

Vital Signs Perceptions Survey - 09/07/2011

Health

Mental Health / Addiction Services

- A can always use more free mental health programs and addiction services
- A Vernon is not bad, but there are still too many people with mental health problems that fall through the Mental health care seems to be a problem but it is not all the responsibility of the cities that this problem exists in. rather the provincial Government has produced a lot of these problems by closures and budge
- A increase in mental health support programs
- A Mental health programming and residential space needs to be increased.
- A not sure how to get people to stop smoking & drinking to excess
- A get drugs off the streets
- A the only thing I miss is a safe injection site
- A mental health services extremely limited and poorly located at the Health Unit
- A we can use more mental health programs to get people back into the work force and off the streets. Yes, there is obesity and yes, there is substance abuse etc. but the city can not be responsible for
- A people going on diets or their eating habits or there smoking habits. Substance abuse comes from so
- A Never enough mental health support programs-look at our homeless population.
- A we need an addictions recovery centre

Health Programs

- B Ban smoking in any public area, including Polson Park.
- B Free yoga, or other fun activities that create a sense of belonging or connecting within the community.
- B more provincial support for preventative medical care
- B Just wish more people would take control of their well-being, as Vernon has the options available. more provincial or Canadian issues as we need assistance to get people to be more active and streets
- B like 20th, bike lanes and safe walking increase physical activity
- B Much more awareness about food choices and exercise options.
- B More education on benefits of fitness
- B Walking paths and hiking trails that are a circular route to follow
- B better awareness of prevention not more beds in the hospital lets keep people healthy
- B All kids need access to activities/sports
- B more bike lanes, promotion of local food production sources, more active hospital capacity
- B more education to seniors on healthy alternatives for their diet
- B A method to find the necessary services easier.
- B more sports facilities
- B Bring back Participaction program
- B it would be helpful if gym memberships were subsidised
- B There are not enough places for people to go for walks in nature areas.
- B Need better air quality; education re physical fitness; Have introductory physical fitness days for minimal
- B We have an excellent variety of services and options - it's up to people to make the right choices - you
- B cooking has to be taught in schools for both boys and girls
- B support food security and food produced in area
- B Everyone needs to be more active but opportunities are limited because of high fees.
- B Prevention education
- B /breakfast for children so they can learn
- B really pleased with exercise area in Polson Park...good work, keep thinking of other options for fitness
- B facilitate more long term care assistance to caregivers
- B The new dental initiative will be excellent for downtown population.
- B Love the public exercise area in Polson, more sites like these throughout the City
- B Healthy food is available, but they need to be more affordable.

- B keep supporting food security and recreational programs
- B Support for families with limited income for activities
- B More education and awareness.
- B focus on prevention strategies
- B expand the street nurse program
- B low cost dental care
- B I tell my kids that people either don't know, or don't care when it comes to making choices about food,
- B better education in strata facilities on proper nutrition and discount for senior passes at Rec Centre for
- B Keep up with Education programs
would love to see more classes available through Vernon rec. Dance classes, group exercises. always
- B the same classes every year. some people like to shake things up and try new stuff.
- B Senior Centres do a good job but there should also be much more help from parks and recreation and
- B get more to use the pool and other physical training
- B Too much funding and focus is directed towards team sports, as many cannot afford it, nor are good at
- B increase in medical care and other health programs and services
- B more gym space, more sports fields, more free fitness opportunities
- B continue to support organizations like Dental Access Program, Santa's Anonymous etc..
- B Educate public about healthy lifestyles and monitor uptake
- B support healthy lifestyle initiatives
- B more family activities, cut rates for families on everything

Hospital Facilities

- C convince the provincial government. to put more staff at the hospitals
- C more hospital beds
- C Finish the upper 2 floors of the new hospital tower.
- C more hospital beds
- C Increase available hospital rooms
- C more hospital beds
- C Sounds like we need far more hospital beds for when we do need that service.
- C open the top 2 floors of the new wing of the hospital
- C Hospital is inadequate
- C Improved conditions at the hospital - overcrowding!
- C complete the top two floors of the hospital
- C increase hospital beds

Substance Abuse Programs

- D I do not like the fact that Vernon got a meth clinic without asking the public how they would like to
- D deal with substance abuse in the community (aggressive on traffickers, help for those that use and
- D we have a big drug problem, particularly among our youth. Does that mean there are no opportunities
- D for healthy activities? No, but a lot of parents cannot afford expensive sports activities.

Diseases

- E does anyone want to address the high cancer rate here?

Support Programs

- F Need to support food bank more.
- F densify community, support and enhance current programs, shelters, food banks (gleaning programs, as
- F Increase the senior's facilities, not enough beds, drain on our emergency and hospital beds
- F better outreach
- F more programs to help people help themselves
- F Increased support programs
- F more home support needed for seniors when ill

- F more community resources (RN's and social workers)
- F build facilities for those not sick occupying hospital beds
- F reinstate meals on wheels for disabled

More Doctors / Clinics

- We need more doctors, including family doctors, doctors working at walk-in clinics, and doctors working
- G at the hospital (emergency and non-emergency areas)
- G more doctors needed both in hospital and general practice
- G our hospital is usually overflowing, therefore does not serve the community adequately. We are usually
- G lack of family doctors

Wait Times

- H Need to reduce the waiting times for operations for everyone.
- H hospital waitlists are a big problem mental Health services for children has waitlists and few sessions
- H More resources i.e. to address long wait lists i.e. mental health
- H Wait lists for mental health and for obtaining a Doctor are too long
- H reduce wait times for MRI, surgery, etc

Interior Health

- I IH is overwhelmed and understaffed most times
- More focus on non-acute care...there are tons of need in community and residential health that need
- I more attention than acute yet acute care gets the greatest amount of \$.

Government

- J This is not within the mandate of a City
- J How about a seniors rate at the swimming pool.
- J complete the top two floors of the hospital
- J Open more floors and/or beds in the hospital.
- J I would like to see a stronger social component to the city's direction
- J we need a bigger rec centre, need more room and facilities to have more programs for seniors to keep
- We need a larger indoor pool so that classes for young people can go on, as well as lanes for swimmers
- who want to exercise. Right now we shut down lanes so that classes can go on. .As far as medical, new
- J mothers should have quicker access to doctors in Kelowna many doctors allow mothers with newborns
- J Prov. Health Care - need fast access to medical help
- J establish more outdoor sports facilities.
- The more Vernon focuses on reducing/controlling its footprint and putting energy toward walkable
- J downtown spaces, the greater likelihood people will walk/bike and therefore the less likely they will be to
- J more trails, walking routes, interconnected bike routes (including off road, or dividers)
- J I am only affected by the Provincial medical situation -- waiting for surgery, and to see specialists.
- J Policy improvements
- J More parks in neighbourhoods
- J need more rec centres - at least 1 more
- J integrate health and wellness lens into city planning

Other

- K more walkways, dog control, focus on local foods - policy
- K more jobs and more cultural opportunities would help with this
- K commitment to air quality programming
- K Olympic pool

I like that we have a nice skate park for young people to enjoy, we need to erect lights (solar?) for them to enjoy the park at night (Armstrong did this) it keeps the young busy instead of wandering and getting into trouble. Also, I think some attractive wood lattice/ shelter from the heat for them to sit under while they are there in the sun. Asking for their input might make them own it more. Also, I would like to see

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air quality a big concern, focus on ways to improve
fresh produce for citizens living in poverty
Expand community garden programs
Encourage non organized use of our parks (drop in games)
provide more support for community gardens, stop the development of endless fast food restaurants