

School District 81 Fort Nelson 2025 PSO Climate Change Accountability Report

Title: 2025 PSO Climate Change Accountability Report

Organization: School District 81 Fort Nelson

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)

School District 81 has identified opportunities through the School Enhancement Program to complete significant upgrades to heating systems and lighting fixtures across school and Board Office facilities.

We have continued with the worm composting program the local municipality has been running. In 2025 2667 kg of grass debris, shredded paper and cardboard were recycled keeping this out of the local landfill. We are recycling and composting food scraps from elementary schools, further increasing the amount of waste being diverted from the landfill dump site.

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

Our maintenance department continues to operate with a reduced number of vehicles. The department is diligent in performing routine maintenance such as rotating tires and checking pressures, while performing other routine maintenance such as changing of oil and filters etc.

The current operating environment presents significant challenges for the adoption of zero emission vehicles. These include extreme winter temperatures, long travel distances across rural routes, and limited regional charging infrastructure. In addition, ensuring reliable transportation for students and staff requires a high level of operational certainty that is currently more readily supported by conventional fleet vehicles. The district will continue to monitor advancements in technology and infrastructure that may support future adoption.

C. Paper Consumption

The school district supports environmentally responsible practices by purchasing recycled paper products whenever possible. Several initiatives have also reduced overall paper consumption, including the transition of scholarship application packages to a digital format. Schools actively promote waste reduction by ensuring that paper scraps and other suitable classroom materials are diverted to worm composting projects rather than being discarded. In addition, the School Board Office collects and bags shredded paper for recycling, further supporting the district's commitment to sustainability and responsible resource management.

2025 GHG Emissions and Offsets Summary Table

School District 81 Fort Nelson 2025 GHG Emissions and Offsets Summary	
GHG emissions for the period January 1 - December 31, 2025	
Total BioCO ₂	11.6
Total Emissions (tCO ₂ e)	1005
Total Offsets (tCO ₂ e)	995
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) [must round to a whole number (no decimal places)]	995
Offset Investment (\$) [Grand Total Offsets to be Retired for 2025 Reporting Year x \$25 per tCO ₂ e]	24,875

Retirement of Offsets:

In accordance with the requirements of the *Climate Change Accountability Act* and the Carbon Neutral Government Regulation, **School District 81 Fort Nelson** 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

We have not proceeded with any initiatives in this area.

2B. Additional Sustainability Initiatives

The school district green committee continues to work with the local municipal community and social development coordinator with the local worm composting program in elementary schools. We have extended the program into Fort Nelson Secondary School. We are mindful of the fact that we do have a large population of Bears in the surrounding area, therefore we make sure that the program has secure Bear proof outdoor garbage receptacles at each location and that pick up of the compostable material are regular and manageable for the staffing levels that we have in our maintenance department.

2C. Success Stories

School District 81 continues to utilize Minor Capital funding to support initiatives that generate ongoing cost savings across the district. Progress toward reducing greenhouse gas emissions is steady but gradual, reflecting a phased approach to upgrades and system improvements. The district also continues to collaborate with the municipality to identify and advance opportunities for improvements across school facilities within the district.

Schools have reported the following:

Students have been actively engaged in a variety of initiatives that promote environmental stewardship and sustainability throughout the school year. Through hands-on learning and daily practice, they are developing a strong sense of responsibility for caring for the land and reducing environmental impact.

In partnership with the Northern Rockies Regional Municipality, students were introduced to vermicomposting, learning how worms transform food waste into nutrient-rich soil. This learning has been extended through ongoing practices such as recycling cardboard, drink containers, and paper, as well as using food composting bags in Home Economics and the cafeteria. The school also piloted FoodCyclers in collaboration with NRRM, with the resulting fertilizer shared with interested staff and students.

Students have increasingly demonstrated independence in sorting waste correctly and making thoughtful choices about compost, recycling, and garbage disposal. Energy conservation practices, such as turning off lights when rooms are not in use, have also become part of their routine.

Our remote Northern school also maintains a working greenhouse, where students engage in growing activities and learning about plant life cycles. Materials are regularly reused for the greenhouse, classroom crafts, and creative projects, including the repurposing of cardboard to support both learning and sustainability practices.

Beyond waste reduction, students are engaged in broader environmental learning through place-based education. Teachers regularly take learning outdoors to strengthen students' connection to the land, including activities such as berry picking, plant walks, bannock making, and fire-based learning experiences. In addition, students are exploring the environmental impacts of fast fashion and textile production, while also learning practical skills such as mending clothing to reduce waste.

Together, these initiatives reflect a strong school-wide commitment to sustainability, student engagement, and building environmentally responsible habits for the future.

Executive Sign-off:



May 29 2026

Signature

Date

Darlene B Osmond

Secretary-Treasurer

Name (please print)

Title