# Carbon Neutral

# SCHOOL DISTRICT 70 (PACIFIC RIM) 2022 PSO CLIMATE CHANGE ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

Title: 2022 PSO Climate Change Accountability Report

Organization: School District 70 Pacific Rim

## **PART 1. Legislative Reporting Requirements**

**Declaration statement:** This PSO Climate Change Accountability Report for the period January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022 summarizes our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions profile, the total offsets to reach net-zero emissions, the actions we have taken in 2022 to minimize our GHG emissions, and our plans to continue reducing emissions in 2023 and beyond.

## **Emission Reductions: Actions & Plans**

# A. Stationary Sources (e.g. buildings, power generation)

School District 70 is continually exploring the most effective ways to reduce building emissions within our budget constraints. Over the past 7 years SD70 has upgraded HVAC systems and building envelopes in 7 facilities and moved 2 facilities from furnace oil to cleaner burning propane in order to drive fewer emissions. In September 2022 Ucluelet Secondary School was opened which was designed to operate cleanly with high efficiency by utilizing electric heat pump technology. HVAC upgrades performed at EJ Dunn Elementary and Wickaninnish Community include occupancy sensors to ensure heating efficiency is maximized.

Moving forward SD70 is committed to incorporating building practices designed to reduce emissions including LED lighting, ensuring HVAC programming is maximized for efficient operation and the purchasing of Energy Star rated equipment.

## B. Mobile Sources (e.g. fleet vehicles, off-road/portable equipment)

School District 70 is hoping to acquire its first EV Bus in 2023/2024. SD70 is also considering moving to EV's for White Fleet replacement where appropriate. When ICE vehicles are purchased SD70 looks to acquire the most efficient models possible. While the time to build a sustainable fleet is considerable, SD70 engages in many actions to reduce emissions including:

- Regular maintenance of all Yellow and White Fleet vehicles
- Reinforcing smart driving practices such as reducing idling, accelerating smoothly and reducing speeds
- Tracking vehicle performance to understand optimal replacement window and performance issues causing inefficient operation

## C. Paper Consumption

School District 70 Pacific Rim is committed to decreasing our paper consumption. We are currently planning a laser fiche system in order to cut back on printed documents through out the district. We are also investing in paperless systems

- Implementing Laserfiche system to safely store documents electronically.
- Investing in paperless systems in our finance department.
- Encouraging people to print less and to be good environmental stewards.

# **2022 GHG Emissions and Offsets Summary Table**

[Organization Name] 2022 GHG Emissions and Offsets Summary			
GHG emissions for the period January 1 - December 31, 2022  [See Appendix 1 for instructions on how to access your 2022 emissions data from CGRT.  Cells A and B below are identified in Figure 1; cells C and D are identified in Figure 2.]			
Total BioCO <sub>2</sub>	10.6		
Total Emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	1,025		
Total Offsets (tCO₂e)	938		
Adjustments to Offset Required GHG Emissions Reported in Prior Years			
Total Offsets Adjustment (tCO₂e)	0		
Grand Total Offsets for the 2022 Reporting Year			
Grand Total Offsets to be Retired for 2022 Reporting Year (tCO₂e)	938		
Offset Investment (\$)	23,450		

### **Retirement of Offsets:**

In accordance with the requirements of the *Climate Change Accountability Act* and Carbon Neutral Government Regulation, *School District 70 (Pacific Rim)* (the Organization) is responsible for arranging for the retirement of the offsets obligation reported above for the 2022 calendar year, together with any adjustments reported for past calendar years (if applicable). The Organization hereby agrees that, in exchange for the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (the Ministry) ensuring that these offsets are retired on the Organization's behalf, the Organization will pay within 30 days, the associated invoice to be issued by the Ministry in an amount equal to \$25 per tonne of offsets retired on its behalf plus GST.

# **PART 2. Public Sector Climate Leadership**

## 2A. Climate Risk Management

School District 70 is beginning to explore climate risk management and how to best implement a plan for our facilities and district overall. SD70 is looking into the potential for funding opportunities regarding providing mechanical cooling in some areas as excessive heat cycles occurring earlier every year hinder our ability to provide instruction. In the absence of mechanical cooling, SD70 uses HVAC programming to maximize cool air inside our facilities by running nightly Purge Programs. Additionally, staff are encouraged to keep shades closed to block intense sunlight, reduce use of interior lighting where possible and switch off electronic that provide even in standby mode.

### 2B. Other Sustainability Initiatives

We are committed to improving environmental learning for all students. This includes raising awareness and educating staff and students to be good "Global Citizens". District wide students and staff engage in many initiatives:

- reducing waste output
- car-pooling programs
- actively recycling
- composting
- purchasing green products
- undertaking energy challenges
- turning off / unplugging unneeded equipment and lights
- promoting sustainability through Project Based Learning

#### **2C. Success Stories**

2022 presented an unusually challenging heating season for School District 70 with sustained periods of snow, ice and below freezing temperatures. SD70 saw slightly increased (10%) emissions in 2022 over 2021 (1015 tonnes vs 920 tonnes). Energy consumption was increased due to:

Prolonged extreme external temperatures

• A maximized demand for fresh air via HVAC ventilation to improve air quality re COVID-19

Given that both these factors represent a significant barrier to reducing emissions, SD70, while not satisfied with this performance, better understands these conditions and looks to invoke strategies to improve. As always, environmental effects and benefits continue to be considered in all our decisions and practices.

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May 31, 2023

Signature Date

Barbara Ross Acting Secretary Treasurer

Name (please print) Title