



Nelson Community and Sports

A pulse on the State of Sport in Nelson

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Overview

- 🎯 Personal participation for 2023
- 🎯 Limitations
- 🎯 2023 Sport Survey
- 🎯 Recommendations
- 🎯 Questions

Why Sport Matters

Community

A stronger community and multi-disciplinary.

Health

Physical, physiological, and psychological health for all ages.

Skills

Technical skills, and learned abilities.

Belonging

Social connection and a sense of belonging.

Career

Professional careers and jobs.

Development

Critical healthy development of youth during their developmental years.

My Personal Participation for 2023



Sidelined

Apart from my podium at TransGranCanaria, I was sidelined for 2023 the entire season due to injury.

My Personal Participation for 2023

Pulpit Rock Invasive Plant Day

17 Trail runners, hikers and outdoor enthusiasts came out to learn about invasive plants and remove Scotch broom along Pulpit Rock trail with CKISS



My Personal Participation for 2023



Trafalgar Grade 7's & 9's

Facilitated workshops on mental and physical health, confidence and facing challenges in life with kids.

My Personal Participation for 2023



Kootenay Co-op and The Bridge

A few radio chats to talk sports, ultra running and happenings!

My Personal Participation for 2023



Run Like a Mother Volunteer

A sold out race of 200 athletes, with more eager to join. This event was a massive success and I was honoured to play a small part of it!

MC and Aid station crewing

2023 Nelson Sport Survey



Sports Survey Limitations

11 responses

- Major limitation: lack of responses.

2. Volunteer-facilitated by survey.

Sporting groups, clubs, organizations operating in the Nelson area

- Biased: based on most easily accessible contact method, email.

2. **Does not include ALL Sport Organizations in Nelson.**

Questions

- May have missed pertinent questions.

Questions on topics of:

- participant demographics
- barriers to participants,
- ethnicities represented,
- disabilities,
- facilities and locations,
- environment and sustainability
- short-term and long-term visions
- financial support needs.

Sail Canada

Events

Safe Boating Week event at Lakeside Park. Require more space for large vehicles and a proper venue to host the event. May move it to Kaslo.

Need support for

Training for new instructors, youth program launched at Lakeside again, equipment upgrades for able sail program

Future aspirations

Want to have several boat with a clubhouse for members or yacht club for public use.

Short term: boat share program,
Long term: ABLE sail intruded to area

Nelson Hoops Association: Basketball

Participants

5-20 years old, 20-30 years old, 30-40 years old, 40-50

Overflowing interest, often waitlist or above capacity attendance

Participation growth year-over-year in the female youth demographic and adult demographic. I'm aware that Begbie Place (persons with disabilities) takes some individuals to the NDYC or to the outdoor courts at Lakeside Park to play basketball from time to time.

Need support for

Facility use subsidy or forgiveness, grant writing support, capital investment opportunities or support for indoor facility.

Future aspirations

Short-term we continue to see growth in numbers and participation, demand for programming, and expanded types of programming (leagues, camps, teams), and developing the competitive club program for those athletes looking for that experience and opportunity. Long-term, we will be advocating and supporting development of a public multiuse indoor facility so that we are less reliant on the school district and their sometimes inflexible policies. A public facility would also allow us capacity to likely not have to deny opportunities to any youth wanting to participate.

Nelson Curling Centre

Participants

5-20 years old, 20-30 years old, 30-40 years old, 40-50

Volunteers retention: Very poor - challenging to find volunteers!

Our building is city owned and is very old with many challenges. Currently our ice plant is in need of major component replacement so there is no ability to make ice this year and still no guarantee of funding to replace it in the future.

Need support for

Ice plant repair. (major capital expenditures)

Future aspirations

To get a new facility and have curling be a viable sport long into the future.

Nelson Pickleball Club

Participants

30-40 years old, 40-50, 50 and beyond

no barriers, other than the only times we can get courts, which is week mornings, so hard for working people

There is only one place to play during the winter and that is Selkirk collage. They can only give us 2 hours a day. This sounds like a lot but we have over a 100 paid members, most who would like to play 4 or 5 times a week. This is not accomplishable with the times that we can get so we would love time in another facility as well.

Need support for

We don't need direct financial help. We do need a better indoor facility where we can get more time in the day, and at different times of the day so we could accomodate working people as well as retiries.

Future aspirations

The numbers in our sport have grown by 1020% each year. This is the first year that we have had to discourage membership.

We would love to let anyone who wants to play year round join our club at any level. We would hope that we could have enough court time to accomodate all that are interested.

Kootenay Climbing Association

5-20 years old, 20-30 years old, 30-40 years old

Participants

Overflowing interest, often waitlist or above capacity attendance.

We have a very small space and struggle with hosting events due to our facilities occupancy limits.

We have observed an increase in our members need of monthly payment plans and youth subsidies/grants for programing which lead us to believe that there is becoming more of a financial barrier to the sport due to increases in families' cost of living.

Staffing: It has become more difficult to retain staff over the last 2 years due to salary expectations

Facility

Many shortcomings (need a new facility asap)

Our space is approximately 8x smaller than our usage would facilitate and the community has been advocating for. We can only offer 1 of the 3 indoor climbing disciplines due to the short ceiling heights of our space. We do not own our space and have not been permitted to complete business' essential activities such as having a bathroom, installing internet, our own private entrance , climate control (no cooling in our space and indoor temperatures reached 39 degrees Celcius over the last two years which is dangerous to staff and users).

Kootenay Climbing Association

Need support for

We are actively fundraising to build a new climbing gym in Nelson and it will not be possible without large financial donations from federal, provincial and local government.

[The New Facility Concept](#)

The sport has been growing at approximately 7% annually in Canada for the last 510 years. This is slightly behind the US and is lagging behind Europe by about 10 years which is still growing and at a slightly higher pace. In most of Northern Europe there is an indoor climbing facility in every community similar to Canadian hockey rinks. Long term we hope to see a similar level of growth in Canada.

Future aspirations

To build our own facility that places Nelson as the interior hub of the sport for BC and our community and to train aspiring young athletes and host national competitions.

Nelson Skating Club

Participants

5-20 years old, 20-30 years old, 30-40 years old, 40-50, 50 and beyond

Majority female participants

Challenges in getting ice times and ice costs

Poor sound system on the Civic arena

Challenge has always been finding certified coaches in our area

Need support for

Facility rental cost. Ice booking is expensive.

Future aspirations

To grow our membership and our figure skating program. To have as many people as possible learn to skate

Nelson Ultimate Frisbee Association

Participants

20-30 years old, 30-40 years old

Majority male participants, but fairly mixed ethnicities

Being a non-profit association, it is hard to find money to do more marketing to grow our local sport. Also, our indoor facilities are really pricy which make our sport less affordable year long. We have had to cut the amount of hours played indoor in the winter as the only option for us is the indoor soccer fields and they are really pricey.

All volunteer run, no marketing

Need support for

It would be for our field fees.

Future aspirations

Short-term, we want to spread the word but keep our attendance high so we have more political weight

I would love to see it grow and maybe have more volunteers throughout the year. OF course, I would love more marketing for our association

Nelson Cycling Club

Participants

30-40 years old

Few disabled participants, we have and continue to build more infrastructure to support this group. Female participants have typically found it challenging, NCC holds women specific clinics etc.

Challenges in running numerous events - massive behind the scenes organisation requirements. NCC doesn't have the staff or volunteers to host as much as we would like. Our clinic program could use better space and features to teach on eg. built bike features in flat area. Cost and maintenance prohibits currently.

Challenges

Challenges with volunteers to complete general maintenance tasks where they are most useful to our program. Volunteers are more interested in 'high profile' trail work,, eg jump building etc. We have been successful in retaining highly skilled staff, but we do not have the budget to do as much maintenance as the network requires.

Environment

Trail design and construction is kept minimal to reduce environmental disturbance. Surface treatment for flow trails to reduce erosion and maintenance costs. Adjusting our practices to reduce our ongoing maintenance costs and extend lifespan of trails and features.

Nelson Cycling Club

Need support for

Financial assistance- for the maintenance program or for the management of the club.

Future aspirations

To continue to act as stewards of the trails, maintaining a high quality diverse network of trails for the nelson community that contributes to our tourist economy.

Strategic further trail development, ongoing maintenance, increase community engagement (volunteers, clinics, events).

Recommendations



Deep dive synthesis



Fair



Accurate
representation



Transparent



Progressive

Recommendations

1

Staff to complete routine analysis on the state of sport in Nelson

2

Know the answer to:
What are the fastest growing sports in Nelson? What are the barriers to their growth?

3

How can Nelson dismantle access barriers to potential participants?
E.g Events, access grants, accessibility

4

Can we connect people in different ways?
E.g with volunteering events, learning events, shadowing, and more.

5

Mentorship opportunities supported

6

Nelson Sports Ambassador(s) compensated for their leadership, time and mentorship

"The secret of my
future is hidden in
my daily routine."

I am capable of manifesting all
my goals and intentions this year.

Thank you!

Questions?

