



Sustainability in action.

Executive summary

This Carbon Neutral Action Report is for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2019. The report summarizes the University of Victoria's (UVic) greenhouse gas emissions, the amount of offsets purchased to reach net zero emissions, the actions undertaken to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and the university's plans to continue reducing emissions in 2020 and beyond.

In response to COVID-19, the university's greenhouse gas emissions and required offsets were calculated using the 2018 greenhouse gas emissions as a placeholder. The total greenhouse gas emissions UVic is required to offset is 11,587 tCO₂e for 2019. Adjustments to UVic's 2019 greenhouse gas emissions will be accounted for the 2020 reporting year.

Several initiatives to reduce emissions were undertaken in 2019, including retrofit and optimization programs in campus buildings, energy efficiency studies and several behavioural change campaigns. In addition, the university completed the final report for the **Sustainability Action Plan: Campus Operations 2014-2019**. The report provided an opportunity to benchmark the university's progress toward 32 goals in eleven sections. The university made significant progress in several areas, eighteen goals were achieved, nine were in progress,

two required re-examination and three goals were not achieved. Addressing climate change through greenhouse gas emissions reductions projects continues to be a key objective.

In 2020, the new District Energy Plant is scheduled to be fully operational and the district energy loop will be decommissioned. The project will have the single biggest impact in helping UVic meet its greenhouse gas reduction goal of 30 percent below 2010 levels by December 31, 2021. In addition, the university will undertake two strategic planning projects to identify long-term emission reduction strategies.

Kristi Simpson

Associate Vice-President, Financial Planning and Operations
University of Victoria



Declaration statement

This Carbon Neutral Action Report for the period January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019 summarizes our emissions profile, the total offsets to reach net-zero emissions, the actions we have taken in 2019 to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and our plans to continue reducing emissions in 2020 and beyond.

Emissions and offset summary

In response to COVID-19, the BC Climate Action Secretariat issued a Directive on March 31, 2020. As a result, the emissions and offsets for the 2019 reporting year were calculated using the 2018 greenhouse gas emissions as a placeholder. Adjustments to UVic's 2019 greenhouse gas emissions will be accounted for the 2020 reporting year.

The University of Victoria's GHG Emissions and Offsets for 2019

As per the Directive issued March 31, 2020, each PSO will use their 2018 GHG Emissions as a placeholder for the purposes of their 2019 CNAR.

Overview

The following sections were completed using qualitative data from 2019.

Actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in 2019

The university continued to complete building energy efficiency projects in the 2019/2020 financial year; these included:

f Optimization work and/or lighting upgrades in the following buildings:

y Centennial Stadium Building

y Centre for Athletics, Recreation and Special Abilities

y Continuing Studies Building

y Ian Stewart Complex

y MacLaurin D-Wing Building

y Michael Williams Building

f A detailed review of the energy use of the Student Union Building was completed in March, 2019 to identify high yield and/or low payback opportunities.

f The final report of the

Plans to continue to reduce emissions in 2020 and beyond

UVic will further reduce greenhouse gases in 2020 through the following activities:

f Conduct building optimization and/or lighting upgrades in the following buildings:

- y* Business and Economics Building
- y* Bob Wright Centre
- y* Engineering and Computer Science Building
- y* Engineering Lab Wing Building
- y* Human and Social Development Building
- y* Strong Building
- y* University Centre Building

f Implement actions identified in the **Sustainability Action Plan: Campus Operations 2020-2021** to achieve greenhouse gas reductions across the university's Scope 1, Scope 2 and Scope 3 emissions portfolios.

f Implement projects through the UVic Revolving Sustainability Loan Fund.

f Commission the District Energy Plant and decommission the district energy loop.

f Implement the Campus Cycling Plan's Dawnview Crescent CARSA pathway and the University Drive Connection pathway improvements to enable the university to increase the rate of active transportation to campus.

f Begin construction of the new Student Housing and Dining project. The design and construction of the new buildings will meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Gold and Passive House standards, the most rigorous global standards for sustainability and energy efficiency.

The university has undertaken two strategic planning projects to identify long-term emission reduction strategies. The Climate and Sustainability Action Plan and the Carbon Reduction Plan will provide comprehensive plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and achieve the university's Strategic Framework's "Promote Sustainable Futures" section.

For additional information on sustainability, along with greenhouse gas reporting and energy initiatives at the University of Victoria, please see our website at uvic.ca/sustainability

