

NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE



## 2019 Carbon Neutral Action Report



## Table of Contents

Declaration Statement .....	3
Overview and Executive Summary .....	3
Retirement of Offsets: .....	5
Energy & Environmental Sustainability.....	6
Carbon Offsets .....	6
Key Achievements for Emissions Reduction & Sustainability .....	7
Emission Reduction Goals for 2020 .....	7



## Declaration Statement

This Carbon Neutral Action Report for the period January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 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 2019 and beyond.

By June 30, 2020 North Island College's final *Carbon Neutral Action Report* will be posted to our website at <https://www.nic.bc.ca/about-us/the-nic-commitment/reporting/>.

## Overview and Executive Summary

North Island College (NIC) is honoured to acknowledge the traditional territories of the combined 35 First Nations of the Nuuchahnulth, Kwakwaka'wakw and Coast Salish traditions, on whose traditional and unceded territories the college's campuses are situated.

North Island College is a comprehensive community college that focuses on student success. We proudly serve more than 9,000 students annually at our four campuses, our learning centre and through online and in-community learning. We are committed to excellence in our programs and services. The College's values frame everything we do and express our commitment to our students, communities, residents of our region and ourselves, in part through social and environmental responsibility by actively engaging in the economic and social development of our communities and as active stewards of the unique natural environment in which we reside.

We continued focusing on reducing our carbon impact in 2019. Our curricular and extra-curricular activities at North Island College teach our students to be socially and environmentally responsible citizens on and off campus. Our faculty educates students on sustainability and create unique learning opportunities that make use of our natural environment. From an operations perspective, we have ongoing commitments to refit equipment and upgrade services to improve efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. North Island College endeavors to improve and test efficient technologies for building infrastructure and communications.

<b>North Island College GHG Emissions and Offset for 2019 (TCO<sub>2</sub>E)</b>	
<b>GHG Emissions created in Calendar Year 2019</b> <i>(from SMARTTool Homepage):</i>	
Total Emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	911
Total Offsets (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	911
<b>Adjustments to GHG Emissions Reported in Prior Years</b> <i>(from SMARTTool Homepage):</i>	
Total Emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	0
Total Offsets (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	0
<b>Grand Total Offsets for the 2018 Reporting Year</b> <i>(from SMARTTool Homepage):</i> <i>(This is the total of emissions that must be offset for Reporting Year 2018)</i>	
Grand Total Offsets (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	911

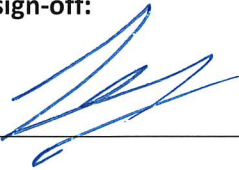


## Retirement of Offsets:

In accordance with the requirements of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act and Carbon Neutral Government Regulation, North Island College (the Organization) is responsible for arranging for the retirement of the offsets obligation reported above for the 2019 calendar year, together with any adjustments reported for past calendar years. The Organization hereby agrees that, in exchange for the Ministry of Environment 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.

**Executive sign-off:**

Signature



Date

May 28, 2020

Name (please print)

Colin Fowler

Title

VP, Finance & Facilities

NIC was established in 1975 as a primarily distance education institution. It now serves students at Campbell River, Comox Valley, Port Alberni, and Micalakwila campuses, as well as through many in-community programs delivered in partnership with remote communities across 80,000 km<sup>2</sup> from Ucluelet on Vancouver Island's West Coast to Bella Coola on the central mainland.

We are distinguished by our commitment to student success through strong partnership agreements with universities and colleges across BC, the US and around the world. NIC has been internationally recognized for its technology-enabled distance learning, and responsive in-community programs.

We proudly serve more than 9,000 students annually. To meet the education and training needs of its region, NIC offers a broad range of programs tailored to the needs of current and future students. Current programs include: adult upgrading (including adult basic education, English language training and access for students with disabilities), university transfer, business, tourism, health care, Fine Arts, Aboriginal education and Industry Training Authority (ITA) approved foundation trades, technical, and apprenticeship training. The college also offers a significant range of sector-specific industry training as well as short-term contract training and a wide range of professional and personal development courses. NIC also hosts and supports ElderCollege, which provides lectures and courses on a wide range of topics at low-cost for individuals 50 years of age and older (55+ at the Comox Valley Campus).

## Energy & Environmental Sustainability

NIC has been a member of the Pan-Canadian Protocol for Sustainability since 2010 and, by signing the protocol; we have pledged to maximize our contribution to a sustainable future. We are committed to our role as a community leader in environmental stewardship.

NIC has been a BC Hydro Power Smart Partner since 2002, committing to doing our part to save energy and create a culture of sustainability, adopting the principles of energy efficiency into our ongoing business management practices, and upgrading our existing facilities with energy conservation measures.

## Carbon Offsets

North Island College was carbon neutral in 2019. This was achieved through the key achievements for emissions reduction and sustainability and through carbon offsets purchased from the Climate Investment Branch of the Climate Action Secretariat. The in-scope carbon offsets tCO<sub>2</sub>e emissions in 2019 amounted to 911 tonnes, based upon the 2018 building energy data, paper use, and fleet information entered into Climate Action Secretariat's SoFi access data entry program and the GHG measurements based upon this data.

## Key Achievements for Emissions Reduction & Sustainability

### **Actions taken in 2019 to reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

Completion of Campbell River Campus Expansion project, commencing spring 2018 and completed in 2019. The modernization of this building will provide a greatly enhanced learning environment for our students and staff. The opportunity for increased energy savings through upgraded mechanical, structural and electrical systems is also a very beneficial component of this project.

NIC is recognized as a leader in interactive TV course offerings, allowing rural students to attend NIC in their local communities.

Green procurement practices and product selections such as enhanced recycled paper content.

A comprehensive waste management program.

Promoting alternative transportation such as bike shelters with lockers, showers, electric vehicle charging stations.

Energy Conservation is a core consideration when completing new expansions, renovating buildings, and daily operations.

### **Emission Reduction Goals for 2020**

The College will continue to educate users and increase awareness of ongoing efforts to become carbon neutral. Projects already in motion for 2020 to decrease carbon offsets and reduce water use include:

- Preset programming for 'Sweater Day' initiatives at three campuses.
- Adding electric vehicle charging stations to our Comox Valley and Port Alberni Campuses.

