



NEST LAB
Collaborative Climate Solutions *for* Nelson

JOIN

Nest Lab 2021

Collaborative community action on climate change in Nelson

Climate change is a complex and systemic challenge. The health of our community, ecosystems and economy depend on how we respond to it.

Over the past year, a never-before-seen increase in concern and investment to address the issue of climate change has occurred. At the same time, our society has faced massive disruption due to the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in challenges to our economic and community health. This confluence of crises has created momentum to more ambitiously and creatively explore solutions to the many challenges that confront our communities.

Nest Lab is a place for Nelson's innovators and influencers to work together to build on this momentum and advance near-term implementable solutions around this question:

How might we harness Nelson's collective resources and creativity to build our economic and community health through solutions to climate change?

Why a “collaborative lab”?

Complex and dynamic challenges, like those dealing with climate, energy and economy, can't be addressed by any single person or organization. They require working across sectors with many diverse actors with different viewpoints.

Nest Lab is rooted in a trust that our community members can and will effectively engage on the intersection of climate, energy and economy to develop new solutions that align with our shared values and interests.

Learn more about collaborative labs with our [one-page PDF primer](#).

Examples of significant opportunities that we may explore further include:

Smart & Active Transportation:

Sparking economic activity through enabling active, safe and low-emission transportation infrastructure.

Efficient Buildings:

Enabling significant uptake of energy efficiency retrofits with programs accessible to people with less means and benefit local contractors.

Food Security:

Creating community cohesion and resilience by removing barriers to the implementation of urban agriculture and regional food initiatives.



“ This sort of approach brings diverse people and perspectives together to creatively examine and work collaboratively to solve an important challenge.

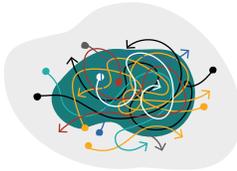
– Gerald Cordeiro, Forest Development Manager at Kalesnikoff and Nest Lab Participant

How Nest Lab works



Convene Nelson community members

Throughout 2021, we will convene a diverse group of Nelson community members to explore local issues and prioritised solutions through a series of dynamic and interactive workshops.



Tackle complex problems

The challenge of economic and community health and climate change is complex and dynamic. Together we will apply systems thinking and practice working in complexity.



Design & test prototypes together

Together we create and test simple experimental models for local solutions. We can then refine or change direction before a solution is fully designed or adopted.



Inspire community solutions & actions

The impact of the lab will go beyond just those participating in the lab. We want other community members to be inspired and work together on local solutions.



Phase I – Spring 2020

A first phase of the Nest Lab took place in the spring of 2020. Through a series of engagements (conducted online due to COVID-19), the 15 participants explored local climate change issues and solutions and were given the opportunity to gain insights, challenge perceptions and increase climate action awareness. Overwhelmingly, the participants recognized that to make meaningful progress on real world challenges associated with climate change, collaboration on community-oriented actions is crucial.

Four prototype projects helped the participants learn more about the complex system in which they are operating and how to further develop their ideas and test their assumptions about what will have an impact on climate action in Nelson.

The Nest Lab directly informed the development of the City of Nelson's Climate Change Community Action Plan, Nelson Next, and will continue to play a role in its implementation.

Join Phase II

We are inviting you to join the second phase of the Nest Lab.

Participation in the Nest Lab is an opportunity to work together with others on solutions for Nelson. It is a safe space to build collaborative capacities, explore ideas, share experiences and create the future we want.

Why participate?

1. Access knowledge, funding and resources to develop your personal, professional or organization's ideas for collaborative solutions.
2. Develop skills and knowledge to more effectively take action with others.
3. Connect with and be part of a supportive community of change makers.

Questions?

Join us for a short online information session about Nest Lab and social innovation, with a Q&A on one of the following dates:

Info Session 1

April 7, 2021 – 4:30-5:15pm

[Register Online](#)

Info Session 2

April 19, 2021 – 12-12:45pmm

[Register Online](#)

How to apply?

We are looking for 24 - 30 diverse community members to work together on local ideas and solutions that will address the dual challenge of climate change and economic resilience.

Apply online: NestLabNelson.ca

Applications will close on **April 30, 2021** and applicants will be notified in mid May.

For questions you may have please refer to our website or send us an email to info@NestLabNelson.ca.

Selection Criteria

Applicants need to show a commitment to be able to fully participate:

1. Be proactive in working with others to seek collaborative climate solutions.
2. Attend all Nest Lab online and in-person sessions, including brief activities between workshops (see timeline on the next page).
3. Meeting and organizing outside of Nest Lab sessions on collaborative ideas.
4. Be open to exploring how to work in complexity.
5. Contribute to occasional evaluation surveys and interviews.
6. Openness to sharing learnings and your story as part of the Nest Lab to your networks.

The selection committee will also give consideration to ensuring that a range of perspectives, skills sets and experiences are represented in the cohort.

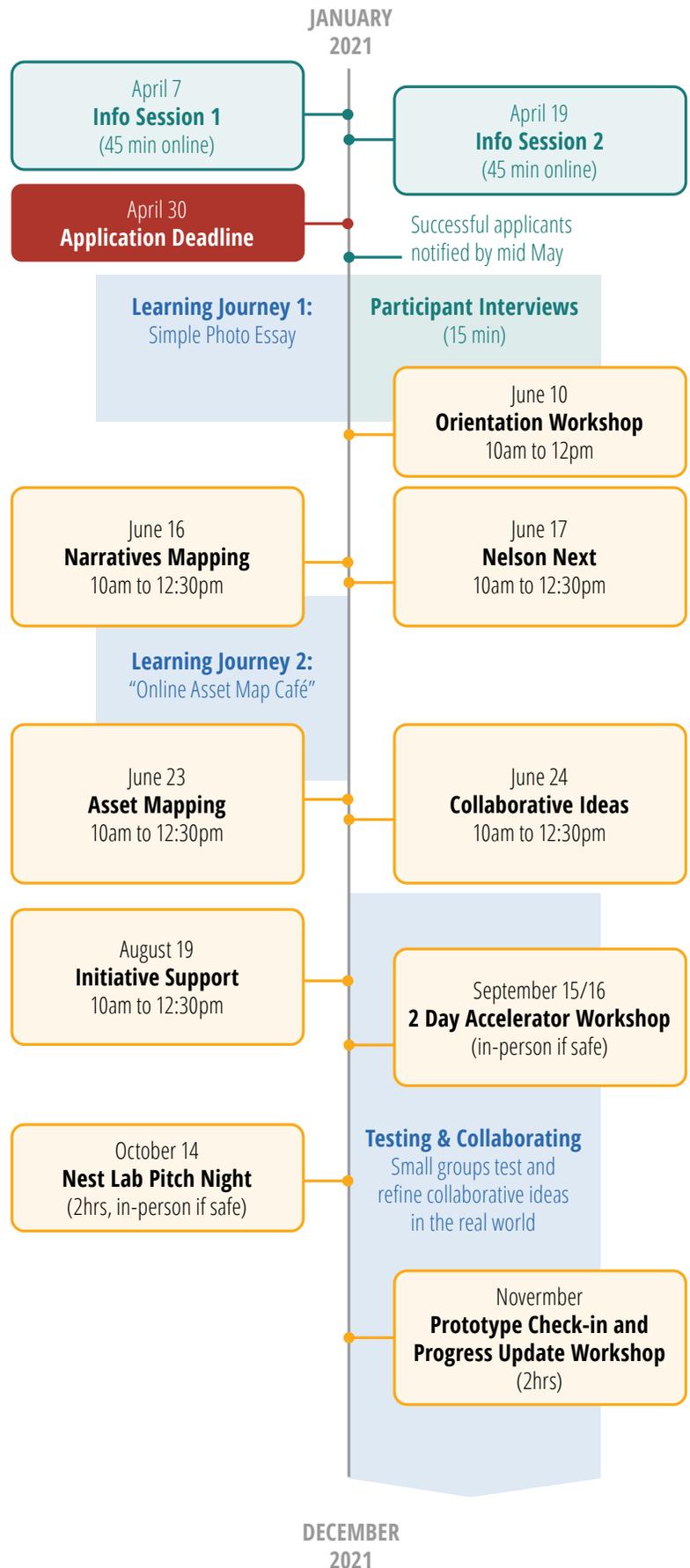


“ While the weight of addressing climate change can feel overwhelming, the Nest Lab showed that by harnessing the knowledge, skillsets and passions of a diverse group of people, we can start to create real, tangible solutions that also strengthen connection and community.

– Michele Deluca, Lead Designer at 3West Building Energy Consultants and Nest Lab Participant

Nest Lab's 2021 timeline

Nest Lab will include several engagements, initially online and then in-person (when safe) throughout the spring, summer and fall. The proposed engagement dates are subject to change.



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 info@nestlabnelson.ca

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