

# School District 79 (Cowichan Valley) 2013 Carbon Neutral Action Report



## Declaration statement

This is the 2013 Carbon Neutral Action Report for School District 79 Cowichan Valley. This report contains our 2013 emissions profile, the actions we have taken in 2013 to reduce our GHG emissions and our plans to continue reducing emissions in 2014 and beyond.

By June 30, 2014 School District 79 Cowichan Valley's final CNAR will be posted to our website at [www.sd79.bc.ca](http://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 is to deal with issues that contribute to the district's carbon footprint. Long term reduction goals have been 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 5 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 on 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 is continuing to upgrade and optimize mechanical systems which have significantly reduced the district's carbon footprint, the district has worked on bus routing to reduce bus runs and driving distances and the district is also working with BC Hydro on a Workplace Conservation Awareness program to encourage energy efficient practices across the district.

## 2013 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The total Greenhouse Gas Emissions for 2013 were 2,655 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e. 65.96% of this came from stationary fuel combustion and electricity, 30.18% came from mobile fuel combustion and 3.86% came from supplies.

## Offsets Applied to Become Carbon Neutral in 2013

Of the total Greenhouse Gas Emissions 516 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e resulted from the operation of school buses. As a result of this the total GHG Emissions required to be offset to become Carbon Neutral for 2013 was 2,139 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e. This resulted in a payment of \$53,475.00 plus GST which has been paid to the Pacific Carbon Trust.

## Changes to Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Offsets Reporting from Previous Years

Following the public release of School District 79 Cowichan Valley's 2012 Carbon Neutral Action Report, it was determined that the total emissions for the 2012 calendar year were under reported by 3 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e.

The difference in offsets have been purchased from the Pacific Carbon Trust and applied against our 2012 emissions. The total Greenhouse Gas Emissions for 2012 were 3,029 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e, of that 2,435 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e required the purchase of offsets.

## Emissions Reduction Activities

### Actions Taken to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in 2013

The Transportation Department has continued to work on bus routes. This has resulted in the elimination of two bus routes and a further reduction in the annual distance travelled by the bus fleet. All busses have had automatic idle shutdown installed.

The Operations Department has completed a number of lighting and lighting control projects throughout the district to reduce electrical consumption. Continuous Optimization projects have been undertaken at three facilities which will result in a significant reduction in natural gas consumption.

### Plans to Continue Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2014 – 2015

The district will continue to implement projects in an effort to reduce energy consumption and Greenhouse Gas emissions. Lighting projects which will eliminate interior Metal Halide light fixtures will be implemented as well as continuing to install lighting controls where appropriate.

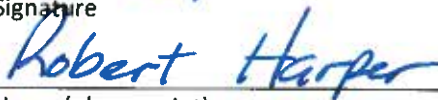
The district will be completing the installation of a biomass boiler which will virtually eliminate the use of fuel oil at one secondary school. This project will reduce the district's Greenhouse Gas emissions by 168 tCO<sub>2</sub>e annually. The district also has Carbon Neutral Capital Project funding which will be used for building envelop improvements to reduce heat loss at one facility.

All district vehicles will have GPS installed which will contribute towards the reduction of distances travelled.

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

# 2013 Carbon Neutral Action Report (CNAR) - Part 2 ACTIONS

Created Wednesday, March 26, 2014

Updated Tuesday, May 27, 2014

<https://fluidsurveys.com/surveys/cas-z/2013-cnar-form-bps-actions/f3809acb4566cfe6ba6a0133f676768b/>

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## Page 1

Please complete the following sections of the 2013 Carbon Neutral Action Report form. Save your work frequently to prevent it from being lost. You can also save a copy for your own use as either a WORD or PDF file using the buttons at the bottom of each page.

This is Part 2 of the Carbon Neutral Action Report form. This section reports on actions taken to reduce emissions during the 2013 calendar year. This information will be included in your final Carbon Neutral Action Report posted on the Ministry of Environment website.

When the form is complete press the submit button on the last page to automatically submit the information to the Climate Action Secretariat (CAS). Do not press submit before you are ready – this may result in a loss of work.

In addition to completing this survey (Part 1 2), you are required to submit your completed Overview (Executive Summary) and Self-Certification Checklist. The 2013 Overview template was included in the email sent and can also be found on the LiveSmart leaders Community.

Please ensure you meet the following reporting deadlines:

A DRAFT 2013 CNAR is due to CAS by March 31, 2014. The draft is comprised of the Overview ONLY (no executive sign-off required).

The FINAL 2013 CNAR is due to CAS by May 30, 2014. The final 2013 CNAR includes Part 1 Part 2 survey form and Overview.

The Self-Certification Checklist is due to CAS by May 15, 2014.

For more information about the Carbon Neutral Government process, please refer to *Becoming Carbon Neutral 2013*, or should you have any questions please contact [climateactionsecretariat@gov.bc.ca](mailto:climateactionsecretariat@gov.bc.ca).

Organization Name

*School District 79 Cowichan Valley*

**Actions Taken to Reduce Emissions**

1) Stationary Fuel Combustion, Electricity (Buildings):

Indicate which actions were taken in 2013:

Performed energy retrofits on existing buildings

*Yes*

Built or are building new LEED Gold or other "Green" buildings.

*No*

Undertook an evaluation of overall building energy use.

*Yes*

Please list any other actions taken to reduce emissions from Buildings:

*Continually monitor the energy consumption and the emissions of all the buildings across the district.*

2) Mobile Fleet Combustion (Fleet and other vehicles):

Indicate which actions were taken in 2013:

Do you have a fleet?

*Yes*

Replaced existing vehicles with more fuel efficient vehicles (gas/diesel)

*No*

Replaced existing vehicles with hybrid or electric vehicles

No

Reduced the overall number of fleet vehicles

Yes

Took steps to drive less than last year

Yes

Please list any other actions taken to reduce emission from fleet:

*Started a fleet GPS program which will be implemented in 2014.*

*Added automatic idle shutdown to all of the bus fleet.*

*We have continued to encourage anti-idling with all drivers.*

3) Supplies (Paper):

Indicate which actions were taken in 2013:

Used less paper than previous year

Yes

Used only 100% recycled paper

No

Used some recycled paper

Yes

Used alternate source paper (Bamboo, hemp, etc.)

No

Please list any other actions taken to reduce emissions from paper use:

*(No response)*

Actions Taken to Reduce Emissions - continued

Explain how you plan to continue minimizing emissions in 2014 and future years:

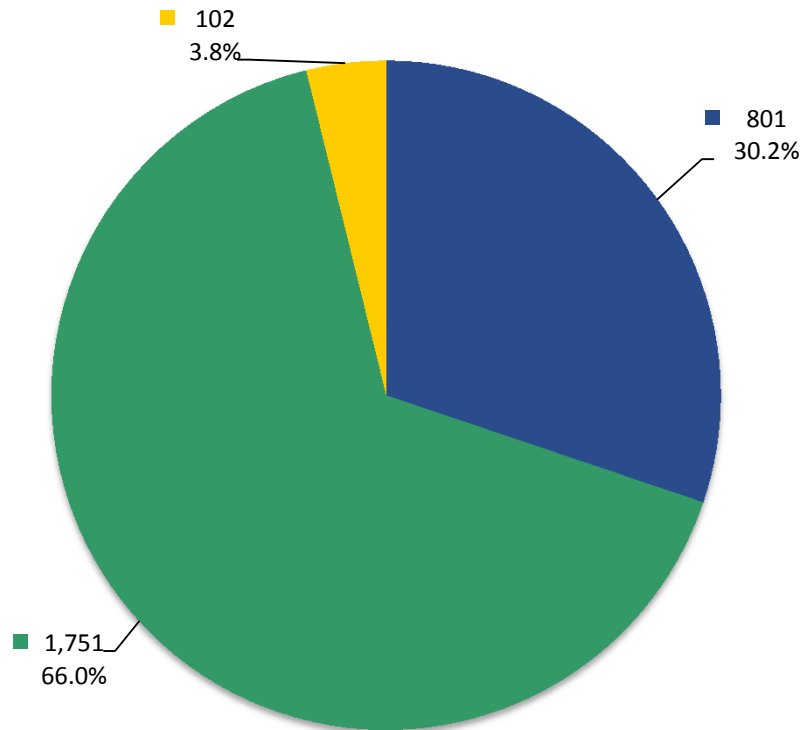
*Our highest priority for emissions reduction is to minimize fuel oil consumption. We are currently installing a biomass boiler at a facility that previously used fuel oil as the primary source of heat.*

*The second priority is to improve the efficiency of any existing carbon source heating plants. These projects will include upgrading actual heating plants as well as improving the insulation value of walls, ceilings and windows in buildings.*

If you wish to list any other "sustainability actions" outside of buildings, fleet, paper and travel check "yes". This reporting is optional.

*No*

## School District 79 - Cowichan Valley Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Source for the 2013 Calendar Year (tCO<sub>2</sub>e\*)



**Total Emissions: 2,655**

- Mobile Fuel Combustion (Fleet and other mobile equipment)
- Stationary Fuel Combustion (Building Heating and Generators) and Electricity
- Supplies (Paper)

### **Offsets Applied to Become Carbon Neutral in 2013 (Generated May 21, 2014 4:14 PM)**

Total offsets required: **2,139**. Total offset investment: **\$53,475**. Emissions which do not require offsets: **515** \*\*

\*Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) is a standard unit of measure in which all types of greenhouse gases are expressed based on their global warming potential relative to carbon dioxide.

\*\* Under the *Carbon Neutral Government Regulation of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act*, all emissions from the sources listed above must be reported. As outlined in the regulation, some emissions do not require offsets.