

School District #45 (West Vancouver) 2011 Carbon Neutral Action Report

Executive Summary

The West Vancouver Board of Education is in the process of renewing its *Strategic Plan*, which focuses on three issues: educational excellence, system sustainability and community connections. Within the plan are several goals and objectives that focus on the District's work to become more sustainable and move to carbon neutrality. Continuing this important work remains a priority for our Board of Education.

The current report includes a number of areas we continue to explore in our pursuit of increasing sustainability on both the educational and business sides of our organization. As funds become available our Facilities Department is making both small and large changes to our buildings, with each step bringing us closer to this goal. In the last 12 months the greatest gains have been with the use of technology to change our environmental footprint: a number of our meetings have become virtual, enabling individuals to attend from a distance. We will continue to leverage technology to change our work behaviors and promote sustainability.

The West Vancouver School District had total offsets amounting to 1,650 tonnes in 2011. Our offset payment in 2011 was for 1,655 tonnes, which included payment for both 2011 and 2010, as a change to 2010 data indicated an increase of 5 tonnes from the amount originally calculated.

British Columbia has demonstrated leadership in climate action initiatives, and we are committed to achieving these standards in the West Vancouver School District. We are striving to change our environmental behaviours, and continue to take lessons from our students, who are encouraging sustainable practises in our school district every day.



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Overviews

Actions Taken to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in 2009

A replacement of a larger vehicle with a smaller more fuel efficient vehicle was made. As well, North Shore guidelines on anti-idling are followed.

Five of our elementary schools lighting systems were retro-fitted with more efficient lighting, and some of the key actions we have taken recently with this initiative include: the installation of LED lights in a number of locations, the replacement of exterior doors and the installation of water saving devices. We have also undertaken a project of installing computer management software on all our computers in the district to reduce energy consumption.

In addition, huge efforts are being made to change behaviours and to educate our staff and students on this topic through a sustainability network of teachers and students, as well as sustaining 'green' practices in our buildings' operational and capital maintenance programs.

A program of enhanced recycling and reduced printing is being introduced at all schools to promote awareness and reduce waste. We have invested in a portal which allows us to share documents, thereby reducing the need to print hard copies. The District and the Board are committed to modelling "paperless" meetings to change the culture of the organization around paper.

With the assistance of our supplier we have undertaken a district-wide survey of all our printers, copiers and fax machines, reducing the number of devices in our fleet and replacing older models with new multi-use, high efficiency devices.

Plans to Continue Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2010 – 2012

The West Vancouver Board of Education has renewed its commitment to sustainability with several goals and objectives that focus on the District's work on becoming more sustainable and moving to carbon neutrality.

Software will monitor usage and provide control of heat and light for non usage times.

Fewer stand alone printers, copiers and fax machines will reduce energy and paper consumption

A program of vehicle renewal will reduce fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.

Continued expanded use of webcasts for professional development of our staff and to pilot the use of Live Meeting will reduce transportation costs and greenhouse gas emissions.

All of these actions will contribute to a reduction in consumption and reduce greenhouse gas emissions as we work toward carbon neutrality.

The Board endeavours to "promote and facilitate the implementation of environmental education and sustainable practices in the district." <http://www.sd45.bc.ca/docs/StrategicPlan2009-2011.pdf> (Strategic Issue 2 'System Sustainability').

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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 *Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act*.

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							
Perform regular fleet maintenance specifically to improve fuel-efficiency	Ongoing/In Progress	100	% of vehicles are subject to regular maintenance for fuel efficiency	All vehicle received regular maintenance	Continue to maintain our vehicles in accordance with manufacturers recommendations	Started before 1995	No End Date (Continuous)
Stationary Fuel Combustion, Electricity and Fugitive Emissions (Buildings)							
Appliances and electronic devices							
Replace refrigerators with ENERGY STAR models or source ENERGY STAR models for future purchases	Ongoing/In Progress	12	% of fridges are ENERGY STAR rated	New refrigerators purchased in 2011 were all energy star rated	As older domestic refrigerators are replace only "Energy Star" rated replacement models to be purchased	2008	No End Date (Continuous)
Supplies (Paper)							
Paper Type							
Purchase 30% post-consumer recycled paper	Ongoing/In Progress	90	% of total paper purchased contains 30% recycled content	Updated Purchasing Administrative Procedure #515 - district encouraging the purchase of recycled paper products. Must be of sufficient quality and not more than 10% higher than non-recycled products.	Continue to monitor quality and cost of recycled paper - and update Purchasing AP #515 as required.	2009	No End Date (Continuous)
Printer/document settings							
Apply "print and hold" settings to networked printers to eliminate unclaimed print jobs	In Development			Started the planning process	Develop training and move towards setup	2010	2013
Behaviour change program							
Encourage staff to hold paperless meetings or presentations (i.e., no handouts)	In Development						

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Actions to Reduce Provincial Emissions and Improve Sustainability

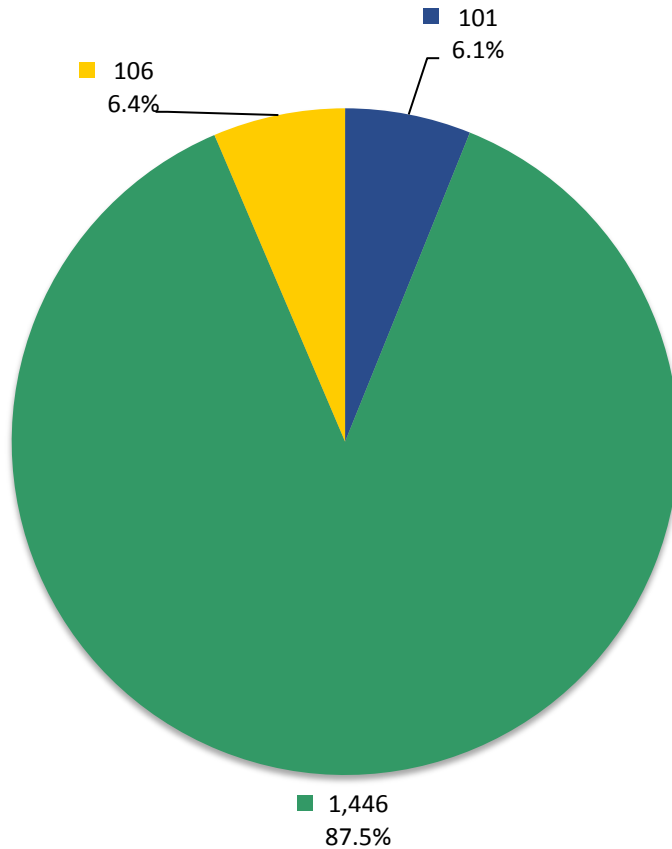
The actions listed below contribute to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from sources that fall outside of the reporting requirements defined in the carbon neutral government regulation of the *Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act*. Public sector organizations can optionally use this section to 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							
Virtual meeting technology							
Make desktop web-cameras available to staff	Ongoing/In Progress	20	% of staff have access to a desktop web-camera	Introduced microsoft Lync to school and district staff, introductory meeting on-line	Continue to deploy the microsoft Lync throughout the district staff	2010	2014
Behaviour change program							
Train staff in web-conferencing	In Development	10	% of staff are trained web-conferencing	Limited use among administrators	Nothing planned at this point.	2012	No End Date (Continuous)
Encourage staff to consider virtual attendance/presentation at events where possible	Ongoing/In Progress			Instituted the use of Lync Messaging to hold virtual meetings.	Expand the use of Lync to additional staff beyond administrators	2011	No End Date (Continuous)
Education, Awareness, and Engagement							
Team-building							
Create Green, Sustainability, Energy Conservation, or Climate Action Teams with executive endorsement	Ongoing/In Progress			School level teams have been created and the districts works to network these teams together	Continue this work next year - very similar	2008	No End Date (Continuous)
Provide resources and/or dedicated staff to support teams	Ongoing/In Progress			Release time / budget provided on an as needed basis	Same process planned	2008	No End Date (Continuous)
Staff Professional Development							
Support green professional development (e.g., workshops, conferences, training)	Ongoing/In Progress			Participated in several events in the lower mainland with other school districts	Have district leaders ready to continue on with similar goals	2008	No End Date (Continuous)
Staff awareness/education							
Provide education to staff about the conservation of water, energy, and raw materials	In Development			Some information provided, in terms of cost savings and quality of water	Have not yet set next steps	2011	No End Date (Continuous)
Provide green tips on staff website or in newsletters	Ongoing/In Progress			Green tips are part of many school newsletters	Continue	2009	No End Date (Continuous)
Client/public awareness/education							
Provide green tips on client/public website or in newsletters	Ongoing/In Progress			Green tips are part of many school and district websites	Continue	2009	No End Date (Continuous)
Other Sustainability Actions							
Waste reduction/diversion							
Implement a hazardous waste reduction and disposal strategy	Ongoing/In Progress	100	All buildings	Hazardous waste is picked up from each building by an approved vendor	Continue the process of hazardous waste pick up from each building by an approved vendor	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			Continued to evaluate new green products	continue to evaluate green products	2010	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
Commuting to and from home						
Encourage commuting by foot, bicycle, carpool or public transit	In Development			Encouragement is currently site by site, plans to advertise this more widely through the district.	2011	No End Date (Continuous)
Provide shower or locker facilities for staff/students who commute by foot or by bicycle	Ongoing/In Progress		Some schools continue to provide this, and as schools are upgraded this is including in the planning.	Continue to make modifications as buildings are rennovated.	2011	No End Date (Continuous)
Provide secure bicycle storage	In Development			Will be considered as modifications are made to buildings.	2011	No End Date (Continuous)

**School District 45 - West Vancouver
Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Source
for the 2011 Calendar Year (tCO₂e*)**



Total Emissions: 1,654

- 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 12:13 PM)

Total offsets required: **1,650**. Total offset investment: **\$41,250**. Emissions which do not require offsets: **3** **

*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.