

# Finding a Balance: The Relationship Between Nelson Businesses and the Street Population



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## Background

The Street Outreach Team is a group of trained professionals working with the street culture population in Nelson. Their goal is to build community capacity and develop positive relationships by supporting and understanding the street culture population and the larger community.

## Objective

We administered surveys to businesses in the community of Nelson to determine how the Street Outreach Team can help them, and ask questions regarding the relationship between the street culture population and businesses. Our goal was to collect and compile data from the surveys to gain a deeper understanding of the needs within the community businesses and illuminate strategies for community development.



## Findings

- Broad data analysis revealed that business owners and employees are unhappy with the increase in the local street population.
- Businesses expressed that the street population deters tourism in the downtown core
- There is a divide between businesses that want resources/training to help them work with the street population whereas other businesses do not feel this would be beneficial.

## Recommendations

- Based on the survey findings we propose that the Street Outreach Team invest in sending education information to businesses through an online source so business owner's can address their learning needs at any time.

## References

Clasped hands [Image]. (2011). Retrieved from clip art

Field guide: Lynda DeChief Instructor: Sue Hackett

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