



Nisga'a Valley Health Authority 2011 Carbon Neutral Action Report

Executive Summary

The Nisga'a Valley Health Authority (NVHA) is committed to reducing its greenhouse emissions to keep this remote part of the Province clean. The NVHA has health centres located in each of the four Nisga'a communities in the Nass Valley in a region that is basically untouched by the level of emissions of a town or city. However, we are very much aware that we contribute to the emissions that impact the environment we live and work in. As a result, we have increased our awareness of carbon neutrality within the NVHA and are doing our part to assist in this province-wide initiative. This is a key element of our overall vision that a healthy environment at all levels of program and service delivery within the organization including this initiative naturally results in healthy minds, healthy bodies and healthy spirits.

Overviews

Carbon Neutral Action Report

As per legislation, the Nisga'a Valley Health Authority is required to complete a Carbon Neutral Action Report (CNAR) for the 2011 calendar year as part of the *Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act* and the *Carbon Neutral Government Regulation*. The report requires the approval of senior management – the Chief Executive Officer – before it is released as a public document and posted on the Provincial Government website. The NVHA is happy to submit this report.

2011 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The NVHA assigned the SMARTTool reporting requirements and the Carbon Neutral Action Report to the Corporate Services Manager. The Corporate Services Manager is responsible for fleet and buildings management in a role that naturally corresponds and enhances the reporting requirements for SMARTTool and the Carbon Neutral Action Report. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the NVHA did not implement as many changes including increased awareness as it would have liked to in 2011, but is confident in making changes in 2012 to reduce its greenhouse gases. The total emissions reported for 2011 is 251 tonnes.

Offsets Applied to Become Carbon Neutral in 2011

The NVHA started a lighting upgrade at one of the health centres near the end of 2011 to reduce electrical consumption. The assessment was completed and materials ordered. The lighting will be reduced in all areas and replaced with energy efficient lighting through an incentive grant that's in progress with BC Hydro. The upgrade will provide many benefits including reducing electrical consumption, financial savings, and health and safety.

Again, paper consumption is another area that the NVHA continues to focus on in 2011 with the network printing/facsimile/scanning copiers at all centres to decrease paper consumption. Documents

are scanned and emailed to all staff within the organization as well as to outside organizations. In addition, incorporating digital signatures minimized paper consumption even more as forms, letters, and other documents were signed electronically and emailed within departments rather than printed.

The purchase of a 2nd medical bus significantly reduces road travel and greenhouse gas emissions. Having clients travel on the bus significantly reduces the number of vehicles on the highway and saves on fuel consumption. The bus runs Monday to Friday to bring clients from the Nass Valley to Terrace for medical/specialist appointments. It continues to be the NVHA's greatest success story as it positively impacts the Nisga'a people, the environment and the NVHA.

The following are additional offsets practiced within the NVHA to reduce emissions:

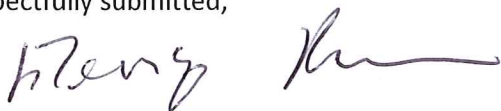
- Electrical heat at NVHA centres is time-controlled. The system is programmed to lower the temperature at the same time each day and increases the temperature prior to the start of the workday.
- Office lights are turned off when offices are not in use.
- The NVHA recycles paper, old electronic equipment and cans/bottles.
- Videoconferencing units are available within each NVHA centre and are used for meetings and training.
- Car-pooling is required for staff travel.
- Fuel consumption is monitored under NVHA fleet management.

The total offsets reported for 2011 is 246 tonnes.

Conclusion

The Nisga'a Valley Health Authority will increase its campaign to educate staff toward decreasing consumption in all areas to reduce greenhouse emissions and expenditures in these areas as reducing consumptions saves financially. More importantly, it provides for a healthier environment and a healthier nation of people. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,



Julia Adams, BA
Chief Executive Officer, NVHA

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Actions Towards Carbon Neutrality							
The actions listed below contribute to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from sources for which public sector organizations are responsible under the carbon neutral government regulation of the <i>Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act</i> .							
Action	Status (as of 12/31/11)	Performance to Date (as of 12/31/11)		Steps Taken in 2011	Steps Planned for 2012 -2014	Start Year	End Year
Mobile Fuel Combustion (Fleet and other mobile equipment)							
Vehicle fuel efficiency							
Replace vehicles with more fuel-efficient models	Ongoing/In Progress	5	% of vehicles are fuel- efficient models	The NVHA only owns one hybrid vehicle, but fuel efficiency is one of the key elements examined when purchasing vehicles.	The NVHA will continue to purchase fuel-efficient models.	2008	No End Date (Continuous)
Replace larger vehicles with smaller models according to fleet "right-sizing" principles	In Development	0	% of vehicles down-sized since start year indicated	NVHA vehicles did not require replacing in 2011 although we added some vehicles to our fleet.	Down-sizing vehicles will be considered for any new purchases.	2010	No End Date (Continuous)
Perform regular fleet maintenance specifically to improve fuel-efficiency	Ongoing/In Progress	100	% of vehicles are subject to regular maintenance for fuel efficiency	NVHA vehicles are maintained every 5000 kms as required. A vehicle maintenance schedule was developed to track all work on vehicles.	Ongoing maintenance will continue and will be recorded.	2000	No End Date (Continuous)
Replace small maintenance vehicles with more fuel-efficient models	In Development	0	% of small maintenance vehicles are fuel-efficient	NVHA maintenance vehicles did not require replacing in 2010.	Replacing small maintenance vehicles for more fuel efficient models will be considered.	2010	No End Date (Continuous)
Behaviour change program							
Introduce anti-idling policy and/or raise anti-idling awareness for fleet drivers (e.g., signs, stickers, messages)	Ongoing/In Progress			Fleet drivers are aware of anti-idling practices.	Continue idle-reduction communication.	2000	No End Date (Continuous)
Encourage carpooling in fleet vehicles	Ongoing/In Progress			The NVHA has policy regarding vehicle usage including carpooling.	Work with managers to increase car-pooling within all departments within the NVHA.	2000	No End Date (Continuous)
Promote alternatives to fleet vehicle travel where possible (e.g., bicycles, public transit, walking)	Ongoing/In Progress			The NVHA purchased a 2nd medical bus to transport clients to/from Terrace that decreased the number of vehicles on the highway on a daily basis.	Continue to provide alternative transportation.	2010	No End Date (Continuous)
Stationary Fuel Combustion, Electricity and Fugitive Emissions (Buildings)							
Planning/management							
Install a real time metering system (e.g. Pulse, Reliable Controls, Houle Controls)	Completed in 2011	100	% of buildings have a real time metering system installed	BC Hydro installed SMART meters in all NVHA facilities.	Review how the SMART meters can increase our awareness of electricity consumption and to reduce emissions.	2011	No End Date (Continuous)
Owned buildings							
Incorporate integrated design process into new construction or during renovations of owned buildings	In Development			One of the 4 health centres is near completion on renovations and expansion utilizing the integrated design process.	Renovations are in review for other centres.	2011	No End Date (Continuous)
Retrofitting owned buildings							
Upgrade mechanical systems (heating, cooling, ventilation) during retrofits	Ongoing/In Progress	50	% of retrofits since start year indicated had heating, cooling, and ventilation systems upgrades	Heating and ventilation systems were upgraded in one health centre. All systems were upgraded at one other centre during a renovations and expansion project.	Continue to upgrade systems as required. Systems are serviced/maintained throughout the year.	2009	No End Date (Continuous)

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Action	Status (as of 12/31/11)	Performance to Date (as of 12/31/11)		Steps Taken in 2011	Steps Planned for 2012 -2014	Start Year	End Year
Upgrade lighting systems during retrofits	In Development	25	% of retrofits since start year indicated had lighting systems upgrades	The NVHA is upgrading its lighting system at one of its centres under the BC Hydro partner express program. Lighting was also upgraded at one other centre during a renovations and expansion project this year.	The lighting upgrade is in progress and will be completed in 2012. Review upgrades for other centres.	2011	No End Date (Continuous)
Upgrade/adjust control systems during retrofits	In Development	50	% of retrofits since start year indicated had control system upgrades or adjustments	The NVHA updated the thermostats at one of its centres to manage heat control more effectively. Control systems were also upgraded at one other centre during a renovations and expansion project this year.	Review upgrades for other centres.	2011	No End Date (Continuous)
Improve building insulation (including windows) during retrofits	In Development	25	% of retrofits since start year indicated had insulation improvements	Building insulation including windows was improved at one centre during a renovations and expansion project this year. Inspection reports were completed for all NVHA facilities in 2011 that includes insulation on facilities that need to be improved.	Review and complete improvements as required.	2011	No End Date (Continuous)
IT power management							
Implement server virtualization	In Development			Server work is ongoing.	Two servers to be replaced in 2012.	2007	No End Date (Continuous)
Appliances and electronic devices							
Replace refrigerators with ENERGY STAR models or source ENERGY STAR models for future purchases	Ongoing/In Progress			The NVHA continues to replace refrigerators with energy star efficient refrigerators.	Continue to purchase energy efficient refrigerators.	Started before 1995	No End Date (Continuous)
Replace other appliances or electronic devices with ENERGY STAR models or source ENERGY STAR models for future purchases	Ongoing/In Progress			Other appliances such as dishwashers and washer/dryers are replaced with Energy Star models.	Continue purchasing other energy efficient appliances.	Started before 1995	No End Date (Continuous)
Behaviour change program							
Ask staff to unplug electrical equipment or switch off power bars when not in use	In Development			Staff are encouraged to unplug electrical equipment or switch off power bars when not in use.	Increase staff awareness of unplugging electrical equipment or switch off power bars when not in use.	2011	No End Date (Continuous)
Ask staff to close blinds at end of work day to reduce heating/cooling demands	In Development			Staff are encouraged to close blinds at end of work day to reduce demands.	Encourage staff including housekeepers to close blinds at the end of each work day.	2011	No End Date (Continuous)
Supplies (Paper)							
Paper Type							
Purchase 100% post-consumer recycled paper	Ongoing/In Progress			The purchaser of organizational paper was requested to purchase 100% recycled paper.	Continue to encourage staff to purchase recycled paper.	2011	No End Date (Continuous)
Printer/document settings							
Switch networked printers and photocopiers to automatic double-sided	Completed in 2011	100	% of network printers or photocopiers are set to automatic double-sided	All printers were set to print double-sided.		2011	2011
Apply "print and hold" settings to networked printers to eliminate unclaimed print jobs	Completed in 2011			All printers are set to "print and hold" settings to eliminate unclaimed print jobs.		2008	No End Date (Continuous)
Electronic media in place of paper							
Install collaborative software for electronic editing (e.g. SharePoint, Groove, etc.)	Ongoing/In Progress	100	% of staff workstations with software installed	Software with shared access such as Profile and Outlook are used for managing appointments, tasks, staff policy, forms, calendars, and other documents.	Continue utilizing shared software.	2009	No End Date (Continuous)

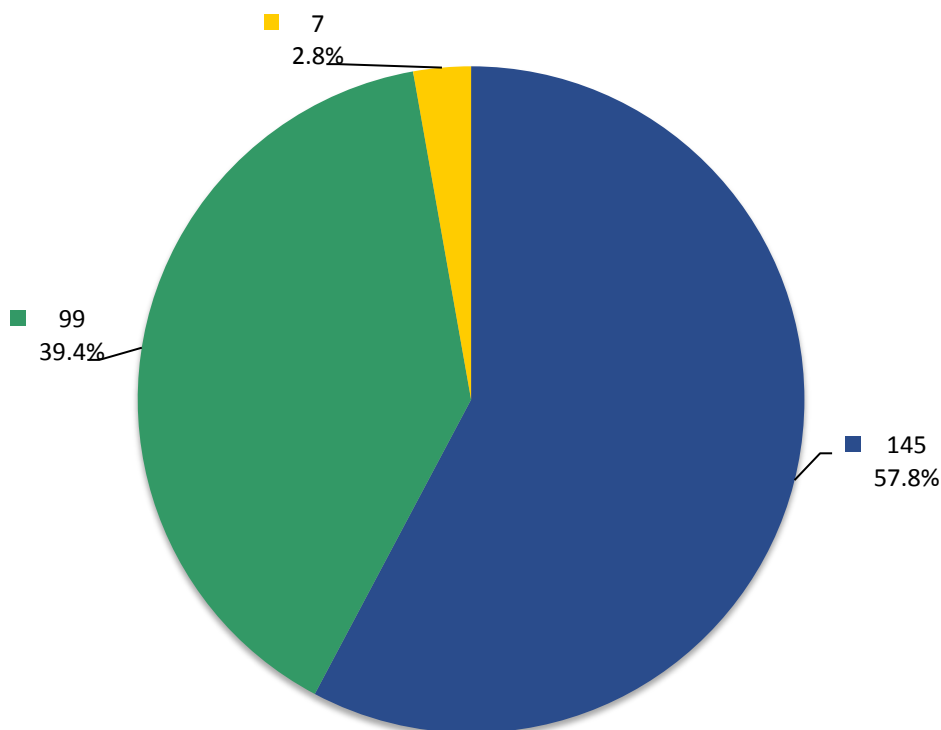
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Action	Status (as of 12/31/11)	Performance to Date (as of 12/31/11)		Steps Taken in 2011	Steps Planned for 2012 -2014	Start Year	End Year
Use electronic document library for filing common documents	Ongoing/In Progress			Staff have access to shared folders.	Continue utilizing shared folders.	2009	No End Date (Continuous)
Post materials online that were previously printed	Ongoing/In Progress			NVHA has a public folder where all material and information is posted.	Continue posting information/material online.	2009	No End Date (Continuous)
Switch to an electronic payroll notification system in place of paper pay stubs	In Development			The NVHA continues to review how paper pay stubs can be provided electronically.	Develop and implement the process to provide pay stubs electronically.	2011	No End Date (Continuous)
Behaviour change program							
Train staff to use collaborative software for electronic editing (e.g. SharePoint, Groove, etc.)	In Development			Staff are encouraged as much as possible to manage information electronically.	Continue awareness of electronic management of information and records.	2009	No End Date (Continuous)
Encourage staff to hold paperless meetings or presentations (i.e., no handouts)	Ongoing/In Progress			The NVHA encourages staff to hold more paperless meetings or presentations. Power point presentations are utilized.	Increase the number of paperless meetings or presentations that are held.	2009	No End Date (Continuous)
Encourage re-use of scrap paper	Ongoing/In Progress			Staff utilize scrap paper as much as possible for messages, and to track other tasks.	Continue practice.	2000	No End Date (Continuous)
Other Paper Supplies Actions							
Discarded paper is shredded and recycled.	Ongoing/In Progress			Paper is shredded and recycled.	Continue recycling of paper.	2008	No End Date (Continuous)

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Actions to Reduce Provincial Emissions and Improve Sustainability							
The actions listed below contribute to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from sources that fall outside of the reporting requirements defined in the carbon neutral government regulation of the <i>Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act</i> . Public sector organizations can optionally use this section to report on actions that will help British Columbia meet its provincial greenhouse gas reduction targets, engage the public, and improve environmental sustainability across all aspects of their organization.							
Action	Status (as of 12/31/11)	Performance to Date (as of 12/31/11)		Steps Taken in 2011	Steps Planned for 2012 -2014	Start Year	End Year
Business Travel							
Behaviour change program							
Train staff in web-conferencing	Ongoing/In Progress			Training is ongoing. Staff utilize web-conferencing to communicate with each other on issues.	Continue training and use of web-conferencing.	2008	No End Date (Continuous)
Train staff in video-conferencing or provide technical support for video-conferencing set-up	Ongoing/In Progress			Training is ongoing.	Continue training and use of video-conferencing. Technical support is also available.	2008	No End Date (Continuous)
Encourage staff to consider virtual attendance/presentation at events where possible	Ongoing/In Progress			Staff virtually attend meetings and training.	Continue practice.	2008	No End Date (Continuous)
Encourage carpooling to meetings	Ongoing/In Progress			Carpooling is encouraged/enforced.	Continue awareness and benefits of carpooling.	2000	No End Date (Continuous)
Education, Awareness, and Engagement							
Team-building							
Create Green, Sustainability, Energy Conservation, or Climate Action Teams with executive endorsement	In Development			The NVHA continues to review how it can conserve in all areas.	Continue assessment.	2011	No End Date (Continuous)
Other Sustainability Actions							
Water conservation							
Establish a water conservation strategy which includes a plan or policy for replacing water fixtures with efficient models	Ongoing/In Progress			Water fixtures are replaced with efficient models when required.	Continue replacing water fixtures with efficient models.	2008	No End Date (Continuous)
Waste reduction/diversion							
Put in place an operations policy to facilitate the reduction and diversion of building occupant waste from landfills or incineration facilities	In Development			Paper and bottle recycling programs are ongoing.	Continue practice and look at other recycle programs.	2009	No End Date (Continuous)
Implement a hazardous waste reduction and disposal strategy	Ongoing/In Progress			Electronic equipment including computers are brought to a recycling depot.	Continue practice.	2009	No End Date (Continuous)
Procurement (non-paper supplies)							
Implement sustainable purchasing program for cleaning products, disposable paper products and trash bags	Ongoing/In Progress			Sustainable cleaning products, paper products and trash bags are purchased.	Continue practice.	2009	No End Date (Continuous)
Building construction, renovation, and leasing							
Establish a policy to reuse materials where possible and divert construction and demolition debris from landfills and incineration facilities	Ongoing/In Progress			The NVHA re-uses materials where possible.	Continue practice.	2009	No End Date (Continuous)

**Nisga'a Valley Health Authority
Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Source
for the 2011 Calendar Year (tCO₂e*)**



Total Emissions: 251

- 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 2011 (Generated May 18, 2012 10:54 AM)

Total offsets required: **246**. Total offset investment: **\$6,150**. Emissions which do not require offsets: **5** **

*Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e) 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.