

27th October 2011
Immigrants' Conversation at Council Chambers
Framing Our Future discussion (7.30pm – 9.30pm)

In our future we will see:

Built and urban environment

- Town clusters so need fewer cars
- Green places in town
- Apartment living is affordable and acceptable
- High rise residential buildings in which people own their own place
- Limited urban sprawl
- Healthy homes
- Housing use better allocated fit for purpose i.e. smaller homes for older people and larger homes available for immigrants
- All homes are well insulated and double glazed and no open fires (government incentives to upgrade)
- Building affordable homes with efficient heating
- Green roofs on buildings in towns; clever green sustainable urban design
- All hot water cylinders are on solar energy
- Solar panels on the roofs of every house, windmills on every roof or in every backyard
- Solar energy powers everything
- Solar and hydro energy
- Existing buildings and public spaces are fully utilised in a multilayered approach; interactive living museums; Isef Park has many activities incorporated e.g. exercise machines in public areas
- Mandatory water collection tanks in every house/ building

Transport

- Small vehicles
- Increased public transport – especially as our population ages
- cycles with side cars
- Drivers licence given to 21 year old
- Improved public transport
- Subsidised public transport
- Highways – more lanes
- Trains
- Free bikes/ bike pools (like Florence)
- Flatten pathways so mobility scooters are feasible and safe
- More walking bridges to cross busy roads
- Lots of small companies instead of monopoly in providers of public transport

Key: Format of notes indicates

1. Broad theme

- Individual contributions clustered under themes (exact duplications have not been repeated).

Food security and consumption

- Farmers and growers are allowed to manage local distribution
- Fish is cheaper and more accessible (it is right at our shore!); sales are made direct from boats to end consumers
- Community gardens are thriving; we eat what's in season
- Farmers' markets
- All kinds of goods are actively encouraged to be locally produced and bought
- Good food is affordable to all
- We eat not just for nourishment, but for incorporating its social aspects
- Seasonal vegetables that have cultural values/ uses are planted
- We have access to the same foods we do now (but less processed)
- Greater cultural diversity means many different foods are now required for us to eat 'the same' as we do today

Resource management

- Cultural values are attached to resources
- Learnt to cherish resources – not be greedy or thoughtless (*quite drastic measures are needed now before it is too late*)
- A culture where 'waste' is a treasure
- We have moved from 'rubbish' to resource (*once again, hard stuff needs to happen now for the people in 50 years*)
- Communities create benefits from collecting recycled rubbish for fundraising
- Less packaging – much much less!

- Free water and whole community takes responsibility
- Safe rivers for swimming and fishing
- Water is free, or at least more affordable than today
- More small community based purification plants in the city
- Clean

- In 50 years the whole urban area will be as one, so need a higher level of thinking re quality air initiatives; we need to think about how other areas effect their neighbouring areas' air quality (not just focus on e.g. Victory)
- Safe air
- Considered the costs in improving air quality – subsidies to change, noting that cheaper methods tend to be least efficient

- One cat/ one dog per household

Education

- Skills passed on from generation to generation
- Education which guides and leads the 'why' as well as the 'what' for different cultures; people are simply not understanding the implications and consequences of today's' behaviours and attitudes

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- Council should be involved in strengthening tertiary education and support the establishment of a university in order to retain our youth
- Options are limited for youth and not stable enough so need to boost tertiary education
- Alternative and parallel systems available for schooling, health, faith worship
- Use our existing information better – stop re-researching and wasting time – make change through action not research
- Opportunities for migrants to have higher positions within business

Culture and heritage

- A city of diverse history and cultures
- A place/ building devoted to displaying and teaching culture to children – pass culture on to our culture
- A Filipino statue
- Utilising current and future technologies, we have reconsidered preserving buildings per se and are exploring preserving instead memories, i.e. preserve experience without preserving the actual building
- Our values are conservative – back to the basics of morals, values and self-responsibility
- We live in a place where we want people to be different

Governance

- Each suburb has a leader/ a head/ a 'baranggay'; community responsibility is taken for communication and small community governance
- NCC hosts regular immigrants forums such as Framing our Future
- More education and constant communication re Emergency Plans (what's the plan for natural disasters?)
- Neighbourhood communities and suburban councils are in place to bond a sense of neighbourhood and to feed issues up
- We have decided what parts of the vision *who* will have responsibility for
- Strong encouragement with financial incentives for green energy (and penalties otherwise?)

A culture of home-based elder care and respect

- Families need to look after their elderly and know that the government will support them
- A culture where we look after our parents
- We need to focus on making Nelson a place where our children stay so that they can look after and stay embraced within their wider families
- No more assumptions about 'overcrowding in houses'; different cultures have different values around house sharing and family

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