

## **2014 Carbon Neutral Action Report**

### **Executive Summary**

Northern Health is pleased to submit our 2014 Carbon Action Neutral Report outlining the actions we have taken to address greenhouse gas emissions in this past year and our plans for the future.

During our 2014-2015 fiscal year, Northern Health implemented energy conservation projects at six facilities, with expected overall energy savings of 3% annually. Other energy conservation projects are already in progress for 2015 at four additional sites.

Northern Health was once again able to reap the rewards of previous years' work, as the Health Authority has further reduced natural gas use versus 2013, and by 7 percent versus the baseline year of 2009. Electricity consumption was also reduced in 2014 by more than 2% versus 2013.

Ongoing projects are being funded through the Carbon Neutral Capital Program, with significant incentive contributions from FortisBC and BC Hydro.

As we move forward into 2015, we're continuing our efforts to identify the best available opportunities to reduce carbon emissions. Northern Health is committed to sustainable actions and leaving a healthy environment for the future populations of northern British Columbia.



Cathy Ulrich

President and CEO, Northern Health

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## **2014 Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

Heating, lighting, ventilation and other building operations necessary to maintain a healthy patient and workplace environment resulted in the emission of 21,436 tonnes of carbon and carbon equivalents into the atmosphere. Paper consumption resulted in an additional release of 344 tonnes of carbon equivalent emissions. Fleet vehicles resulted in an additional release of 732 tonnes of carbon equivalent emissions. In total, Northern Health had a measured carbon footprint of 22,512 tonnes for the delivery of quality healthcare in the most challenging climate in the Province.

## **Offsets Applied to Become Carbon Neutral in 2014**

NHA's total carbon footprint for 2014 was 22,512 tonnes, 22,480 of which are offsetable. Northern Health purchased 22,480 tonnes of carbon offsets to counter the emissions identified above, thereby achieving carbon neutrality in accordance with government legislation

Thirty-three tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e of emissions resulting from the combustion of bio-fuel were reported as part of our emissions profile in 2014. However, they were not offset as they are considered carbon neutral in accordance with the government carbon accounting legislation.

## **Emissions Reduction Activities**

Northern Health continued its ongoing efforts in 2014 to reduce carbon emissions from its operations. This ongoing effort started in 2008 and will be an ongoing process of continual improvement towards carbon neutrality.

## **Actions Taken to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in 2014**

Important initiatives in 2014 included, improvements to heating boiler systems, replacement of heating recovery system components, implementation of building automation systems improvements, and improving ventilation systems to reduce the amount of wasted energy. All of these efforts will result in the annual reduction of carbon emissions.

The new Lakes District Hospital and Health Centre opened in Burns Lake, and is a LEED Gold accredited facility.

## **Plans to Continue Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2015**

In 2015, we will be continuing substantial energy conservation projects at four facilities. Funding is being provided through the Carbon Neutral Capital Program, FortisBC and BC Hydro. Overall GHG reductions of 1.4% are anticipated from these projects.

Significant opportunities remain to save additional natural gas and propane by improving building heating and ventilation systems. Supporting our efforts are industry advancements in technology and cost-efficiency of environmentally friendly solutions, which we look forward to implementing where appropriate.

Energy studies at select facilities will be done to identify energy conservation projects for future years.

Our fleet will continue to see a reduction of old, inefficient vehicles removed from service and replaced with modern fuel-efficient vehicles.

We continue to engage qualified Energy Management Professionals within Northern Health to help us achieve our reductions in energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.

# 2014 Carbon Neutral Action Report (CNAR) - Part 2 ACTIONS

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## Organization Name

Northern Health Authority

## Actions Taken to Reduce Emissions

### 1) Stationary Fuel Combustion, Electricity (Buildings): Indicate which actions were taken in 2014:

Performed energy retrofits on existing buildings

Yes

Built or are building new LEED Gold or other "Green" buildings.

Yes

Undertook an evaluation of overall building energy use.

Yes

Please list any other actions taken to reduce emissions from Buildings:

Northern Health completed energy studies at selected sites in order to determine potential energy conservation projects.

### 2) Mobile Fleet Combustion (Fleet and other vehicles): Indicate which actions were taken in 2014:

Do you have a fleet?

Yes

Replaced existing vehicles with more fuel efficient vehicles (gas/diesel)

Yes

Replaced existing vehicles with hybrid or electric vehicles

Yes

Reduced the overall number of fleet vehicles

No

Took steps to drive less than last year

No

Please list any other actions taken to reduce emission from fleet:

(No response)

### **3) Supplies (Paper):Indicate which actions were taken in 2014:**

Used less paper than previous year

Yes

Used only 100% recycled paper

No

Used some recycled paper

Yes

Used alternate source paper (Bamboo, hemp, etc.)

No

Please list any other actions taken to reduce emissions from paper use:

(No response)

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### **Actions Taken to Reduce Emissions - continued**

Explain how you plan to continue minimizing emissions in 2015 and future years:

Northern Health will continue to evaluate facility energy performance, and will carry out additional energy efficiency retrofits as identified through our ongoing program of energy studies, and as detailed in our Strategic Energy Management Plan.

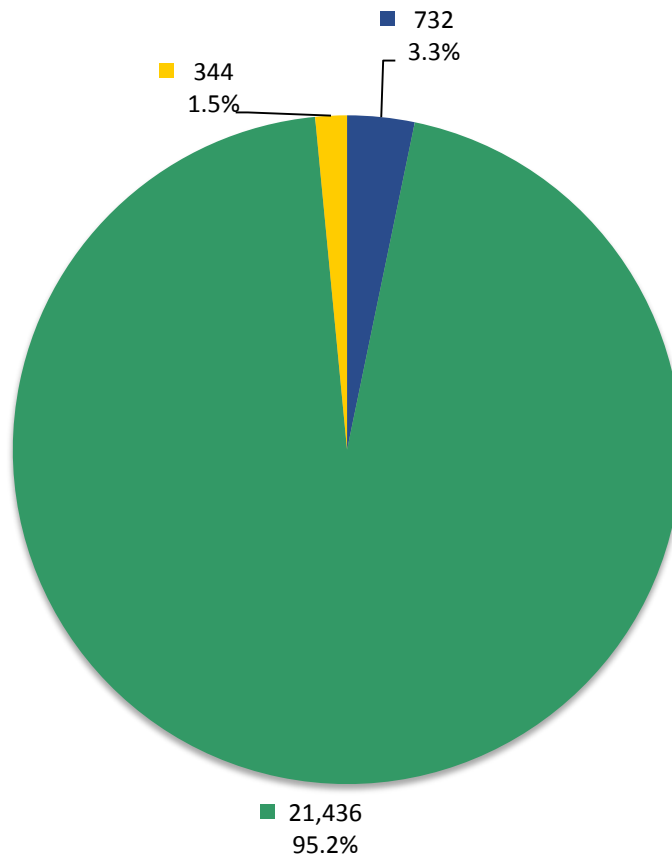
If you wish to list any other "sustainability actions" outside of buildings, fleet, paper and travel check "yes". This reporting is optional.

No

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**Thank you for completing the 2014 Carbon Neutral Action Report. If this form is now complete please use the submit button below to forward it to the Climate Action Secretariat, otherwise you can save it to continue at a later time. Only use the submit button once the form is 100% complete. You can also save your own copy as a WORD or PDF file. Once you click the submit button, the Climate Action Secretariat will create a PDF summary of these actions to append to your final CNAR Overview when it is submitted. Together, these will be posted on the Ministry of Environment website by June 30, 2015 as your final report for 2014.**

## Northern Health Authority Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Source for the 2014 Calendar Year (tCO<sub>2</sub>e\*)



**Total Emissions: 22,512**

- 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 2014 (Generated June 22, 2015 4:30 PM)

Total offsets required: **22,480**. Total offset investment: **\$562,000**. Emissions which do not require offsets: **33** \*\*

\*Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) 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.