Haliburtin is a joke!), waterfront going full steam ahead
- ▶ Cleaniness Beban Park Waterfront
- ▶ Cleanup downtown. More stores and waterfront restaurants with patios. Deal with the drugs and homeless downtown. More indoor activity centres for the winter. The adult soccer is lacking, there are enough people who play soccer to have an organized league not just rec leagues. Plus there should be an indoor soccer facility so we can play all year long.
- ▶ "Clear out the homeless  
Make downtown safe  
Return Bobbies to the streets"
- ▶ clear up drugs, homelessness, and get rid of all crime
- ▶ "Climate change initiatives including more green space and urban forests.  
Finish waterfront trail from Departure Bay  
More walk and shop (not indoor malls) areas that are affordable for merchants and customer alike.  
"
- ▶ Clover leaves on parkway to reduce highway congestion, larger right of way areas at major intersections to allow for turn lanes in the future and higher density developments focused near transit hubs while denying developments on edges of city.
- ▶ "Collaborate with provincial government to develop housing for people who are homeless and provide health services to these people to address addiction and mental health and provide employment training and assist finding them employment.

Purchase land and Develop mountain biking and multi use trails in the mount benson area.

Build the waterfront walkway, a south end community centre, "

- ▶ "Coming from the mainland the main thing we miss is the diversity and culture. For example, choice of restaurants, different types of food stores.  
"
- ▶ "Community Arts Centre.  
Continuation of Nanaimo's progressive program of support for the homeless.  
Create a new seat on City Council, and have Snuneymuxw First Nation appoint a councilor to fill that

position.”

- ▶ Complete harbour walkway to dep Bay, build more dense development downtown and get rid of Opal Dr intersection changes. Put it back the way it was
- ▶ “Complete oceanfront walkway  
Enhance public transit  
Incentives for more EV charging infrastructure”
- ▶ “complete the waterfront walkway to departure bay and south  
”
- ▶ Connect the walking trail between downtown to departure bay
- ▶ “Connect the water front walkway to departure bay  
Increase front line emergency workers  
Advocate for a clean drug supply”
- ▶ “Connect the waterfront trail bits up with each other.  
Treatment and support for people with addictions.  
Get rid of pay parking downtown – it prevents me from shopping down there.”
- ▶ “Connect the waterfront walkway to departure bay  
Do something useful with the old Howard Johnson space  
Force building owners to use/lease/improve empty commercial buildings”
- ▶ “Connecting green spaces and walking corridors throughout the entire city.  
Continue to revive rivers and streams to sustain aquatic life.  
Light rail to other communities. ”
- ▶ Consult with existing home owner on all permits in size and impact of such permits. Allow the removal Of dangerous trees on personal property. More drug clinics, like treatment centre’s and foot patrol policing with proper consequences.
- ▶ “-Continuation of bettering all forms of transportation  
-continuing making accessibility improvements  
-stop the urban sprawl over usable agricultural land”
- ▶ Continue increase in educational opportunity, easy transportation, more parks for young children
- ▶ “continue our waterfront walkway,  
continue to connect our parks and greenspaces  
find supportive housing and resources/help ( not just homes ) for our mentally ill and addicted population”
- ▶ “Continue to develop programs, services and housing for homeless and addiction/mental health.

Improve biking and walking infrastructure

Incorporate mixed use development into existing neighborhoods “

- ▶ “Continue to maintain and improve our parkland.  
Ensure adequate housing and service for those in need  
Avoid congestion of traffic and secure viable outlet patterns”
- ▶ “Convert conference centre into a performing arts school with subsidized office space for Vancouver Is Symphony, Theatre One and Crimson Coast Dance

Zoning for tiny houses

Affordable artist live work spaces in downtown and Old Quarter"

- ▶ "Convert rail to trail  
Extend waterfront walkway "
- ▶ cost of land and housing , aging hospital
- ▶ "crack down on crime and create modular affordable housing ( zone for tiny home, etc)  
Build more bike paths and access to get more cars off the streets  
"
- ▶ "Crack down on crime and drug use.  
Focus on municipal issues and not provincial, federal, or world issues.  
Lower taxes."
- ▶ "Crack down on drugs and crime.  
More affordable housing.  
Attract more tourists"
- ▶ Create a farm like therapeutic community for those with addictions like the one in San Patreanos Italy.  
(Which has a 75 % success rate there.)
- ▶ "Create a feature entertainment draw to nanaimo

Assist with homeless crisis

Waterfront trails and land acquisition "

- ▶ "Create a mini Granville island scene by the brechin boat ramp  
Extend the sea wall to departure bay  
Make downtown a beautiful pedestrian centre where people want to shop, socialize and eat "
- ▶ "Create a safer downtown  
More services/amenities in the south end of Nanaimo  
"
- ▶ "Create a vibrant downtown  
slow down crime and stealing  
help with homeless situation"
- ▶ "Create affordable and subsidized housing in partnership with other levels of government.  
Through permitting and bylaws, encourage all new building developments to be green in materials and use (green roofs, water catchment etc).  
Create and encourage community gardens, local food markets, food production and sales. "
- ▶ "Create Affordable housing  
Create detox and low barrier housing  
"
- ▶ Create more affordable and accessible housing. Find a way to better help the needs of people with mental health issues and/or substance abuse. Clean up the downtown.
- ▶ "Create more affordable housing  
Subsidized housing for the homeless population

More accessible drug and addiction resources”

- ▶ “Create more community programming for youth / at risk youth through sport, recreation, and culture.

Clean up, and add more into the down town core to create a more dynamic and interactive space.

Affordable housing, as there are more young people coming to Nanaimo for post secondary education, I think there needs to be more housing opportunities for young people and families.

“

- ▶ Create more cycle paths, bring in more doctors and affordable housing for homeless
- ▶ “Create more housing and shelters for the homeless.  
Spread out affordable housing and shelters – not just in south side.  
“
- ▶ “–Create more low income, subsidized housing  
–lobby provincial and federal government for better supports for mental health, drug and alcohol people  
–create more alternative forms of electricity”
- ▶ “–Create more safe injection/detox sites  
–Build a building downtown where the current hole resides (corner of Terminal Ave. and Commercial)  
–Ban Casinos”
- ▶ Create sanctioned mountain bike recreation areas at doumont and south benson with off street parking along nanaimo lakes rd.
- ▶ “Create tax incentives for building rental apartments not condos.  
Help create an addiction centre for recovery and support from opioid crisis.  
Create a seat at council table for indigenous representation”
- ▶ “Crime and drug use is ruining this city and it’s reputation  
Encourage more small businesses to offer a wider variety of food/services to residents  
Clean up and continue to expand and redevelop the waterfront and downtown core”
- ▶ “Crime rate  
Homelessness  
Rundown properties “
- ▶ Crime, incentives For development in core, develop public waterfront.
- ▶ Crime. Crime. Crime
- ▶ “Deal with addiction issues and homelessness.  
Youth services under one umbrella  
Better bike paths to get cars off roads”
- ▶ Deal with crime, deal with homelessness, encourage families moving to our community
- ▶ deal with homeless, clean up roads, maybe more jobs
- ▶ Deal with homeless. Bring some tech jobs in to help revitalize downtown living. Get rid of all the mills in the area – starting with Harmac.
- ▶ “Deal with homelessness and crime  
Deal with drug overdoses

Increase economic development and diversity”

- ▶ Deal with homelessness, increase walkability or bikability and connections between neighborhoods, support the downtown through COVID19
- ▶ “Deal with mental health issues.  
Deal with homelessness.  
Affordable recreational programs for kids and seniors.  
”
- ▶ “Deal with the crime  
Stop open drug use on the streets  
Clean up downtown “
- ▶ “Deal with the difference between homeless and delinquent.  
Improve city parks inc. all bicycle and walking paths.  
Improve residential rental standards, i.e acceptable upgrades and repairs, rent increases and how an amount of rent is determined. My current residential landlord is charging by the square foot. Which is technically not illegal. But now i am paying 1145 inc nothing for about 500sq feet.”
- ▶ -Deal with the homeless/mental health situation. -Deal with the increase in crime. -Create other road routes off of Hammond bay road.
- ▶ deal with those living on the streets, secure park land, clean up downtown/tourism
- ▶ “decrease crime  
decrease addict street living  
increase safety for residents”
- ▶ “-Decrease crime/homelessness  
-Build a new arena downtown (Which could be the staple of area to build businesses around and improve the downtown... similar to Kelowna)  
-Get forward thinking and try to attract good size Canadian businesses to make Nanaimo their headquarters”
- ▶ “Decrease use of plastic packaging  
added bike/walk trails and secure bike storage facilities  
Lots more alternative energy sources like heat pumps, solar and maybe wind”
- ▶ Defund police and invest in outreach services. Invest in local food systems. Defund automobile infrastructure and convenience, use building code and development accessibility to increase neighbourhood convenience.
- ▶ Defund the police, affordable housing (Rent below 1000/month), grants for small business
- ▶ “Deliberately identify natural areas accessible to many members of our area with a view to keeping them that way  
Use public responses to get specific ideas to resolve issues around all segments of the population to be able to access the areas or facilities that they wish to use to enhance their way life so they can continue to be independent and not a burden to others or themselves.  
Keep reminding the public of all the resources at our disposable to ensure everyone is aware of them  
”
- ▶ “Demand action from the Provincial government in creating a solution to the homeless situation that will support positive change in the city of Nanaimo.

Enact some sort of housing controls for new subdivisions that enforce some sort of creativity or any break in the pattern of houses! The new areas in South Nanaimo are unbelievably ugly, repetitive, and just a few years in – already dated looking. Gross.

Use the above-mentioned suggestions to encourage new business and industries to move to Nanaimo, increasing variety of jobs and services in the city. “

- ▶ “Demand building/property beautification  
Loosening of restrictions (red tape) to businesses and buildings  
extend the water-front walkway system”
- ▶ “Densification in the downtown/south wellington/harbourfront neighbourhoods  
investment into parks and protected areas including expanding trail networks for biking/walking  
Subsidies and programs that promote growing local food.  
”
- ▶ “Departure Bay link to walkway  
Linking cycling trails  
Increase downtown density for residential “
- ▶ “Design a Comprehensive plan to deal with addiction and homelessness, and the crime connecting with that.  
Build progressive senior Citizens communities that include healthcare, recreation and social services  
Continue to support economic development, by building a fluid and responsive team to design monitor and implement innovative ideas”
- ▶ “Detention centres for drug rehabilitation  
Funding for seniors  
School funding “
- ▶ “develop a program to clean-up environmental mistakes of the past  
ensure all new development meets strict environmental standards  
minimise visual and audible pollution which affects us all”
- ▶ “Develop Diana Krall Plaza to include something residential or leisure based (restaurants) to drive people there. Covid aside, continue things like the night market to continue to animate that space and Commercial Street.

Work on further social housing/services to deal with backlog of homeless.

Bike lanes on Bowen Road!”

- ▶ Develop or clean up derelict properties downtown (i.e. Front street) Beautify terminal avenue so that downtown Nanaimo is more inviting; House people without homes throughout the city (not just downtown and Harewood)
- ▶ “Develop south end with more retail and services  
Develop and zone larger new home developments  
More faith based building zoning”
- ▶ “Develop the downtown and create a safe environment that encourages tourists and small businesses.

Move the homeless shelters to areas on edge of town to reduce crime

Create Nanaimo specific agenda for the future “

- ▶ “Develop the Howard Johnson hotel site downtown into affordable/supportive housing to help with homelessness issue.  
Develop the industrial area on the waterfront of Port Place mall into a combination of housing, businesses and more park space.  
Light surface rail down the main highway corridor would help with road congestion.”
- ▶ Develop the south with better amenities. Clean up the downtown area and create a long waterfront boardwalk with picnic areas and some tourist attractions.
- ▶ develop the water front, develop the water front and develop the waterfront
- ▶ “Develop the waterfront as one of the best waterfronts in North America highlighting community benefits first with housing secondary.  
Subsidize the foot ferry to Vancouver  
Develop rental housing for families near the foot ferry terminal  
”
- ▶ Develop the waterfront, create
- ▶ Develop the waterfront. Remove DND rifle range within city limits. Increase marked cycle lanes and connections between cycle lanes, as well as installation of bike lock-up posts.
- ▶ Development if the malls to housing commercial centres, more emphasis on waterfront and downtown area revitalization, south end revitalization.
- ▶ development needs to be greener, incorporate more LDI. Densification is a good practice WHEN you also find ways to deal with increase in impervious surface on each property – you need to maintain on-site runoff retention through infiltration and evapotranspiration (bioswales, infiltration swales, rain gardens, green roof, permeable pavers, etc).
- ▶ Dismantle the E&N rail tracks and create a bike and walking path from one end of the Island to the other. Safer and more accessible dog parks. Recognize that Nanaimo is not just downtown so hold events in other parts of the City as well.
- ▶ “DO NOT CHANGE THE ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW REGARDING ROAMING CATS

I will not ever vote for any councilor that supports any kind of cat roaming law and I will actively encourage everyone I know to do the same.”

- ▶ “Do something about the homeless/drugues  
Clean up drug areas  
Not allow homeless to set up camps wherever they want”
- ▶ “Do something with 1 Port Place. Do not make it just another park. We need a place that will create jobs and a draw for tourists. A waterfront restaurant with a dock would be a great start.  
How can we better utilize Bowen Park to draw tourism? Yes it would require removing trees to have businesses/activities, but we need more reasons for people to visit and stay here. Think of it as our Stanley Park. It is a large piece of land that could have many other draws besides its natural beauty.  
Pipe dream – an actual stadium of 4000-5000. We are the largest community in the province without one. Look at the Langley event center for inspiration. Multi-purpose facility. ”
- ▶ “Do whatever it takes so ALL people feel safe.  
Develop the downtown and make it welcoming and vibrant.  
Implement consequences for all the thefts and social disorder throughout Nanaimo. ”

- ▶ “Don’t build unwanted buildings  
Provide well planned community events – all ages. See Victoria, Parksville or Ladysmith for better event planning.  
Focus on the youth. Money spent now saves later.  
”
- ▶ “Downtown – boardwalk – restaurants  
Solve homeless problem  
Upgrade the hospital”
- ▶ “Downtown gentrification  
more/new greenspace  
remove users and homeless from the streets (more of a provincial issue)”
- ▶ “Downtown revitalization  
Invest in preservation and maintenance of natural areas  
Affordable housing “
- ▶ “Drop the default speed limit in Nanaimo to 30Km/h for all streets and pass exceptions of 50 on select roads (Bowen, Hammond Bay, Departure Bay, Nicol, 10th, etc)

Convert to form based zoning requiring no less than 3 stories in urban node and corridor zone, requiring (not just permitting) vertically integrated mixed use, with minimal street setback and minimal lot coverage permitted for parking (encourage under-building or multi-story parking)

Change building code to disallow installation of hookup points of gas fired appliances, and deny building permits where the application includes gas service.”

- ▶ ““-drug addiction (have a safe place for people to come in to talk, eat, share their stories, get help if they were ready and be listened to by genuine people, people who definitely care, are kind, not talking down to those in need, a place where they are comfortable to open up and a comfortable place to hang out, not just a simple building. I always have had this vision, that if I had business mind, or knew someone that did, I would open up a little cafe with some food too and music and even let people play their instruments if they wanted and I would talk to everyone who came in and if they needed more of my time, we would talk more, or set a date to continue the conversation if I was sadly out of time.  
-housing (we need affordable housing, I can’t afford to live on my own, am trying to get into BC housing for two years now, estevan housing am hoping I can get a place when that’s complete, but so are many others too. I am stuck in an unhealthy environment because I cannot afford the rent costs in Nanaimo and I don’t have enough money to move to a cheaper town. I would make rent prices affordable if I had that power.  
-senior care homes (would make it mandatory to have spot checks, without places knowing when, or who the spot checker was, many seniors are being neglected and I know again due to not enough staff, but also some staff not that nice, some residents get ill treatment, why not find a way to afford to hire some people to hang out, visit these seniors, bring some joy back into their lives. It was very sad going to visit my nana when she resides in Dufferin before she passed away, some staff was nice and others were horrible, really need a way for the mean people to be held accountable and let go and find a nice person to replace them.”
- ▶ Drug addiction, affordable housing, the aesthetic of the downtown to central Nanaimo old hiway corridor.
- ▶ “Drug addicts help more with mental health.....giving them temporary housing doesn’t fix anything.

Affordability.

Taxes lower, and stop the rise every year we only make so much money.

“

- ▶ “Drug and alcohol rehab centres  
Mental Health live-in and outpatient treatment centres  
Encouraging business opportunities”
- ▶ Drug rehab facility, more shelters, another recreation facility.
- ▶ “-drug testing to qualify for government funding.  
-less tax for the people that work full time jobs  
-more programs for kids. Ex/swimming lessons, cooking classes.”
- ▶ “Drug use  
Crime  
Homelessness”
- ▶ Each neighbourhood has a specific character – heritage, rural, mixed density, commercial. Recognize this and let each one determine and keep it.
- ▶ “Early intervention and support for children at risk of turning to drugs later in life (mental health, low income, unstable homes)

Provide programs that help children feel supported by their community even if their immediate family cant/wont be there for them. “

- ▶ “Economic Development implement a cohesive, multi pronged approach to attract, grown and expand businesses. While Nanaimo remains a service/retail wage city its potential will not be realized.

Move to a ward system of representation. Currently elected officials are struggling to develop policy that fulfills the aspirations of the community. Council confuses their role with administration. Council directs administration on behalf of their constituents. This would work better in a ward based system. Sort out roles.

Engagement and communication. Get in front of it. Lead don't react. The City of Nanaimo has no brand. The City of Nanaimo needs new tools and technologies to respond and react faster and better. Time to spend money that may not be popular. With no brand and no identity everything is going to be a fight. Take a leap move forward.

“

- ▶ “-Economic improvements such as support for private sector expansion and tourism  
-Greater control over homeless/drug-addicted population by providing safe-harbours outside of residential/business/tourist areas  
-Working with the province to expand transportation corridors and options (BC Transit, highway expansion, cycling, Nanaimo Airport Authority outside jurisdiction but lobby , etc.)”
- ▶ “Eliminate corrupt organized crime, especially around the port

Clamp down on corruption and money laundering

Stop following cultural trends only after every other city has done them and start investing in unique cultural initiatives “

- ▶ Eliminate homeless camps; clean up and develop Port Place area, convert rail right-of-way to trail.
- ▶ “Eliminate homelessness (in a perfect world)  
Create an exciting downtown  
Better food!!”
- ▶ Eliminate homelessness, increase tourism, clean up the city
- ▶ Eliminate more stop signs and traffic lights, and install more traffic circles and roundabouts.
- ▶ “Elimination of the need(?) for homeless camps.  
More dual walking/cycling paths that are NOT part of the existing road systems.  
Require more off-street parking in new development so that on-street (publicly serviced and paid for!) is not the answer.”
- ▶ “”-Encourage mixed-use dwellings that encourage communication between the public and private domains, while simultaneously increasing the supply of housing  
-Create public-owned housing with rent caps to increase quantity  
-Create more trails and paths to encourage biking and walking by connecting existing trail infrastructure”
- ▶ “Encourage more mixed use development/low income.  
Extend waterfront walkway.  
Connect Maffeo Sutton to Bowen Park.”
- ▶ “Encourage sailing marinas  
Bike lanes  
Patios downtown”
- ▶ “End homeless crisis.  
End open use of drugs.  
Clean up the city. “
- ▶ End homelessness and at the same time support people being outside. □
- ▶ end homelessness, more support for those with mental health and addiction issues, reinvigorate downtown
- ▶ “Enforce or introduce bylaws to prevent loitering & vagrancy.  
Institute a City program to remove litter & clean area.  
Close Front St and Commercial St to traffic.  
“
- ▶ “Enforce the existing laws toward the out of control crime, deal with homeless (drug fueled theft)  
Build and maintain bicycle route infrastructure working towards a healthier and environmentally friendly City”
- ▶ “”-enforce the law  
-reduce “”red tape”” for development”
- ▶ “enhance downtown waterfront  
improve access to arts and culture  
create/enhance programs to support local business”
- ▶ Ensure that all new building, especially city buildings, are built to a strict energy efficient and green

building material code. Mixed housing areas In North AND South for families, singles, seniors and low income. Part or full time pedestrian streets downtown.

- ▶ “Ensure that the downtown of the City is vibrant, bustling and safe.  
Continue working on the homeless issue.  
Work on the entrance from the south of Nanaimo along Nicol and Terminal (what happened to the plans?)”
- ▶ “-Equal and adequate access to mental health services and professionals, as mentioned above.  
-Helping our homeless  
- Cost of living affordability (mainly housing) ”
- ▶ “Establish partnerships provincially and federally for the rehabilitation of homeless suffering from addiction and mental health problems.  
Creating Partnership on Vancouver Island to improve and encourage public transport with the goal of moving people away from private vehicles for the work communte.  
Begin planting food instead of decorative plantings throughout the district.  
”
- ▶ “Expand park, and green spaces while we have a chance.  
City PLANNING -Stop the urban sprawl to the north and south.  
Make downtown core safe and a destination for shopping tourism etc  
”
- ▶ “-Expand Sea Wall to Departure Bay  
-Improve and add more bike lanes  
-Development plan for 1 Port Place Land  
”
- ▶ “expand the city limits to include the Jingle Pot area around the Shady Mile  
Improve downtown area. This need to feel safer and more attractive”
- ▶ “Expand waterfront boardwalk  
Encourage downtown development  
Diversify recreational facilities ”
- ▶ “-expansion of the seawall  
-better situation regarding homeless population and mental health issues (which may mean finding a larger, segregated community for them) and cleaning up the city of their trash and negative metrics  
-policing of the homeless and crime involved  
-better access to north-end beaches and waterfront  
-more daycare for working families”
- ▶ “Extend the waterfront walkway to Departure Bay.  
Get the “homeless” people into housing.  
Make parking more available, easier, user friendly, comfortable”
- ▶ “-Extend weekend hours for buses  
-put affordable housing all across town  
-put more garbage cans in highly frequented areas”
- ▶ Facilitate collaborations between small businesses.
- ▶ “Facilitated campgrounds for homeless.  
Stop cutting trees with dev.

Sharing rail with cars a death wish.  
Safe environmental travel."

- ▶ Faster Ferry Service , Exciting Harbour, YMCA with indoor.
- ▶ "Find a ""home"" for the hundreds of Artists who live here  
Clean up the drug problem  
Help the homeless  
"
- ▶ "first priority - invigorate downtown, homeless population completely taken over downtown, services need to be in place to adress this, need more businesses to build culture downtown.  
second: Create more tourism opportunities - invest in mountain bike culture (its bigger then you think)  
third- Create connection between south end and North end, feels like two completely different cities "
- ▶ Fix the daily criminal activity immediately - Get the criminals off the streets and into mental institutions or jails. Make sure the police feel supported and have the backing to make arrests and then make sure the judges put people in jail. Someone who gets caught committing 47 crimes would have actually committed many more so yes the answer is to get them out from terrorizing the public no matter what the reasoning is for their condition one thing for sure is they cant be in society - 600 people should hold hostage 100,000 people - Govern for the majority for once
- ▶ "Fix the drug problem  
End homelessness  
Parks, gardens, and trees"
- ▶ "Fix the traffic issues on the parkway and highway between Nanaimo and Parksville.  
Widen the paths on the waterfront.  
It would be cool to have a pier on the waterfront that was like the one in Santa Monica California with an amusement park on it. "
- ▶ Flow of traffic, more police in school zones during peak hours, 8-9 am 2:30-3:30
- ▶ Focus funding on community welfare. Build and subsidize affordable housing. Grow local business.
- ▶ "Focus on developing local community hubs  
  
Expand parks  
  
Promote attractive lifestyle "
- ▶ Focus on improving the crime and homeless issues. Fix downtown issues. Keep parks and trails clean and clear.
- ▶ Focus on providing low income housing, more transit-oriented neighbourhoods, more community events like markets, car free days, festivals, fairs, etc
- ▶ "Focus on reconciliation and inclusivity.  
Unlearning systemic racism.  
Respond creatively in face of the unknowable future not clinging unproductably to what used to be."
- ▶ "Focus on social - zone for and subsidize rentals and density.  
Focus on environment - incentivize early step code adoption, eliminate parking space requirements at nodes and along corridors.  
Reduce noise pollution and sleep disruption by requiring white noise reverse buzzers on all city vehicles and for all vehicles on projects permitted to work outside of noise bylaw hours (looking at you Bowen

Road beep beep)

“

- ▶ “-Food collection program
  - Increased green spaces/protection for parks such as Linley Valley
  - LED street lights to cut the city’s light pollution”
- ▶ “-Food Security (permanent market or open air market... always thought that building near the ferry terminal had serious potential!)
  - Clean up downtown (housing for homeless population? FILL UP all of the EMPTY graffiti, delapidated store fronts and buildings)
  - Bike lanes and accessibility “
- ▶ “Food Security, ensure that we are producing most of our food on the island, by working with every municipality to leverage the strengths of each area to be efficient in growing, raising and distributing food Ensure water resources are protected and enhanced.  
Affordable Housing.  
All three are mandatory requirements of every household and person living not only in this region, but the entire world (humans, animals and plants). Without these, nothing else really matters. Having affordable and secure food and shelter allows everything else to happen. When one does not need to worry about how to access and afford these essentials, there can then be the time and money for all the other things that make a livable community. It just seems so obvious; when one focuses on building the basic foundations everything else becomes easier to build.”
- ▶ “Foot ferry to the mainland  
Park and boardwalk the whole length of the waterfront  
Therapeutic community with effective substance abuse rehab programs, (San Patrignano model) outside the downtown.residential core to teach the homeless and addicts a better way of living with job skills training.”
- ▶ “Foot passenger ferry  
Affordable and regular transport up and down island  
Improved biking, hiking, walking trails with garbage cans for waste”
- ▶ “Footbridge to Newcastle island  
Promote the passenger ferry from downtown to downtown Vancouver that is getting nowhere  
Improve even more the trail to Mt Benson that is being improved”
- ▶ “Force the drug addicted into provided detox and rehab.  
Increase consequences for crime and follow through with penalties  
Open an Event Centre to bring fun back to Nanaimo!”
- ▶ free Drop in social space, funded for 24/7 with meal and snack times, outings, culture recreation, music...  
parent support 24/7 same as above. I would love to be able to cook, sing, make art, go camping, boating, Beach combing, gentle hiking, sightseeing with people, a group, a sense of belonging.
- ▶ “free public transportation  
subsidize local farmers  
share PAC among all schools in the district”
- ▶ freeze population growth
- ▶ Frist thing stop people from using old style wood stoves,any wood burning stoves must be epa approved high eff. Fix the north field & island hwy. intersection turning lane . Help the down town get going back to what it use to be.

- ▶ From question 5 – The City of Nanaimo needs to address the issue of housing affordability. The local government can address this by staffing up to process and approve development and building permits. Housing affordability is a simple function of supply and demand and the existing capacity to complete this function is not sufficient. Faster permit issuance leads to increased supply that directly impacts prices. The city has the levers to address this problem, and as a young person looking to start a family, it's painful to sit by and observe their inadequate attempts to address this problem.

- ▶ “Fully Police the downtown or provide visible security

Move homeless away from downtown and waterfront”

- ▶ Fund a facility inside Nanaimo Traveler’s Lodge public medical facility for a poverty rehabilitation center. (A site with medical staff and psychiatric services for issues caused by poverty. Drug abuse, homelessness, petty crime, etc.)

- ▶ Fund and build the connecting water front walkway Connecting the car to be to downtown

- ▶ “Fund and support social challenges

Fund active transportation

Continue to support VIU as a foundation of the economy of Nanaimo”

- ▶ “Fund green infrastructure

Attract small businesses to downtown core

Address growing number of homeless/drug use”

- ▶ “General Community cleanliness and pride by refurbishing older neighbor hoods, Reduce crime through a mix of enforcement and subsidizing drug and mental health, Encourage Green initiatives and sustainability”

- ▶ “Gentrification is increasing the problems Nanaimo has been facing for decades – poverty being the most significant

Our natural environment is disappearing far too fast

The old boys culture that governs this all corners of Nanaimo’s institutional network”

- ▶ Get a stronger place for displaying artwork for the city. Build more AFFORDABLE apartments. Find things that work re the people who are homeless.

- ▶ “Get homeless people off the street

Provide better mental health/drug use supports and treatment options

Promote more beautiful developments, including green space, especially along the waterfront”

- ▶ Get homeless/drug issues under control, development of waterfront/downtown to attract more tourists and better traffic flow/road designs.

- ▶ Get people off the streets into facilities that can actually help them. Make living spaces that can be shared by people with low income that cannot afford to rent on their own. Clean up public areas of garbage and graffiti,

- ▶ “–Get rid of all graffiti

–Zero tolerance for crime

–Zero tolerance for homeless camps”

- ▶ “Get rid of city council(all of them)! had such high hopes for them....

Ramp up police

Instead of building social housing ramp up support services to deal with mental health 24/7 and enable them to be as functional as possible put them to work cleaning up the city  
 Why not make cooperative farms where people can learn skills within a structured supportive environment and then when they are ready hook them up with fascilitators to reintegrate. Dont tell me how much its going to cost. Think how much its going to save"

- ▶ "Get rid of street crime.  
Hire more doctors.  
Affordable housing for seniors."
- ▶ "Get rid of that eyesore on Comox and Terminal and replace with something viable - a market, condo's, restaurants, boutique stores.

More daycare/preschool options

More festivals - music, arts, culture."

- ▶ "Get rid of the junkies  
Clean up the streets  
Support our seniors "
  - ▶ "'-get rid of the thieving drug scum people  
-provide adequate RECYCLING  
-keep forums for community input like these"
  - ▶ Get the homeless and drug involved into mandatory compassionate housing with diverse and appopriate supports. Try to keep other places on the mainland from exporting their homeless to the island! And improve the sidewalk width, bike lanes, green. Encourage diverse population density (such as we're seeing and hopefully seeing more of, around Terminal Park Mall, Estevan Rd) with emphasis on amenities nearby. Reduce the car culture!!
  - ▶ "Green jobs (from intensive recycling to new technology and approaches to protecting the planet)  
More plant-based restaurants and stores (also related to environment since animal agriculture is major contributor to climate change)  
More affordable housing so people don't have to spend so much of their income on shelter"
  - ▶ "Green space, water front access protection.  
Protect historic sites/buildings  
Improved street sanitation: garbage, graffiti, bylaw change to have property owners to maintain frontage to roadway.
- "
- ▶ Harewood plains to be deemed a large central green space for the growing Harewood community.
  - ▶ "'-Have affordable housing for young people to purchase Most affordable homes are 55 !  
  
-Increased security in problem areas  
  
-Improve traffic safety in areas that are prone to accidents/high speeding"
  - ▶ Have it illegal to not have a accessible building, mandatory drug rehabilitation, mandatory mental health facility
  - ▶ "Have more affordable housing in turn there will be less homelessness.

Cheaper rates for the ferries for island residents

More programs for drug abuse "

- ▶ ""-have one fast route ie highway 19 and all the rest as slow roads  
-don't allow development in agriculturally designated areas.  
-decrease parking lots allowing increased density and flood mitigation  
-reduce parking requirements ie. every condo unit doesn't need a concrete car space. "
- ▶ "Help addicts  
More housing projects  
Fill storefronts"
- ▶ "Help families trying to survive, especially single parent families.  
Help seniors before they become homeless - make more places for seniors to live  
Help the homeless before they become homeless.
- ▶ "Help for the homeless.  
Bicycle/pedestrian friendly streets.  
Waterfront walkway."
- ▶ Help homeless people, help drug addicts and alcoholics.
- ▶ Help reduce homeless and drug users, prostitutes downtown, A light rail system between South and North Nanaimo, improve bike lanes.
- ▶ Help rid city of the homeless.
- ▶ "Help the homeless by providing safe homes and treatment for the brain injured, the mentally ill & the addicted. Provide life skills training and financial support for youth ageing out of care. I suspect this is falls into provincial jurisdiction.  
Improve transit, cycling lanes, and walking paths  
Develop a business incubator to develop sustainable businesses that reuse and recycle their products."
- ▶ "Help the homeless, affordable housing

Help small business

Community events"

- ▶ Help those struggling for basic survival is always priority, aka homeless, addicts, poor. Improve social services, develop low income homeless housing, some cities have community-built affordable tiny home properties to accommodate homeless. Help indigenous communities, please ask them how this should be done!!!! Out of respect and understanding that they were living off this land before any of us, i trust their knowledge of what is best for us and the earth. If i can help more please let me know!!
- ▶ "Hire more police  
Encourage citizen to take back downtown and push out homeless from the core

Centralize homeless services out of the view of downtown/ waterfront so we can still have a tourism and entertainment sector. If we did not have the ""Hope"" center in its location Harbour Park mall would not be the drug dealers paradise it is now."

- ▶ Hire more police. Build a bigger house prison. Mandate government to be qualified before being elected

like any other job.

- ▶ "Homeless care facility for those most vulnerable.  
Do a Tower Garden Experiment.  
Stop cutting trees to build high density housing."
- ▶ Homeless encampment location as scaring off persons, and causing a lot of damage. Strongly discourage unsightly/unsafe empty lots. These are an eyesore and taxation methods/bylaws to discourage them need to be explored. Bike trails separated from cars. I was hit by a car and need a barrier.
- ▶ Homeless people, affordable housing, jobs for us, help us get off drugs and not do crimes.
- ▶ "Homeless problem  
Cleaner parks  
City staffers making realistic wages"
- ▶ "homeless  
"
- ▶ Homeless, waterfront . And road repair
- ▶ "Homeless/drug users littering our streets.  
"
- ▶ Homelessness - needs creative solutions and quickly. Get bicycles off the streets - they are dangerous. Building apartments that are reasonably priced for the average person (in addition to lower income & supportive).
- ▶ "Homelessness  
Drug addiction  
Runaway development "
- ▶ "Homelessness and crime reduction.  
Better municipal approval processes."
- ▶ "Homelessness and crime  
Development of downtown  
Development of TalleyHo"
- ▶ Homelessness and drugs issues! It should be illegal to allow someone to go without a home! Everyone deserves shelter. Everyone deserves the opportunity to be clean and safe.
- ▶ Homelessness and drugs, tenuous housing situations to be addressed
- ▶ "Homelessness and related crime  
Clean safe green areas  
Local community halls for community gatherings and events to our local areas.  
This develops community pride."
- ▶ "Homelessness needs to be addressed.  
Downtown needs revitalizing  
South Nanaimo needs to be more inviting to visitors."
- ▶ "Homelessness  
Downtown business  
Affordable housing "
- ▶ "Homelessness

harbour ferry to vancouver  
more parks and greenspaces"

- ▶ "'-Homelessness  
-Homelessness  
-Homelessness"
- ▶ "Homelessness  
Mental health services  
Cost of living"
- ▶ Homelessness, mental health, downtown upgrade.
- ▶ Homelessness, crime, drug abuse – quit enabling the behaviors. It's not safe to walk anywhere by yourself anymore let alone our kids.
- ▶ "Homes for everyone  
Lower emissions  
Better transportation "
- ▶ "'-Homes for the Homeless  
-Beautifying Stewart Avenue, Terminal Avenue and Front Street so that residents and visitors can have open ocean views and pleasing buildings to look at  
-More walking and cycling lanes and trails"
- ▶ "Hospital improvements and expansion  
Get drug addicts and homeless off the streets into useful facility for their need. 9  
Safe and thriving downtown  
"
- ▶ "House the homeless.  
Treat the drug addicts.  
Revitalize downtown by removing derelict empty buildings and creating policies to grow small business. "
- ▶ House the homeless; provide safe injection sites; pedestrianize downtown, at least for the summer.
- ▶ "Housing  
Homelessness  
Accessibility for programs and services "
- ▶ "Housing affordability and conditions  
More sidewalks and bike lanes"
- ▶ Housing and better services for low income people and mental health teams that work with police – a more cohesive collaborative support system
- ▶ "Housing and help for homeless  
More options for active transport (more bike lanes/ options for walkers to liaise with bus system). "
- ▶ Housing and our walkways
- ▶ "Housing for all  
More Green space  
Schools that were closed opened as more children are entering the system"
- ▶ "housing for all

waterfront walk extended  
expanded trails in park areas"

- ▶ "housing for everyone  
local food production  
walkable/cyclable transportation"
- ▶ "Housing for homeless  
Increased and improved public transit  
Vibrant downtown area"
- ▶ Housing for street people and more resources for our many drug addicts
- ▶ housing for the homeless. Mental health services and treatment facilities.
- ▶ ""-Housing/hospitalization for homeless  
"
- ▶ Housing/resources for the homeless population, better transit system, and affordable housing for everyone
- ▶ ""-Humbly observe where people in the community struggle.  
-Ask the question: What is the next smallest thing we can do right now to address that struggle?  
-Do that thing. Do it right now."
- ▶ "I would add more drug rehab beds.  
Affordable housing.  
Change bypass by adding off/on ramps."
- ▶ I don't have the time to really think about this and put it into words.
- ▶ I live on Protection Island, and I would make a land use plan for Protection Island specifically, not just have it part of the OCP.
- ▶ "I recently moved to downtown Nanaimo it needs a major upgrade if it wants to be ""up there"". Too much trash on the bike/walk paths, natural areas left to to volunteers to clean (barsby park), several shitty buildings in gorgeous locations beginning to be torn down and built anew. 30 prideaux St cough cough.

I'm from the Okanagan and while they struggle, they have the vibrant downtown area Nanaimo needs. Jump the highway heritage area better, and build a damn bus loop.

Property taxes will rise investors will be waiting and if/when tourism bounces back eventually it'll be okay.  
"

- ▶ I would address the drug and homelessness population, maintain focus on building a green city (I heard Nanaimo is heading towards 90 waste diversion out of landfill), and, continue to support local business.
- ▶ "I would collaborate with partners on a local campaign to reduce stigma and ENSURE supportive housing -- where people can receive health and mental health supports.

I would improve bike lanes throughout Nanaimo -- including the downtown -- so my kids see bike transportation as a safe and desirable choice all the way through to adulthood.

I would clear sidewalks before streets every single time it snows."

- ▶ "I would create a small business owners support group for those in Nanaimo who want to improve and contribute to the community.

I would create opportunities for more affordable single family homes.

I would create an online page/citizens forum where people could share concerns and these would be reported to city council. "

- ▶ "I would create incentives for first time home buyers and young families to move to Nanaimo. It is a very attractive city for young professionals who are looking for alternatives to the larger cities. However, with the high cost of living on the west coast and the economic downturn of COVID-19, first time home buyers and young families need all the help they can get.

I would also look at how to improve regional transportation options for young professionals to live in Nanaimo, but work in areas such as Victoria or Vancouver. Late night or early morning ferry routes, or direct commuter bus service to Victoria would allow greater flexibility for working in the larger job markets of Vancouver and Victoria and living in Nanaimo.

Focusing on low density zoning and public parks and green spaces is a key to keeping Nanaimo attractive and different. Many people are looking to leave larger over-crowded cities and maintaining the balance Nanaimo currently has will be important in the future."

- ▶ "I would do something beautiful and useful with Diana Krall Plaza.  
"
- ▶ "I would get the tents off the streets and parks  
I would create a better accessible coast line with easy access for the disabled,ie,ramps to the beaches.  
Hire more arborists. There a maple trees at Aulds and Hwyb19 with dead upper branches."
- ▶ "I would have better programs and help for the mentally ill along with better and more affordable programs for drug addicts to get clean  
I would have more affordable housing for rent  
I would make buying houses for young people obtainable "
- ▶ I would improve the hospital. Not functional for aging population. No space, dealing with numbers for Nanaimo and surrounding area that no longer feasible to take into care. I would like to improve green Initiative and provide more education to different populations of people in Nanaimo and different social economic populations. I would like Nanaimo to change the housing crisis. Not enough variability in acceptable housing for different classes, family's, and age groups.
- ▶ ""-I would increase funding to support people within our community with addiction and mental health issues  
-I would continue to prioritize addressing homelessness  
-I would earmark funds and planning to improve accessibility to Nanaimo's waterfront walkways"
- ▶ "I would invest more into law enforcement and make sure drugs are not decriminalized.  
I would make policies that discourage turning single family homes into multi family homes  
Stop population growth. "
- ▶ I would leave forested areas and stop all the building of stores and high density housing. I would pay attention to all the weeds growing along the verges and sidewalks. I would clean up Maffeo Sutton Park particularly the washrooms and make sure that people don't ride bikes and skate board along the waterfront.

- ▶ "I would like to see a farmers market/ what have you, thats capable of staying open 4 seasons, somewhere close to the cruise ships docking.  
I find this green island very disgustingly dirty compared to other communities.  
"
- ▶ ""-I would open a mental health facility to help those individuals that have found themselves on the street as addicts that really need assistance. Somewhere they can feel safe and get help and the public doesn't feel threatened.  
-Give opportunities to homeless individuals to work and contribute to the city and feel like they are a part of our community and work towards making it better as opposed to the homeless mindset of expecting a handout. They could help clean up downtown, empty garbages, paint over graffiti and help with landscaping. If they were helping make it better and investing in it I would think they would destroy it less.  
-I would love more healthy eating options, especially fast casual. We don't eat fast food and when we're out and need to grab something there are not a lot of options. So thankful Bar Burrito opened but there are such few choices. I hope to see more good places open in the future. Nanaimo is definitely not known for their restaurant options. Would love to see a Blaze Pizza, Thai Express, Panda Express..."
- ▶ I would preserve the remaining Douglas Fir Forest and stop letting developers make money off our natural resources.
- ▶ I would re-allocate the private timberlands surrounding the city to local First Nations and to city parkland. I would open an investment fund to support local businesses (especially tech jobs, manufacturing and agriculture). I would implement a community plan emphasizing a family-safe city (decrease in homelessness, drug abuse, crime, lewd businesses, inappropriate murals, hyper sexualized or crude events).
- ▶ "I would work on completely reforming our approach to drug use and the criminal elements in Nanaimo. First by making access to addiction treatment easier. There are so many hoops for them to jump through and those hoops are a huge deterrent. Housing is not enough without working support systems. We need more funding for social workers and mental health services as well. This problem is only getting worse."
- ▶ "I would
  - 1) deal with homelessness on a long term basis, ensuring they aren't wandering the city.
  - 2) work on the attractiveness of the whole of Nanaimo, (as in the abandoned hotel at Comox St and Terminal.)
  - 3) Encourage more high end businesses and nicer stores. Too many malls with a hodgepodge of lower end retailers.
  - 4) On a personal note we don't have a vegetable store like Kim's or Langley farm market here
 "
- ▶ "I) clean up Nanaimo's streets, parks and public spaces/washrooms, downtown transit terminal etc - free of grime, crime, homelessness and drugs.  
II) Collaborate within districts - listen to the business owners and citizens to get things done - open door, policy. Less talk more action. Start with yes!  
III) make each district accessible, safe, beautiful and friendly and the people will come to play, stay and invest  
"
- ▶ I'd make an passenger ferry to Vancouver, improve or extend waterfront walkway and increase arts and cultural opportunities.

- ▶ If I was able to change things? I would purchase the old Howard Johnson hotel and convert it into low income housing. I'd create FREE licensed mental health services that you don't need ANY qualifiers to attend, and I'd expand programs to include people without children... because there's a LOT living here that don't qualify for any help or subsidies but don't have kids because they can't afford them.
- ▶ I'm happy right now. See above.
- ▶ "Immediately STOP the Real Estate cronyism that the idiotic platitude of ""affordable"" housing portrays, in favor of LOW INCOME housing PERIOD!!  
STOP wasteful spending, that Nanaimo is Famous for!!!  
SPEND more time addressing the Citizenry, and LESS time hiding from THEM!!!! "
- ▶ "Implementation of a comprehensive harm reduction strategy.

Taxation or other punitive measure applied to problem property owners, regarding areas such as A&B Sound and Jean Burns

Initiatives and incentives to create business opportunities to attract tourism and new residents and create jobs and recreation opportunities for youth  
"

- ▶ "Impose a smart development practice for the community densifying urban areas and protecting our key zones such as our water shed/parks/nature/waterfront/rivers and agricultural zones. Create incentives for young entrepreneurs specifically for community oriented business and local food production.

Use the best known practices to reduce homelessness and take care of people in need whether male female young or old. We can't leave anyone behind.

Take a strong stance on crime in our community and empower those who are able to take action. So many people and businesses are being devastated by crime and criminals right now. We need to make our community stronger and more resilient from organized and unorganized crime.  
"

- ▶ ""-Improve access to housing
  - Build sidewalks in neighbourhoods without them
  - Make mask wearing mandatory in public places where distancing cannot be maintained

- ▶ "Improve and clean up downtown and waterfront walkways  
"

- ▶ "Improve branding/marketing to attract new residents from major cities (Vancouver, Victoria) with an eye for the future and building this into the community of the future.

Improve downtown and the island highway corridor, beautify, tourist friendly, and make downtown livable and vibrant instead of sad and scary and sketchy.

Extend the seawall, which is a major tourist attraction."

- ▶ ""-Improve downtown core- abandoned buildings and lots.
  - more affordable housing
  - more support for homeless and people experience substance abuse problems. "

- ▶ “-improve downtown with occupying vacant buildings, cleaning up some store fronts, creating small business incentives and improving accessibility through extending the waterfront walkway from the ferry to downtown. Make it worth spending time and money there!  
-work with other levels of government to get a new hospital. Ours is old, way too small for our population/ the area is serves and an embarrassment to our city. Bring in, and keep, smart rich specialists/ professionals who want to work, live, and build into our community! Make it worth spending time and money here!  
”
- ▶ “Improve downtown  
More footpaths/bike paths  
Reduce homeless people “
- ▶ Improve downtown, allow live music and bars to have later more exciting patio options, assist people suffering from homelessness and addiction
- ▶ Improve harbour view community, more accessible transit system, more affordable housing
- ▶ “Improve housing and support for homeless.  
Improved psychological support for those who need it  
”
- ▶ “Improve housing options and resources for homeless and low income.  
Improve transportation options for public transit, walking and biking.  
Expand recreation to encourage all ages to participate in sport or hobbies.”
- ▶ “Improve hwy from Nanoose to Nanaimo.  
Don’t allow high rises or lego land townhomes  
Better recycling...why not recycle glass???”
- ▶ Improve infrastructure on waterfront to promote SME local and regional businesses, including fish and aquaculture products, consider an aquarium (like the one in Ucluelet) and other recreational attractions for families and tourists
- ▶ “Improve link to lower mainland – harbour to harbour ferry for instance  
low cost housing needs to be increased  
a better and more contemporary sense of what Nanaimo is as a city – Harbour City doesn’t do it anymore. “
- ▶ “Improve Loudon Park  
Expand safe cycling routes  
Waterfront walkway”
- ▶ ‘-improve on infrastructure (proper curbing etc)
- ▶ “Improve our homeless , drug issue, and mental health issues(Tall order)  
Improve the maintenance of our streets including litter,and landscape maintenance,  
Help people feel proud of Nanaimo by encouraging positive projects.  
”
- ▶ “Improve parks and rec with more outdoor activities for all, eg. Build another disc golf course. More park and beach space to accommodate growing population including parking.  
Fix the homeless/pan handling/drug problem “
- ▶ “improve planning department and building permit process  
improve social programs for homeless and addicted citizens

parks, parks and more parks

"

- ▶ "Improve protection of natural areas and functions with improved zoning bylaws. Alter the development review process to put protection of eco-assets foremost. Build more affordable housing."
- ▶ "Improve roads and access in South Nanaimo  
Create more low income housing for seniors and families  
Improve bus service in the city"
- ▶ Improve support and add positive opportunities for the homeless, addicts, and those living in poverty.
- ▶ Improve the downtown core to support evening dining & entertainment
- ▶ Improve the downtown neighbourhood, our parks free of garbage and waste, crime levels dropped.
- ▶ "Improve the homelessness situation  
Have more community garden areas for people to grow their own food  
Have Nanaimo be self sufficient and self sustaining "
- ▶ "Improve the south end entrance to Nanaimo.  
Stop putting in bike lanes.  
Tear down all eyesores and repurpose the land.  
I know its a pipe dream."
- ▶ Improve the waterfront and its amenities, create places for the homeless to live, and ensure that tent cities and overnight camping are not allowed.
- ▶ improve transit, improve traffic congestion and creat a feeling of safety around the homelessness issues.
- ▶ Improve transit. Ban gas for heating. Maintain and improve ecological function.
- ▶ ""-improve transit-having multiple hubs with connections between  
-bike lane all the way along Hammond Bay Rd (the lanes are mostly 14 feet wide-just paint a d&%\$ line!  
-put a hold on any further developments till have a vision"
- ▶ "Improve transportation modes  
Position as tourism destination - define our niche  
Diversify economic base"
- ▶ "Improve zoning flexibility, don't reinvent the wheel, look to progressive communities worldwide for successful examples.  
Better transportation options including transit, maybe more frequent smaller buses, more and better bike lanes, more and better options for walkers, sidewalks, crosswalks, traffic calming rec.  
More outdoor recreation opportunities that can be accessed for free so everyone, not just the rich can have access."
- ▶ "Improved housing and support for low-income residents  
Improved green space access & active transportation infrastructure outside core areas  
better transit with a focus on eliminating loop routes"
- ▶ "Improved roads, walkways at Swy A Lana,  
More low income seniors homes  
Wearing masks

"

- ▶ “-improving homelessness(creating programs for them)  
-safer roads(sidewalks, bike lanes)  
-affordable housing throughout city”
- ▶ “In a perfect world there would be facilities where the mentally ill and addicted could access treatment AND support not just 24 hr detox.  
Make Commercial street car free to bring people downtown.  
Find work for the homeless so they can feel responsible for themselves.”
- ▶ Incentives for waterfront restaurants and attractions. Tackle affordable housing. More help for addiction.
- ▶ “Incorporate permaculture processes in developments of buildings and green spaces.  
Plant food forests  
Have more local convenience stores which people can walk to”
- ▶ “Increase access to parklands (reduce ownership of logging land)  
Increase trail networks  
Increase city bike lanes”
- ▶ “Increase affordable housing throughout the community  
Enforce laws to reduce crime and degradation of community  
Encourage business and housing by reducing red tape”
- ▶ Increase affordable non-driving transportation options in the city, increased accessibility and inclusion of all nanaimo’s residents, greater sense of community
- ▶ “Increase density in the city to add more affordable housing for young families.  
Continue to revitalize the old downtown core and provide funding to do that.  
Provide services and support (temporary and permanent housing) to get more people off of the street. ”
- ▶ “Increase green trails and connectivity with green spaces in town.  
Provide mental health & low income supports.  
Change bus schedules and/or routes. Buses are empty most evenings around the hospital. ”
- ▶ “Increase home density downtown.

Move the Salvation Army to the old Tally Ho and have offices in there as well for Doctors, Nurse Practitioner, access to mental health services any services that might help the homeless in addition to some housing.

Turn the current Salvation Army building into a youth hostel type of hotel.

Build a hotel downtown.

“

- ▶ “-increase mental health support  
-increase available childcare  
-rent cap to prevent outrageous rent prices ( 1500 for two bedrooms isn’t reasonable especially when so many work for minimum wage or just above)”
- ▶ “Increase park area particularly around Nanaimo River  
Create an alternate route to reduce traffic on Hammond Bay Road  
Build more artificial turf fields ”

- ▶ Increase Parks for families and dogs. Increase Recreation and community events programs. More financial and city planning such as residential and industrial development.
- ▶ increase penalties for crimes like theft and trespassing. open a drive in theater. Encourage outdoor events such as music festivals
- ▶ "Increase services for the underprivileged people.  
open safe drug sites to help cut down on overdoses and diseases spread by reusing needles.  
Make it easier to get to parks that aren't on a bus route  
"
- ▶ ""-Increase street workers dealing with mental health, drug and addiction  
-increase usability/attraction of waterfront by extending walkway.  
-after Covid...increase community functions like outdoor theater, concerts, street markets"
- ▶ Increase the supply of diverse rental housing, with intentional planning for intergenerational and income-diverse communities.
- ▶ "Increase vibrancy downtown - music/ restaurants shopping - encourage business to be downtown  
More sidewalks  
"
- ▶ Increased bike paths and safety for bicyclist. Improved public transportation, bus routes and schedules. Protection of green spaces. Increased wilderness off leash areas such as Linley valley.
- ▶ Increased funding for addictions support, homelessness and economic incentives for downtown businesses.
- ▶ Increased social programs and affordable housing. Clean up and development of the downtown core. Addressing social issues like poverty, mental health, and drug use.
- ▶ ""-increased supportive housing - for people living in poverty, living with mental health issues (including some housing exclusively for those dealing with serious mental health issues like schizophrenia and not addiction as these populations often have different needs and risks), and dealing with addiction  
-improved public transit and bike lanes (trying to reduce traffic)  
-more community spirit/togetherness  
"
- ▶ "Indigenous reconciliation  
Online art hub for seniors and disabled  
Affordable short term housing projects"
- ▶ Indoor tennis facility
- ▶ "Indoor tennis facility  
More greenspace protection  
More transparent government "
- ▶ indoor tennis, racket sports. Lower taxes to small businesses downtown. Improved vacant lots such as Commercial st and highway 19.
- ▶ ""-invest in downtown/make it a vibrant destination  
-build more mountain bike trails/tap in to mountain bike tourism  
-link departure bay with the ferry (sea wall) and link the ferry with downtown"
- ▶ invest in low income and affordable housing. this would need federal and provincial govt support. two, provide incentives to developers to build affordable housing. three, provide extensive wraparound

services for those who have mental illnesses and or drug addictions

- ▶ It would be amazing to create mental illness facilities that are funded by government. This would be something that I personally, would feel an increase in taxes to be of benefit. I would love to see the South End of Nanaimo, that is becoming more and more run down in my eyes, because of low income, drug use, and prostitution to flip. What an amazing area it could be... James Bay-like down in Victoria, but again, in turn, development of low income housing, mental illness facilities, addiction counselling, and accessible parks/recreation will be needed.
- ▶ "Jobs  
Homelessness  
Crime."
- ▶ "Keep encouraging development in the downtown.  
Invest in our waterfront.  
Invest in the park space that we have. We have many gems for parks but they are facing maintenance challenges and simple things like lack of parking (Neck Point, Westwood Lake for example)"
- ▶ Keep it around this size not much bigger, fix homeless problem, make houses affordable for millennials
- ▶ "Keep our city green  
Keep our city clean  
Maintain our parks and add more."
- ▶ "Keep pushing province to build large Permanent facilities to support rehabilitation of homeless  
Ensure that city assets are maintained and renewed  
Complete the waterfront walkway "
- ▶ "Land use agreements with logging companies, federal government to create mountain biking, running and hiking trail networks. – Take back our downtown area for our citizens to enjoy. – Other communities are enjoying the benefits of tourism due to their local governments supporting a infrastructure of trails.
- ▶ Less bike lanes, traffic circles, benches on Hwy 19a on the walk way
- ▶ ""-less crime and a safer downtown neighbourhood  
  
-better safer access for cyclists to the downtown neighbourhood  
  
-more affordable housing options for first-time buyers.  
"
- ▶ Less crime, less homelessness, more vibrant waterfront – lots of potential.
- ▶ Less crime, lower property taxes, fewer garbage rules
- ▶ Less destruction/development of any greenspace(big or small) – even undeveloped small spaces are treasures for kids to play in.
- ▶ "Less drug use in public, perhaps safe injection sites or low barrier housing. I have young kids and I'm afraid of finding used needles in public/playgrounds.

Longer seawall, connecting downtown to departure bay, with a bike path. Some more shops and restaurants and art/music spaces along the way.

- ▶ "Less drug use  
More law enforcement  
Closer community  
"
- ▶ "less homeless (tent city)  
less drugs  
less garbage"
- ▶ Less homelessness. Increased crime prevention. More funding for parks and trails.
- ▶ Link the parks, add community gardens in the North & South ( Beban is in the middle), make Oliver at least twice its size and build an additional rec Centre in the South.
- ▶ "Link trails  
Add more biking routes e.g. Bowen road  
Increase affordable housing "
- ▶ "Link transit with arrival and departures of ferries  
Find a solution to the increase in homelessness  
Continuing to develop downtown so that there is a vibrant night life as well as a fun dining and shopping experience."
- ▶ Listen to taxpayers.
- ▶ Listen to what serious bona vide developers tell you. Right now they walk away in total frustration. Nanaimo is not recognized as a progressive City. As a CEO I would start weeding out management.
- ▶ "Living costs  
More activities that join youth and elders  
More Music and art events"
- ▶ "Lobby province fir mental health support for residents  
Increase policing  
Stop proving affordable and wet housing.  
As a bonus don't forget about asset management, pushing the tax burden into the future generation isn't fair"
- ▶ Lobby provincial and federal governments to get help for those who have fallen through the cracks. Affordable housing for all income types. Focus on the needs for families and middle class.
- ▶ "Low income housing instead of car dealerships  
Connect the waterfront walkway with the departure bay ferry and put in more small shops for tourists.  
Lower speed limits. "
- ▶ Lower or drop dumping fees so we don't have piles of random garbage. Clean up our streets, provide affordable housing & employment for the homeless. Longer prison terms for drug dealers.
- ▶ "Lower tax burden  
Increase public safety  
Implement a strategy to increase tourism and business "
- ▶ "Lower taxes.  
lower taxes  
lower taxes."
- ▶ "maintain current and existing infrastructure

Add security downtown

Take care of the empty buildings downtown”

- ▶ “-make a push for bike rentals  
-a push to make parks for animals  
-more solar panels for houses”
- ▶ “Make all home based businesses including B&B operations have business licenses so they can be properly inspected, insured and taxed. They are everywhere now .  
Move forward on the plans for a connected walkway from Departure bay to downtown.  
Work harder on housing the homeless. You may be doing things we can’t see but the problem will never solve itself.”
- ▶ Make bus stop benches accessible to those going the hospital route. Strangely, at the interchange at Country Club Mall there is not a bench at the hospital route.
- ▶ “Make business rents in the core cheaper.  
Create affordable rental space  
Focus on the waterfront please. ”
- ▶ “Make City Council and City staff more accountable to the TAX PAYERS of the City  
Make Nanaimo an unfriendly and unwelcoming place for drug dealers and homeless  
Reduce City Staff and expenditures to stop annual tax increases “
- ▶ “-make Departure Bay a tourist attraction (Ucluelet style aquarium, nice restaurant, nice trail to walk...)  
-reduce the allowance of developers cutting down all of our beautiful green spaces for houses  
-improve traffic – Terminal Avenue / Bowen are horrendous”
- ▶ “Make downtown a place of pride to visit and live.  
Better transportation routes.  
Improve parking spaces for places like Westwood lake.”
- ▶ “Make downtown a safe place to visit by dealing with homeless issue.  
Utilize old infrastructure in positive way that benefits community. ie woodlands school building.  
Remove horrible pulp mill emissions by scrubbing them out prior to release into atmosphere.”
- ▶ “Make downtown car-free with the best cycle/rolling routes, truly accessible infrastructure and robust transit leading north to departure bay terminal and south to Cedar.

Immediate investment in local food production and distribution through supporting local farmers and establishing a permanent market in downtown Nanaimo.

Work with local industries to move away from resource based destructive manufacturing (wood and pulp mills that destroy our forests and cause day-to-day doors and noise) towards green energy and power to create a truly renewable model that will lead the country!

- ▶ “-make downtown vibrant  
-deal with the drug/homeless crisis (it’s our city, it’s our problem)  
-connect our parks”
- ▶ Make downtown visually appealing and safe for residents to enjoy. Figure out the Acme hole and a&b sound building. Our town is not cute
- ▶ make it cleaner too much litter.more affordable housing,better transit hours on Sundays
- ▶ Make it unlawful for developers to paint anything grey. :-) Bring colour to the city.

- ▶ “Make landlords accountable for decrepit buildings downtown and utilize other empty properties before building somewhere else ..this seems to be an ongoing issue with over development..commercial mainly. Encourage government to look at the need for a facility for our homeless problem. Not just leaving it to charitable organizations to fund and support the less fortunate.  
Re-instate a movie theatre downtown encouraging people to come down town.  
Put the the large picture frame back in Swy Lana Lagoon “
- ▶ “--Make neighbourhoods feel safe and enjoyable--- reduce traffic and traffic noise, reduce crime, add more trees, look after public spaces, prioritize active transportation over cars.  
- Improve transit and active transportation networks, including inter-city routes on the Island.”
- ▶ Make safer intersections. Add more paved mixed use lanes that are separate from the road. Encourage people to make fewer trips by car.
- ▶ “Make streets safe for pedestrians and cyclists.  
Stop the noisy trucks/ motorcycles, with heavy fines for noise pollution.  
Better services and housing for marginalized people living with poverty.”
- ▶ “Make sure the waterfront is not overrun with housing - so commercial activities can be encouraged. I am sure more condos is a money maker but jobs are important too.

Clear out the homeless folks from downtown. It is too much.

Be smarter about creating a sense of place. There are many broken teeth, missing shops, car dealerships and poorly done malls. It makes the city ugly.”

- ▶ Make the side walk all the way along Bowen like the short piece of shared use trail between Bowen park and pride. Reduce the in city speed limit to 40 km, address housing and mental health needs to reduce homelessness.
- ▶ “Making it easier and cheaper for those of a certain age and those who have a disability to get around just seems logical. We know that Nanaimo cannot alone, make that decision, however it could be vigorously put forward.
- ▶ “Mandatory drug treatment and testing as opposed to kicking people back onto the streets  
Council that listens to the people  
Better transit
- ▶ Masks in schools above gr. 2. Designated housing for homeless that isn't Atco trailers. Traffic calming or redesign on proven dangerous intersections.
- ▶ “Meaningful long-term urban planning  
better walking and biking infrastructure  
Better transit options”
- ▶ “--Mental health access for all, more outreach actually on the streets not from an office as that's what outreach means  
-affordable housing for all incomes and families and single people  
-safety and inclusion, more thoughtful kind police presence and less leaving the heavy lifting to underpaid security guards, “
- ▶ “Mental health and addiction support, such as DRY housing for homeless, with an emphasis on obtaining a job or schooling for those using the program and strict rules for the space.

More family events

Clean up the old Jean burns location, and the old a&b sound building.

“

- ▶ “-mental health and addictions treatment center
  - affordable housing for all
  - more outdoor activities “
- ▶ “Mental health facilities
  - More affordable housing for the homeless
  - Affordable drug rehabilitation centre”
- ▶ “-mental health program for addiction/ psychological support.
  - affordable housing for elderly and low income families.
  - discount for residents with BC ferries. “
- ▶ Mental health strategies, make Nanaimo less desirable for criminals and drug dealers
- ▶ “Mental health/drug treatment centre
  - Waterfront development for all
  - Help businesses stay open downtown “
- ▶ “Minimize homeless population
  - Create waterfront parkland (like Maffeo Sutton) from Gabriola terminal southward
  - Downtown to Departure Bay walk/bikeway”
- ▶ Modernization of transit public outreach
- ▶ more affordable city permits .park integration.and routes. get better Plan for the homeless with / fed and provincial Governments
- ▶ “More affordable housing – by increasing density, mixed-uses
  - Strategies to address homelessness & opioid crisis
  - Improvements to public transportation systems”
- ▶ “More affordable housing for the most vulnerable.
  - more and better bike paths that connect with each other
  - A new hospital is urgently needed
  - If we develop the city as the best possible place for people to live then the tourists will naturally come to Nanaimo because it is a great place to visit. I believe in creating a city for its residents, housing, transportation, bike paths and recreation facilities.
  - Better synchronization for the traffic light between Departure Bay Rd and Brechin Rd “
- ▶ “More affordable housing
  - More immediate help for mental health and addiction
  - A legitimate barter system to help sustain us in the interm”
- ▶ More affordable housing, criminals actually get punished for crimes, police force that sides with victims, not criminals
- ▶ More affordable housing, larger live music/sports arena complex, easier licensing and grants for small businesses
- ▶ “-More attention to homelessness, drug addiction
  - Support mix of affordable housing
  - Prepare for climate change demographically (people will want to move here), and to protect vulnerable

people who already live here.”

- ▶ “More benches on walkways.  
More parking in areas close to the water.”
- ▶ “More bicycle lanes as more and more people are writing especially with the advent of E-bikes.  
Proposed developments in the Linley Valley be stopped. That is an incredible park similar to Stanley Park in the midst of our town and needs to be preserved.  
Additional pickleball courts. This is a growing sport that has outgrown the facilities that we presently have.”
- ▶ “-More bike lanes  
-Better Transit system  
-Create hub for local food”
- ▶ “-more bike lanes  
-more trail access on the west of the city  
-improve the waterfront between downtown and the ferry terminal and over to departure bay”
- ▶ More bike lanes. More hiking trails. Help homeless people who need help.
- ▶ More bike paths to enhance the eco-friendly environment. A local garden where students can volunteer and food can be provided to food bank. More recycle and garbage cans that a merged together around town to decrease waste.
- ▶ “more bike paths  
affordable housing  
more services and offering of wet housing”
- ▶ More businesses, more tourist activities and more youthful life.
- ▶ “More community gardens”
- ▶ “more community gardens/encouraging people to grow some foods  
deal with invasive species,saving our biodiversity  
more markets/opportunities for small business”
- ▶ “More community policing  
Extend waterfront board walk  
Clean up downtown”
- ▶ More cycling paths, more green space, more diverse housing
- ▶ “More doctors  
Limits on exhaust noise on vehicles!  
Road Noise! ”
- ▶ “-more drug treatment housing strategies to decrease the homeless population.  
- increase family activities to attract new young professionals  
”
- ▶ “More encourage for detox rather than safe drugs.  
Crackdown on Crime  
Better Transit service ”
- ▶ More Executions dead serious and less homeless and drug addicted people thx :)
- ▶ “more exercise programs for all seniors in whatever financial situation they are in

more accessibility to parks facilities  
the waterfront paths maintained so that all can use them for both the beauty and walkability"

- ▶ "More family Doctors  
homeless  
Pickleball centre
- ▶ More family friendly events or activities especially during holidays
- ▶ More for families. The combination of park with large playground plus cafe with food is very attractive to families and is healthy for kids and social. More neighbourhood character with corner coffee shops like in Sydney Australia. Beautiful neighbourhood parks. Festivals.
- ▶ "'-more free short term parking downtown in parkades and make commercial pedestrian zone  
-partner with provincial and federal government to provide more social support and housing to homeless and at risk populations  
-greater representation of Indigenous peoples history and presence in our city "
- ▶ "More frequent bus service  
Pedestrian only areas as in many European countries  
Better Flashing light crosswalks, pedestrians crossing current ones cannot see the flashing lights, as they are directed to the car driver"
- ▶ "More garbage bins at corners and along the street to encourage disposable of trash - there is so much trash along the streets in the south end and no garbage bins at bus stops or corners.  
More green spaces (small parks) in all suburbs, in particular the south end.  
More sidewalks in the south end to encourage walking.
- ▶ "More help for mental health and addiction  
More police and bylaw officers  
More supportive housing downtown "
- ▶ "More homeless shelters  
Controlled drug sites"
- ▶ "More housing & services for the homeless and drug-addicted  
A visible arts & culture community  
More visibility of the growing diversity in the city"
- ▶ "More housing for mentally ill  
More housing for disabled  
More drug rehab spaces "
- ▶ "More housing options  
More jobs  
More arts and culture "
- ▶ More interconnected and complete bike lanes! Improve downtown. More affordable housing for renters and homeowners.
- ▶ More investment in performing and visual arts in the downtown core. Development of a city plaza concept that welcomes pedestrians and excludes vehicles
- ▶ "more marine focus - sailing is huge here,  
more live arts - park performances every evening outside  
more sports participation, cycling is huge "

- ▶ “More mental and addiction help to keep everyone safe.  
Foot ferry  
Plant more low growing trees along 19A and benches.”
- ▶ “More mental health and addiction services  
A more developed, appealing downtown area  
More and better use of waterfront”
- ▶ “More pedestrian and bicycle paths.  
More local shops for necessities like groceries.  
More accessible outdoor recreational activities. ”
- ▶ “More police officers less crime  
More detox and rehab facilities  
Less taxes”
- ▶ More police on the ground make it harder for drug addicts to live that live style in our city, more to do downtown make it easier to open restaurants and shops, make transportation to the city core better
- ▶ “More Police  
More drug treatment  
More recreational businesses.”
- ▶ “More policing. Animal control bylaw to be approved. continue to keep natural spaces.  
”
- ▶ “More protected green spaces for nature enjoyment. The benefits create a ripple effect on positive mental health, healthier ecosystems and overall citizen wellbeing. Improving quality of life, attracting more tourism, doctors etc. Enhancing the vibrancy.

More supports for homeless to transition to a better way of life with secure shelter, employment and life coaching.

Renovations for downtown buildings. Boost funding for start up businesses in the downtown core that support a community vibe.  
”

- ▶ more public access to beaches , affordable housing , crime
- ▶ More public parks by the water or more places to be outdoors. With COVID restrictions in place everywhere is completely packed and it feels very unsafe. A lot of community groups have to meet in outdoor public spaces now and it would be devastating if they were less available.
- ▶ “More recreation A trail system throughout like kettle valley railway trail and galloping goose. Tram up Mt Benson.

Revitalize downtown do visitors/developers and Nanaimoites would like to invest downtown.

Control development so things make sense and are appealing. (Qualicum)

”

- ▶ More recreational centres spread throughout the south end. This includes a pool, ice rinks and a building

like Oliver Woods.

- ▶ “More room for vehicle traffic and parking. Putting the onus on developers and not taxpayers.

Community safety. More emphasis needs to be placed on protecting the rights and property of the law abiding citizens. Everyone has the opportunity to to make the right choices in life, some choose not to. Where’s my reward for staying clean and sober, working hard and raising a family. Instead I get to see my taxes raised again and again to be thrown away on programs to help those who don’t even want to help themselves. ”

- ▶ “More safe and efficient ways for folks to walk and cycle.  
Invest in public transit.  
Invest in trauma based support programs to help those struggling with mental health and drug addictions.”
- ▶ “More safe, clean affordable housing for families, seniors and homeless.  
Green initiatives like bike lanes, and more park area.  
Waterfront walkway expansion  
”
- ▶ “”-More services/support and housing for people in our community who are dealing with homelessness, drug addiction and mental illness  
-Rebuild or renovate buildings downtown so businesses can go in  
-More options for affordable child care “
- ▶ More side walks, expand sea wall to departure bay, more homeless shelters/modular housing, more drug treatment and alcohol rehab facilities.
- ▶ “More sidewalks  
Waterfront walkway extension  
Affordable, medium or high density housing in city plan”
- ▶ More small offgrid homes, affordable housing and more public transportation between different close communities.
- ▶ More Snuneymuxw art & culture. Housing for the homeless. Increased mental health supports.
- ▶ “More sports facilities (Purpose-Built)  
More self sufficient micro communities”
- ▶ “More support for addiction and mental health  
Bike lanes  
Small business start up/help with existing businesses to pivot “
- ▶ “More supportive facilities  
More affordable housing  
Better programs for seniors  
”
- ▶ “More supportive housing  
More affordable housing for families  
More affordable housing for seniors “
- ▶ “”-More supports for our vulnerable population  
-more options for shopping and dining  
-revitalize certain areas in town

“

- ▶ “More things to do that aren’t expensive  
Better transit  
More exciting “
- ▶ “More, night time beautiful lights, lighting up the evening and water front ,  
More ways to volunteer, with city.  
More city run, volunteer clean up around our lakes, rivers, oceans, common areas.”
- ▶ “–Move supportive housing to semi-rural land with mandatory detox, rehab., garden therapy, pet therapy, job preparedness, psychological and addictions counselling. This type of project lends itself to job creation and protects the tax paying citizens. Nothing else is working, why not try a pilot project?  
–Try co-housing (non-profit) for seniors or multi-generational, more conscious development of truly affordable housing for all groups. Housing and rents have been allowed to go “”through the roof”” and it’s creating more homeless people, seniors included. Nothing else is working, why not try a pilot project?  
–Retro fit all community facilities with HVAC & HEPA systems.  
“
- ▶ Move the “ job drop in sites”away from the harbour. Add more modular housing for the homeless.  
Decrease the number of vacant businesses downtown.
- ▶ “Move the drug user out of the neighbourhoods to more rural areas away from businesses and home owners who are getting hammered and the local government are doing nothing to help those tax payers  
Add in safe sidewalks ie up to Westwood lake from jinglepot and other neighborhoods  
Encourage the redevelopment of all these burned out and abandoned buildings in downtown nanaimo  
the downtown is an embarrassment to show tourists  
“
- ▶ “move the new hope center.  
Tax vacant buildings at highest and best use  
Close commercial to vehicle traffic”
- ▶ Move VIU arts and humanities and journalism classes downtown. Solve the crime problem. Create subsidized housing for professional Artists.
- ▶ “Nanaimo is extremely segregated. I live in the North end and it’s North-end South-end mentality.  
Creating a bridge to decrease the gap would be nice. Increase commercial and residential growth in mid Nanaimo.

Nanaimo has a false sense of community. Please look at how City of Duncan has encouraged a central hub (downtown) for its residence. ie. quality farmers market, events everyday in the summer time, Duncan Day etc. Positive note: the roll out of the summer Night Market was amazingly executed! Please do more.

Increase in branding. This town is bland and is not known for very much other than Nanaimo Bars aka diabetes under \$10. We have great shoreline, parks and trails, why not advertise it?

- ▶ “Nanaimo should have no-car zones as well as more co-op gardening for the people so as to embrace organic foods.  
To reduce the carbon footprint, more green energy and solar as well as wind and geo-thermal energy should be made compulsory.”
- ▶ “need resources for men to match all the resources for women.

need ideas/plans for older men to feel connected/needed in our community.”

- ▶ New hospital, more safe bike routes, no homeless.
- ▶ “New playground, boardwalk and better fencing at Departure bay.  
Create an urban, community focused area that acts like a downtown (think cute street in downtown town Victoria).  
Housing for the homeless/users downtown it’s getting out of hand and I don’t want my young kids seeing people shooting up when we walk past.”
- ▶ No more tent cities
- ▶ No more vacant land, eliminate homelessness, large sign “Welcome to Nanaimo the Harbour City and Envy of the World.”
- ▶ “no poverty  
more affordable housing  
build neighbourhood nodes in north end”
- ▶ Noise control. More trees and public green space. More vibrant downtown and get rid of derelict land and buildings downtown.
- ▶ “NUMBER 1 TOP PRIORITY  
Before any other project I would like the City of Nanaimo to complete the walkway from the B.C. Ferry Terminal at Departure Bay to Departure Bay.”
- ▶ “Ocean clean ups  
Enhancing neighbourhood community  
”
- ▶ Offer incentives to companies like Costco or condo developers to make use of existing structures like Sears instead of building new properties; build shelters for the homeless and needy; make the downtown pedestrian and encourage grassroots activities like a market so people care about the downtown and actually go there.
- ▶ Offer more resources for the homeless, addicted and people with mental health issues. Clean up and crack down on the crime. Introduce more fun activities for teenagers
- ▶ Open drug use , homelessness and affordable housing
- ▶ Outdoor pool by departure bay beach, more waterfront restaurants and places to hang out and enjoy the ocean.even a tidal pool will be amazing.
- ▶ “Over/underpasses along hwy 19 bypass  
Downtown redevelopment  
Reduction in business taxes”
- ▶ “Overtake the abandoned eyesores in the centre of downtown for redevelopment  
Put in bike rack infrastructure at all city facilities and require this of business owners  
Put in consistent and protected bike lanes throughout the city like on Hammond Bay, Uplands, Rutherford”
- ▶ “Pass realistic bylaws -- only those that can be enforced.  
Enforce existing bylaws or rescind them”
- ▶ passenger and freight train up and down island, weed removal
- ▶ “Pedestrian only Downtown.

Sidewalks in all residential neighbourhoods.  
Keep tall buildings from obscuring the waterfront. "

- ▶ Plead with the newly formed Provincial government to fast track treatment facilities and supports to help the city cope with the drug and crime issues that are now plaguing us.
- ▶ Please see above.
- ▶ "Population cap.  
Improve main roads for quicker vehicle travel from point a to b. (ie less traffic lights, more lanes).  
Reduce crime, especially theft. "
- ▶ ""-preserve and keep clean natural areas - increase park land, natural beaches - and big wild spaces - make nature more accessible for all  
-downtown business diversity is great - support that without marginalizing the homeless pop that convenes down town - there can be room for both -  
"
- ▶ ""-preserve/designate more green spaces especially in North Nanaimo which has very few ""Bring back the wilderness"" (David Attenborough).  
-build more affordable housing for the low to middle income earners like single parent households; there is development of senior and low income but the largest number of households in Nanaimo are those in the 40-50k income - there is simply not enough 3bed homes in the 350-400k range.  
-lower property taxes for small business owners to give them a fighting chance  
"
- ▶ Prevent and manage our homelessness problem through education and training and community offerings of social services. Add more cultural entertainment outside of Covid 19 restrictions so people of all different backgrounds can be further exposed to different cultures and communities within Nanaimo. Continue to take care of our parks and green spaces so that we can proceed in using them for generations to come.
- ▶ ""-prioritize dealing with homelessness/ mental health/ addictions.  
  
- restrict height of development along downtown waterfront to preserve views from other areas  
"
- ▶ "Promote community events.  
Be accountable to the public and have open door.  
Fix transit."
- ▶ "Promote local investment in the harbour area. Why aren't there bars, restaurants, seafood stands. Too much regulation, for example preventing Pirates restaurant playing music.Lets not keep trying to satisfy 70 year olds and maybe do something for the under 60s for once. Look up Brighton or Portsmouth UK Mariners for ideas.  
Respect nature. Do not chop down trees in the city. Why do Canadian love to demolish the beauty they are blessed with. The beautiful parks and ocean is the only Unique selling point in terms of living and tourism. You are shooting yourselves in the foot.  
Stop allowing so many commercial buildings to become abandoned or run down. Stewart Avenue would be an absolute prime investment area. Instead it is abandoned buildings and run down businesses."
- ▶ ""-protect and ensure public access to Nanaimo River's best swimming holes  
-safe bike paths that connect more parks , urban centers and residential areas( imagine 6 year olds on bicycles)

-Create more opportunities for people to connect with their neighbours and community to improve our facilities , public spaces , infrastructure , the health of our local ecology , local economy , relations within our cultural diversity, and community spirit."

- ▶ "Protect our citizens by enforcing crime prevention and not let repeat offenders get a free pass out of jail. Build proper institutions for people with mental challenges and provide the services needed by them. Do not let the people with drug addictions get band aid services paid by the tax payer, it is time to provide housing to low income families not abusers of drugs.  
"
- ▶ Protecting the bio-diversity that surrounds the city by purchasing or trading forest company lands for parks and recreation activities. Increase the level of affordable housing and ensure that it is evenly spread throughout the city. Revitalize the downtown core and ensure that small businesses can thrive there by creating more mixed use buildings with retail & businesses on the ground floors and mixed housing on upper floors.
- ▶ "Provide a greater voice for citizens/ neighbourhood associations to have a voice in planning recommendations and proposed engineering projects  
Make it safer for pedestrians to cross Stewart Avenue by using raised intersections  
Downtown hotel projects that are not progressing now cast a blight on what downtown looks like (eg ""Hilton"" hotel and the one across the street). Rezoning and project approval should have a time limit on them; and if sites are not going to be developed within that time frame, owners should be required to turn them into parks in the interim."
- ▶ "Provide a viable homeless shelter(s) with appropriate social services. And something for the homeless to do to keep occupied, work or learn a skill  
Improve traffic flow. Intersections on main roads are getting more busy and dangerous.  
Continue to work on revitalizing downtown. We need a central core a place with character that can help define us (beyond a highway with malls strung along it)"
- ▶ "Provide homes and help for people living on the street.  
Making protection of the environment an important goal.  
Move towards extending theatre space.  
"
- ▶ "Provide more green space and walking trails.  
Lower housing costs so our young people can purchase homes, condos, townhouses etc.  
Provide local amenities in all parts of the city to help reduce unnecessary travel to one area, such as the North end. "
- ▶ "Provide more resources for those who combat trauma/addiction/homelessness/poverty.  
Create variety of housing options (for renters, first-time home buyers, retirees, etc.)  
Create more community art/mural programs"
- ▶ Provide Recreation opportunities to all. This in turn keeps people of all ages busy and healthier - mentally and physically. Tennis courts and Pickleball courts are a need.
- ▶ ""-provide shelters that the homeless WILL use  
-modify zoning to support affordable home ownership  
-expand westwood lake park"
- ▶ "provide treatment for drug addicts instead of providing drugs  
separate the true homeless from addictions- not fair to mix they have different needs"
- ▶ "Public control of the watershed and preservation of the Nanaimo River corridor

Integrated active transportation routes (connect bike paths to each their and to other transportation such as the ferry terminals)  
Preserve more parkland"

- ▶ "Public safety housing develop a complete waterfront walkway."
- ▶ "Public transportation – invest and incentivize. Transportation is a big contributor to GHG production. Diversify public transit – connect ferries, buses, train schedules. Make regional/city bus transit free to all. Get people into EVs. Incentivize gas stations' to become energy stations' with 2–3 EV pumps' at every station. Get people on bikes – we need safe routes, and secure bike parking/locking/recharging stations at all government centers and retail centers.

Food security – invest and incentivize circular economy where local producers and local consumers sustain each other."

- ▶ Put a venue space for the arts on the hill facing departure bay right beside the ferry instead of a garbage hill that was once landscaping brick factory. What a WASTE.
- ▶ "Put an end to the high density developments planned for North Nanaimo. Provide housing for low incomes and seniors. "
- ▶ "'–Put in a public market (like Vancouver's Granville Island) on the industrial lands south of Harbour park mall.  
–Have the hole at the intersection of the Old Island Highway and Commercial street fixed up.  
–Do something for all the homeless people like housing, jobs, food and medical help."
- ▶ Put more into mental health and addiction prevention and treatment; incentives for clean, green building developments – no more clear cutting lots (builders must leave trees; incentives for alternative or efficient energy such heating – no more gas heating
- ▶ Put some of the homeless housing up in the north end and spread it out, instead of concentrating it downtown, put some effort into supporting increased population density downtown– more people = more potential customers for small local businesses, and look at ways of encouraging completion of buildings that were supposed to be built downtown and never completed (the old Katrina's site is a perfect example).
- ▶ "reconcile publicly with First Nations community  
Work MORE intimately with LGBTQ community  
House homeless populations that are willing :)"
- ▶ Redevelopment of malls with residential, waterfront development starting towards ferry terminal in Departure with waterfront path. Residential in downtown continuing.
- ▶ "Reduce commercial activity/over crowding in the north end.  
Get rid of 'tent cities'  
Develop the downtown core to be more vibrant and making it a 'destination' for local residents for shopping and dining."
- ▶ "Reduce crime  
Make our neighborhoods safer  
"
- ▶ Reduce density, continue waterfront development to preserve the beauty, not destroy it, outlaw buildings

over 3 stories high along the waterfront.

- ▶ "Reduce drug problem  
Reduce homeless  
Entice big business to invest"
- ▶ "Reduce environmental impact  
Support for the homeless  
Mental health and addiction support"
- ▶ "'-Reduce government civil service employees/payroll.  
-Stop funding special interest groups and projects.  
-stop tax increases because the level of services are not reflective of the increase I am paying. "
- ▶ "Reduce homelessness  
Reduce drug use  
Clean up downtown"
- ▶ "'-Reduce homelessness  
-Grow downtown  
-Put more resources into improving public transit"
- ▶ Reduce homelessness/increase affordable housing, increase drug treatment/mental health programs, increase road safety enforcement
- ▶ "'-Reduce housing costs considerably  
-Do something to mitigate the homelessness situation  
-Prevent development of parks"
- ▶ "Reduce number of homeless living on streets downtown

Actively initiate solid protection of the Nanaimo River area from development and guaranteed protection of our watershed

Encourage business owners to open shop and operate out of downtown with incentives for doing so."

- ▶ "Reduce the red-tape involved in getting building permits.  
Properly accommodate the collection of waste. (Waste is a by-product of economic activity. You can't force people to create less, unless you want to diminish economic activity. The current system punishes people for having spent money in the community on goods.)  
Rethink the way mall parking areas are designed, (the current designs route cars past the front of stores where the pedestrians are concentrated and the narrow, curved lanes are some kind of vindictive punishment of people with larger vehicles)."
- ▶ "'-reduction in petty crime from transient/ drug user population  
-continued investment in improving waterfront public spaces  
-cleanup of some downtown areas"
- ▶ "Rehabilitation of the shoreline to as close to a natural state as possible on the new waterfront lands. Adopt a plan to manage the ancient places of this city where they are protected and celebrated. In a real way...not just words on paper or on a plaque after everything is bulldozed. Limit development. Population growth is not necessary for a healthy city."
- ▶ "Rein in real estate speculation and developers' profit seeking, in favour of more affordable housing. Reinvigorate downtown.

Expand TransCanada Trail and other cycle commuting/recreational paths. "

- ▶ "Reinforce and expand work around reconciliation.  
Insure adequate affordable housing.  
Support cultural, social and recreational development."
- ▶ Reinstate the red zone and remove all paid parking downtown. Close off commercial street as a walking mall at least for certain times of the day. Other times it could be open for business deliveries
- ▶ "Re-invigorate the economic development function.  
More dog parks and dog-friendly areas, in particular access to lake or ocean.  
Develop an OCP that meets the community's needs and stick to it. Developers should have to demonstrate a significant need to vary from the plan that the community has agreed to."
- ▶ "'-Remedy the homeless/drug issue  
-Making a more accessible bus route to highschools with out having to transfer at the mall  
-Making downtown a more vibrant place to visit. Look at langford and look at downtown Vic. Nice shops, restaurants, and very touristy. No wonder cruise ships don't stop here"
- ▶ Remove A & B Sound - Build the Waterfront Walkway - Create a Granville type Market Square downtown - involve Chinese and First Nations Communities with that process.
- ▶ "Remove drug related issues relating to persons and property. (Clean it up somehow).  
Encourage tourism in creative ways.  
Purchase dumont/benson areas and make them into mountain bike parks (like cumberland). "
- ▶ "'-remove or improve the trashed buildings downtown  
-The ocean walkway from departure bay to the ferry terminal and the discovery marine centre."
- ▶ remove parking in front of departure bay beach-change to park area. traffic calming and speed bumps on departure bay road, bay street and many other suburban streets that are used to get unto the island hwy- reduce speeds too.
- ▶ "'-Remove tent cities by whatever means  
-create more business opportunities  
-reduce crime where ever possible"
- ▶ "Remove the bloat at City Hall.  
Go back to an Alderman/Ward system  
Insist that Development Services get their heads out of their asses and their thinking out of the past century and make way for innovative solutions that are outside of their antiquated and tiny boxes. 2 decades into this century and neighborhoods are getting decimated, homeless are everywhere, crime is on the rise, and it still takes 6 to 8 WEEKS to get a building permit, 6 to 9 MONTHS to get Zoning changes or OCP amendments."
- ▶ "Remove the homeless from downtown.

Improve cycling and walking infrastructure

Incentivize businesses to take over run down eye-sores and beautify the area"

- ▶ Remove the temporary housing in every area of Nanaimo - it's only made every neighbour hood at high risk for crime and does not help with reducing the homeless population or helping people get clean. It's making living in Nanaimo worse for the working class.
- ▶ "Remove vagrants from public and private property, start an RCMP task force to deal with it.

Increase access to public transportation and or ride sharing.  
 Stop the ridiculous new development guidelines that includes; no cul-de-sacs, 4.0m sidewalks ect.  
 Nanaimo is too spread out to be accessible by bike and walking.

- ▶ Reorganize the downtown core to make it inviting as a “gathering place” for citizens. Develop one port place waterfront to meet the diverse needs of all levels of our citizens – Ensure housing there is diverse to avoid it becoming a “dead-zone” such as Cameron Island – only for the rich.
- ▶ “Repatriate the bums laying around the streets  
 Make community usable spaces out of that monstrosity of the old a+b bldg and the pit thats been left from burning out the burns bldg. We look like east LA for chrissake”
- ▶ “Replace traffic lights, four-way and five-way stops with roundabouts.  
 Install more traffic calming measures such as speed bumps on neighbourhood streets and arteries where excessive speed is an issue.  
 Find a way to tax the owners of empty buildings downtown, or somehow encourage downtown development.”
- ▶ “Resolve downtown homelessness issue  
 Increase and protect green space  
 Increase and improve recreation opportunities”
- ▶ “Resolve homelessness issues.  
 Reduce dependency on cars.  
 Increase protection for natural areas.”
- ▶ “Respect this community and the people who live and work here.  
 Stop those people who do not support or contribute to this community.  
 Make Nanaimo a family friendly safe place to live.”
- ▶ “Restore passenger rail service  
 Build affordable housing to alleviate some of the homeless problem  
 More services at Nanaimo hospital so people don’t have to go to Victoria for medical treatments”
- ▶ “Return the homeless to where they came from.  
 Improve the downtown road system and make Commercial Street one way.  
 Lower the speed of vehicles and bring back radar..
- ▶ Revamp downtown especially area around library port theatre cibc ban ( why does a bank have prime real estate in an area intended to bring more folks downtown to shop eat play work etc? This plaza is just a place for homeless and addicts to hang out
- ▶ “Revamp the downtown core so that businesses can thrive without displacing the homeless.  
 Create affordable housing and more community access centres for homeless so they are not on the streets 24/7.  
 Create a pedestrian friendly city by improving our transit system significantly. ”
- ▶ “Review and improve development permit and enforcement to ensure sustainable, responsible practices that protect citizens and the environment, including addressing noise pollution.

Balance protection of natural beauty with sustainable opportunities to leverage for economy (ie eco friendly tourism)

Have a strategic plan for development which aligns with projected/target populations (ie retirees, young families, etc) and other services (ie transportation) rather than just letting developers build what they want. Public input sessions are a joke and insult, as we don't feel our input has any impact of re-zoning."

- ▶ Revitalise downtown.
- ▶ "Revitalize city core  
Including rewilding in city plans  
Fix congestion caused by traffic lights on bypass.
- ▶ "Revitalize downtown  
No more malls!!!  
Better traffic flow in the main city area"
- ▶ "'-revitalize downtown by removing the homeless population by de-licensing all services and supports for the homeless in this area and distributing them evenly throughout the NRD.  
-Installing sidewalks and bike lanes on all major and minor arterials  
-dis incentivize vehicle usage by adding additional property tax levies for each vehicle parked at a home providing an exemption for the first vehicle only.  
\_"
- ▶ Revitalize downtown, fast ferry to Vancouver, waterfront pathway complete to departure bay beach
- ▶ revitalize the terminal avenue entrance, encourage redevelopment of rundown buildings and vacant land in the downtown core, invest in public access and connectivity of the vast waterfront.
- ▶ "Revitalized downtown with an emphasis on condo living, which must also include housing and mental health care for the homeless community  
Complete the waterfront walkway  
Establish a harbour to harbour passenger ferry to Vancouver"
- ▶ "Revitalize Bowen Park  
Open centres for daytime use for homeless people."
- ▶ Roundabouts to improve traffic flow, more wildlife corridors, homeowner/business owner incentives to change to renewable energy and create wildlife areas (solar panels, rainwater collection, pollinator front yards, etc).
- ▶ "Safe injection sites with access to clean drugs.  
Mental health team that works with the local police force to de-escalate and treat citizens with dignity, and allows the police to respond to criminal elements of society.  
Bowen road cycling path. "
- ▶ "Safe injection sites  
Sustainable low income housing  
Subsidies housing
- ▶ safer more affordable homes for seniors, kick all the drug users out, find homes for the truly homeless
- ▶ "Safety downtown  
LArger arena and concert facility  
Cheaper ferry fares for island residents
- ▶ "Safety  
Increase in affordable housing  
Increase in affordable childcare"

- ▶ “Scrap the Front Street Lane idea  
Build a mandatory detox and rehab centre  
Stop putting addict Housing in neighbourhoods”
- ▶ See #7
- ▶ “-See #7  
-Run smaller city busses more often to attract ridership. Promote this with a month of free hop-on/  
hop-off to allow folks to get used to the convenience.  
-Deal seriously with the homeless crisis. “
- ▶ “See question 7  
  
Bring more tourists to Nanaimo to boost our local community  
  
Bring the Faster ferry Back, downtown to downtown “
- ▶ “Seek and resource innovation in social services.  
Create a vocational strategy for all youth.  
Built the bloody waterfront walkway in its entirety! “
- ▶ “-separate trail for bikers at Westwood  
-second disc golf course  
-no homeless in parks”
- ▶ “-seriously redesign downtown - and not with giant ugly cheap buildings - be bold and interesting with  
architecture  
-add some sidewalks! so dangerous to walk around so many neighbourhoods  
-figure out how to help those that struggle with mental health and addiction without compromising  
existing neighbourhoods  
“
- ▶ “Services for mental health and substance users  
No high rises in the city  
Cultural diversity”
- ▶ Set aside more land for recreation activities and legislate mandatory green spaces for any industrial or  
residential developments.
- ▶ “Set up affordable housing for all.  
Increase people’s access to mental health and addictions services.  
Provide meaningful work for all to contribute and to be valued.”
- ▶ “-shelter/mental health/ addiction support for unsheltered  
-grants for unique businesses to survive downtown.  
-charge companies that own building and lots that are siting unused and falling apart, use the funds to  
help support the unsheltered. “
- ▶ Sidewalks in older residential neighborhoods. Being able to walk on sidewalks rather than the side of the  
road immensely improves the enjoyment of the neighbourhood.
- ▶ “Sidewalks on Sixth Street between Colliery Dam and Georgia/Harewood Centennial Park  
Housing for those currently in homeless camps/tent cities  
Store/fronts/restaurants/housing in the old A&B Sound building and the old Acme lot”
- ▶ “Sidewalks!!!

More recreation (pools are way too busy)  
Homeless issues “

- ▶ Sidewalks, make Diana Krall Plaza and place that people want to be, sidewalks
- ▶ “Slow traffic so that all residential streets are 30km/hr, including high traffic ones like Hammond, Bowen, Fitz. Slower speeds = improved safety for all = more people will walk, play, bike in these communal spaces and people will feel a duty of care towards their community

Ask the most marginalized peoples in our city what community services would most help them, and provide those

Require more community amenities from developers, such that schools and sidewalks are built BEFORE condos, so that the city resources new families will need are in place before a company can profit (or conveniently have a project go bankrupt before they're able to build the amenities they've promised)”

- ▶ Small business support for a thriving downtown. More walking friendly spaces. Care/space for downtown homeless.
- ▶ small, affordable homes; pedestrian oriented city planning; more law enforcement.
- ▶ “social, transit, cleaner  
”
- ▶ “”-Solutions to the housing crisis  
-clean up and attract people to the downtown and waterfront  
”
- ▶ “Solve homelessness and mental illness.  
Get a passenger ferry to Vancouver  
Bridge to Newcastle Island.”
- ▶ “Speed up the building permit process  
Improve Nicol Street.  
”
- ▶ stadium for football, well lite area to run at night
- ▶ “Stop adding more strip malls in the north end and focus funding and energy on the downtown/old city. Stop development encroachment into prime recreational/green space.  
Take bold climate action: install more EV charging stations reduce greenhouse gas emissions by providing more incentives for people to retrofit homes and get off of fossil fuels build robust, green transit system to meet the needs of growing population and incentivize people to get out of cars.”
- ▶ Stop all development of any additional housing. Cut all roads to 2 lanes. Ban any left turn anywhere.
- ▶ “Stop all oak plantings, gather acorns from local garroaks plant with camas ,native grasses in coordination with first nations,ensure connectivity of habitat, educate all residents and beyond of natures prominence in the city  
Develop cultural respect for natures right to place, clear air, water, land  
Work equally with first nations”
- ▶ “”-Stop any more super corporations such as Tim Hortons, Starbucks, Wal Mart, Cabellas, and many others from expanding here and the rest of the island.  
-Slow down foreign property investment to keep Nanaimo affordable and contribute to local community that need housing

- bylaws against self checkout counters to help local employment which can help lower income families and housing

"

- ▶ Stop clear cutting forests, develop ocean fronts, supportive housing for the homeless
- ▶ "Stop crime  
Get rid of homeless problem with mental health reform and arrest lawbreakers  
Improve air quality"
- ▶ Stop developing everything!! Get rid of drug addicts/shopping cart people. Less traffic
- ▶ "Stop enabling social justice warriors, they have hijacked our city  
Encourage dense residential development downtown, including redevelopment of Port Place  
Defund irrelevant groups like the old city quarter"
- ▶ "Stop giving variances to developers allowing them incursions on environmentally sensitive areas.  
Stricter retention of our urban forest and an aggressive tree planting program in areas denuded of trees.  
Sensitive development of the remaining downtown waterfront"
- ▶ "Stop having the everyday working stiff pay for the vagrants.  
Expand the City and make development possible.  
Stop worrying about getting re-elected and start doing what is necessary for the future of Nanaimo."
- ▶ Stop high density developments in North Nanaimo!
- ▶ "Stop logging in the city/regional district that is eroding natural spaces

More affordable housing

Better mental health support"

- ▶ ""-Stop people from buying multiple houses for supplementary income  
-Update Nanaimo's tourism campaign  
-Improve business fronts in Nanaimo's city centre  
"
- ▶ "Stop subdividing city lots and decrease the number of high density residential projects.  
Get rid of the proposed Animal Control Bylaw.  
"
- ▶ Stop subdividing lots in established areas. Continue to add bike lanes when infrastructure needs to be replaced and there sufficient room. Make Nanaimo less desirable for drug users to live
- ▶ "Stop the development of more sub divisions  
Quit focussing on downtown Nanaimo there are many more streets than Commercial  
More support for senios"
- ▶ Stop the massive clearing of forested areas for development. Keep the "small town" atmosphere and stop building another downtown Vancouver. Develop the waterfront with peirs and quays and waterfront walks to encourage people to be pedestrian and to beautify the waterfront areas.
- ▶ "Stop the permits to build more stores and buildings  
Put a restriction on height and size  
Protect our green spaces and our wildlife"

- ▶ “Strategic and financial planning is governed by asset management and level of service that can be afforded – roads, water, sewers, etc are the backbone of our community and instead are being pushed to the back burner.  
Police services should be restructured and adequately funded for the services provided. An integrated service model is needed.  
Implement plans, particularly climate change, instead of updating or making new plans. The hard and useful work is implementation.”
- ▶ “–Strive to make Nanaimo a destination vs a gateway to other destinations on and off the island.  
–Address issues of substance use and homelessness.  
–Improve public transit including buses (smaller but more frequent?); island railway; and foot passenger ferry. All will make it easier to both get and live here. ”
- ▶ “–stronger law enforcement presence downtown  
–increase seniors’ housing options  
–increase housing options for homeless”
- ▶ “Subsidize green building or retrofits.  
Increase access to the private wilderness that lies behind all the gates West of the city.  
Overpasses on the Parkway! Think of the pollution that the constant stop and go creates.”
- ▶ “Support for feeding the poor healthy food. Good guts > good brains > less need for drugs.  
Provide homes, jobs and support for the homeless.  
Do anything we can to prepare for climate warming.”
- ▶ “Support for the homeless and mentally ill that wander the streets.  
Public access to waterfront.  
A venue for performance art.  
”
- ▶ “Support local businesses during covid by encouraging innovation and community.  
Greater waterfront access.  
Less traffic congestion. ”
- ▶ Supportive housing and counseling for homeless/ and drug addicted.
- ▶ “Supportive housing with social services for the addicted  
  
Build more affordable housing  
  
Continue focus on being environmentally friendly “
- ▶ Supportive low barrier housing throughout the city
- ▶ “Survey as many families as possible to identify if their basic needs were being met and put together packages of family resources that include all types of subsidies and municipal, provincial and federal support funding available. The surviving guide is a start but honestly people who have never been in the system don’t even know what to ask for when they call a place. 75 % of the work I do in professional and private practice ends up being how to support people/families to navigate the system to get support. I believe that a central city consulting support services to assist people to access services they need would improve the quality of life for our entire community. We could assess needs in a wholistic way.

More food share and sustainability programs that bring our communities together to meet the needs of

our impoverished individuals. Especially children. With our land resources there is absolutely no reason for anyone in this community to be going without food.

Increase mental health and substance use services for youth in all areas of the city. My mind is always blown with how many northern end families have no idea how or where to get their children support. I have done guest presentation for some students classes at a teachers request. I provide an introduction to mental health, wellness and community support services. I fell into this opportunity after do a presentation in one of my daughter class. I can't for the life of me figure out why this is not offered as standard practice both in and out of the school system.

- ▶ Sustainability first means self sufficiency – we rely on power from the mainland, natural gas from the mainland and our water sources are finite in the face of climate change. Planning now means easier and more diverse options later.
- ▶ “Tackle crime and drug use in Nanaimo  
More commercial space along the waterfront  
Better traffic flow in town.”
- ▶ “Tackle homelessness by providing low income housing with support services & whatever else is required. That would help our downtown feel safer.  
Encourage the construction of affordable rental & purchasable accomodation emphasizing community interaction & green facets.  
Stop allowing forested areas to be used for development. Use all areas that have already been cleared & safeguard our watercourses. ”
- ▶ “Tackle homelessness.  
Tackle Drug Addiction  
Tackle Affordable Housing.”
- ▶ “Take over the Arts Council. It hasn’t functioned for years.  
Bring people of all disciplines in the arts together to create a new artistic vision for the community. Make it easier for developers to build higher-density affordable housing for all people. The fact that the Molnar development on the old hospital site had so many challenges (ultimately, not going through) is a huge problem that feels connected to “old Nanaimo.””
- ▶ Take the drug addicts and give them shovels; if they want to eat then they work. More patrols and policing!
- ▶ Tear down homeless camps, close the two temp housing locations, push the homeless out of the city.
- ▶ “Tear down the old Howard Johnson hotel, dredge the creek, remove the trash, remove the homeless, and build a vibrant market and village accessible by foot, boat, bike – but not by car. Much like Granville Island.  
Complete the waterfront walkway to Departure Bay. Remove Glen Santic’s monopoly on all of the property in Departure Bay and develop a year-round waterfront community of small businesses and restaurants.  
Make use of smaller community buses and neighbourhood routes to collect residents in various sections and drop them at central bus stops where they can access major routes.”
- ▶ “The city pays \$1000s on street lighting for parking lots but virtually nothing on lighting for outdoor sports (EG Maffeo Sutton’s basketball court, Altuista playground at Beban Park). The winter months can be especially dark and an investment in outdoor lighting for outdoor recreation (especially during covid) would improve our quality of life.

Investment in open outdoor sport facilities for basketball and street soccer. EG Maffeo Sutton's basketball court is nice but built on a hill. So close to being awesome but falling short."

- ▶ "The problematic Downtown areas need to be a priority issue for council -- it has been taken over by poverty, crime and drug use.  
Incentivize investment in the existing waterfront infrastructure (empty and unused buildings and properties must be addressed) not just supporting new build.  
Require low cost and social housing be built into ALL new housing developments in ALL neighbourhoods in the city rather than concentrating the poverty downtown."
- ▶ "'-The proposed community development in duke point/cedar is under construction and growing as a community and increasing the job market of Nanaimo  
-Transit is more accessible every day of the week and has lowed the cars on our roads by 10-15  
-Homelessness has disappeared because of affordable housing and as such crime and drug use have decreased as well because people feel they are supported in times of need. "
- ▶ "The state of homelessness has to be address. Complex issue requires multi prong solutions with senior govt financial support

Diversify the economy to attract more tech industry

Nanaimo needs more art & culture activities, events. Its really hard to meet people here.

"

- ▶ "To be honest it has been a dream of mine to get involved in some form of community programs to help make Nanaimo a better, more enjoyable place.

1. I would encourage the corner downtown with the hole in the ground and the A&B sound building to be something.

2. As I mentioned above I would love to see the museum become a bigger part of our events and community. I know so few locals who have visited the new museum, and the ones that have have visited the old one only because of school field trips... Maybe have more speakers, or figures from the indigenous community to host some fun and educational nights to get people interested in our history in Nanaimo.

3. The drugs and homelessness in this city are out of control. We already do alot, and I don't have any ideas because this problem is alot bigger than my understanding of it. It's probably a bigger problem than just Nanaimo to deal with, but the drug testing tent we have had before seems like a good direction. And Naxalone courses and kits are available and that's saved more than one of my friends lives. "

- ▶ Traffic calming. Affordable Housing. Support Local Businesses and Industry.
- ▶ Traffic flow. Homelessness crime
- ▶ "Traffic planning, the lack of left turn bays on busy roads astounds me. So very dangerous.

"

- ▶ "Transform and beautify the Hwy 1, Terminal, Island Hwy North corridor.

Start creating a 15 minute city (15 minutes walk from anywhere to shopping, school, work, recreation).

Actively celebrate and welcome diversity of all kinds."

- ▶ Transition housing with supportive staff and resources. Focus on local food production, access and community based businesses. Better options for non-motorized or public transit.
- ▶ "Transportation  
Mental health  
Taking chances on our city and believing in it. "
- ▶ "Transportation accessibility (better bike lanes and bus system)  
Increased affordable housing  
More events to engage young adults"
- ▶ "transportation; both public transit & improved bike lanes  
create more community spaces close down Commercial st to traffic after 5pm  
develop a strategy for leisure especially a sport strategy to improve the quality of sport within the community"
- ▶ "treat homelessness and drug use as a social problem and not a police matter, we need to move resources from overpolicing to increased social programs to address these issues in our community. push for developments to be built more sustainable and less reliant on natural gas for heating, developers should be encouraged to go over and above provincial building code and strive to achieve results closer to what vancouver building code pushes to achieve encourage out of the box solutions like affordable coop housing that is accessible and desirable for the cities younger population and working poor who are under served in nanaimo's unaffordable housing market"
- ▶ "Treat the addicted  
Bylaw their offences  
Make downtown now a shock and awe. You can take care of flowers but those flowers wont ever look nice next to a homeless sleeping person and a cart full of cans."
- ▶ Unfortunately, we've let the city get to this state. Cleaning it up is large and complex. The more programs we seem to offer, the more it attracts drug use and crime. I don't have the answer.
- ▶ "Untangle development permits, reduce the red tape.  
Re-visit our City of Nanaimo street maintenance and construction program.  
Review alternatives to helping the homeless and mentally ill population."
- ▶ "urban food gardens and forests  
better public transportation  
free parking downtown "
- ▶ "Use our empty buildings instead of building new ones.  
Clean up our city of drug addicts  
Add something for families like mini golf, waterslide park, museum."
- ▶ "Utilize the over abundance of homeless drug addicts, to earn their keep, through work for rehab programs.  
Work on a massive tree planting and greening initiative, to add flowering and deciduous shade trees, that promote insect and bird food sources.  
Aquaponics programs to teach responsible and organic food development."
- ▶ "Utilize unoccupied downtown premises.  
Do not approve new construction while comparable facilities exist and can be upgraded.  
Provide complete transparency on the use of public money."

- ▶ “Vertical farming  
Positioning our community as a hub for outdoor lifestyle  
Attracting creatives = lower cost on commercial spaces, tax initiatives??”
  - ▶ “Vibrant, open on a Friday evening, downtown core – restaurants, retail  
Continue with natural parks – we are in such a beautiful environment and a lot of it is getting destroyed for ugly suburban development  
Don’t allow a few people to take over the city and ruin it for everyone else. Have some gumption and enforce loitering bylaws, etc.”
  - ▶ vote in a new council .
  - ▶ “Waive property taxes for businesses on commercial street during the pandemic.  
Provide greater mental health and addiction supports to remove individuals causing crime.  
Advocate for another Ambulance station and full time staff. ”
  - ▶ “Walkable living spaces close to shopping and services.  
Less urban sprawl.  
Better transportation options. ”
  - ▶ walkable neighbourhoods, sustainable housing for homeless, re-vamping secondary suite regulations to have a grade system rather than “legal” “illegal”. Then the poorly habitable ones would need to upgrade.
  - ▶ Walk-cycle path connecting down-town with Departure Bay. Create a pedestrian zone in down-town and have terraces all over the place (fun to hang out) surrounded by small, local businesses. Solve the homeless issue.
  - ▶ Waterfront connected walking paths, redevelop downtown and south of end, housing for all.
  - ▶ “Waterfront development ...the two holes beside Matteo Sutton Park are eyesores as are the lack of developed waterfront along Stewart
- Downtown revitalization ...encourage people to come downtown. Courtney seems to do it better.
- Adequate access for those needing mental health supports.
- ▶ Waterfront pathways. Attractive cruise ship docks. Promote more downtown businesses
  - ▶ Waterfront walkway
  - ▶ We need mental hospitals people need care we need detox centres law and order stop to the catch and release program
  - ▶ We need to encourage outdoor gatherings versus ones indoors. All should be done with the wearing of masks, social distancing and common sense!
  - ▶ Wilcox property South development, finalizing a deal with Island Ferries, get some level of control over vagrants in city centre
  - ▶ “Work to move the military rifle range and provide access back to the trails in their “red zone”  
Provide tax breaks/incentives for getting young people/first time buyers in the housing market.  
Work to provide more funding for schools and support workers/education assistants ”
  - ▶ “Work to resolve the public drug use and homelessness (not those who want homes but those who don’t)  
Improve downtown and the waterfront to be appealing and not so dated (good work being done on this right now)  
Attract businesses to operate here to improve employment for people and keep things affordable ”



- ▶ Work with art and culture organizations, like the Nanaimo Arts Gallery, the Nanaimo Arts Council, to develop an arts centre with shared space for training, art creation, and sales.
- ▶ Would love to see the oceanfront connected with boardwalks and trails. From the biological station right through to the harbour front walk.
- ▶ Zero homelessness. Affordable houses. More businesses and work opportunities.
- ▶ "Zero tolerance for public drug use and property crime.

Make transit run later on Sundays. Low income workers need a safe, reliable way home after 7p.m.

Have council and bylaw work with businesses to find workable solutions to problems instead of threats and fines. Re Pirate Chips "





Our City,  
Our Values,  
Sustainable  
Tomorrow.



Our City,  
Our Values,  
Sustainable  
Tomorrow.

Please note:  
We are **NOT**  
accepting  
Cash as a method  
of payment  
At this time due to  
COVID 19

Hours of Business  
Monday - Friday  
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

PREVENT COVID-19  
**MASKS ARE  
MANDATORY**

SERVICE & RESOURCE CENTRE  
**THIS BUILDING IS OPEN  
MONDAY TO FRIDAY,  
9 AM-4 PM**



Our City  
Our Voice  
GetInvolved  
Nanaimo.ca

Due to COVID-19 and in accordance with  
Municipal Order No. 1863 Special  
meetings of Council will continue to be  
held, however members of the public  
are asked to observe the meetings  
virtually and not attend in person.  
Special Council meetings will continue  
to be live streamed and recorded for  
viewing on our website at  
[www.nanaimo.ca](http://www.nanaimo.ca)



# APPENDIX I

## OTHER SUBMISSIONS



**#8 – 140 Wallace Street, Nanaimo, BC  
V9R 5B1  
Phone/Fax 250-714-1990  
Email: [admin@nalt.bc.ca](mailto:admin@nalt.bc.ca)  
Website: [www.nalt.bc.ca](http://www.nalt.bc.ca)**

November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020

To: Nanaimo Mayor and City Council

**Re: REIMAGINE Nanaimo**

Dear Mayor Krog and Council,

On October 25<sup>th</sup>, members of the NALT Board of Directors met with City staff Rob Lawrance, Kirsti MacDonald and Madeline Koch as part of the REIMAGINE Nanaimo community engagement process.

Discussions on the day were wide ranging from bike paths, to parks, to future park acquisitions to city procedures and processes. From that meeting, NALT has generated a report on key issues facing Nanaimo. The report is meant to initiate further discussion on the challenges and opportunities to becoming a resilient community.

The NALT Board is available to discuss this report with City Council and staff.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nina Evans-Locke'.

Nina Evans-Locke, NALT Co-Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dean Gaudry'.

Dean Gaudry, NALT Co-Chair

Cc: Jake Rudolph,  
Richard Harding,  
Dale Lindsey,  
Bill Sims,  
Rob Lawrance,  
Kirsti MacDonald,  
Madeline Koch

**NALT's mission: to support, promote and protect the natural values of land and water in our area.**

# **REIMAGINE Nanaimo**

## **Submission by Nanaimo & Area Land Trust**

The City is undertaking a major project with public and stakeholder consultation called REIMAGINE Nanaimo. The Nanaimo & Area Land Trust is participating in that process.

The City has specifically included in their REIMAGINE NANAIMO consultation process the following Plans:

- Update of the Official Community Plan to include among others, the
- Transportation Master Plan
- Master Water Supply Strategic Plan

There are many other plans that affect development in the City, some of which are referred to at the REIMAGINE Nanaimo website. There are also a number of applicable City Policies though they are not specifically tabulated in one place.

Some of these are:

- Master Fire Plan
- Cultural Plan
- Urban Forestry Plan
- Asset Management Plan and Strategy
- Climate Change Resiliency Strategy (Adopted in June)
- Green Fleet Management Plan
- Invasive Species Plan
- Parks and Recreation Plan
- 2020-2021 Coordinated Strategic Policy Review
- Economic Development Strategy
- Climate Action Plan (currently being updated with new goals established)

**In April 2019**, the City of Nanaimo passed a resolution declaring a Climate Emergency. That resolution is included in Appendix "A"

On **November 16, 2020**, Nanaimo City Council passed a motion to review and potentially update its protection of riparian areas.

It was moved and seconded that the City's regulatory framework for watercourses be reviewed and revised as part of the REIMAGINE Nanaimo process in order to improve the protection of city watercourse riparian areas for the full range of the important environmental and community benefits they provide. The motion carried.

Also, at Council on **November 19, 2020**, a motion was brought forward on recommendation from the Environment Committee as follows:

That Council, as part of its Strategic Plan review process, consider replacing key Focus Area 1 under the Environmental Responsibility Key Focus Area with: "We will take responsibility to build a city and community that operates within the planetary boundaries necessary to maintain core life-sustaining ecological functions.

That the City of Nanaimo adopt the Doughnut Economic Model as a cohesive vision for all City initiatives and planning processes, focused on social and environmental sustainability as defined by the model, and be supported by a localized, objective-based, and evidence-based framework through the REIMAGINE Nanaimo process.

Council has asked for a staff report to further explain these activities and the impact on the City.

It is expected and important that any processing of development and redevelopment proposals in Nanaimo take all of the approved plans including those listed above and policies into account and ensure that any tradeoffs are clearly identified and explained before Council makes a decision. At present it appears that Council is at times faced with a decision requiring a vote without full information on these important factors.

NALT wishes to specifically comment on Riparian Protection, native vegetation and natural assets, the Official Community Plan update, , and the Development Review process.

## **Riparian Protection**

Riparian area protection, as considered through the development review process, should reflect the guidance of our Official Community Plan (OCP). This includes protecting the various values supported in riparian setbacks including the sense of place that our tall creek-side trees embody, the de facto wildlife corridors accommodated by intact riparian setbacks, the rich biodiversity of riparian and riverine systems and the ecological services (flood control and drought mitigation) that these areas provide with sufficient protection and restoration. These are the ecosystem services that enhance the livability of Nanaimo as a desirable community. These are the environmental and community values realized by riparian zones. These are the values articulated in the OCP but inconsistently delivered through the development review process.

In current practice Nanaimo's riparian protections set out by various instruments are disconnected from the clear objectives and policies stated in the OCP. For example, the bylaw that protects riparian areas allows only for an interpretation of the value of riparian habitat for fish, not the other values of the watershed. Furthermore, the bylaw only considers a stream that is already impacted by intentional and unintentional consequences

of development and practices. As part of a development permit application, in such instances, the reports prepared by registered professionals representing the development applicant are based on an assessment of the current state of the stream (or section of the stream). Therefore, the conclusions of the report need not consider the past state and ecosystem services the stream could provide if not compromised, and thus there is no consideration of opportunities to restore streams and habitats and enhance ecosystem services. These activities, such as the recent restoration work done on Departure Creek, are examples of valid opportunities for the community to build resiliency.

The City does have a stream nuisance by-law (by-law 5105: A BYLAW RESPECTING WATERCOURSES AND THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCES THEREIN). While the City can make an owner clean up a mess, the offense must have occurred and potentially the damage done before the by-law takes effect. This is an after-the-fact remedy, often less than successful. Ultimately, we need a thorough review of the development approval process to follow the vision of the OCP to fully protect riparian areas and support their restoration. These changes are needed for the ecosystem values articulated in the OCP and for the important role riparian ecosystem services have in our climate emergency adaptations.

The City appears to be deficient in hydrology studies and flood plain mapping on most streams in the City. Much attention has been given to the potential effects of sea level rise along the shoreline. The same level of attention is not evident regarding the effect of significant increased rainfall and flood from climate change on streams and rivers. Therefore, setbacks to include consideration of climate study do not appear to be fully or properly identified in the OCP and other instruments.

## **Native vegetation and natural assets**

Supporting our region's biodiversity requires that we emphasize natural vegetation and native plants. The Design Review Panel and development review process must take into consideration these assets and their value to the community as a whole. There are requirements for developers to submit landscape plans for certain character developments. These reviews must recognize the value of natural assets and native vegetation and the outcome of the review must discourage exotic non-native species. Generally, the City's policy for all development needs to focus on including a requirement to maintain portions of existing vegetation, including trees and only allow native species. These considerations are especially important for climate mitigation and the needed action on climate change. Because native plants have evolved and adapted to our region's wet winters and dry summers, they offer some resiliency to climate change along with further benefits that include reduced watering requirements.

The value of natural assets may be understood by the City but they are not being given the priority they need to consider their existing and future role and intrinsic value. They are not currently integrated into City plans and policies, nor included in the OCP and Asset Management Plan and process. With climate change, they become even more important, especially in managing significant rain events.

In 2012, the City completed an Urban Forest Strategy based on the results of an urban tree survey administered to citizens in 2008. The urban forest is recognized as the collective trees across public and private lands throughout Nanaimo. It is clear from the Urban Forest Strategy that Nanaimo citizens understand and value trees and recognize that our urban forest supports the livability of Nanaimo.

The following quote is from the Urban Forestry Plan regarding a survey of citizens in Nanaimo

*"4.0 SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS*

*These results indicate strong support from the residents of Nanaimo for sustaining urban forestry in the city. Most residents support having trees in their yard, on city streets in front of their home and elsewhere, including city parks.*

*This support for urban forestry stems from the perceived benefits for city trees. Not surprisingly, most residents felt that trees improve the appearance of their residence and of their neighbourhood. In addition, most residents valued the ecological values of trees; for example in providing habitat for birds and wildlife, reducing erosion, reducing flooding, and removing carbon from the atmosphere. These responses suggest a strong understanding of natural processes and support for environmental stewardship within an urban environment. This is an important finding, and an opportunity to build strong partnerships in stewardship between the Nanaimo Parks Department and the Nanaimo community."*

## **The Official Community Plan Update**

Now is the time to rethink the approach to the Official Community Plan.

Fifty years ago, planning schools were teaching **"respect the land and live accordingly"** For hundreds of years our 'First Nations' developed their community around this principle Somewhere, over these many decades, we lost that focus and now give priority to the development and then shape the land to suit it. We have it backwards. The result is today we pay a high social and economic price for many of those consequences with degraded streams loss of vegetative cover, loss of both terrestrial and aquatic habitat, species loss,

climate change, and slope failures, among other issues. There is no evidence that the City has addressed natural assets and their intrinsic value within land use planning nor recognition in the OCP This is a major omission. This lack of information compromises decisions on development and management of city lands and assets. As a small city with many of these natural assets still in existence, we have the opportunity to change course. and do it right.

The City has the opportunity to change the approach and mindset, recognize the thrust of Council, demonstrated with recent recommendations and motions made in November 2020, and recognize our citizen needs and wants towards development and climate change impacts reflecting today's cultural, economic, physical and social environment. Please rethink the process.

### **Development Review Process Review**

The primary and most important 'implementing' mechanism the City has is the development review process. Decisions emanating from these reviews, recommendations and ultimately the actions of Council have an 80-100 year result. Once made and the development proceeds, there is no turning back.

The Development Review Process needs a complete review to include climate change, rethink setbacks from streams and adhere to these without deviation. (2020-2021 Coordinated Strategic Policy Review). The process needs to include all the plans and policies the City has approved, some of which are listed at the beginning of this document. While there is a checklist for submission by applicants for development permits, there also is no checklist for staff to complete during the process that reflects all the plans, policies and programs that the city has reviewed against a development application and how they applied these to their recommended decision to council. Transparency is important. A checklist of the policies review should be part of the package given to Council with the recommendations and therefore make the review transparent not only to Council but to the public. It would also ensure that council votes from a fully informed position. This is not current practice in Nanaimo but is in many other jurisdictions. It is time Nanaimo implemented this as part of the process.

Systemic change is needed. The language of the OCP adopted by the City provides guidance, but it is not always carried through the Development Review Process. The OCP is aspirational but potentially decoupled from the "engine" of development applications and review. Presently the drivers of decision to recommend to council support or denial of an application are not clear. The declaration of a climate emergency gives concrete urgency to our need to change. We need to look at all of our policies, procedures and practices through a climate emergency lens. We need to ask does this decision lead to mitigation of or adaptation to climate change in support of a resilient community?

And remember, any decision made resulting in a development of any property, be it large or small, results in a structure or facility and changes with potential impacts lasting 80 – 100 years.

Respectfully submitted by the NALT Board of Directors, November 30th, 2020

## **Resolution on Declaring a Climate Emergency.**

*"Whereas the long-term warming of the planet since the early 20th century, most notably since the late 1970s, has been rapidly elevating due to the increase in greenhouse gas emissions from human activity and is a significant contributing factor to changing global climate patterns;*

*Whereas climate change is currently contributing to property and infrastructure damage worldwide, stressing local and international economies;*

*Whereas climate change is currently jeopardizing the health and survival of many species and natural environments worldwide, stressing local and international eco systems;*

*Whereas climate change is currently harming human populations globally through rising sea levels and other extraordinary phenomena like intense wildfires, droughts, floods and storms worldwide, stressing local and international communities;*

*Whereas the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has indicated a need for massive reductions in greenhouse gas emissions in the next 11 years to avoid further and devastating economic, ecological, and societal loss;*

*Whereas the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change finds that limiting global warming to 1.5°C with no or limited overshoot would require global net CO2 emissions dropping to between 50% and 58% below 2010 levels by 2030, and between 94% and 107% below 2010 levels by 2050;*

*Whereas the world is currently on track for more than 3°C of warming by 2100 based on policies currently in place, and those policies will need to be strengthened significantly to limit warming to 1.5°C;*

*Whereas an emergency can be defined as "an often dangerous situation requiring immediate action" and greenhouse gas emission reductions can be achieved through effective and efficient land use, transportation options, and building construction, which are within local government's jurisdiction;*

*Therefore be it resolved, that the City of Nanaimo officially declare a climate emergency for the purposes of identifying and deepening our commitment to protecting our economy, our eco systems, and our community from global warming."*

*That all funds in the Regional Emissions Reduction Reserve be moved to a new reserve fund for the purpose of supporting projects, plans and 1. 11 initiatives that reduce the City of Nanaimo's community wide CO2*

*emissions to between 50% to 58% below 2010 levels by 2030, and between 94% and 107% below 2010 levels by 2050.*

*That the framework, strategies and actions, and implementation of City of Nanaimo Community Sustainability Action Plan be updated to reflect the target goal, based on the information contained in the latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report, of limiting global warming to 1.5°C. 2.*

*That correspondence be sent to the Regional District of Nanaimo requesting the addition of 20,000 annual public transit hours to improve public transit service delivery within the City of Nanaimo and develop transit routes that connect our local system with inter-regional connections. 3.*

*That correspondence be sent to the Honourable George Heyman, provincial Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, requesting that province reinstate the production of the Community Energy and Emissions Inventory Reports or dedicate grant funding to be used for their creation.*

*Passed by City Council in April 2019*

## Request for Facilities expansion – November 20, 2020

**Introduction:** The pickleball and badminton communities would like to place before the City a request for additional indoor facilities to accommodate our two sports. Ideally for our sports the city would construct a purpose-built facility in the form of a field house on the grounds at Beban Park.

**Overview:** Demand for racquet Sport facilities and indoor playing opportunities is growing and presently there are inadequate facilities to accommodate all the needs of our racquet sports participants. An ad hoc committee was set up to gather information on what would be required to expand those facilities and meet a growing demand for playing time. The committee was comprised of 3 members of the pickleball community and 3 members of the badminton community.

**Committee Membership:** From the Pickleball community - John Davis, Michele Ney and Garry Robbins. From the Badminton Community – Rob Carruthers, Janice Walker and Chris Pearce. John acted as the de-facto chair.

**Purpose:** It was the goal of the committee to gather information relating to addressing this shortfall and what would be required to increase capacity for these sports. Pickleball and badminton share some common court requirements and were considered a good fit for investigating future expansion of facilities. Tennis was also considered, but that sport has approached the city on its own and has slightly different needs with respect to a facility. Integrating all three sports would require a much larger space and likely result in a much larger cost. Such a facility has not been ruled out as the committee is thus far gathering information.

**Vision:** An ideal solution for the two clubs would be a 5-court dedicated facility. Important features in such a facility would include:

- Suitable space
- Good lighting
- Good air quality and movement
- Good playing surface with quality line and court markings
- Suitable locker and change rooms

In addition to these features desirable features for the facility might include:

- A viewing area
- A small lounge area
- A small coffee bar including counters, sinks, a fridge and a microwave.
- A meeting room, and
- A Management and Reception office

**Approach:** Through various means the committee approached existing bodies in their respective sports and gathered as much information as was available. Throughout BC both badminton and pickleball facilities are being expanded and built. A similar initiative is underway in Edmonton to expand badminton facilities and that group has shared much of their information with us. The Cordova Bay Badminton Club is actively planning expansion of their facilities. Numerous cities across BC are adding to their outdoor pickleball facilities including, Kelowna, Penticton, Richmond, North Vancouver, Courtenay/Comox and more.

**Solution:** Through the process of information gathering we have determined that the best solution to the growing demand would be a field house type of facility, constructed by the city to suit the needs of the two sports. We believe this solution has some definite advantages that the City might realize.

1. It would provide a venue for the future growth of the two sports
2. Such a venue would relieve the current facility of Oliver Woods of space demand for pickleball and badminton, freeing it up for use by other sports and activities.
3. Availability of such a facility would allow more flexible planning and operations for a South Nanaimo Multiplex.
4. The location would be central to most residents
5. There is existing space at Beban Park onto which such a facility could be placed
6. There would be in place a dedicated executive eager to operate and schedule events into the facility through a not for profit organization. This arrangement would be undertaken through the drafting and execution of a co-management agreement.
7. The membership of the two sports has expressed a willingness to assist financially as information returned from our surveys would indicate.

**Operational Considerations:** The committee would intend to charter a non-profit society to steer site operations. The general feeling amongst the group was that (ideally) the management of daily operations including:

- janitorial services,
- utilities cost management,
- marketing, and
- scheduling of the facility

would be undertaken by that non-profit society. General maintenance, such as grounds and building repair of the facility would be the responsibility of the city.

Possible revenue sources have been identified and include pickleball and badminton play at the club level, open play for these sports as well, meeting room rental, cafeteria revenues, coaching and training sessions and event hosting. Other sources will be identified moving ahead.

**Progress:** As part of the information gathering each club polled its membership to measure the degree of commitment amongst our players. Overwhelmingly, each club felt there was a need for expanded facilities. Eighty-five percent (85%) of the membership approved of the clubs allocating some monies to help build a business case moving forward. There was also a positive response to the question regarding funding the project. Every indication is that between the two clubs we could raise as much as \$200,000 through some sort of debenture issue. No actual fund raising was undertaken, however, it was further felt that these amounts could be raised towards construction of a new facility.

**Participation:** Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in North America. Both this sport and Badminton are experiencing growth particularly amongst the senior set. Membership in Nanaimo's pickleball club exceeds 300 and growth is only limited by the opportunity to play. There is a similar situation with Badminton. What is not known accurately is the number of participants in the sports who are "non-affiliated" - not members of an existing organization. It is broadly believed this number is significant.

**Longer Term:** A long term view of the health of our senior community is essential. What we do know is that our senior segment in society is a growing segment and generally a healthier segment than in previous years. Having access to various recreational and sporting facilities will continue to improve the health of our seniors and that in turn will drive down the costs of medical assistance as this part of the population grows.

**In Closing:** On behalf of the Badminton and Pickleball communities and our AD Hoc committee, and other groups that may be included, I thank you very much for your consideration of our request and we look forward to an ongoing dialogue

Jordan Pletz  
Nanaimo Skateboard Association  
250-619-6486  
jordan.pletz@live.com

## Skateboard features



Ledges:

Ledges are one of the most common obstacles in skateboarding and a key feature all skateboarders are looking for.



Rails:

Rails such as these are called flat bars. Most of the time they are found as parking dividers and rub rails against buildings or structures.



Banks:

Banks are great features that all levels of riders can enjoy from just beginning to the most advanced.



Hips:

Hips are two banks with a 90 degree corner. Riders transfer over the corner from one bank to the other.



Combination spots:

Features such as banks can be used in multiple ways as well as combined with other features. Such as rails and ledges.

Examples of art and skateboard features.









sometimes the art itself is the skate able feature

This is an example of what I believe to be the perfect art/skate spot combination. large concrete boxes with steel edges to ensure durability against chipping.





# reimagine NANAIMO

Our City, Our Voices.

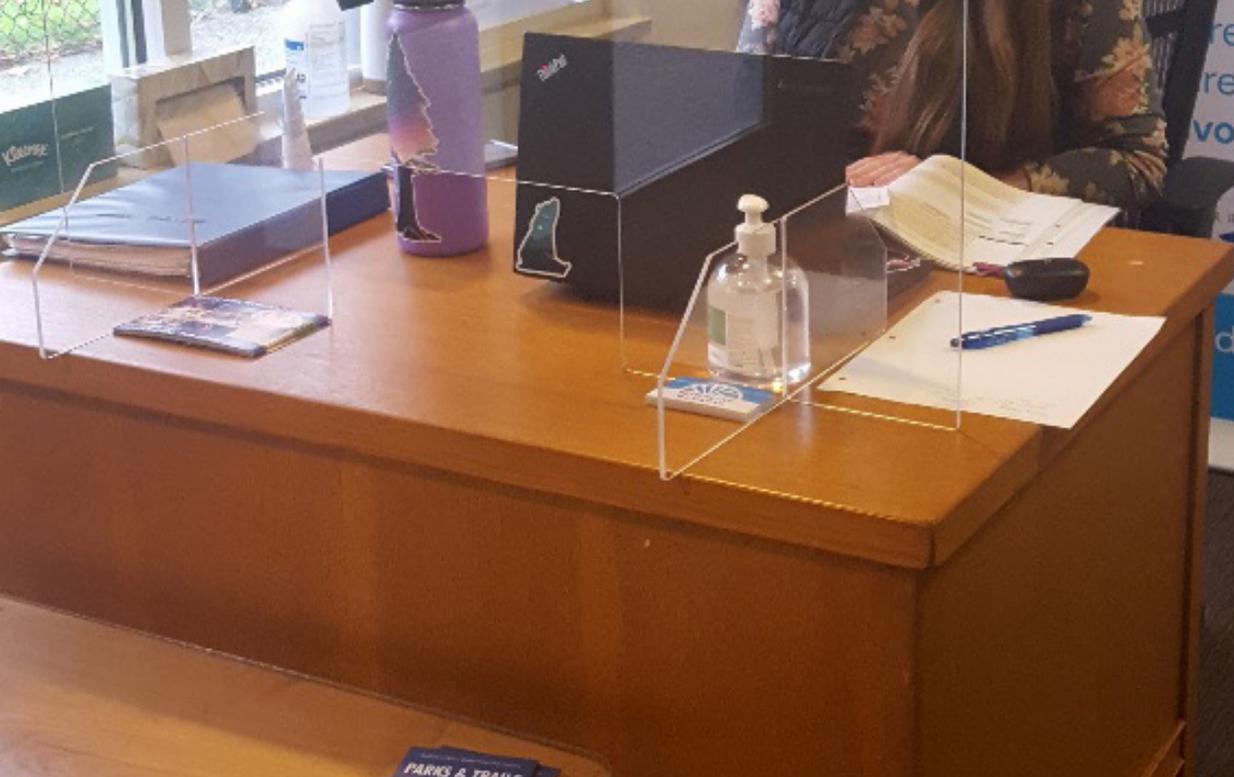
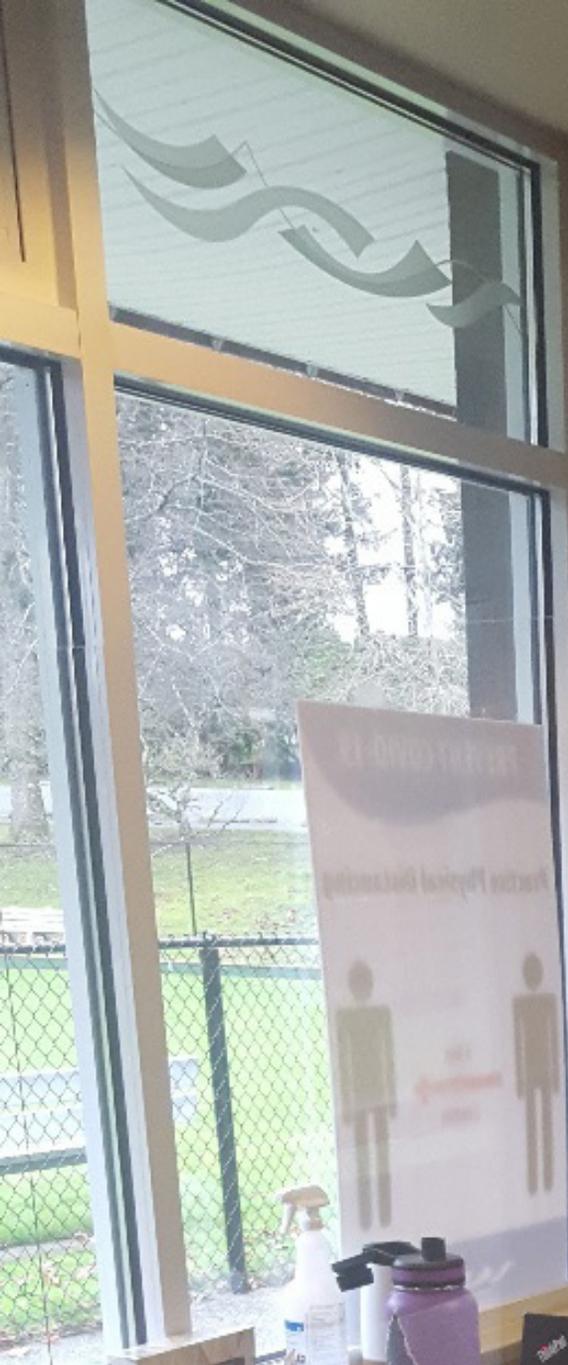
What kind of city will  
Nanaimo be in 20+ years?

- How We Move
- How We Connect & Play
- How We Adapt & Stay Green

reimagine  
together.  
involved now!



[dnanaimo.ca](http://dnanaimo.ca)





# APPENDIX J

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

## **Community Engagement Task Force: FINAL REPORT TO NANAIMO CITY COUNCIL · JAN 14 2019**

### **Executive Summary**

In July 2017, the Community Engagement Task Force (CETF) was formed to assist Council to “*further community engagement and public conversation.*” The CETF held four pilot community engagement sessions between November 2017 and November 2018. Each one had a specific consultation purpose around which the format was designed.

From various perspectives, the work of the CETF in carrying out these 4 pilot project sessions was a success. Participants generally felt that their input was valued, that they understood how to participate and felt welcomed and respected while doing so. The task force demonstrated that even in an environment that was, at times, less than congenial, it was possible to have a mutually respectful conversation between residents and elected representatives. In this regard, we have opened the door to an improvement in citizen participation in the City of Nanaimo and demonstrated that Council and staff have little to fear from involving residents in the decision-making process.

Community engagement is more than a town hall meeting or an open house: it is a culture fostered within an entire organization and a community. It is a culture where communication is meaningful and authentic; and asking questions makes a resident feel heard and respected at all levels. We believe there are opportunities for Council to improve the culture of engagement in Nanaimo and by doing so enhance the relationship and level of trust between the community and the city. The following actions are recommended:

1. Be committed to working more closely with the community to improve engagement and participation in council decisions, so that residents feel empowered to be more active in shaping their community and future.
2. Begin with something as simple as a published calendar of what Council intends to engage residents about over the next year.
3. Ensure that existing methods for community engagement are fully understood and utilized.
4. Begin a process of strengthening and empowering neighbourhoods to better ensure that programs and projects are actually meeting community needs.
5. Consider how to improve community engagement through advertising, social media and online technology.
6. Consider establishing a central focus for community engagement within the city.

The CETF is pleased to have been a part of this process to make public engagement a part of everyday life in the city of Nanaimo. We encourage members of Council to consider not only our recommendations for the future but also the specific data that arose from each of the sessions. This information was created and presented by the citizens of this community and should be considered as critical input to the preparation of Council’s 2019 strategic plan and priorities as well as future programs and projects.

## Purpose of Report

To present for City Council's consideration a summary of the results of the four pilot sessions undertaken by the Community Engagement Task Force (CETF); an evaluation of what we have learned; and some recommendations to assist City Council and staff in enhancing Nanaimo's community engagement culture.

## Part 1: Introduction

The Community Engagement Task Force (CETF) consisting of nine volunteers from the community supported by City staff was put together following a Council motion on Sept 12, 2016 to create a public engagement pilot program to "*further community engagement and public conversation*" in a less formal setting than a Council or Committee of the Whole meeting. Four pilot community engagement projects were to be undertaken. Specifically, the motion said that:

*Council direct Staff to prepare a report pertaining to starting and hosting informal community engagement and public conversation sessions, which must meet all procedural requirements, with the intent to further community engagement and public conversation by the accommodation of a regularly scheduled, open topic, facilitated dialog in a setting distinct from council's formal business meetings with the following parameters:*

- *An ad hoc committee of Staff, Council and the public be struck to assist in the development of the format, schedule and launch of the initiative;*
- *Sessions will be held on a three-month schedule; and*
- *After four sessions a follow up review will take place with the intent to evaluate the success, participation and accomplishments of the engagements.*

Some of the discussion around this motion during the Council meeting was useful to the CETF in interpreting its mandate: These included "*dialogue not a monologue*"; "*facilitate more general dialogue*"; "*better environment for people to get up and talk*"; and "*more opportunities to hear from the public.*"

Although the original council motion was made in 2016, the CETF was not formed until July 11, 2017. By that time, City communication staff had already put in place a set of information boards as well as an online survey to obtain feedback from residents about five method options of community engagement. The five methods up for discussion were: Open Houses, Town Hall meetings, Revolving Conversations (also known as Samoan Circles), Open Space Meetings and World Cafes. Once the survey was closed, the CETF reviewed the results and began work on forming a structure for this "*public engagement pilot program.*"<sup>1</sup>

While these information sessions provided some interesting results in terms of which methods of engagement the community might prefer, there was no attempt to link the purpose of the engagement with the type of methodology that might be appropriate in that circumstance.<sup>2</sup> It was only late in these information sessions that the concept of what the community wanted to engage about, as opposed to how they wanted to engage, was asked of residents.

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<sup>1</sup> News Release: City of Nanaimo, August 28, 2017

<sup>2</sup> Community Engagement Consultations July-August 2017: Open Houses and Online Survey Feedback Analysis <https://pub-nanaimo.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=8317>

Two basic questions were not asked at this time:

1. What kind of issues/ topics do the public want to engage city council about?
2. What would be the purpose or outcome of the engagement on these topics?

This connection between determining the purpose and scope of community engagement before deciding on the methodology is central to the work of the CETF. The task force recognized the need to widen the consultation process, and to engage with residents not just on their preferred engagement methodologies, but on which topics they wished to engage.

At its initial meetings, the CETF drafted a mission statement as well as indicators of success for the pilot program:

***Mission Statement:*** *Our mission is to work alongside fellow residents, City Council and staff to design, implement and refine a community engagement pilot program which provides a clear and accessible means for citizens to discuss their thoughts and ideas with the community and its leaders*

***Indicators of Success:***

- *Residents feel that they have influence in identifying which topics are important to them.*
- *Residents understand how to participate and feel welcomed and respected while doing so; and*
- *Residents feel that their input is valued.*

## **Part 2: The public engagement pilot program sessions**

The CETF held four pilot community engagement sessions between November 2017 and November 2018. Each one had a specific consultation purpose around which the format was designed. Complete reports on each session are available online.<sup>3</sup>

Pilot Project Session #1, on Thursday, November 23, 2017 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Vancouver Island Conference Centre, was an open space technology discussion centred around “*Building Nanaimo for the Future: What are your priorities?*” where five topics chosen by the community at large were debated and discussed in a round table format. The purpose of pilot project session #1 was to allow for some positive input by residents on issues and opportunities which they felt were facing the community. The goal was simply to obtain feedback on issues of concern to residents and to acknowledge those concerns.<sup>4</sup>

The theme of this first pilot project was intentionally broad and positive. The CETF determined that the best engagement technique or methodology to accomplish this intent was open space technology the goal of which is to create time and space for people to engage deeply and creatively around issues of concern to them. We also wanted to try this method as it was one of the five identified earlier. The session was facilitated by Pam Shaw, Director, VIU Master of Community Planning program, and the table discussions featured moderated notes taken by students of the graduate planning program. City Council’s role was to participate in the conversations, both listening and speaking. At the conclusion of the session, VIU table moderators presented a summary of the points discussed. There were 60 attendees at Session #1.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.nanaimo.ca/your-government/boards-committees/community-engagement-committee>

<sup>4</sup> Based on the Spectrum of Public Participation developed by the [International Association of Public Participation](#) (IAP2)

Pilot Project Session #2, held on Thursday, April 26, 2018 from 6 to 9 p.m. at Beban Park Social Centre, utilized a “*micro town hall*” format with participants bringing their own questions on any topic that they wished to specifically ask of members of City Council again in a multiple dispersed round table format. The purpose was to engage residents in a direct dialogue with members of City Council about issues of concern to the community in a mutually respectful and helpful way. Our facilitator for the session was Reed Botwright, senior applications analyst, City of Nanaimo.

Many are familiar with the usual public town hall events where citizen questions are directed at the elected officials and they answer them. The recent e-Town hall on the 2019 Budget is an example. Sometimes the answers can be lengthy, and so this restricts the number of questions that can be asked. As well, because the elected officials are often separated from the citizens by formality and authority, this can often give the appearance of a “*we-they*” mentality. In addition, some people feel intimidated by speaking in front of a crowd. The “*micro town hall*” format sought to reduce the amount of disruption and grandstanding and instead provide an environment that would be safe, comfortable and conducive to dialogue between residents and members of council.

Participants were seated at tables with one member of Council per table. Residents were to come prepared with up to three questions they would like to ask members of council. At each table, residents would have a maximum one minute to ask their question and the member of council would have a maximum two minutes to respond. If other people at the table wished to contribute to that discussion then there would be five minutes allowed for this collective participation before the next person was able to ask their question. The process would be repeated until time was called for members of Council to switch tables and another round would begin. Each table had a facilitator whose job was to manage the timing of the questions, ensure fairness for all participants and maintain decorum. There were 30 attendees at Session #2.

Pilot Project Session #3 held on Saturday, July 28, 2018 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Oliver Woods Community Centre demonstrated a collaborative type of community engagement where residents partnered with the city in developing actions to meet an issue of importance selected by the community in an online poll which, in this case, was *Homelessness: How do we increase understanding and move towards action?* Our facilitator for this session was Dyan Dunsmor-Farley, Wave Consulting Ltd of Gabriola Island.

The intent of this process was to dive deeply into a single issue of importance to our community, examine it from all angles and collectively identify potential solutions. This being the third Pilot Project Session of the Task Force, it was intentionally designed to move beyond conversation and into knowledge building and action planning. The session would begin with a panel of relevant experts to provide a common ground of information about the issue for all participants. This would be followed by multiple table discussions on various aspects of the issue to potentially arrive at viable solutions.

To select the topic, the CETF reached out to the community at large for input asking for a single topic ‘problem’ statement, which allowed participants to think about the current situation (where are we?), the ideal state (where do we want to go?) and what is needed to bridge the two (how do we get there?). Forty-six responses were received with the most popular topic being homelessness with thirteen responses.

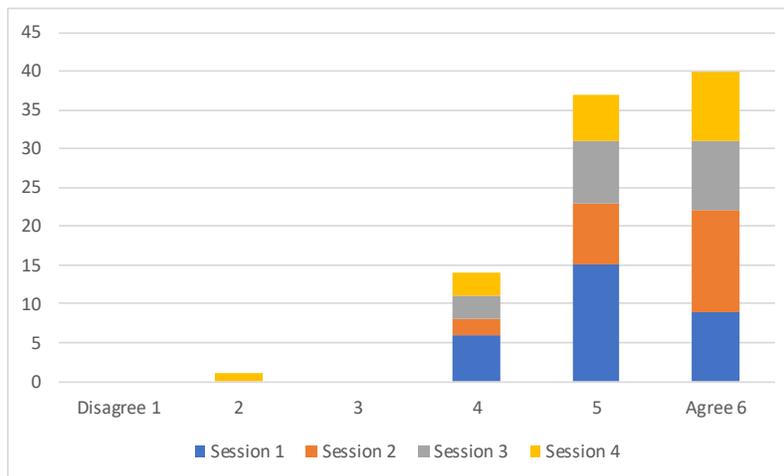
The role of council members was to see it as an opportunity to listen to a full range of perspectives on the topic; hear how citizens are processing the issue; and reflect on what the community thinks is important to focus on. At the time, the issue of homelessness was front and centre in Nanaimo. The CETF knew that it might not be an easy conversation to have, but those participating more than rose to the occasion and the results were an outpouring of community support for solutions to what had been described at the beginning of the day as a complex topic. There were 60 attendees at Session #3.

The specific purpose of Community Engagement Pilot Project Session #4 held on Wednesday, November 21, 2018 from 6 to 9 p.m. at Beban Park Social Centre was to *build relationships between Council and neighbourhoods by sharing what residents love about their neighbourhoods, identifying issues of concern and working together on solutions*. By organizing a session geographically around neighbourhoods, the CETF provided an opportunity for a diverse group of residents of each neighbourhood to identify the issues that were of concern to them and perhaps, common across neighbourhoods. It also enabled the new Mayor and most of Council to experience their first community engagement session. Our facilitator for the session was Larissa Coser with table moderation and notetaking by members of the Young Professionals of Nanaimo and members of the CETF. There were 68 attendees at Session #4.

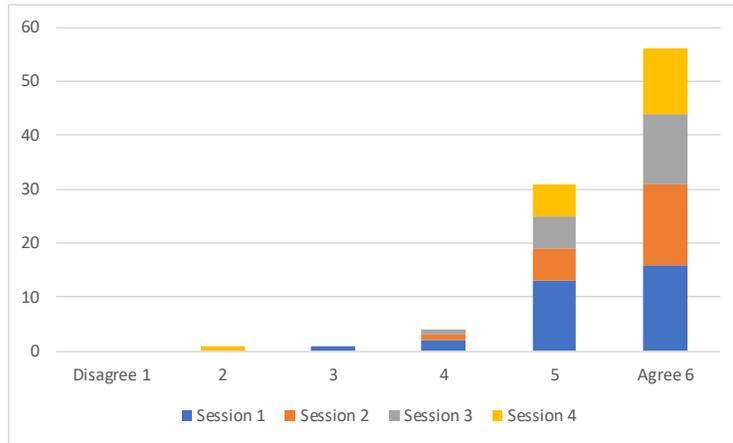
### Part 3a: Evaluation of the process -- criteria and assessment

Prior to the first pilot project session the CETF established four evaluation questions for participants to answer at the end of each session based on the Task Force’s indicators of success. The answer to each question was on a continuum of 1 – 6 with #1 being disagree the most and # 6 being agree the most.

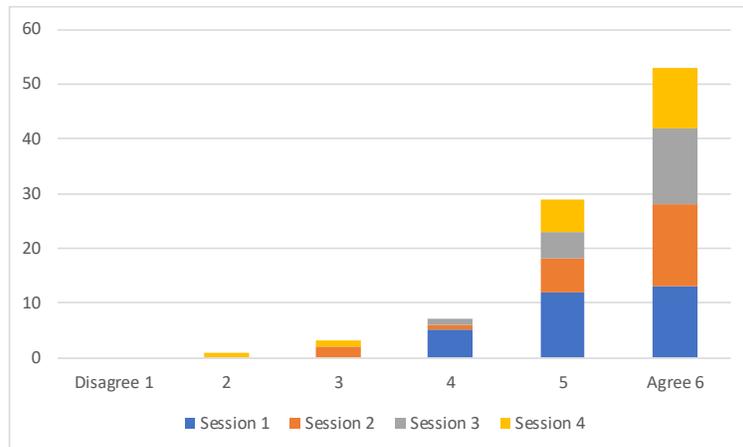
#### 1. I feel that I had influence in identifying which topics are important to me



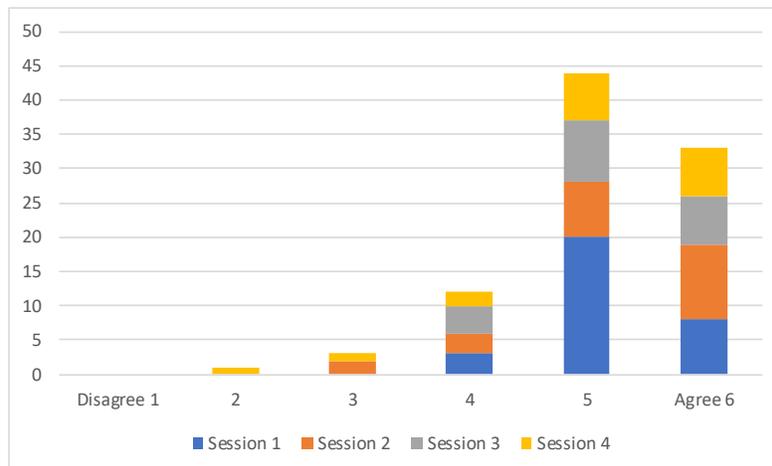
**2. I understood how to participate and felt welcome and respected while doing so**



**3. I felt that my input was valued.**



**4. Please rate your overall satisfaction with this event.**



Some additional comments made at the sessions are indicative of the desire and willingness of residents to participate in discussing issues of concern to them:

Session # 1 *“Building Nanaimo for the Future: What are your priorities?”*

- Opportunity to speak to what is important
- Opportunity to listen to others’ views
- Opportunity to share opinions with members of my community on a variety of important, current issues
- I felt like my opinion mattered.
- Citizens need to feel like they are involved rather than passive participants

Session #2 *Micro-Town Hall*

- Respectful discussion
- Non-threatening atmosphere
- Enjoyed having the Councillors rotate tables
- Enjoyed intimate conversational opportunity
- Low pressured, respectful conversation with Councillors
- Great opportunity to listen to each Councillor
- Saw Councillors as ‘real’ people with high commitment to the City of Nanaimo

Session #3: *Homelessness: How do we increase understanding and move towards action?*

- Having panelists was excellent as it centralized the whole forum
- Respectful discussion – great exchange of ideas
- Sense of shared purpose, compassion shown
- Diverse attitudes and participation
- Listening to the community on issues

Session #4: Empowering Neighbourhoods

- Meeting people/ connecting from my neighbourhood
- Open dialog and hearing other communities’ successes and struggles
- Met councillors – positive and creative thinking
- Having this opportunity with guided discussion and Mayor and Council present
- Got an overview of neighbourhood associations and their issues
- Little opportunity to truly engage with new councillors
- Needed more opportunity to discuss how neighbourhoods could really be empowered

At Session #4, since this was the last of our pilot projects, we also asked participants if they had any suggestions to help the CETF prepare a report to Council on community engagement:

- Be forthright – don’t avoid difficult issues, don’t sugar coat” – communicate with them clearly and respectfully
- Give suggested actions with a positive focus
- Do this once a year – please continue what this committee has begun. Engagement with Council and other neighbourhoods is so valuable.

- Should be a follow-up meeting that truly discusses the details of how the structure, process, and transparency inhibits full and productive public engagement.

### COMPARISON OF SOME DIRECT COSTS BY PILOT PROJECT SESSION (\$'s)

Location	Rent	Advertising	Supplies/Gift	Refreshments	Honourarium
1: VICC	\$1,852.50	\$909.28		\$1,636.48	\$1,000.00
2: Beban Park	376.72	869.78	946.08	217.88	700.00
3: Oliver Woods	356.53	1,362.55	82.22	1,334.29	400.00
4: Beban Park	166.23	1,269.33		231.00	1,100.00

Obviously, location has a significant impact on cost although some of the facility location expense will actually be returned to the City in the form of rental revenue that might have not otherwise been earned. Included in the cost of supplies for Session #2 is an expenditure of \$892.23 for live-streaming hardware which can continue to be used by the City in the future.

### Part 3b: Content of Pilot Project Sessions for Council's consideration

In pilot project session #1, we asked the public to submit topics in answer to the question *Building Nanaimo for the future: what are your priorities?* Ten general themes emerged from the submitted topics ranging from social issues like affordable housing; to parks, trails and green space projects like the waterfront walkway; and to tourism opportunities like the proposed Ocean Discovery Centre. Out of these ten themes, we asked those attending the session to pick their top three. The five topics with the most votes were then selected for detailed discussion at round tables. The top five topics chosen, in order of priority, were: Downtown Revitalization; Transportation; Community Engagement; Garbage/ Recycling; and Social Issues. We also had a "wildcard" table for those who wanted to pursue an alternative topic.

A comprehensive summary of the conversations which took place at session #1 can be viewed online under the CETF tab of the City's webpage. However, the task force wants to ensure that this City Council is aware of these six high-level priorities which emerged from the discussion:<sup>5</sup>

1. Downtown Nanaimo is important to this community and support should be provided to stimulate development;
2. The need to enhance biking/ walking/ transit in Nanaimo through connectivity and improving safety on community streets is seen as a priority;
3. Nanaimo needs to assess the need for a one-stop recycling facility;

<sup>5</sup> Website link to flip chart detailed and summary notes from November 23, 2017 Pilot Project #1 <https://www.nanaimo.ca/docs/your-government/boards-and-committees/nov-23-discussion-notes-transcribed.pdf>

4. An affordable housing strategy is a must;
5. We need to ensure that new development, including south downtown waterfront, reflects community values; and
6. We need to provide a more concerted and direct effort to support economic development

While a specific count of the nature and type of questions was not made at Session #2, many of the issues raised revolved around housing for the homeless; development of 1 Port Drive; relations with Snuneymuxw; and the 2018-2019 budget with a few questions relating to better walking, cycling and transit and proposed and approved parking variances.

A full transcription of the panel presentations and group discussions at Session #3 is also available online.<sup>6</sup> At the first break out session after the panel presentation, the participants were asked to reflect on what they felt as they listened to the panelists and identify what needs were underneath these emotions. From this initial discussion, seven themes emerged which in a second round of discussion resulted in a number of recommended actions which are transcribed here from the original flip charts.

1. Building an inclusive community:
  - Share information/ stories about homelessness with everyone
  - Create neighbourhood drop-in centres
  - Actively engage and include the homeless on assessing their needs and future planning
2. Safety: overcoming fear:
  - Address the issues of nimbyism
  - Build and strengthen our forums for community discussion and integration
  - Know whom to mobilize to address these issues
3. Addressing gaps in health care:
  - More mental health and substance abuse education
  - Collaboration between various levels of government, across cultures and health authorities
  - Self-care for citizens and other strategies to restore humanity
4. Housing and homing solutions:
  - Better understanding of definition of homelessness
  - Identify specific housing solutions for needs of individuals
  - Engage local First Nations and find out how we can work collaboratively
  - Investigate tenancy and insurance barriers for renters
5. Targeted focus and supports for youth:
  - Make a personal commitment to support youth
  - Recognize gap for youth 19-21 aging out of care
  - Provide alternative home share options
  - Increase collaboration between service providers
  - Child help phone 24/7
  - Enhance life skills programs for youth
6. Addressing the economic impacts of homelessness: and
  - Top priority is to provide affordable housing
  - Island Health to deal with drugs and mental health
  - Personally, support homeless issue organizations

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<sup>6</sup> Website link to video of Session #3 <https://www.nanaimo.ca/get-involved/community-engagement/community-engagement-archive/public-engagement-pilot-archive>

- Keep our elected officials' feet to the fire
7. Improved processes for public engagement and accountability of all players:
- City leadership and key stakeholders (e.g. Homeless Coalition; Chamber of Commerce) take out a full-page advertisement in the newspaper which acknowledges that this is a big issue in our community; commit to having regular conversations with the community about the issue;
  - establishing a set of shared values about the issue; and to communicating a plan.
  - Included in the ad would be the sharing of stories about how this person got to this place as a really powerful mode of communicating a complex issue; re-humanizing those who are having an experience of homelessness; and collectively beginning to see ourselves in the issue.

We would encourage members of Council to read the document in its entirety as a guideline for future directions to implement the City's affordable housing and homelessness strategies.

In pilot program session #4, we asked neighbourhoods what were their most pressing issues many of which were in common with other neighbourhoods. These are key and often basic neighbourhood issues which members of Council may wish to consider when looking at current and future municipal programs, services and budgets:

- too much traffic;
- not enough safety;
- need for diversity and affordability;
- lack of amenities;
- need for improved transit services; and
- threats to the environment.

Again, the complete results of the discussion are available online.<sup>7</sup>

#### **Part 4: What we learned**

From various perspectives, the work of the CETF in carrying out these 4 pilot project sessions was a success:

- Participants generally felt that their input was valued, that they understood how to participate and felt welcomed and respected while doing so.
- The task force demonstrated that even in an environment that was, at times, less than congenial, it was possible to have a mutually respectful conversation between residents and elected representatives.
- We also demonstrated that we should not be afraid, as a community, to have a compassionate and action directed dialogue about a highly contentious issue like homelessness.

In this regard, we have opened the door to an improvement in citizen participation in the City of Nanaimo. Neither Council nor staff have little to fear from involving residents in the decision-making process.

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<sup>7</sup> Website link to flip chart results of Session #4 <https://pub-nanaimo.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=19332>

The number of attendees ranged from 30 to 60 at any one session. This is not at variance with other public participation sessions held by the City of Nanaimo. It was not the intention of the task force to attract the maximum number of participants possible from within the city but rather to demonstrate how to have an effective dialogue with residents no matter how many there are. It is interesting to note that the session which was the least attended was the micro town-hall which was the only session where participants did not have an opportunity to develop solutions or actions to mitigate an issue.

As for the costs, the location of the sessions played a large part in the budget with the Vancouver Island Conference Centre being the most expensive. The task force felt, although not unanimously, that the facilitators deserved some monetary recognition for their participation and that, along with venue, was a large part of the cost of any one session. An effort was made to vary the locations throughout the city to involve different parts of the city and equalize the transportation burden. In regard to venues, the task force would not recommend holding a round table discussion in the Social Lounge at Beban Park: it is too noisy and, even in November, extremely cold.

One of the byproducts of this process was bringing various groups into active engagement with the community such as Vancouver Island University's Master of Community Planning program students and facilitating professor; numerous stakeholders involved in the discussion of homelessness; Toastmasters and Young Professionals of Nanaimo members to assist with table facilitation. There are numerous groups such as these who are quite willing to assist with engagement activities, and learn from this. By involving them, it demonstrates that they are valued, and it showcases their contribution to the city and democracy.

Effective table discussion facilitation played an invaluable part in the success of these sessions. Training of the facilitators as to the purpose and process of the session was extremely important. We observed that the process at each of the tables was more varied in sessions where we didn't have consistent training. Having citizens learn to facilitate community discussions is an important development of social capital that comes from bottom up community engagement.

The CETF also made an effort to incorporate online technology such as *Facebook Live* for citizens who wish to engage but find attending in person a challenge. For all sessions, video recordings of the results were provided online as were complete transcripts of the discussion.

## **Part 5: Recommendations moving forward**

Throughout this process, the task force gained a greater understanding and perspective of what community engagement is and can be. Community engagement is more than a town hall meeting or an open house: it is a culture fostered within an entire organization and a community. It is a culture where communication is meaningful and authentic; and asking questions makes a resident feel heard and respected at all levels. We believe there are opportunities for Council to improve the culture of engagement in Nanaimo and by doing so enhance the relationship and level of trust between the community and the city.

1. Council should start with the premise that:

- it is committed to working more closely with the community to improve engagement and participation in council decisions, so that residents feel empowered to be more active in shaping their community and future.<sup>8</sup>
- there should be some level of community engagement on every subject and project considered by Council and
- what requires definition is the level and intensity of the engagement **and, most importantly, how will the information gained from the process be used by staff and Council.**

The broadly recognized expertise of the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) suggests that there is a continuum of increasing levels of public participation which range from merely “informing” the public to “consulting” to “involving” to “collaborating” and finally to “empowering.” Each level of participation involves different techniques for achieving its goal. As a result, determining the goal of the community engagement initiative is an important first step in identifying the most appropriate public participation format or technique. Open Houses, for example, are extremely useful for informing while, at the other end of the scale, referendums are useful for empowering. Many communities have adopted this spectrum as a framework for their consultation strategies.<sup>9</sup> In all instances, the purpose of the consultation should be decided first before determining the method of consultation since the latter is highly dependent on what you want to accomplish as a result of the consultation.

A particular challenge for communities is communicating clearly about the role and impact of citizen input on decision-making. Some communities have provided examples of specific opportunities when and how citizens can engage.<sup>10</sup> This would be useful for Nanaimo but identifying and defining these opportunities needs to be done through a community engagement collaboration process. When, for example, is it appropriate to engage the community in the development of a new bylaw? Is it during the drafting? Is it when it is discussed at the committee level? Or, is it only at a public hearing when a decision is made on the bylaw immediately following the hearing?

Community engagement is not one-way communication unless the purpose of the engagement is just to provide information and not to obtain feedback in any way. Real consultation is meaningless when it excludes from the outset any form of accommodation and is only designed to tick a box in an approval process whose outcome has already been decided. This is why it is also important to evaluate the consultation process and ask participants to rate its success. The answers may be surprising: what one individual thought was collaboration, for example, was seen by the participant as just providing information.<sup>11</sup>

2. Council should start with something as simple as a published calendar of what it intends to engage residents about over the next year.<sup>12</sup> This provides an opportunity for the city to clarify and prioritize engagement activities and reduce participant fatigue. It also demonstrates that this has

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<sup>8</sup> Taken from the community engagement framework of “let’s talk Niagara Falls”

<sup>9</sup> City of Victoria: A Strategy to Improve Civic Engagement at the City of Victoria

<sup>10</sup> City of Victoria Engagement Framework: “Opportunities to participate”

<sup>11</sup> City of Pitt Meadows, Alberta: Civic Engagement Framework particularly “the input zone versus the engagement zone”

<sup>12</sup> City of Victoria Public Engagement Road Map

<https://www.victoria.ca/assets/Departments/Communications/Documents/PE%20Road%20Map%20Illustration%20FEB2018e.jpg>

been planned, and is not merely opportunistic politics. There are opportunities in 2019 for some major community engagement events in Nanaimo:

- The Chief Administrator of Nanaimo has recommended that in the first quarter of 2019, Council develop a new strategic plan to set out priorities for the term. This represents the first opportunity since 2012 for Council to embark on a major community engagement process to develop a plan that is representative of community priorities. This cannot be a mere updating of the current plan which has been adjusted only by Council since 2016. It is time for all of us together to consider the direction we want to go as a municipality over the next four years and how we want to get there. Our suggestion is that the engagement be comprehensive but that the plan be clear, simple and contain action items that are able to be implemented.
- There are two other major projects for 2019 under Council's purview which are of special interest to the community at large: development of 1 Port Drive; and the Waterfront Walkway. The current budget proposes, for example, that we incur new debt in the amount of \$29 million for construction of the Waterfront Walkway over the next five years making this our largest capital project during that time period. Council must be assured that they understand the community's wishes with regard to these two projects before proceeding to implementation. In regard to 1 Port Drive, our waterfront is our major asset and we must ensure that the vision and values that were developed in 2013 as part of the South Downtown Waterfront Initiative are respected.
- And, finally there is the City of Nanaimo Official Plan which is also scheduled to begin to come under review in 2019. This will guide development for the next ten years and requires innovative community engagement strategies to ensure that residents and businesses feel part of this important conversation.

3. Council should ensure that existing methods for community engagement are fully understood and utilized.

- Community engagement is not just applicable to the "big" projects. How Council and Committees of Council handle delegations is an important part of the engagement process. Community engagement begins at the Advisory Committee level and residents and businesses should be encouraged to make presentations or be a delegate. Speaking before Council often comes too late in the process to have any meaningful impact.
- All reports going to Council and Committees should include a section on community engagement identifying level of engagement based on the IAP2 spectrum; how the engagement was or will be undertaken; what were the results; and how they would be taken into consideration.
- Feedback on the results of engagement should be provided online indicating what people said and how it impacted the final product or recommendation.
- Committee and Council meeting minutes need to be made available as soon as they are drafted so that decisions are clear and easily accessible.

- Council needs to clarify its correspondence practices to ensure that there are realistic expectations about feedback to and from the city. There is no point in encouraging residents to write to the mayor and council if there is no reply to their letters or emails.
  - Real consultation needs to take place not just at the visionary level of policies and programs but also when it comes to implementation. Community engagement doesn't stop when it comes to implementation of City projects that may have been approved without scrutiny as part of a larger capital project program. In the absence of Ward Councillors, there is nowhere for a resident to turn to express concern about or want to appeal the details of certain engineering projects.
  - Consultants employed to drive and/or support major city projects and initiatives should be made aware of the City's community engagement policy and process, and make efforts to use these and act in ways that align with them.
4. Council should begin a process of strengthening and empowering neighbourhoods to better ensure that programs and projects are actually meeting community needs.
- City programs and projects function better when neighbourhood associations and other community and stakeholder groups (such as businesses, environmental groups, arts groups, etc.) are involved in engagement efforts.
  - Neighbourhood associations can provide advice about neighbourhood priorities for engagement to City Staff and Council and be engaged in developing systems for gathering public input on these engagement priorities
  - Neighbourhood associations need to be consulted about how to manage difficult land use issues such as the placement of supportive housing before projects are initiated not when they are ready to be implemented
  - Councillors can represent their constituents by staying in touch and working with citizens to determine top priorities for engagement. Staying in touch could include at least two regular annual community engagement sessions similar to our micro town hall "meet your councillors" and the empowering neighbourhood sessions
  - Neighbourhood associations need to take responsibility for their credibility and ensure that they are representative of all interests. Council should require that associations have annual meetings and elections of officers.
  - Community engagement also only works when promises are honoured. Developing a neighbourhood plan becomes a contract between the city and its residents with the hope that some of it might be implemented - a promise that is not very often kept.
5. Council should consider how to improve community engagement through advertising, social media and online technology:

- Establish a plan for using social media to increase citizen participation;<sup>13</sup>
- Try new technologies which are fun and visual to get ongoing feedback from residents;<sup>14</sup>
- Understand the purpose of online surveys and the use of the captured information before creating them;
- Create effective online surveys to seek feedback on topics/ details incorporating digital identification and residency requirements to ensure legitimate and defensible engagement;
- Publish City Council minutes online earlier;
- Improve existing newspaper advertisements concerning zoning and official plan amendments to make them more accessible to the reader;
- Allow questions from home to City Council in question period;
- Improve SAR audio and video during Committee of the Whole meetings;
- Video record committee meetings;
- Create an online engagement panel where citizens sign up to receive regular emails to provide opinions;
- Establish a Twitter town hall.

6. Council should also consider establishing a central focus for community engagement within the city by:

- Creating an Office of Community Engagement to help implement these activities across the city and shift resource focus from one-way communications to formalized two-way dialogue.<sup>15</sup>
- Establishing a more formal Community Engagement Committee which would:
  - Work from recommendations of the CETF
  - Liaise with council and staff on community engagement matters
  - Help to organize future engagement sessions
  - Continue to explore new worlds of community engagement
  - Produce a community engagement charter for Nanaimo
  - Help to produce a community engagement handbook for Nanaimo
  - Build on the entire concept of community interaction by residents, staff of Nanaimo and Council Members further than the task force was able to do.

## Part 6: Conclusion

The CETF is pleased to have been a part of this process to make public engagement a part of everyday life in the city of Nanaimo. We encourage members of Council to consider not only our recommendations for the future but also the specific data that arose from each of the sessions. This input was created and presented by the citizens of this community and should be considered critical to the preparation of Council's 2019 strategic plan and priorities.

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<sup>13</sup> Alberta Urban Municipalities Association and the Alberta Association of Municipal District and Counties Social Media Resource Guide  
[https://www.auma.ca/sites/default/files/Advocacy/Programs\\_Initiatives/citizen\\_engagement/social\\_media\\_resource\\_guide.pdf](https://www.auma.ca/sites/default/files/Advocacy/Programs_Initiatives/citizen_engagement/social_media_resource_guide.pdf)

<sup>14</sup> For example: MetroQuest Public Involvement Software Company in Vancouver. <https://metroquest.com/>

<sup>15</sup> City of Penticton: Community Engagement Builder position. <https://www.penticton.ca/assets/Departments/16-50E%20Community%20Engagement%20Builder.pdf>

Emergency Food Security Strategy  
City of Nanaimo Health and Housing Task Force  
01-OCT-2020



## **Context Statement: Food and Nutrition Security in Nanaimo**

COVID -19 has revealed the importance of food and nutrition security to our community. Government, businesses and individuals have an increased awareness of food and nutrition security issues. Community members have become more aware of where their food comes from. Many are concerned with the health and sustainability of the food they eat, and, as more and more people struggle to put good food on the table, our food system has become an issue of increasing priority. The COVID-19 pandemic has also highlighted how those who struggle with food and nutrition security may be even more vulnerable when the global systems of food production, processing and distribution are interrupted by a large-scale emergency.

## **Local Government Emergency Management**

The City of Nanaimo is legislated to follow the British Columbia Emergency Management System (BCEMS) and applicable Provincial and Federal Emergency Management Legislation. Emergency Management takes a whole of society approach in managing emergencies. In emergencies, where there is a disruption in the Provincial Supply Chain, the City would work with local distributors and EMBC through legislated channels to attempt to re-establish the supply chain for the whole community.

The purchase of food does not fall under the mandate of EMBC or municipalities under the applicable legislation. However, the City of Nanaimo Emergency Management division has had and continues to have ongoing discussions with a variety of agencies, organizations and businesses with regard to food supply during emergencies. The City recognizes the value of collaborating with the non-profit community and individual volunteers to strengthen our capacity to respond collectively to the basic needs of vulnerable people in the community. We recognize that our community and residents can be even better prepared for future emergencies through collaboration that plans for a coordinated community response in the ongoing pandemic and in the event of other emergencies.

## **The City of Nanaimo and its Role in a Resilient Food System**

Food issues and activities cut across all levels of government, business, industry, community, and education sectors. While the role of local government in the food system is not specifically identified in the Local Government Act, with the exception of agricultural land use planning, it is important to define how the City of Nanaimo has influence and authority to create resilient food systems and implement policies that support local food and nutrition security. These areas, and relevant examples, include:

- Land Use and Development (official community plan, zoning bylaw, development approvals, subdivision, guidelines and requirements)
- Open Space Management (parks and open space, food festivals, farmers markets, municipal facilities and landscaping, engineering standards)

- Growth Planning Coordination (urban containment boundaries, densification, farm / urban edge integration)
- Corporate Operations (food procurement, demonstration kitchens and gardens)
- Transportation (food distribution, walkable and transit oriented food amenities, infrastructure placement)
- Economic Development (agri-and culinary tourism, local multiplier effect)
- Waste Systems (composting)
- Partnerships (food strategy implementation)

In 2008, the City of Nanaimo adopted food security goals and policies as part of the Official Community Plan. This also included an action item within the Implementation Strategy to develop a food system strategy to establish objectives and policies for the implementation of a food program. The key needs and opportunities identified for developing a coordinated strategic approach to local food systems included:

- The need to protect farmland and increase food growing opportunities;
- The need for local food infrastructure;
- The need for more and better access to fresh healthy food and community food assets;
- The potential to expand the value of the local food economy; and
- The opportunity to elevate Nanaimo food culture.

Since 2008, the City has taken many steps to support food and nutrition security and healthy food systems in policy and action. The Beban Park Master Plan update, Urban Forest Strategy, and Community Gardens Policy are among some of the examples of larger policy efforts. Many ongoing food production initiatives are taking place in City of Nanaimo parks. There are eight community gardens and several food forests and partnership initiatives throughout the City, including Beaufort Community Garden, Beban Learning Gardens, Pawson Park Community Gardens and Forest Drive Gyro Park (See Appendix 1).

While these efforts have been significant, an overall City of Nanaimo Food and Nutrition Security Strategy had not been developed by the time the COVID-19 pandemic arrived in MAR-2020. This emergency has highlighted, yet again, the need for a better and more coordinated food system. In order to create this, many agencies and individuals must work together to start thinking more comprehensively about how we govern that includes food as an issue that must be considered in community planning and program implementation and policy.

While this document aims more specifically at addressing emerging and emergency food needs in our community, it is also a step towards undertaking a more comprehensive planning process. There are a number of themes that have emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic that speak to the risks in the food system and possible mitigation factors. We have outlined these trends and themes below.

## *Emergency Food*

The response to COVID has been an emergency food response. With decreased capacity by some service providers (e.g. reduced shelter space, greater social distancing in dining halls) emergency food access has been disrupted for some vulnerable populations. At different times during the pandemic, some food supply and materials have been harder to access for emergency food providers.<sup>1</sup> There has also reduced emergency food provision capacity (volunteers, staff) because of changing health and safety procedures, including the need to deliver food, and temporary closures of some food access depots and the rising costs to provide food services. There is concern that food prices will continue to rise and food shortages because of disrupted food chains in Canada and the US.

However, the pandemic has also revealed the strength of Nanaimo's low/no cost food service providers in terms of partnerships, ability to adapt and to temporarily shift operations in response to local needs. The Loaves and Fishes food bank reports receiving more food donations in 2020 relative to the same months in 2019, and is distributing significantly more food to some agencies (though other agencies ceased to visit the food bank at all, particularly during the initial months of the pandemic). At the same time, individual visits to food bank dropped in 2020 but the amount of food accessed per individual increased significantly (numbers of new households registered dropped for the first few months of pandemic then rebounded to typical levels). The reasons for this are not known and likely multi-variable, but it shows the importance of agencies that are able to distribute the resources from the food bank even when usual depots are closed.

Loaves and Fishes has noted that ability to store food donations is their primary operational limitation. The larger service agencies, including the Salvation Army, the Nanaimo Ladysmith Schools Foundation, report accessing 75% of their grocery needs through the Food Bank.

Many service agencies report having significantly increasing operations during the first six months of COVID. Distribution of Good Food Box (Foodshare) increased ten-fold between February and August, including a new partnership with Nanaimo Aboriginal Centre for distribution to housing tenants. Meal service at Salvation Army has increased approximately 50% since the pandemic began (from 4334 meals in August 2019 to 6343 in August 2020); notable, the Salvation Army also has stopped charging a nominal fee of \$1-2 for lunch or dinner.

This trend was also seen in the youth demographic. Nanaimo Ladysmith School District's food program increased enrollment of students receiving family-sized food hampers by 50% during COVID school closure (650 to 998). These numbers dropped during July/August (no new numbers available yet). The exception to the increase has been the use of the 7-10 Club Breakfast Program, which is serving about 75-125 people per day (down 35-50% from pre-COVID numbers). The program may have been more heavily affected because it has not been able, due to COVID restrictions, to provide sit-down service (the Salvation Army's dining room is still open but with reduced capacity). It may be also that many whom have traditionally utilized low-cost food service are now receiving some form of COVID emergency financial assistance.

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<sup>1</sup> CRFAIR ebriefs and Meeting notes from Health and Housing Taskforce Food Security Working Group

### ***COVID Grants and Financial Supports***

Most, if not all of the emergency food providers in Nanaimo have accessed some kind of COVID-related grant. Below is the list of the grants awarded through the Nanaimo Foundation, the United Way and from the Government of Canada’s Emergency Community Support Fund to local food service providers (note some of these agencies do more than food provision and the grant may have also been for activities beyond emergency food provision):

#### **Nanaimo Foundation Community Response Fund**

Loaves & Fishes Community Food Bank	\$20,000
Nanaimo Youth Services Association	\$25,000
Nanaimo-Ladysmith Schools Foundation	\$42,000
Nanaimo Foodshare Society	\$36,000
Nanaimo 7 – 10 Club Society	\$5,000
Salvation Army Nanaimo	\$10,000

#### **Government of Canada’s Emergency Community Support Fund (Community Foundation stream)**

Nanaimo 7-10 Club Society	Feeding people with dignity and respect	\$10,000
Wisteria Community Association	Stone Soup	\$10,000

#### **Government of Canada’s Emergency Community Support Fund (United Way stream)**

Meals on Wheels Nanaimo	\$30,000
Nanaimo Foodshare Society (Good Food Box)	\$35,000

Nanaimo-Ladysmith Schools Foundation (Food4Schools)	\$30,000
Nanaimo Youth Services Association (Youth Food Initiative)	\$5,000
Nanaimo Community Kitchens (COVID Cooking out of the box)	\$40,000
Wisteria Community Association	\$5,000

**New Horizons Senior Funding (United Way stream)**

Salvation Army Nanaimo (Seniors Food Hampers)	\$10,000
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**Reaching Home Emergency Funding**

Nanaimo Unitarian Church (Food and Water for Showers)	\$2,000
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**United Way Local Love**

Salvation Army Nanaimo (Bottled Water for Bag Lunch Program)	\$2,000
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In addition to the above, some agencies such as the Salvation Army received some direct support from the Federal Government (amount TBC). Loaves and Fishes received \$370,000 From Food Banks BC/Food Banks Canada and the Victoria Foundation (funds from Food Banks BC and Food Banks Canada are flow through funds from the provincial and federal government).

***Household Food Insecurity***

Household food insecurity is the inadequate or insecure access to food due to financial constraints.<sup>2</sup> There is concern for the medium and long-term economic impacts on household food insecurity. Before the COVID-19, there were 4.4 million food insecure people in Canada and

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<sup>2</sup> PROOF Food Insecurity Policy Research. Accessed from: <https://proof.utoronto.ca/food-insecurity/>

that number is expected to double as a result of the pandemic.<sup>3</sup> According to PROOF, in 2017-18, there were 555,700 people living in food-insecure households in British Columbia. A 2016 report reveals that the highest rate of severe food insecurity was in Island Health, affecting almost one in 25 households (3.8%).<sup>4</sup>

Furthermore, Indigenous households remain at a much higher risk of household food insecurity and are more likely to be severely food-insecure, even when other socio-economic risk factors are taken into account.<sup>5</sup> In addition to low income, food insecurity can result when individuals move from one area of the country to another or from rural to urban locations (where they may be less familiar with the available resources or where they are unfamiliar with local foods available for harvest).

### ***Community Food and Nutrition Security***

There is a significant increase in people wanting to grow food, seed access and garden supplies have decreased because of increased demand, and demand for education on how to grow and preserve foods has increased significantly. Many people are concerned about preparing for a second wave of the virus, which is anticipated by health experts in BC to appear in the fall.<sup>6</sup> Local growers have been impacted due to shifts in market demand. Restaurant sales have disappeared, up to 40% of the planned crops for the season for some farms, while demand for local grown produce has increased. Some farms have increased the number of CSA offered to the community and sold out.

### ***Regional Food and Nutrition Security***

Regional food systems are more important now than they ever have been. We have witness since March 2020 the fragility of the global food system.<sup>7</sup> For example, several outbreaks in meat processing plants in Canada, a sector that has undergone intensive concentration, have resulted in more expensive and less available protein in grocery stores. In May, two of three major meat processing plants were shut down, decreasing meat processing in Canada by 45%.

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<sup>3</sup> Food Secure Canada (2020) Growing Resilience and Equity: A Food Policy Action Plan in the Context of COVID-19. Accessed from: <https://foodsecurecanada.org/sites/foodsecurecanada.org/files/2020-05 - gre en 12 49.pdf>

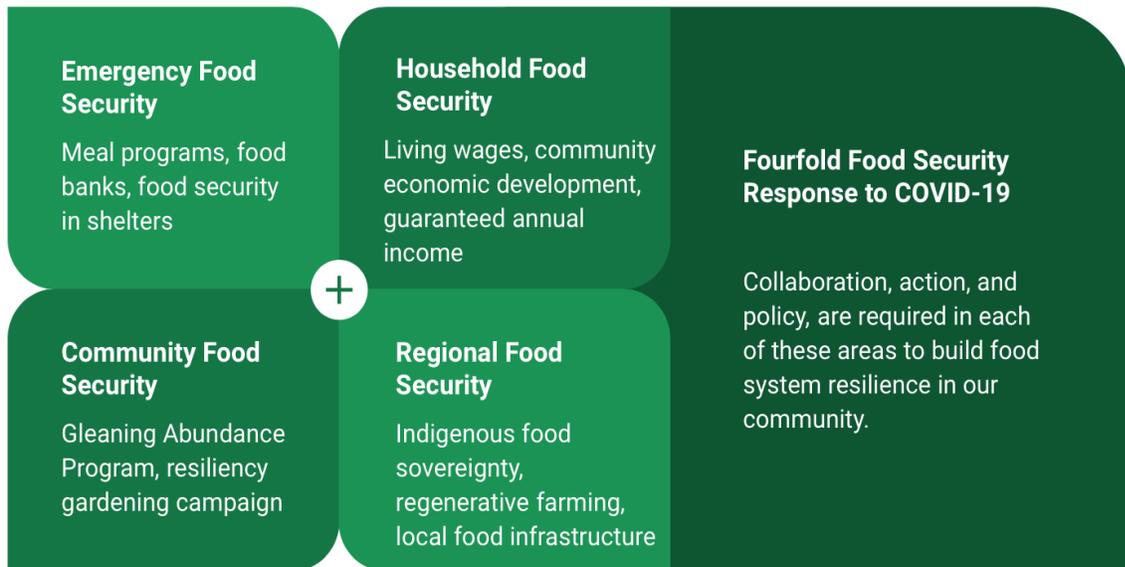
<sup>4</sup> Li Na, Dachner Naomi, Tarasuk Valerie, et al. (2016). Priority health equity indicators for British Columbia: Household food insecurity indicator report. Retrieved from: [http://www.bccdc.ca/pop-public-health/Documents/Household%20food%20insecurity%20in%20BC\\_full%20report.pdf](http://www.bccdc.ca/pop-public-health/Documents/Household%20food%20insecurity%20in%20BC_full%20report.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> PROOF Food Insecurity Policy Research. "Indigenous peoples and food insecurity." Accessed from: <https://proof.utoronto.ca/resources/research-publications/aboriginal-peoples-and-food-insecurity/>

<sup>6</sup> CBC (May 12, 2020) BC's Top Doctor Bonnie Henry Says 2nd Wave of COVID-19 Inevitable, but Current Lessons Will Guide Response. Accessed from: <https://www.cbc.ca/radio/thecurrent/the-current-for-may-21-2020-1.5577286/b-c-s-top-doctor-bonnie-henry-says-2nd-wave-of-covid-19-inevitable-but-current-lessons-will-guide-response-1.5577290>

<sup>7</sup> In the US, the closure of just three processing plants decreased pork production by 15%.<sup>7</sup> California exports almost 45% of its agricultural commodities to Canada (\$3.3B in fresh fruits and vegetables<sup>7</sup>) and it is in the top 5 states impacted by COVID-19. Our agricultural sector relies heavily on foreign workers who will be less able to travel, so planned crops may not be able to be planted or harvested like usual. Food prices, especially for fresh produce, are expected to increase. In May, only 50% of the Ontario asparagus harvest was able to be harvested for market because of the worker shortages.

These are complex issues, however, how we react locally will make a big difference to our resilience as a community. The following graphic shows how we can build capacity in the local food system across these geographies:



Within each of the four areas of the Food System is Nutrition Security and Food Literacy. Nutrition security means that people have access to the foods that nourish them. Food literacy means people have the skills and knowledge to make positive food choices that help to support health.

The Emergency Food and Nutrition Security Strategy below aims to address the two goals of the project Terms of Reference:

- 1) To develop a food and nutrition security plan; including funding, procurement and distribution options to provide safe and consistent food for vulnerable individuals<sup>8</sup>, including those experiencing homelessness and seniors; and
- 2) To ensure that all Nanaimo residents have access to safe, culturally acceptable, nutritionally adequate diet through a sustainable food system that maximizes self-reliance and social justice.

The proposed Food and Nutrition Security Plan offers a number of potential policy actions categorized under five goals: Meet basic food needs of vulnerable populations during emergency incidents; the education, support and promotion in support of food literacy and empowerment; Growing, raising, and harvesting more food in Nanaimo; Expanding Local Food Infrastructure; and Recognize and Support Indigenous Food Sovereignty.

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<sup>8</sup> Vulnerable populations are groups and communities at a higher risk for poor health as a result of the barriers they experience to social, economic, political and environmental resources, as well as limitations due to illness or disability. In addition, in the context of a pandemic vulnerable populations may include infants and young children and women, seniors, students, people with compromised immune systems or chronic illness, disabled, and those experiencing homelessness

## Goal #1: Meet basic food needs of vulnerable populations during emergency incidents

1.1 Work with the Province of BC, BC Housing, local service providers, and Island Health to ensure adequate supply of safe drinking water and nutritious food for vulnerable populations in an emergency.<sup>9</sup>

### Actions:

- Develop a working group focused on emergency food response and distribution that includes emergency food providers, Island Health, BC Housing, the RDN and the City to develop an emergency food response plan between the key players where supply chain remains in tact (this may be a sub-group of the Nanaimo Food Policy Council)
- Explore opportunity to co-host Business Continuity Planning Session work with vulnerable population food service providers and shelter/supportive housing on developing business continuity plans in event of emergencies, leveraging existing resources from Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and building off local successes (e.g. Salvation Army, Loaves and Fishes)
- City to develop map of where free clean drinking water can be publically accessed

1.2 Facilitate communications between emergency food providers and other food and nutrition security stakeholders

- City to keep a current list of stakeholders providing food to vulnerable populations and maintain ongoing communications through the Nanaimo Food Policy Council
- City to participate in ongoing communications with emergency food providers and food and nutrition security stakeholders through creation and participation of Nanaimo Food Policy Council

1.3 Needs Assessment

- Conduct needs assessment using Helpseeker data and other service provider input to identify those who are most at risk are and generate ways of reaching them.
- Inventory the 'players' currently in our community who are already in the business of food and nutrition security and weave together a common process of accessing service.
- Anticipate and plan for changes to need in the community as some income support programs cease and new ones become available.
- Determine how different types of emergencies require different food responses/plans
- Conduct an inventory of local food infrastructure, using existing roadmaps (e.g. PAHO)
- Use and expand existing infrastructure and community gardens/food forests in parks as growing sites for emergency and future food needs.

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<sup>9</sup> Community nutrition standard is three meals a day, every day. Emergency food rations should meet the requirements outlined in the following document from the Pan American Health Organization: [https://www.paho.org/disasters/index.php?option=com\\_docman&view=download&category\\_slug=tools&alias=538-pandinflu-leadershipduring-tool-11&Itemid=1179&lang=en](https://www.paho.org/disasters/index.php?option=com_docman&view=download&category_slug=tools&alias=538-pandinflu-leadershipduring-tool-11&Itemid=1179&lang=en)

#### 1.4 Ensure that vulnerable populations are included in planning process

- Identify and support leaders among vulnerable populations: unhoused, seniors, single parent families, multicultural, etc.
- Work with organizations that serve the unhoused to have task force of clients and client support workers that can be mobilized, particularly during a crisis
- Engage with established programs that support and empower vulnerable clients in engaging in participation in decision-making processes

### **Goal #2 – Education, Support and Promotion in Support of Food Literacy and Empowerment**

#### 2.1 Enhance capacity of food and nutrition security leadership for the community of Nanaimo

##### Actions:

- Seek to support a new Nanaimo Food Policy Council (NFPC)
  - City staff provide Council with a report on options for how the municipality could partner with other agencies and government bodies to create a NFPC, and provide a recommendation that clearly outlines the staff and financial resources required to create and sustain the NFPC.
  - Request that this report include a draft Terms of Reference for Council consideration
- Partner with the Food Policy Council to facilitate partnership with Island Health and the Regional District of Nanaimo to secure funding for a full time dietitian with background in food and nutrition security with a mandate to work directly with community groups to build capacity for food and nutrition security in the Nanaimo Local Health Area.

#### 2.2 Confirm Food and nutrition Security as an Emerging Priority

- As part of REIMAGINE Nanaimo (Coordinated Strategic Plan Review process), revisit the role of the City in food and nutrition security, building on the commitments and policy actions already identified in the 2008 Official Community Plan (e.g. to develop City Food Strategy document) and identify food and nutrition security as an priority area
- Request that City staff with a role in enhancing food and nutrition security (land use, parks, social planning, etc.) meet annually to share information and create a joint update to Council on how the food and nutrition security policies in key documents are being implemented

#### 2.3 Expanding community understanding of household emergency preparedness to include food and nutrition security

- NFPC to work with emergency coordinator and community stakeholders to identify areas of opportunity to include food and nutrition security in their community outreach role, and identify the additionally resources required to implement food and nutrition

household emergency preparedness (Recommendation is for every household to have personal seven day supply of food.)

- Create and distribute/facilitate an interactive curriculum that encourages emergency food leadership in families and neighbourhoods in the event of an emergency
- Engage organizations in emergency training outreach to ensure training includes a emergency food education component

### **Goal #3: Grow, raise, and harvest more food in Nanaimo**

#### **3.1 Support and expand supports for families to garden**

Actions:

- Where appropriate, continue to support and expand community gardens, food forests, farms and food literacy programs/events (See Appendix One)
- Acknowledge the food production in the public realm has unique challenges and experiment with pilot projects and creative ways to safely integrate edible landscapes where appropriate.
- Support and expand operation of a seasonal community-gleaning program
- Support the development of a food tree map for sites on public spaces with links to gleaning opportunities
- Consider expanding tree voucher program to include plant starts
- Support community seed collection and sharing initiatives
- Market and sign locations in existing public sites that already have growing beds and food trees for community use (not allotments) and where the public can freely pick up produce and extra harvest items at no charge. Alternately, link volunteers with excess harvests to emergency food distribution chains.
- Continue to develop a calendar for planting, harvesting, foraging and gleaning opportunities on public land
- Where appropriate, continue to sign crops and edible landscapes on public land through interpretive signage to better explain growing efforts and identify edible food
- Consider linking with the Master Garden program and connecting it with peer-to-peer organizations



*Beaufort Park Food Forest*



*Learning Gardens and greenhouse at Beban Park*

#### **3.2 Support and expand farming**

- Review Agricultural policies adopted by Regional District of Nanaimo and Beban Park Master Plan Update (2015) for implementation consideration by municipality

- Explore incentives for food production at the local level (i.e., fast tracking of community gardens, etc.)
- Continue to explore opportunities for food production in appropriate parks such as East Wellington Park (Agricultural Land Reserve designated)
- City staff to review of municipal best practices that support municipal farming and agriculture and recommend adoption or adaptation of City of Nanaimo Bylaws<sup>10</sup>

### 3.3 Increase food production in the public realm

- Collaborate with community organizations and partners to grow food on City land where appropriate, with the recognition that maintenance is the key issue and that partnerships with local organizations through use and maintenance agreements greatly facilitates the potential for expanded edible planting
- Look where the priority areas are where the existing infrastructure is opening up opportunities to expand community food production
- Support installation of required infrastructure for food production in appropriate public locations (water supply, irrigation, soils, etc.) and support installation of water services at new parks

## Goal #4: Expand Local Food Infrastructure (Food Storage, Processing and Distribution)

Objective:

4.1 Task the NFPC with developing a food infrastructure strategy that supports community organizations who provide healthy food to the community

Actions:

- Undertake a needs assessment to determine which user groups need what type of food infrastructure. Determine if there are any synergies and opportunities to share facilities between user groups, including any underutilized food storage facilities that non-profits could use, for use both in the event of an emergency and during regular operations.
- Inventory existing City facilities and land that could be leveraged to support identified community food needs, including storage facilities that can bulge/expand as needed.
- Explore the potential of providing affordable contributions of city-owned land or facility to expand food storage and distribution facilities (which may include a larger storage and distribution warehouse, garden surplus exchange, certified kitchen, cold and dry storage.)
- Consider the importance of sector-specific economic development and business accelerator programs in key sectors for growth such as agri-food and direct a portion of the city's economic development funding to this work.
- Continue to collaborate and partner with community organizations to support food production efforts on City-owned land.

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<sup>10</sup> Potential Zoning Bylaw amendments to consider include: Allowing Small-scale Commercial Urban Food Production in All Zones, allowing "urban agriculture" as a home occupation to permit up to two people living on site to produce fruits and vegetables for retail purposes on a portion of the parcel; exemptions for Rooftop Greenhouses Rooftop greenhouses can enable year-round local food production.

- Continue to advocate for and support the expansion of capacity of existing local abattoirs or adding a new one, in order to expand food processing capacity in the region.
- Continue to work with the VIEX, Island Roots Market and other community partners on the development of agricultural and food production/showcase areas within the central development area at Beban Park

#### 4.2 Strengthen Local Food Assets

- Include local food and nutrition security and food economy as key issues to be considered as part of the REIMAGINE NANAIMO coordinated strategic plan review process (which includes the Economic Development Strategy), and include targeted engagement and proposed policy review with food and nutrition security experts in this process.
- Through local economic development initiatives, support initiatives to link community residents with local producers, including community supported agriculture (CSA) and community supported fisheries (CSFs) programs.
- Create lists of catering options that prioritize local food for circulation to City support staff and to those renting City facilities, which may be incorporated into the Social Procurement Policy
- Consider opportunities to work with local agencies to match families with opportunities to support local farms through volunteering in exchange for food.
- Consider how to support landowners who have access to land to increase their food production and grow food to share with the community through incentives such as water rebates or tax incentives.
- Explore opportunities to support and expand local economic development initiatives that are inclusive of agriculture

### **Goal #5 - Recognize and Support Indigenous Food Sovereignty**

#### 5.1 Acknowledge Indigenous Territories in food gathering and harvesting

##### Actions:

- Recognizing Snuneymuxw treaty rights in accessing traditional foods
- Honouring Coast Salish indigenous protocols in accessing foods
- Provide education to the public and City Staff about traditional harvesting rights
- Promote partnerships between Indigenous knowledge holders and community serving organizations seeking to practice traditional harvesting

#### 2. Preserve and Promote Traditional Knowledge

- Identify traditional foods and indigenous foods when seeking to use food as cultural supports
- Help to preserve traditional knowledge about food preservation and processing
- Supports skills and education around traditional food harvesting/processing

- Provide knowledge and resources to homeless service providers to explain what is considered culturally significant foods for local Indigenous populations (while recognizing individual dietary preferences will vary)

### 3. Enhance Resources that support Indigenous Wellbeing

- Continue to acquire, construct and promote fishing docks and public access points to both fresh and salt water
- Continue to support salmon enhancement projects in riverside/oceanfront parks and promote freshwater lake stocking
- Continue to acquire parkland in locations that support the health and protection of water and food systems for future generations
- Where possible and appropriate, include indigenous plants in ecosystem restoration
- Continue to highlight indigenous plants and traditional uses where appropriate in park signage
- Consider mapping and marketing opportunity locations to collect and grow food throughout the park system
- Work with the NFPC to identify resources for collective action to create Indigenous dietician position for mid-Island through Island Health/First National Health Authority.



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