

Purpose:

To identify major topics of discussion for the EDC to have a robust engaging dialogue around. Forming new ideas and opportunities for their commission to take on.

Interests:

Improving the lives of the local community

Including:

- Agriculture in Kaslo and Area D
- Housing
- Childcare
- Alternate Energy
- Existing Business
- Health & Wellbeing
- Community connectedness
- Tourism (this was a priority for some and low interest for others)
- New Business Attraction based on the market need

Priorities:

- Attracting investments in business and agriculture
- Moderated growth
- Workforce & Housing
- Sustainability:
 - Energy (power grid) & alternates
 - Housing
 - Environment
 - Regenerative practices from energy to forestry to agriculture
- Infrastructure bottlenecks
- Business supports
- Engagement by the EDC to create new opportunities and ideas

Future Focus:

Agriculture Sector

- greenhouse for Kaslo
- improvements to LV farmers to meet their needs so they can expand
- More opportunity & supports for value-added products

Forestry Sector

- What can we do with Hemlock?
- Value-added opportunities
- What are other communities doing?
- Community Land Trust
- Not creating as many jobs as it once did

Tourism Opportunities

- Historical lens
- Outdoor adventure seekers
- Promote the heck out of this area
- Support Jazz Fest to get back in motion
- Focus on shoulder season opportunities to bring people here

Less Tourism Focus

- This is the low hanging fruit - they will come regardless
- Tourism drives housing crisis, summer homes
- Dark homes hurt the local economy
- Inhibits the community culture, volunteers, etc
- What community that has gone “all in” on tourism is a great place to live?
- Tourism has supports (NKLT, etc)