



ORGANIZATION NAME: Columbia Basin Trust

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	TOTAL EMISSIONS	TOTAL OFFSETS
GHG EMISSIONS CREATED IN 2018	111 tCO ₂ e	111 tCO ₂ e
ADJUSTMENTS TO GHG EMISSIONS OF PRIOR YEARS	-	-
GRAND TOTAL OFFSETS FOR 2018	-	111 tCO ₂ e

TOTAL FTE EMPLOYEES: 64 TOTAL FLOOR SPACE: 8,401 m² USE OF SPACE: office VEHICLES: none

Top actions we took in 2018 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and/or improve sustainability

The Trust has provided a range of programs and supported projects that helped communities in the Columbia Basin reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including the following:

- The Climate Action Program supports communities to learn about climate change projections for the Columbia Basin, and develop and implement projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and/or adapt to climate change impacts.
- The Alternative and Renewable Energy Initiatives program supports renewable and alternative energy generation, as well as conservation opportunities. This included installing solar panels on community buildings in Balfour, the Edgewood firehall, and the Ktunaxa Nation Council's government building in Cranbrook.
- The Energy Retrofit Program provides upgrades to affordable housing units, making properties more energy efficient and sustainable for residents (intake 2 supported 32 buildings, with 609 units).
- The First Nations Housing Sustainability Initiative enhances and creates affordable housing in First Nations communities, which includes increasing asset management and completing necessary repairs and upgrades (70 units of existing affordable on-reserve housing received energy retrofits and repairs).
- The Kimberley Food Recovery project aims to rescue quality food that would otherwise go to waste and distribute it to those in need (avoids GHG emissions from food waste).
- The Revelstoke Commercial Organic Waste program develops and implements education and outreach components for diverting solid organic waste from businesses to a composting facility.
- The Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation 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 Golden Highway Truck Stop Electrification project is assessing the feasibility of providing electricity from the grid for transport trucks to use at the highway truck stop in Golden, avoiding the need for these trucks to idle.
- The Wildfire Mitigation Grants supported 32 community projects to reduce urban interface wildfire risks. Many of these projects have reduced the potential for significant release of carbon that would occur during wildfires.

We reduced our corporate operations' GHG emissions by:

- Completing HVAC upgrades in the Castlegar office; energy reductions were realized following "Phase 2" when variable speed drivers were implemented.
- Performing lifecycle replacements to our data center, which resulted in increased energy efficiency.
- Actively reducing waste at the Nakusp office through use of the blue bag recycling program.
- Continuing to make videoconferencing technology available to staff, the Board of Directors, as well as to other Columbia Basin organizations to assist in reducing travel. Staff also uses Skype for Business whenever possible.
- Encouraging staff to walk, run, bike or carpool to work.
- Allowing staff to work a compressed work week in the summer to reduce commuting.
- Phasing out fluorescent lighting; transitioning to LED technology when lighting systems require replacement.

- Using electronic documentation, electronic signatures and electronic funds transfers to reduce paper usage.
- 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:

- Launch the Energy Sustainability Program to support projects that create opportunities for alternative and renewable energy generation at community-purpose buildings, which also includes activities related to energy conservation and efficiencies.
- Change our records management program to a system that will minimize printing requirements.
- Further integrate digital signatures into operations, which includes extending this function to external stakeholders.
- Continue to replace aging lights with LED technology.
- Continue to encourage the use of videoconferencing equipment and Skype for Business to reduce travel.
- Continue supporting communities to reduce emissions through various Trust programs, such as Climate Action, Environment Grants, and Alternative and Renewable Energy programs.

Actions we took in 2018 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:

- Implementing our Climate Action Program (noted above).
- Developing a new Community Wildfire Program, which will catalyze and support innovative wildfire fuel-treatment projects and increase public awareness about how residents can reduce wildfire risks (e.g. via FireSmart principles).
- Initiated the development of an online climate change information portal to help residents and communities understand climate change, current/projected effects to our region and climate action opportunities.
- Catalyzed the acquisition of a significant amount of LiDAR data for priority areas in the Columbia Basin to help communities assess and adapt to increasing flood risks.
- Supported the District of Elkford and City of Fernie to quantify projected variations to the intensity, duration and frequency of precipitation events in the Elk Valley. The project will help these communities assess and adapt to climate change impacts related to precipitation, such as storm water management.
- Continuing to partner with BC Housing to create new affordable housing units. The goal is for these units to be constructed in compliance with Step Code 4 of the BC Energy Code, which will make the residences extremely efficient and reduce contributions 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 2018 calendar year, together with any adjustments reported for past calendar years. The Organization hereby 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 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 16, 2019

Date