

2023

Public Sector Organization

Climate Change

Accountability Report



DECLARATION

This PSO Climate Change Accountability Report for the period January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 summarizes our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions profile, the total offsets to reach net-zero emissions, the actions we have taken in 2023 to reduce our GHG emissions, and our plans to continue reducing emissions in 2024 and beyond.

EMISSION REDUCTIONS: ACTIONS & PLANS

In 2021, Saanich Schools contracted a consultant to complete an Energy Sustainability Plan, with a stated goal to “identify the required work to reduce the school district’s environmental footprint and energy consumption ... and to meet the CleanBC 2030 emission targets.” The scope of the Plan included buildings, vehicles, and paper.

BUILDINGS

With an eye toward District-wide building electrification, Saanich Schools engaged a mechanical engineering firm to complete detailed mechanical assessments across its portfolio of buildings in 2021. A roadmap to Saanich Schools 2030 target achievement has been drafted – with the next step to secure sufficient funding to complete the work.

In the past year, numerous electrification upgrades on buildings’ primary heat sources were completed.

- Deep Cove Elementary - Phase 2 of a mechanical upgrade, switching to a heat pump system
- Brentwood Elementary – Replacement of existing heat pump

Building optimization through BC Hydro’s Continuous Optimization program was completed at seven schools. This work included a thorough review of the schools’ Building Automation Systems (BAS), to identify and remedy issues, errors, or malfunctions in the programming and controls equipment.

2024 will see the complete project design and, then execution of Phase 1 of electrification at one of SD63’s largest sites, Stelly’s Secondary.

FLEET

Saanich is making positive steps in electrifying its transportation fleet. In 2023, the Maintenance Building had its electrical service upgraded to accommodate future electric vehicle charging. A full design for EV charging was completed in 2023, and SD63's first two Type D electric buses arrived in late 2023. Another ZEB is expected in 2024, and 2 more will follow in 2025. Ultimately, the District hopes to replace 16 diesel buses with electric over the next 8 years.

PAPER

At the conclusion of preparing the Energy Sustainability Plan, a presentation was made to the Board of Trustees, identifying recommended actions to improve its GHG emissions pertaining to paper consumption. Purchasing policies have now been updated to mandate purchasing of "sugar sheet", made from 100% post-industrial waste.

SUMMARY TABLE

SD63 2023 GHG Emissions and Offsets Summary

GHG emissions for the period January 1 - December 31, 2023

Total BioCO ₂	21
Total Emissions (tCO ₂ e)	2,012
Total Offsets (tCO ₂ e)	1,587

Adjustments to Offset Required GHG Emissions Reported in Prior Years

Total Offsets Adjustment (tCO ₂ e)	0
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Grand Total Offsets for the 2023 Reporting Year

Grand Total Offsets to be Retired for 2023 Reporting Year (tCO ₂ e)	1,587
Offset Investment (\$25 per tCO ₂ e)	\$ 39,675

RETIREMENT OF OFFSETS

In accordance with the requirements of the *Climate Change Accountability Act* and Carbon Neutral Government Regulation, SD63 Saanich Schools (**the Organization**) is responsible for arranging for the retirement of the offsets obligation reported above for the 2023 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.

EXECUTIVE SIGN-OFF

Signature

Jason Reid

Name (Please print)

Date

May 28, 2024

Title

Secretary Treasurer