



COLLEGE OF
THE ROCKIES

PSO CLIMATE CHANGE ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

2025

College of the Rockies

2025 Climate Change Accountability Report

Title: 2025 Climate Change Accountability Report

Organization: College of The Rockies

PART 1. Legislative Reporting Requirements

Declaration statement: This PSO Climate Change Accountability Report for the period January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025 summarizes our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions profile, the total offsets to reach net-zero emissions, the actions we have taken in 2025 to minimize our GHG emissions, and our plans to continue reducing emissions in 2026 and beyond.

Emission Reductions: Actions & Plans

A. Stationary Sources (e.g., buildings, power generation)

- The College continues to invest in LED retrofits, HVAC upgrades, and building performance improvements – clear indicators of emissions reduction strategies.

B. Mobile Sources (e.g., fleet vehicles, off-road/portable equipment)

- The College purchased a Plug-In Hybrid Vehicle (PHEV) that will be used by our recruitment team for their travels around BC and AB when they are visiting high schools. The PHEV will reduce the carbon emissions and reduce fuel consumption. The vehicle will also be used by IT as they travel between campuses to support our regional campuses.

C. Paper Consumption

- Our Finance Department has gone paperless. All data is requested and saved digitally.
- Copy paper used for College-wide copiers is FSC and 30% recycled content.
- We reduced the number of printed copies of our convocation programme from 1500 to 500. Guests at the event could use a QR code to access the programme online.

D. Fugitive Sources⁵ (e.g., heat pumps, refrigerators, air conditioners)

The College continues to perform quarterly maintenance on our equipment.

2025 GHG Emissions and Offsets Summary Table

⁵ Fugitive sources: sources of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from unintentional releases (leaks) of gases, such as hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) refrigerants from equipment

College of the Rockies 2025 GHG Emissions and Offsets Summary	
GHG emissions for the period January 1 - December 31, 2025	
Total BioCO ₂	24
Total Emissions (tCO ₂ e)	1033
Total Offsets (tCO ₂ e)	993
Adjustments to Offset Required GHG Emissions Reported in Prior Years	
Total Offsets Adjustment (tCO ₂ e)	0
Grand Total Offsets for the 2025 Reporting Year	
Grand Total Offsets to be Retired for 2025 Reporting Year (tCO ₂ e)	993
Offset Investment (\$)	993 x \$25 = \$24,825

Retirement of Offsets:

In accordance with the requirements of the *Climate Change Accountability Act* and the Carbon Neutral Government Regulation, **College of the Rockies (the Organization)** is responsible for arranging for the retirement of the offsets obligation reported above for the 2025 calendar year, together with any adjustments reported for past calendar years (if applicable). The Organization hereby agrees that, in exchange for the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions (**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.

PART 2. Public Sector Climate Leadership

2A. Climate Risk Management

- Continued to collaborate with local emergency services and municipalities to strengthen coordination on wildfire and flood response planning.
- Updated the Environmental Sustainability Policy which emphasizes environmental leadership, sustainable practices, and minimizing environmental impacts. It includes a commitment to embedding sustainability in operations and decision-making including purchasing. While fully transitioning the College's fleet to zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) would be ideal, logistical, and financial constraints particularly due to our geographical location and limited budget pose significant challenges.

2B. Additional Sustainability Initiatives

- Annual tracking and offsetting of institutional greenhouse gas emissions is part of BC's Climate Change Accountability Act.
- The College continues to report emissions and purchase offsets to maintain its carbon neutrality.

2C. Success Stories

CRANBROOK CAMPUS:



The College partnered with Kootenay Outdoor Recreation Enterprise (KORE) and supported them with their KORE Re-Hub tour

<https://koreoutdoors.org/rehub/>.

Re-Hub is KORE's circular gear initiative focused on repair, reuse, and redesign. We're helping the outdoor gear industry shift away from single-use thinking by keeping products in play longer.

Through repair tours, upcycling workshops, community gear swaps, and collaborations with designers and technicians, Re-Hub helps reduce waste and create new value from old gear.

This initiative was supported through the use of our truck and Mobile Education Lounge. We will

be supporting this initiative again in Summer 2026.



Development and launch of the Solar PV Microcredential:

Innovation in Teaching and Learning unit supported the development and delivery of the **Clean Technology: Solar PV Systems and Installation** microcredential, including the extended version on **installation, connection, and maintenance**. This directly contributes to climate action by building local workforce capacity in renewable energy and supporting the skills needed for low-carbon energy systems.

Development and launch of the Greenhouse Operations Microcredential:

Innovation in Teaching and Learning unit supported the delivery of **Agricultural Technology: Greenhouse Practices and Operational Fundamentals**. This contributes to climate resilience and local sustainability by strengthening skills in controlled-environment food production and supporting regional capacity in greenhouse operations.

Open Education and Sustainability Event:

The Flourishing Futures Event brought together the Centre for Innovation in Teaching and Learning, College's Sustainability Committee, and Sustainability Club to explore open education in relation to people, place, and planet. Supported by BCcampus and offered in person and online, the event created space for shared learning and conversation about how teaching and learning can contribute to more sustainable futures at College of the Rockies.

Industrial Sewing and Gear Repair Microcredential Exploration:

In its early development, the ISGR microcredential initiative focused on building a practical curriculum framework around industrial sewing, gear repair, and sustainability, with early planning centered on instructional scope, equipment and materials, safety protocols, and the collection of photo and video assets to support learning. From the outset, the work was shaped by a strong sustainability lens, including an emphasis on design for repairability, actionable repair strategies, and the development of a broader culture of repair and reclamation within the curriculum.

CRESTON CAMPUS:

Youth Food Literacy & Skills Development

High school students are actively learning how to grow food through hands-on experiences. This initiative builds practical skills, strengthens food literacy, and fosters a deeper connection to sustainable agriculture and local food systems.

Nectar Pollinator Corridor Project

We are supporting the development of a nursery project focused on creating a **Nectar Pollinator Corridor in Creston**. This initiative contributes to biodiversity, supports pollinator populations, and enhances ecological resilience across the region.

Heritage Seed Saving & Community Plant Sale

In partnership with the Creston Seed Saving Group, heritage varieties of tomatoes and peppers are being grown and preserved. These plants will be sold at the group's annual plant sale, helping to maintain agricultural biodiversity and support local food traditions.

GOLD CREEK CAMPUS:

Facility Operations

A well-equipped kitchen allows us to remain at the campus and prepare our lunches.

Water fountain encourages refillable water bottles.

A space is being created for Kootenay Outdoor Recreation Enterprise (KORE) in the First Aid Centre.

CBT Programs

Early Childcare Education Wage Subsidy and ECE Training Wage Subsidy programs are almost all digital which has reduced the need for most printing.

Monitors are scheduled over fewer days, and the on-site visits are organized by route to reduce driving.

These programs encourage residents and families to remain in their community. Accessing education training and working locally helps to prevent moving and the emissions created by the move and the need to travel to visit. Creating childcare services in more and smaller communities reduces the need to drive long distances to other communities for care.

Food Producer Wage Subsidy Program supports farmers by subsidizing higher wages for staff to help grow local fruit and vegetables and raise farm animals.

This encourages growing and eating locally produced food and reduces the need to ship food from outside the region.

Continuing Education & Workforce Development: 2026

To reduce printing, we piloted a postcard to advertise our programs instead of printing a multipage guide.

We have increased our online marketing to offset printed materials.

We delivered Solar PV micro-credential and BC Interior Forestry Timber Scaling micro-credential programs to provide local access to training that participants would otherwise need to travel out of the region to complete.

We send pdf manuals for many of our courses and provide only a class copy of manuals whenever possible to reduce printing and shipping.

We are trying to increase blended training options to reduce the need for multi-day in person training that reduces the need to drive to campus.

Executive Sign-off:

28 May 2026



Signature

Date

Nathan Skretting

Vice-President - Strategy, Budget & Operations

Name (please print)

Title