

2020 PSO CLIMATE CHANGE
ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT



This Climate Change Accountability Report for the period January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 summarizes our emissions profile, the total offsets to reach net-zero emissions, the actions we have taken in 2020 to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and our plans to continue reducing emissions in 2021 and beyond. By June 30, 2021 Selkirk College's final 2020 climate change accountability report will be posted to our website at www.selkirk.ca

ACTIONS TAKEN IN 2020 TO MINIMIZE EMISSIONS

During the summer of 2020, a [new ground mount solar installation](#) was completed on Castlegar campus near the Mir Centre for Peace building. The installation consists of 46 bifacial panels, which will produce approximately 21,000 to 26,000 kWh of electricity annually. The panels are tied to the FortisBC grid, allowing Selkirk to export excess power. The panels have been utilized in student lab settings and Selkirk plans to continue to make the installation accessible to students for educational purposes.

Upgrades to lighting in many areas of Castlegar campus were completed during 2020. These upgrades include new LED lights with modern wireless occupancy controls, as well as daylight harvesting where practical.

Five uninsulated overhead doors in the Silver Campus North Trades building were replaced with energy efficient options.

All 8.5 x 11 white paper purchased during 2020 was Sugar Sheet paper, a forest-free paper product made from the waste generated during sugar cane processing. The college's overall paper use reduced significantly as more processes were shifted online.

Selkirk College won the title of The Coolest Campus in BC again in 2020, during the provincial BC Cool Campus Challenge. With a focus on energy conservation and behavioural change, nearly 360 members of our campus community took the pledge to conserve energy during the heating season. Included in this campaign was Sweater Day, where we turned down the heat, put on our sweaters and saved 6.9 GJ of energy during that one day. The BC Cool Campus Challenge is an impactful way to bring awareness to energy use in our daily lives, both on and off campus, and to encourage individuals to pledge to reduce their use.

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Figure 1. Ground mount solar installation near the Mir Centre for Peace at Selkirk College Castlegar Campus

Figure 2. Members of the student-based Environment Club provide outreach to the campus community.

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SUCCESS STORIES AND OVERALL INITIATIVES WHICH TIE IN WITH GHG EMISSION REDUCTIONS

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

During 2020, Selkirk College began to embrace the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) framework. Selkirk College was one of the first post-secondary institution in Canada to [sign the SDG Accord](#), the university and college's response to the SDGs. By signing, the college has committed to deliver the goals, share the knowledge, and increase opportunities for our campus community to contribute.

Selkirk College hired a Sustainable Development Goals Intern in 2020 who brought further awareness to the SDGs college-wide. The intern ran social media campaigns, hosted a week long 'Global Goals Week' with virtual speaker series, and



Figure 3. Selkirk College has signed the SDG Accord, the university and college sector's response to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

offered 'SDG 101' workshops to students.

The Sustainable Development Goals help broaden our definition of 'sustainability' and bring more people to the conversation. Selkirk plans to continue to incorporate the SDGs in hopes that everyone at the college can see how their work and their studies are contributing to our ultimate goal of a better world.

Paper Use

During 2020, Selkirk College witnessed a 36% reduction in paper use when compared to 2019. Due to changes in operations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, many processes that had been paper-based shifted to digital

formats. Remote learning also results in less printed documents being distributed. As on-campus activity returns and we progress into our new normal, we will strive to keep many processes digital, which will in turn limit our paper procurement and reduce associated emissions.

Student Involvement

Selkirk College's student-based Environment Club continued to contribute to the college's growing culture of sustainability. Students contributed to existing sustainability initiatives on campus and to outreach efforts directed at the campus community.

PLANS TO CONTINUE REDUCING EMISSIONS IN 2021 AND BEYOND

Selkirk College will continue to work towards carbon neutrality throughout 2021.

Projects will include:

- Install a biomass boiler at Silver King campus
- Commission an energy study of Castlegar Campus and incorporate large capital recommendations into Five Year Capital Plan
- Upgrade lighting and replace gas furnaces and AC condenser in the Daycare Centre at Castlegar Campus
- Replace cooling well pump with smaller, multistage pump
- Install a pole mount solar system for the Silver King campus greenhouse

SELKIRK COLLEGE 2020 GHG EMISSIONS AND OFFSETS

GHG Emissions created in Calendar Year 2020

Total Emissions (tCO ₂ e)	1055.8
Total BioCO ₂	1.04
Total Offsets (tCO ₂ e)	1055

Adjustments to Offset Required GHG Emissions Reported in Prior Years

Total Offsets Adjustment (tCO ₂ e)	43
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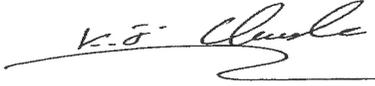
Grand Total Offsets for the 2020 Reporting Year

Grand Total Offsets (tCO ₂ e) to be Retired for 2020 Reporting Year	1098
Offset Investment (\$25 per tCO ₂ e)	\$27,450

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 2020 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.

EXECUTIVE SIGN-OFF



5/17/2021

SIGNATURE

DATE

Kerry Clarke

Vice President College Service, CFO

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