

## School District 72 (Campbell River) 2025 Climate Change Accountability Report

**Title:** 2025 Climate Change Accountability Report

**Organization:** School District 72 (Campbell River)

### **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**

The district is working toward the CleanBC provincial carbon target of a 64% reduction in carbon consumption by 2030 based on a 2010 baseline. As of December 31, 2025, the district has achieved a 25% reduction in carbon emissions, decreasing from 2,667 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2010 to 2,012 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2025. Emissions are trending downward, with many projects on the five year planning horizon that should continue to enhance efficient district operations and reduce carbon dependency.

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

In 2025, the district worked with an energy management firm to continue advancing the district's emission reduction goals. A particular focus was put on updating building automation systems, building schedules, and night time / off hour setbacks to reduce consumption. Eight schools were put through the BC Hydro Continuous Optimization Program.

Significant projects completed during the year included major HVAC upgrades at Robron Alternative School and Cortes Island School, major controls upgrades at a number of schools district-wide, and an extensive window replacement program at Georgia Park Elementary.

The following major projects that impacted overall district emissions were completed in 2025:

<b>Location</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Funding Source(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Robron School	HVAC Upgrade	\$438,000	Ministry of Education – Carbon Neutral Capital Program	Mechanical upgrade adding air source heat pumps including air conditioning to approx. 25% of the facility.
Cortes Elementary	Boiler Replacement	\$200,000	Ministry of Infrastructure – Annual Facilities Grant	Replacement of main school boiler to modern high-efficiency model.
District-wide	Third Party Energy Management	\$65,000	Ministry of Infrastructure – Annual Facilities Grant	Ongoing third party energy management and minor projects including DDC improvements and monitoring.
Various schools	Building Automation Upgrades	\$30,000	Ministry of Infrastructure – Annual Facilities Grant	Upgraded building automation controls (DDC) at a number of sites.
Georgia Park Elementary	Exterior Window replacement	\$175,000	Ministry of Infrastructure – Annual Facilities Grant	Replaced 56 exterior single pane windows, nearly entire school.
Eight (8) Schools District-wide	Continuous Optimization Program	\$100,000	BC Hydro Grant, Ministry of Infrastructure, Annual Facilities Grant	BC Hydro Continuous Optimization Program with various implementations around process controls, scheduling, and DDC changes.

Projects approved for 2026 include:

<b>Location</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Preliminary Budget</b>	<b>Funding Source(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Timberline Secondary	Boiler Replacement	\$500,000	Ministry of Education – Carbon Neutral Capital Program	Replacement of an end-of-life low efficiency boiler with a high efficiency condensing boiler incl. controls upgrades.
Robron School	Partial Roof Replacement	\$900,000	Ministry of Infrastructure – School Enhancement Program	Replacement of 18,000 sq ft of membrane SBS roofing incl. enhanced insulation.
District-wide	Third Party Energy Management	\$65,000	Ministry of Education – Annual Facilities Grant	Ongoing third party energy management.
Seven (7) buildings district-wide	Continuous Optimization Program	\$96,000	BC Hydro Grant and Ministry of Infrastructure – Annual Facilities Grant	Continuous Optimization at seven remaining buildings as part of Phase 2/3 of completing this work district-wide.
Robron School	Exterior Window Replacement	\$40,000	Ministry of Education – Annual Facilities Grant	Replacement of single pane exterior windows.
Georgia Park Elementary	LED Lighting Retrofit	\$40,000	Ministry of Education – Annual Facilities Grant and anticipated BC Hydro incentives	LED light conversion including dimming and occupancy controls in 6 classrooms, approx. 30% of the school.

Beyond 2026, the district is beginning to plan for district-wide LED lighting retrofits and at least one solar power implementation.

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

In 2025 the district acquired one additional ZEV, a fully electric van which is used for inter-school mail and supplies deliveries. One additional Level 2 vehicle charger was installed at the District's maintenance facility to support overnight charging for this unit.

In 2025, the district operated its two electric school buses for the first full school year, building driver and departmental knowledge of how these units can integrate into the Transportation Department's work and reduce overall fossil fuel consumption.

### **C. Paper Consumption**

Paper consumption represents a very small portion of the organization's carbon footprint. There is general awareness of options for more environmentally friendly paper sources, and the use of electronic correspondence is the norm throughout the school district. Printing volumes are monitored, and the district is discussing ways to reduce printed materials. Many departments are working to streamline processes to reduce paper consumption, including the district-wide adoption of the Microsoft SharePoint platform to support paperless workflows.

### **D. Fugitive Sources<sup>5</sup> (e.g., heat pumps, refrigerators, air conditioners)**

The district maintains a relatively low reliance on refrigerants across its operations and actively manages associated environmental impacts through monitoring, asset tracking, and equipment renewal. Refrigerant-based systems are routinely inspected to ensure proper function and to detect and address potential leaks. Through ongoing capital renewal planning, older systems using higher global warming potential (GWP) refrigerants are systematically being replaced with modern, energy-efficient equipment utilizing lower-GWP alternatives.

Key actions include:

- Maintaining a comprehensive inventory of all equipment using refrigerants, including tracking of refrigerant type and quantities added or replaced across facilities
- Implementing routine maintenance protocols to ensure optimal operation and early detection of refrigerant leaks

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

- Replacing 1–2 major HVAC systems annually, prioritizing systems that use older, higher-GWP refrigerants
- Specifying new HVAC equipment with low-GWP refrigerants in line with current industry best practices
- Applying industry standards and manufacturer recommendations when selecting refrigerants, in the absence of a formal district policy

## 2025 GHG Emissions and Offsets Summary Table

School District 72 (Campbell River) 2025 GHG Emissions and Offsets Summary	
<b>GHG emissions for the period January 1 - December 31, 2025</b>	
Total BioCO <sub>2</sub>	52
Total Emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	2064
Total Offsets (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	1652
<b>Adjustments to Offset Required GHG Emissions Reported in Prior Years</b>	
Total Offsets Adjustment (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	0
<b>Grand Total Offsets for the 2025 Reporting Year</b>	
Grand Total Offsets to be Retired for 2025 Reporting Year (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	1652
Offset Investment (\$)	\$41,300

### Retirement of Offsets:

In accordance with the requirements of the *Climate Change Accountability Act* and the Carbon Neutral Government Regulation, The Board of Education of School District 72 – Campbell River (**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**

Although School District 72 operates in the coastal region which typically experiences a moderate climate through all 4 seasons, climate change adaptation is an ongoing consideration when conducting facility repairs or upgrades.

In 2025 some specific measures were undertaken to help mitigate climate risk:

- Air conditioning was added to approximately 30% of Robron Alternative School by way of an HVAC upgrade that included 13 air source heat pumps.
- A wetland drainage retention system was completed at Cortes Island School which has helped manage storm water on site and improved the usability of the playing field over the winter.
- Project planning and design was advanced for another wetland drainage retention system at Southgate Middle School.
- Design work has been undertaken for an additional 4 childcare centres on school sites which will all have air conditioning allowing for 12 month operation.

### **2B. Additional Sustainability Initiatives**

Outdoor educational activities are found in all school programs as a key support for raising environmental awareness and promoting sustainability. School gardens are found throughout the school district at all sites. In 2025 an outdoor education space was installed at Pinecrest Elementary.

Operational Procedure 515 (Environmental Responsibility) reinforces the district's commitment to protecting and preserving the environment. An example of this commitment is the extensive recycling program found throughout the school district.

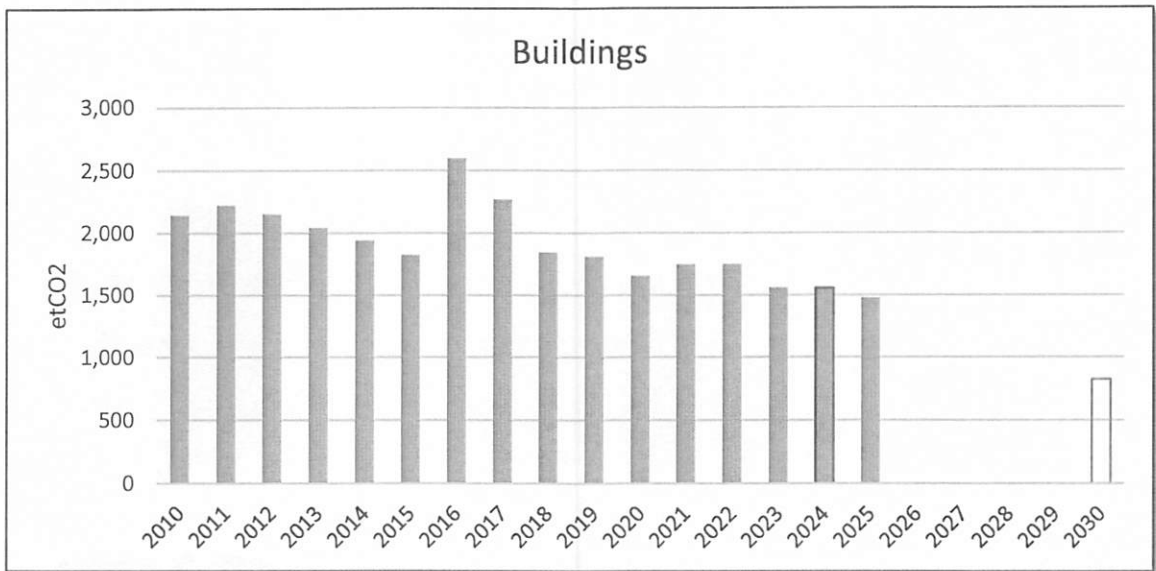
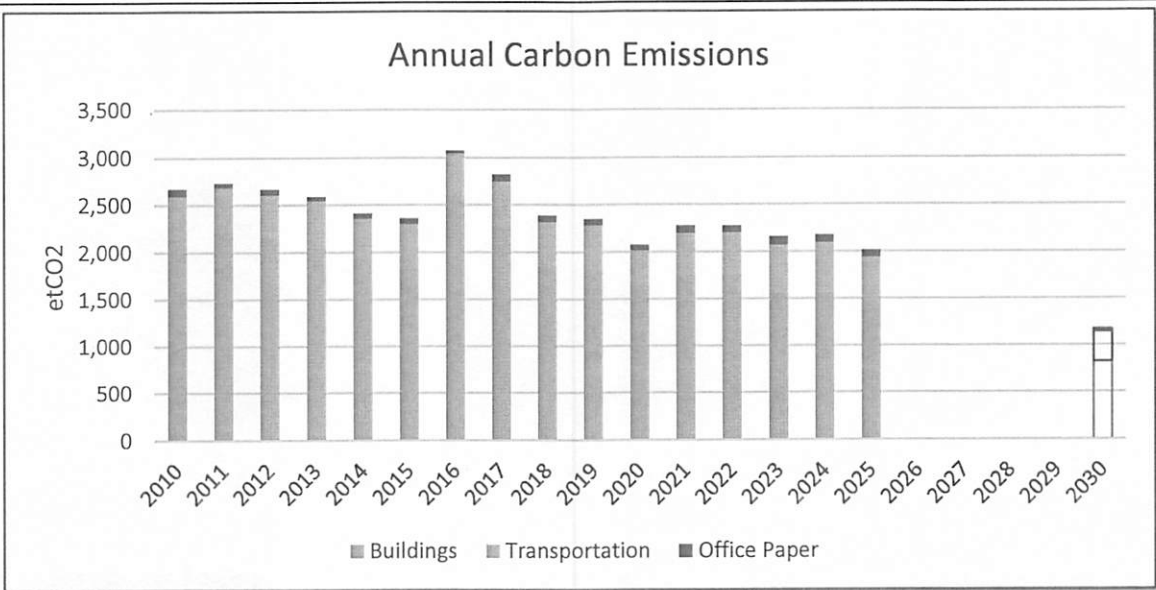
Climate engagement is included as part of the student and stakeholder engagement components to the two wetland projects at Cortes Island School and Southgate Middle.

### **2C. Success Stories**

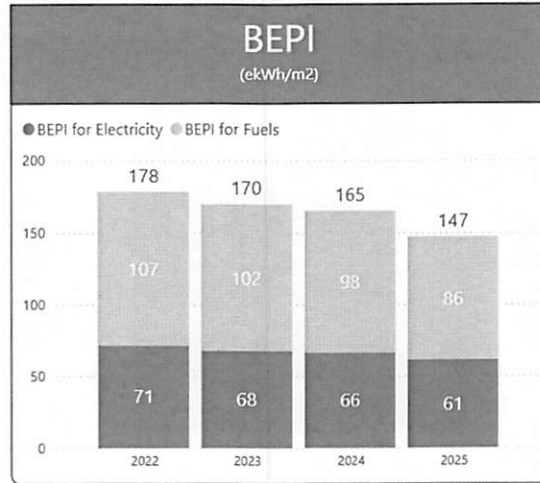
A key success in 2025 was the district's continued focus on building performance improvements through HVAC upgrades, controls optimization, and re-commissioning efforts. These initiatives contributed to

measurable reductions in energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions while also improving occupant comfort and operational efficiency across multiple sites.

The district saw large improvements to overall building performance in 2025 attributable to the focus on major HVAC upgrades, controls improvements, and most significantly the re-commissioning of 8 schools. Focusing on building heating schedules, nighttime and shut down setbacks, and other process improvements has resulted in reducing overall consumption and emissions. This program has been so successful that the district is planning on putting 7 more schools through the program in 2026/27.



Building improvement should be further highlighted as the above carbon reduction takes into effect a 300% increase in electrical Green House Gas coefficient which attributed to an additional 100 tCO<sub>2</sub>e or 4% in emissions. The figure below shows the reduction of district wide Building Energy Performance Index (BEPI) which is an index of the ratio of energy (ekWh) and building floor area (m<sup>2</sup>). This index shows a reduction of 14% in electricity (Purchased Energy) and 20% in Direct Fuel Combustion between the short timeframe of 2022 and 2025.



**Executive Sign-off:**

*K. Patrick*
May 25, 2026

Kevin Patrick
Secretary - Treasurer

Name (please print)

Title