

School District 79 (Cowichan Valley) 2015 Carbon Neutral Action Report



Declaration statement

This is the 2015 Carbon Neutral Action Report for School District 79 Cowichan Valley. This report is for the period January 1st to December 31st, 2015 summarizing our emissions profile, the actions we have taken in 2015 to reduce our GHG emissions, the amount of offsets purchased to reach net zero emissions and our plan to continue reducing emissions in 2016 and beyond.

By June 30, 2016 School District 79 Cowichan Valley's final CNAR will be posted to our website at www.sd79.bc.ca.

Executive Summary

The Cowichan Valley School District is continuing to reduce their Greenhouse Gas emissions. The actions of the school district have a tremendous impact on the community it serves. In 2009 the district adopted a policy on Resource Management and Sustainability and formed a Sustainability Committee whose mandate was to deal with issues that contribute to the district's carbon footprint. Long term reduction goals were adopted which fall in line with the BC Energy Plan and Bill 44-2007: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act.

Due to reduced energy consumption over the past 8 years Cowichan Valley School District currently pays less for energy utilities than it did in the 2007/2008 school year. As well Cowichan Valley School District has been making an effort to switch to cleaner energy sources which has resulted in a large reduction in Greenhouse Gas emissions. These efforts are noticeable all across the district influencing students and staff to become more aware of environmental issues. Cowichan Valley School District continues to upgrade and optimize mechanical systems which have significantly reduced the district's carbon footprint. In 2015 the district initiated window and building envelope projects. These projects have a large impact on occupant comfort and heating energy consumption. The district has adjusted bus routing to reduce bus runs and driving distances. The district is also working with BC Hydro on a Workplace Conservation Awareness program to encourage energy efficient practices across the district.

2015 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

School District 79 Cowichan Valley GHG Emissions and Offset for 2015 (tCO₂e)	
GHG Emissions created in Calendar Year 2015:	
Total Emissions (tCO ₂ e)	1,870
Total Offsets (tCO ₂ e)	1,370
Adjustments to GHG Emissions Reported in Prior Years:	
Total Emissions (tCO ₂ e)	1
Total Offsets (tCO ₂ e)	1
Grand Total Offsets for the 2015 Reporting Year:	
Grand Total Offsets (tCO ₂ e)	1,370

Distribution of Emissions

The total Greenhouse Gas Emissions for 2015 were 1,870 tonnes CO₂e. 58.86% of this came from stationary fuel combustion, 33.06% came from mobile fuel combustion, 2.43% came from indirect emissions and 5.65% came from travel and supplies.

Offsets Applied to Become Carbon Neutral in 2015

Of the total Greenhouse Gas Emissions 500 tonnes CO₂e resulted from Carbon Neutral or Offset Exempt sources. As a result of this the total GHG Emissions required to be offset to become Carbon Neutral for 2015 was 1,370 tonnes CO₂e. This resulted in a charge of \$34,250.00 plus GST.

Changes to Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Offsets Reporting from Previous Years

Following the public release of School District 79 Cowichan Valley's 2014 Carbon Neutral Action Report it was determined that the total emissions for the 2014 calendar year were under reported by 1 tonne CO₂e. Due to the effect of rounding the total Greenhouse Gas Emissions is still 1,870 tonnes CO₂e, of that 1,370 tonnes CO₂e require the purchase of offsets. Therefore the total payment to the Ministry of Environment is still \$34,250.00 plus GST.

Retirement of Offsets

In accordance with the requirements of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act and Carbon Neutral Government Regulation, School District 79 Cowichan Valley is responsible for arranging for the retirement of the offsets obligation reported above for the 2015 calendar year, together with any adjustments reported for past calendar years. The district hereby agrees that, in exchange for the Ministry of Environment ensuring that these offsets are retired on the district's behalf, the district will pay the associated invoice issued by the Ministry in an amount equal to \$25 per tonne of offsets retired on its behalf plus GST.

Emissions Reduction Activities

Actions Taken to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in 2015

The Transportation Department has continued to work on bus routes. This has resulted in a further reduction in the annual distance travelled by the bus fleet. The district has also replaced 3 buses with new more fuel efficient buses.

New high efficiency boilers were installed at two of the district's schools in 2015. This has resulted in a large reduction in natural gas consumption resulting in a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. Window reduction and replacement as well as building envelope projects were started at 8 schools across the district. These projects will enhance occupant comfort and reduce the consumption of heating energy. The Operations Department has undertaken a number of lighting and lighting control projects throughout the district to reduce electrical consumption. These lighting projects include exterior LED lighting at two of the district's secondary schools. Two Continuous Optimization projects are underway at facilities which will result in a significant reduction in electricity, natural gas and fuel oil consumption.

Plans to Continue Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2016 – 2017

The district will continue to implement projects in an effort to reduce energy consumption and Greenhouse Gas emissions. Lighting projects, including the installation of LED light fixtures at one of the district's largest secondary schools, will be implemented as well as continuing to install lighting controls where appropriate.

New high efficiency boilers are being installed at one of the district's largest secondary schools. This project will result in a large reduction in natural gas consumption. The district is also continuing the window reduction and replacement as well as building envelope projects at multiple sites. These projects will have a large impact on occupant comfort and the reduction of heating energy and greenhouse gas emissions.

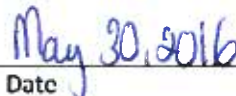
The communication of Energy Efficient and Sustainable practices will continue district wide in an effort to promote the overall awareness of sustainability issues.



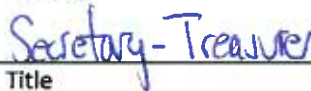
Signature



Name (please print)



Date



Title