



School District No. 47 (Powell River)

Title: 2020 Carbon Neutral Action Report

Organization Name: School District 47 (Powell River)

Declaration Statement

This Carbon Neutral Action Report for the period January 1 to December 31, 2020 summarizes our emissions profile, the amount of offsets purchased to reach net zero emissions, the actions we have taken in 2020 to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, and plans to continue reducing emissions in 2021 and beyond.

Overview

In 2020, School District 47 continued to work towards its ongoing goal of reducing its carbon footprint. Over the course of 2020 we completed a mechanical upgrade at the Oceanview Education Centre which was started in 2019. The first phase of an LED lighting upgrade at Brooks Secondary School was undertaken with the second phase currently underway with expected completion in the fall of 2021. Also installed at Brooks Secondary was an electric car charging station which was the third school site to receive this infrastructure. The electrical service at Edgehill Elementary was replaced and included as part of the project scope was the installation of an 18 panel solar system which will also be used as an instructional tool for the school's students. Although the pandemic was the number one organizational focus throughout much of 2020 plans continue to move forward towards the implementation of a waste management pilot project at the districts biggest school building with plans to expand to other buildings during the 2021/2022 school year.

Planned for the summer of 2021 is phase two of the LED electrical upgrade at Brooks Secondary with completion expected for early fall. Also planned for Brooks is the installation of a 100 kw grid tie solar system. Car charging stations are planned for each of Edgehill, Kelly Creek and James Thomson Elementary Schools as well as one for the Oceanview Education Centre. Plumbing upgrades are being undertaken at Brook Secondary School this summer, these upgrades will reduce the amount of water used by the facility each year. This same technology

will be utilized in washroom upgrades in two of the districts older elementary school buildings with more planned for the following year. Enhancements to the building management systems at Westview and Kelly Creek are planned for late in the year as well.

On the school level, School District 47 continues to take pride in educating the next generation to protect our future by continuing to fund various school led initiatives including the expansion of outdoor teaching and gathering spaces for students and staff. An outdoor classroom gazebo was completed a few years ago at Kelly Creek and is being used as the model for future outdoor spaces with construction of one at Henderson Elementary having been started in the spring of 2021 with two more planned for the fall.

School led initiatives have historically included participation in Destination Imagination, a number of energy studies, participation in gardening and recycling programs, as well as a number of community events such as the Trash Bash and Seedy Saturdays. The Outdoor Learning Centre (OLC), continues to be a contributing factor to the education of students, in both its operation and programs offered. The OLC consists of several cabins and a main lodge, run largely on solar power and maintains other environmentally friendly operating practices. Each year, the OLC offers numerous educational programs to District students, instructing them in practices such as composting, and use of renewable energy sources in a hands-on way.

Our **Total GHG Emissions for 2020 were 2,212** with **2,095 in offsets** to make us Carbon Neutral.

We believe in the benefits of our continued efforts and look forward to seeing a further reduction in offsets over the next few years. Financially, we aim to put some of the savings directly back into our schools, funding materials that continue to educate and provide awareness of how to reduce our carbon footprint. Environmentally, we aim to make our small actions have a big impact, both in the present and in the future, as our students take what they've learned into their adult lives, into our community and far beyond. Socially, we aim to provide awareness and collaboration that our students would take what they've learned and share it with others. We are proud of our District, and continue to be amazed at the significant efforts from both staff and students in making positive changes that will better our world for years to come.

Retirement of Offsets

In accordance with the requirements of the *Climate Change Accountability Act* and Carbon Neutral Government Regulation, School District 47 (Powell River) 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. The Organization agrees that, in exchange for the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy ensuring that these offsets are retired on the Organization's behalf, the Organization will pay the Ministry an amount equal to \$25 per tonne of offsets retired on its behalf.

Emissions and Offsets Summary Table

School District 47 (Powell River) GHG Emissions and Offsets for 2020

GHG Emissions created in Calendar Year 2020

Total Emissions (TCO2E) 2,212

Total Offsets (TCO2E) 2,067

Adjustments to GHG Emissions Reported in Prior Years

Total Emissions (TCO2E) 0

Total Offsets (TCO2E) 28

Grand Total Offsets for the 2020 Reporting Year

Grand Total Offsets 2,095

Sincerely,



Steve Hopkins
Secretary Treasurer

May 28, 2021