

# 2022 PSO CLIMATE CHANGE ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT



*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 reduce our GHG emissions, and our plans to continue reducing emissions in 2023 and beyond. By June 2023, Selkirk College's final 2022 Climate Change Accountability Report will be posted to our website at [www.selkirk.ca](http://www.selkirk.ca)*

## EMISSION REDUCTIONS: ACTIONS & PLANS

### Stationary Sources

The biomass boiler on Silver King campus was brought online in October 2022. This system uses scrap wood pieces generated from both the Carpentry Program and Fine Woodworking Program, waste that was previously hauled to the landfill. Locally purchased wood chips will also be required to maintain operation of the boiler. The college looks forward to realizing the full extent of greenhouse gas emission reductions from this project as the 2022-2023 heating season ends.

The roof of the classroom block building at Silver King campus was replaced, which included new insulation.

Two hot water tanks and two furnaces were replaced in Castlegar campus student housing and two hot water tanks were replaced in Mary Hall at Tenth Street campus. Nakusp Learning Centre received new air handling units, and the South Trades Fine Woodworking Shop at Silver King campus received LED lighting upgrades.

A pole mount solar panel was installed for the Silver King campus greenhouse. Two level 2 electric vehicle chargers were installed on Castlegar campus as part of the Accelerate Kootenays 2.0 funding program.

### Mobile Sources

Selkirk College is committed to exploring electric vehicle alternatives for any new or replacement vehicle purchases. As more electric vehicle models become available, it will become feasible to choose an option that can effectively meet our needs. The Facilities team aims to combine trips whenever possible and uses our Chevy Bolt electric vehicle whenever appropriate.



1: Selkirk College students from the Plant Operator Program join members of the leadership team and contractors in cutting the ribbon on a new biomass boiler located at the Silver King Campus in Nelson.

### Paper Consumption

Selkirk College has switched from using standard 8.5 x 11 white paper to Sugar Sheet paper, which is derived from waste fibre produced during sugar cane processing. This paper source is responsible for 29% less greenhouse gas emissions compared to paper made from 100% recycled content and it is “forest-free”. Selkirk College continues to transition more paper-based procedures to digital ones, resulting in a decrease in paper consumption.

## PLAN TO CONTINUE REDUCING EMISSIONS IN 2023 AND BEYOND

Selkirk College will continue to work towards carbon neutrality throughout 2023.

Projects will include:

- Continue lighting upgrades at Castlegar and Trail campuses
- Install HVAC DDC controls at Trail campus
- Install solar blinds in Castlegar Library
- Conduct energy study of Castlegar windows and doors that will be used to support a request to the Ministry to replace all windows and doors, resulting in a GHG emissions reduction
- Upgrade condenser in Castlegar campus gymnasium
- Expanding organic waste collection on multiple campuses

## RETIREMENT OF OFFSETS

In accordance with the requirements of the *Climate Change Accountability Act* and Carbon Neutral Government Regulation, Selkirk College (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.

## SELKIRK COLLEGE 2022 GHG EMISSIONS AND OFFSETS SUMMARY

### GHG emissions for the period January 1–December 31, 2022

Total BioCO <sub>2</sub>	1.12
Total Emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	1194
Total Offsets (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	1193

### Adjustments to Offset Required GHG Emissions Reported in Prior Years

Total Offsets Adjustment (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	0
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### Grand Total Offsets for the 2022 Reporting Year

Grand Total Offsets (tCO <sub>2</sub> e) to be Retired for 2022 Reporting Year	1193
Offset Investment (\$)	\$29,825

## EXECUTIVE SIGN-OFF



SIGNATURE

May 1, 2023

DATE

Kerry Clarke

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

Vice President College Services, CFO

TITLE

## PUBLIC SECTOR LEADERSHIP

### Climate Risk Management

Selkirk College has yet to conduct a climate risk assessment to determine the extent of the organization's exposure to climate-related risks, however, the college has recognized the potential impact of climate change by including it in its risk registry. To prepare for potential climate-related emergencies, Selkirk College has installed back-up generators to ensure that emergency lighting and IT infrastructure remain operational during power outages. There was no disruption to service delivery during 2022.

### Other Sustainability Initiatives

Selkirk College is committed to integrating sustainability into student learning, services, operations, work force development, and campus culture. We support students and employees to become informed citizens, equipped with the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes to bring about necessary global transformations.

The college has made a formal commitment to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and continues to embed the 17 Global Goals into all areas of the college. The SDG framework has helped all departments see how their work contributes to building a more sustainable future.

### Success Stories

In Fall 2022, the college launched a reusable to-go container program in all cafeterias. Anyone visiting campus cafeterias can choose to have their meal in a reusable to-go container or on a plate to dine-in. We no longer offer single-use disposable to-go containers. This program has significantly reduced our waste while also reducing the contamination in our recycling stream, as dirty to-go containers frequently ruined material in recycling bins.

In Spring 2022, Selkirk College partnered with the City of Nelson to begin using a commercial FoodCycler appliance within the commercial kitchen at Tenth Street Campus. This industrial unit provides a pre-treatment process for organic



- 2: Over 90% of surveyed Selkirk College students said they either agreed or strongly agreed with the college's commitment to sustainability.
- 3: A reusable to-go container program was launched in Fall 2022 and disposable to-go containers are not longer offered in cafeterias.

waste that grinds and dehydrates food scraps, reducing its volume by up to 90%. The resulting output material is a nutrient dense, dry powder that can be used as a soil amendment or be composting further. This unique alternative to traditional composting methods as made organic waste diversion possible in our rural area. Wildlife interactions at our Tenth Street campus location are very common, so traditional composting has not been feasible. The college is looking forward to expanding our organic waste collection on multiple campuses using this pre-treatment method which will reduce emissions associated with sending waste to landfill.