



2010 – 2013 Snapshot

Spring 2010 – A community cross-sectoral Luncheon event called “Cost of Living in your Community” was held. Just over 50 people attended. The list of priorities developed at this event by participants was 1) lack of available and affordable housing 2) lack of sufficient addictions services 3) lack of affordable childcare spaces 4) poverty.

This event led to:

- **October 2010** – An affordable housing forum called “Low Cost Innovative Housing Options” was held with roughly 35 housing service providers, developers, architects, and local government representatives in attendance
- **April 2011** – The people instrumental in getting the Vernon Land Trust up and running gave us a presentation on their work. There was some interest to explore this further in Nelson but it did not go further.

October 2011 – Municipal election “All Candidates’ Forum” held in Nelson – It was a very successful community event.

June 2012 – “Traction for Social Action” workshop delivered by Rona Park. Just over 30 people attended to learn more about the processes of community social planning and developing plans for social action. This led to the setting up a series of local Conversation Cafes.

2010 – 2013 – During this time, a dedicated core group of SPAN members met monthly. SPAN spent considerable time discussing calculating a living wage for Nelson. Ultimately, this was realized within the Nelson at its Best Ending Poverty Initiative.

Spring 2013 – Ideas into Action. SPAN conducted a community-based survey aimed at gaining a community perspective on community strengths, priority social issues and recommended actions. The top issues identified were: Poverty, Housing Affordability, Employment Opportunities and Mental Health.

July 2013 – SPAN released a final report on all the findings gathered through Ideas into Action and presented key findings to Nelson City Council.

- This led to SPAN applying for and successfully receiving a grant through the City of Nelson and Columbia Basin Trust's Community Initiatives Program to hold a community dialogue and workshop on poverty which took place in 2014.