

## Carbon Neutral Action Report School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake)

### Executive Summary

Carbon Neutrality for an organization such as School District No. 8 will have many spinoffs at varying levels not only within the school district organization but also within the communities and regions in which we operate. Reduction of carbon usage will ultimately lead to a reduction in operating costs. Such a cost saving or reduction will enable the school district to focus on its' core objective of education. Reduction of carbon usage by our organization will also lead to an improvement in the quality of life for not only for our clients but also for all residents in the communities and regions in which we operate. Also, our clients have, on many occasions, communicated directly with us on what initiatives we are undertaking and have offered numerous suggestions on this same topic. It is clear that as a good corporate citizen responding to the needs and wishes of its constituents, that reducing our carbon footprint is a good, and moral direction to take for now and in the future.

Some key actions that SD8 has undertaken prior to our commitment to carbon neutral government is targeted staff training for energy management, active in-house energy retrofit program, exploration in this use of alternate fuels (bio-diesel), commitment to obtaining GOLD LEED certification on a Capital Project (Crawford Bay Elementary Secondary School), purchase and implementation of newer energy efficient and less polluting vehicles and equipment, as well as signing on to the Destination Conservation program

### Objectives

Carbon Neutrality for an organization such as School District No. 8 will have many spinoffs at varying levels not only within the school district organization but also within the communities and regions in which we operate. Reduction of carbon usage will ultimately lead to a reduction in operating costs. Such a cost saving or reduction will enable the school district to focus on its' core objective of education. Reduction of carbon usage by our organization will also lead to an improvement in the quality of life for not only for our clients but also for all residents in the communities and regions in which we operate. Also, our clients have , on many occasions, communicated directly with us on what initiatives we are undertaking and have offered numerous suggestions on this same topic. It is clear that, as a good corporate citizen responding to the needs and wishes of its constituents, that reducing our carbon footprint is a good , and moral direction to take for now and in the future.

## Part 1: Actions Taken to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in 2008

### Overview

Some key actions that SD8 has undertaken beginning January 1, 2008 through to December 31, 2008 are: targeted staff training for energy management, the creation of an active in-house energy retrofit program, exploration in the use of alternate fuels (bio-diesel), commitment to obtaining GOLD LEED certification on a Capital Project (Crawford Bay Elementary Secondary School), purchase and implementation of newer energy efficient and less polluting vehicles and equipment, as well as signing on to the Destination Conservation program.

## 1.1 Mobile Fuel Combustion

Action	Action Taken	Outcome/Performance Measure	Notes Clarifying Action Taken
Replaced # of TYPE OF VEHICLE with MORE EFFICIENT VEHICLE/Hybrid	Complete	SD8 has an on-going vehicle replacement program. Older less efficient, polluting vehicles are replaced at scheduled intervals.	Annually
Provided driver training to reduce fuel use	Complete	In September 2008 a training session was held for all bus drivers on the NR Canada Smart Driver Program for School Bus Drivers	NR Canada Smart Driver program
Initiated new fleet maintenance program (could include – changing filters, checking tire pressure, regular check-ups)	In Progress	SD8 is participating in the School Bus Emission Reduction program. A specific number of buses within a certain age and model category were selected to be retrofitted with emissions reduction equipment in addition to the standard equipment.	The addition of the retrofitted equipment will significantly reduce harmful GHG.  The work began in October 2008 and will be complete by June 2009.
Established anti-idling behaviour change program (e.g. signs, stickers, messages)	Complete	All school bus drivers have been provided direction to keep engine idling to a minimum. Signs at school sites have already been installed.	Engine idling amounts for newer buses are being monitored by accessing on board data from the bus computer.

## 1.2 Stationary fuel combustion and electricity

Action	Action Taken	Outcome/Performance Measure	Notes Clarifying Action Taken
Replaced # computers with EnergyStar models	In Progress	All new equipment purchased in the last few years, as well as all future equipment purchases will be EnergyStar models	
Replaced Refrigerators (EnergyStar rated appliance)	Complete	All equipment purchased for the new Crawford Bay Elementary Secondary School was rated as EnergyStar.	
Replaced other appliances (with EnergyStar rated appliance)	Complete	All computer lab replacement equipment purchased during the calendar year was rated EnergyStar.	
Installed multi-function devices (and removed stand-alone printers/faxes)	In Progress	Replacement of stand alone equipment with multi-function devices.	All photocopiers are leased. As leases come up for renewal the replacement equipment must be multifunctional.
Replaced standard bulbs with CFLs	In Progress	Improvement of practice.	This is now standard practice in the maintenance department.
Installed motion activated lights	In Progress	This is occurring in new facilities such as Crawford Bay Elementary Secondary School.	

Undertaken lighting retrofit	In Progress	Adam Robertson Elementary and Prince Charles Secondary School were approved for 40K of lighting retrofits under PSECA	
Applied for LEED existing building rating	In Progress	the new Crawford Bay Elementary Secondary School was design and constructed to GOLD LEED standard.	
Undertaken building energy audit at LOCATION(s)	Complete	As part of the PSECA application process a number of schools were scrutinized for energy efficiency and opportunities for improvement.	
Initiated or completed a building energy retrofit	Completed	An application under the PSECA program to retrofit JV Humphries Elementary Secondary School in Kaslo with ground source equipment was submitted.	This PSECA application was approved. Work will be completed in 2009-2010.

### 1.3 Supplies

Action	Action Taken	Outcome/Performance Measure	Notes Clarifying Action Taken
Committed to use 30% recycled paper	Planned		
Committed to hold paperless meetings	Planned		

### 1.4 Travel

Action	Action Taken	Outcome/Performance Measure	Notes Clarifying Action Taken
Trained staff in the use of Live Meeting (or other desktop collaborative software)	In-progress	Purchase of software to enable web-based meetings.	
Installed Video Conferencing facilities	Complete	Video conferencing equipment is currently in place in both Nelson and Creston to enable cross-district meetings to occur.	

### 1.5 Employee Engagement

Action	Action Taken	Outcome/Performance Measure	Notes Clarifying Action Taken
Provided climate change education	Completed	Destination Conservation sessions have been held at numerous times and locations throughout the past year involving both teaching and operational staff	

## Part 2: Plans to Continue Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2009 -- 2011

### 2.1 Supplies

Action	Action Planned	Outcome/Performance Measure	Notes Clarifying Action Taken	Timeframe
Commit to use 30% recycled paper	Planned			
Change document template margins	Planned			
Commit to hold paperless meetings	Planned			
Develop document library (online and one printed copy) for large documents	Planned			