



ORGANIZATION NAME: Columbia Basin Trust

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	TOTAL BioCO <sub>2</sub>	TOTAL EMISSIONS	TOTAL OFFSETS
GHG EMISSIONS CREATED	0.057652	337.66 tCO <sub>2</sub> e	337.60 tCO <sub>2</sub> e
ADJUSTMENTS TO GHG EMISSIONS OF PRIOR YEARS			3.89 tCO <sub>2</sub> e
GRAND TOTAL OFFSETS (rounded to whole number)			<b>341 tCO<sub>2</sub>e</b>

OFFSET INVESTMENT (\$25 per tCO<sub>2</sub>e) \$8,525

TOTAL FTE EMPLOYEES: 81.64 TOTAL FLOOR SPACE: 14,898 m<sup>2</sup> USE OF SPACE: office VEHICLES: 5

*Declaration statement: This PSO Climate Change Accountability Report for the period January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022 summarizes our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions profile, the total offsets to reach net-zero emissions, the actions we have taken in 2022 to minimize our GHG emissions, and our plans to continue reducing emissions in 2023 and beyond.*

## Actions we took in 2022 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and/or improve sustainability

### Delivery of Benefits Programs and Initiatives:

- The Basin Charge Up program supported 18 projects to help local governments and First Nations become more energy efficient/reduce emissions. This included installing solar PV arrays for renewable energy generation, energy retrofits to buildings, purchasing electric vehicles and installing charging stations.
- The Business SMART Grants program approved 34 projects to support small to medium-sized Basin businesses make operational changes and/or infrastructure upgrades that help mitigate or adapt to the impacts of climate change and/or reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions.
- The Child Care Capital Grants - Energy Improvements stream supported nine projects that helped organizations increase sustainability by providing energy improvements, installing solar PV arrays and completing energy retrofits on child care centres.
- The second intake of the Climate Resilience program assisted communities in becoming more climate resilient and supported five large-scale, multi-year, shovel-ready climate mitigation, adaptation and resilience projects. These projects help reduce the causes of climate change and manage the risks of climate change impacts.
- The Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation, a subsidiary of the Trust, supports residents and businesses to conduct activities like work, education and consultations remotely, which reduces carbon emissions that would otherwise be produced from commuting.
- The Community Development Program supported creating 148 new, energy efficient student housing units.
- The First Nations Housing Sustainability Initiative supported the creation of 20 new units of affordable, energy efficient housing, and the installation of solar PV arrays to 82 affordable housing units in First Nations communities.
- The Food Access and Recovery Grants program distributed surplus perishable food that would have otherwise gone to waste, resulting in GHG emissions. The Trust funded eight projects to support community-led initiatives that increase access to affordable, quality local food production. This included supporting the creation of greenhouses, community gardens, and local food processing facilities.
- The Housing Initiatives program provided energy retrofits and repairs such as heat pumps and increasing insulation to existing, aging affordable rental housing stock, and supported the installation of solar PV arrays to 68 units of affordable rental housing.
- The Non-profit Sustainability Program supported 22 projects, helping organizations increase sustainability by becoming more energy efficient/reducing their emissions. This included purchasing electric vehicles and installing charging stations, installing solar PV arrays and completing energy retrofits on community purpose buildings.
- The Seniors and Elders Activity Grants program supported nine projects that helped organizations increase sustainability by providing energy improvements to community purpose buildings. This included installing solar PV arrays and completing energy retrofits on Seniors Centres and halls.

#### Corporate Operations:

- Replacing all parkade lighting in the Castlegar office with LED lighting and occupancy sensors.
- Making electric vehicles our primary fleet vehicles. Our EV's have the highest annual km usage vs ICE vehicles.
- Using electronic documentation, electronic signatures and electronic funds transfers to reduce paper usage. Digital signatures have been integrated into our contract management system.
- Using paper made of recycled fibers and Forest Stewardship Council certified printers.
- Using Energy Star-certified devices whenever possible.

#### How we plan to continue minimizing greenhouse gas emissions

In the future, we plan to:

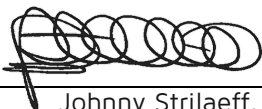
- Continue to provide a range of programs, and support projects that help communities reduce emissions and become more climate resilient, such as:
  - The Business SMART Grants program (second intake)
  - Supporting Crown Land Wildfire Mitigation projects, in partnership with the Province of BC
  - Investment in affordable housing unit construction and upgrades that meet high efficiency standards, including the installation of renewable energy generation (solar PV arrays) to new units. These projects will be approached through partnerships with organizations such as BC Housing and BC Non-profit Housing Association.
- The Non-profit SMART Grants program will support efforts by non-profits and First Nations to reduce energy usage and mitigate or adapt to the impacts of climate change.
- Investigate installing rooftop solar PV arrays for all four Trust office locations.
- Continue to replace aging Trust office lights with LED technology.

#### Actions we took in 2022 to strengthen our ability to manage the likely effects of climate change

We helped Basin communities reduce their vulnerabilities to current and anticipated climate change impacts such as wildfire, flood and drought. Examples include:

- Supported Basin businesses through the Business SMART Program (noted above).
- Supported communities through the Climate Resilience Program (noted above).
- The second intake of the Community Readiness Program approved nine projects to support community needs during emergencies and disasters such as floods, wildfires, and extended power outages.
- The Food Access and Recovery Grants program facilitated upgrades to technology or infrastructure that improve resiliency of local food production.
- The Housing Initiatives program supported the creation of 16 new units of affordable, energy efficient housing. The goal is for new units to be constructed in compliance with Step Code 3/4 of the BC Energy Code, which will make the residences extremely efficient and reduce contributions to climate change.
- The Small Community Wildfire Readiness Supports program funded 27 projects in small and First Nations communities to plan and prepare for wildfires through prevention and protection equipment, training courses and planning assessments.
- Trail Enhancement Grants supported 26 projects that improve access to active transportation opportunities in the Basin. These projects support the mitigation of environmental impacts, such as floods, through the construction of complementary trail infrastructure.
- The Trust, in partnership with the Province of BC, Ministry of Forests and BC Wildfire Service supported Basin communities through the following programs:
  - The Columbia Basin Economic Recovery Initiative supported 12 projects to build local wildfire resiliency while recovering from the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic
  - The Columbia Basin Wildfire Resiliency Initiative supported 20 projects that build capacity and strengthen wildfire resiliency and risk reduction in the Basin as it relates to FireSmart disciplines.
- The Trust supported 10 ecosystem enhancement and restoration projects that help improve ecosystem health, native biodiversity and reduce vulnerabilities to climate change.

*Retirement of Offsets: In accordance with the requirements of the Climate Change Accountability Act and Carbon Neutral Government Regulation, Columbia Basin Trust (the Organization) is responsible for arranging for the retirement of the offsets obligation reported above for the 2022 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.*



Johnny Strilaeff, President and Chief Executive Officer

May 23, 2023

Date