



**Vancouver  
Community  
College**

# **2025 PSO Climate Change Accountability Report**

Submitted under the Carbon Neutral Government  
Regulation of B.C. Greenhouse Gas Reduction Target Act

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Vancouver Community College respectfully acknowledges that we teach and learn on the traditional and unceded territories of the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əy'əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) peoples who have been stewards of this land from time immemorial.

# Contents

- OUR VISION STATEMENT ..... 4
  - STRATEGIC INNOVATION PLAN..... 4
- DECLARATION STATEMENT ..... 4
- EXECUTIVE SUMMARY..... 5
- EMISSION REDUCTIONS: ACTIONS TAKEN DURING 2025..... 7
  - DOWNTOWN CAMPUS..... 7
  - BROADWAY CAMPUS ..... 7
- EMISSION REDUCTIONS: PLANS FOR 2025 AND BEYOND ..... 8
  - DOWNTOWN CAMPUS ..... 8
  - BROADWAY CAMPUS..... 9
  - FLEET AND EV CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE..... 10
  - PAPER CONSUMPTION ..... 11
  - ENERGY CONSERVATION AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS ..... 12
- EMISSIONS SUMMARY ..... 13
- 2025 GHG EMISSIONS AND OFFSETS SUMMARY TABLE ..... 15
- RETIREMENT OF OFFSETS:..... 15
- PUBLIC SECTOR LEADERSHIP ..... 16
  - CLIMATE RISK MANAGEMENT..... 16
  - OTHER SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES ..... 17

## VCC 2025 PSO Climate Change Accountability Report

### ABOUT VCC

Located in the heart of the city, Vancouver Community College (VCC) offers academic, cultural, and social environments that inspire relevant real-world training. Our on-campus facilities including gourmet restaurants, an auto shop, and salon and spa, allow students to hone their skills and training while providing high-quality lower-cost services to the Downtown and East Vancouver communities.

### OUR VISION STATEMENT

VCC – the first choice for innovative, experiential learning for life.

### STRATEGIC INNOVATION PLAN

VCC's Strategic Innovation Plan (SIP) outlines VCC's commitment to becoming an innovative center of learning within the next 10 years. The plan brings our vision statement to life, and commits us to deliver bold new initiatives, build infrastructure, and explore new technologies for the benefit of our students, employees, and wider community. It also presents new ways of doing things, changing business models, and evolving educational needs to ensure that we create optimal, accessible environments for learning success now and in the future.

#### Our values

**Student success:** We create an accessible environment where students build the skills, develop the attributes and gain experience in the classroom, industry and community needed for success now and in the future.

**Excellence:** We are committed to the highest educational quality, student support, and college operations that are responsive, innovative and relevant.

**Reconciliation and Diversity:** We respect and celebrate our differences, and are committed to the work of decolonization, accessibility and inclusivity for all.

**Stewardship:** We are responsible for overseeing the resources that are entrusted to us and are focused on working in the best interests of the college community.

### 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 2025 and beyond.



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Vancouver Community College remains committed to carbon neutral operations and to embedding sustainability across learning, facilities, and community engagement.

Since 2007, VCC has reduced campus energy use by 51% and greenhouse gas emissions by 58%. In 2025, the college reported 1,253 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions. Natural gas and steam accounted for 77% of total emissions, electricity 7%, office paper 2%, fugitive emissions 3%, and mobile energy use less than 1%. These emissions were fully offset through the purchase of carbon offsets under the Province of British Columbia's Carbon Neutral Government Regulation.

Key actions completed during 2025 included networked lighting controls in the Automotive Department and an LED stairway retrofit at the Broadway campus, continued heat pump replacements and operational improvements at the Downtown campus through BC Hydro Continuous Optimization, and ongoing design of the Kitchen Electrification Project. Behaviour change campaigns such as the Holiday Shutdown and Space Heater initiatives continued across both campuses.

Looking ahead, VCC has identified future projects that could deliver 141,500 kilowatt hours in annual energy savings, including the replacement of incandescent exit signs with LED running-man signs, ventilation and cooling optimization measures, and the Kitchen Electrification Project, subject to funding approval.

Beyond energy, VCC advanced climate resilience through a detailed assessment of electrical and mechanical systems, reduced office paper consumption by transitioning to Sugar Sheet copy paper and expanding digital processes, increased waste diversion and furniture reuse, supported Eco Grant projects, and engaged students through sustainability events. New and forthcoming programs in the Centre for Clean Energy and Automotive Innovation will help prepare students for careers in clean technology.

## VCC 2025 PSO Climate Change Accountability Report

These combined efforts keep VCC on track to continue exceeding the provincial target of a 50% reduction in building emissions by 2030 and VCC's internal target of a 60% reduction in campus energy intensity by 2030.

### Key Milestones Achieved from 2007 to 2025

- **More than \$8.0 million** in avoided utility costs.
- **128 million kWh in cumulative energy savings**, equivalent to the annual energy use of approximately **11,300 British Columbia households**.<sup>1</sup>
- **58% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions**, equivalent to removing approximately **440 gasoline-powered vehicles** from the road for one year.<sup>1</sup>

For more information about VCC's Strategic Energy Management Plan and Climate Change Accountability Report, please visit [VCC Reports and Publications](#).



### EMISSION REDUCTIONS: ACTIONS TAKEN DURING 2025

Since 2013, Vancouver Community College (VCC) has partnered with BC Hydro through the Energy Manager Program to develop and implement its Strategic Energy Management Plan (SEMP). The SEMP provides a structured framework to reduce energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, and utility costs.

After more than a decade of participation in BC Hydro's Energy Manager Program, VCC plans to take a temporary pause from the program beginning in 2026/2027. This decision reflects the strong performance of the program and the successful implementation of most cost-effective, low-capital energy conservation measures across both campuses. Future progress will depend primarily on major capital investments and deep decarbonization projects, with the electrification of industrial teaching kitchens identified as a key priority.

During the last fiscal year, VCC completed the following projects to reduce energy use and GHG emissions:

#### DOWNTOWN CAMPUS

**Heat Pumps Installation** VCC continued its annual replacement of aging heat pumps at the Downtown campus. In 2025, twelve new heat pumps were ordered to replace obsolete R22 units with more energy-efficient equipment that uses ozone-friendly refrigerants.

**Continuous Optimization** Operational improvements were implemented through BC Hydro's Continuous Optimization Program, including adjustments to heating and cooling schedules and improved air distribution in the Hair Salon and Dental Department. These measures enhance system performance and reduce energy consumption without major capital investment.

**Kitchen Electrification** Design began in 2025 to convert selected culinary teaching kitchens from natural gas and steam to electric equipment. As one of VCC's largest decarbonization initiatives, this multi-year project will significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions from one of the college's most energy-intensive operations.

#### BROADWAY CAMPUS

**LED Stairway Retrofit** Forty-two fluorescent fixtures in campus stairways were upgraded to high-efficiency LED lighting, reducing electricity use by approximately 4,415 kilowatt hours per year while improving reliability and eliminating mercury-containing lamps.

#### COLLEGE-WIDE INITIATIVES

**Refrigerant Audit and Tracking** Building on last year's audit of stationary equipment, VCC expanded its 2025 refrigerant inventory to include vehicle air conditioning systems. Refrigerant emissions are tracked using provincially approved methods to meet Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions reporting requirements and identify opportunities to reduce leaks and consumption. In 2025, fugitive emissions totaled 40.9 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent, representing approximately 3% of the college's offset-required emissions.

**Mobile Fuel Tracking** In 2025, VCC strengthened the tracking of gasoline, diesel, propane, and electricity used as transportation fuel for all owned vehicles and equipment, including maintenance vehicles, training aids, forklifts, and electric fleet. Mobile energy use accounted for 7.6 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent, representing less than 1% of total emissions.

### EMISSION REDUCTIONS: PLANS FOR 2025 AND BEYOND

The college has already implemented the most readily achievable optimisation measures at both campuses through over a decade of GHG reduction projects. Consequently, the opportunities remaining for GHG reduction from 2025 and beyond involve deeper capital-intensive initiatives that address residual steam and gas loads, finalise the shift to low carbon heating, and strengthen long term climate resilience.

Expanding on those accomplishments, VCC will continue to involve staff, students, and faculty in forthcoming initiatives across both campuses. By pairing additional energy reduction projects with targeted behaviour change campaigns, the college will further lower its annual greenhouse gas emissions while fostering an engaged VCC community.

The projects listed below outline the next phase of work required to achieve these goals.

#### Downtown Campus

- Kitchen Electrification Project (Design Phase) Convert selected culinary teaching kitchens from natural gas and steam to electric equipment, including the removal of the high-pressure steam branch and replacement of gas appliances with electric alternatives, to reduce emissions from one of VCC's most energy-intensive operations.
- LED Exit Sign Retrofit Replace 465 incandescent EXIT signs with high-efficiency LED running-man signs at both campuses.
- Steam distribution system Upgrade by removing internal steam piping and converting heating coils and radiators to hydronic or heat pump service.
- Heat Pump Replacement Program Continue annual replacement of aging R22 heat pumps with high-efficiency units using ozone-friendly refrigerants.
- Add central air source heat pumps to serve the heat pump loops, using gas or steam only as cold weather backup.
- Install a domestic hot water heat recovery chiller to capture surplus refrigeration heat for preheating domestic hot water.
- Replace three gas and one electric rooftop units with air source heat pump or dual fuel roof top units, removing a significant portion of direct combustion heating.
- Implement refrigeration heat recovery by converting air cooled condensers to water cooled units connected to the loops.
- Retrofit the lab make-up air handling unit as a water-source heat pump unit and optimize controls on other MUAs to reduce gas consumption.

## BROADWAY CAMPUS

### Building A

- Install and add to DDC lighting control panels on the Automotive department.
- **Electrical and IT Room Cooling Optimization** Improve cooling strategies in critical rooms to reduce energy use and improve equipment reliability.
- **Electrical and IT Room Cooling Optimization** Improves ventilation strategies in critical rooms to reduce energy use and improve equipment reliability.
- Add EV Charging Station submeters to track our energy used for transportation.
- Decouple the domestic hot water system from the gas boilers and install a small electric boiler dedicated to DHW recirculation and top up heating.
- Install a stand-alone electric boiler to provide first stage hydronic heating, allowing existing gas boilers to run only for backup in cold weather.
- Electrify the three-gas fired make up air units (paint booth, welding, spray booth) with electric duct heaters or coils.
- Passive split thermosyphon loops (or water to water heat pumps) to recover exhaust heat for the MUAs when those units are replaced or better data are available.
- If Building A remains in service beyond its planned demolition window (2035–2040) outlined in the Campus Plan, our long-range strategy is to lower the hydronic loop temperature, upgrade coils as necessary to meet heating loads at reduced temperatures, and install an air source heat pump plant that can be shared with Building B. In the near term, given the building's uncertain future, investments should prioritize low-capital, short-payback energy conservation measures.

### Building B

- Retrofit the hydronic heating system for lower supply water temperatures and install a central air source heat pump as first stage heating, retaining gas boilers for peak backup
- Conduct phased loop temperature trials during a heating season; upgrade only those VAV reheat coils that cannot meet loads at the lower temperature.
- At the end-of-life replacement of chiller HP-1, upgrade to a heat recovery model so condenser heat can be injected into the low temperature loop in shoulder months.
- Operate air handling units for increased mechanical cooling in winter, recovering that heat for the loop.
- With the new air source heat pump fully operational, install a heat recovery chiller or exhaust air heat recovery coils to capture additional heat for the hydronic loop, further reducing reliance on the gas boilers.

## FLEET AND EV CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE

VCC is preparing students for the future of transportation while reducing emissions through a growing fleet of electric vehicles and expanded EV charging infrastructure.

**Student Training Fleet** The instructional fleet provides learners with hands-on experience in gasoline, diesel, propane, hydrogen, and battery electric technologies. Key assets include the Freightliner eCascadia Class 8 electric semi-truck with a 438 kWh battery and up to 370 kilometres of range, the Toyota Mirai hydrogen fuel cell vehicle, the Rivian R1T electric pickup, and the Volvo ECR25 electric compact excavator. These vehicles help students develop practical skills in high-voltage systems, hydrogen technologies, power electronics, and zero-emission equipment.

**Campus Operations Fleet** Operational vehicles and equipment support Facilities, Safety and Security, and other departments. Notable assets include the Hyundai Kona EV and electric forklifts used for campus operations, demonstrating the practical application of low-carbon technologies in day-to-day activities.

**EV Charging Infrastructure** VCC operates four public EV charging stations, including one located in an accessible parking stall, and four additional chargers in the Transportation Trades labs used for instructional purposes. In 2025, EV charging station submeters were added to improve tracking of electricity used as transportation fuel.

**Transportation Emissions Reporting** In 2025, the college enhanced the collection of gasoline, diesel, propane, and electricity consumption data for all owned vehicles and equipment. Mobile energy use accounted for 7.6 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent, representing less than 1% of VCC's total greenhouse gas emissions.

By integrating advanced vehicle technologies into both instruction and operations, VCC prepares students for careers in the low-carbon economy while demonstrating practical applications of clean transportation solutions.



### PAPER CONSUMPTION

Since 2010, VCC has reduced traditional 8.5 x 11 paper consumption by more than 90%, reflecting sustained progress in digital transformation, sustainable procurement, and resource conservation. This reduction has been supported by expanded digital workflows, reduced printing, and process improvements such as the Finance Department's transition from paper-based expense approvals to an automated digital system.

In 2019, VCC transitioned from conventional copy paper to Sugar Sheet copy paper as its predominant paper source, with limited exceptions retained where specific paper characteristics are required for operational needs. Sugar Sheet is made from sugarcane bagasse, an agricultural residue, and is a 100% tree-free alternative to conventional wood-fibre paper. VCC adopted this product several years before sugarcane paper was formally incorporated into the Province's greenhouse gas reporting methodology.

The 2025 B.C. Best Practices Methodology for Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Emissions introduced new reporting fields for sugarcane bagasse paper. Until sugarcane-specific emission factors are finalized, the Province applies proxy emission factors based on 100% recycled paper. In 2025, VCC purchased approximately 3,600 packs of copy paper, the majority of which was Sugar Sheet. Office paper accounted for 21.0 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent, representing approximately 1.7% of VCC's total offset-required emissions.

In 2017, VCC's Procurement Department established Green Purchasing Guidelines that emphasize the use of recognized environmental certifications in specifications. For example, wood products may require certifications such as FSC, SFI, PEFC, or CSA Z809. VCC also procures paper through a post-secondary sector purchasing arrangement that is reviewed annually to identify more environmentally responsible options.

Together, these initiatives demonstrate how sustainable procurement, digital transformation, and operational improvements can significantly reduce resource consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, and operating costs.



## VCC 2025 PSO Climate Change Accountability Report

### ENERGY CONSERVATION AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

As an active participant in the BC Hydro Energy Wise Network, VCC continues to engage employees and students through behaviour change campaigns that promote practical actions to reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. Since 2017, the college has delivered a series of targeted campaigns, including:

- Lights Off, Green On
- Fans and Air purifiers
- Holiday Shutdown
- Fugitive emissions, freezers and mini freezers
- Take the Stairs, *if possible*
- Bundle Up
- Space Heater Replacement
- Space Temperatures Operational Standard

With funding and coaching from the Energy Wise Network, VCC continued to expand its outreach in 2025 through two major campaigns and the development of a new operational standard for mini fridges. The Mini Fridge Efficiency campaign included an audit of approximately 110 mini fridges across both campuses, engagement with more than 20 departments, and the development of a draft operational standard to reduce phantom electricity use and encourage the purchase of energy-efficient appliances.

#### Space Heaters Campaign

VCC's Space Heaters campaign runs every year from October to February and encourages employees to use approved high-efficiency space heaters before requesting room temperature increases from Facilities Management.

Over the past decade, Facilities Management has distributed more than 190 energy-efficient heaters that use approximately 89% less electricity than conventional models. This initiative saves over 106,000 kWh of electricity each year, enough to power approximately 9 average Canadian homes for one year.

These savings avoid approximately 20,000 kg of carbon dioxide emissions annually, equivalent to driving more than 183,000 kilometres in a typical gasoline-powered vehicle.

In 2023, VCC implemented Facilities Management Operational Standard FM-01 Space Heaters to improve energy efficiency, reduce costs and emissions, and enhance occupant safety.

#### Mini Fridge Efficiency

In 2025, VCC launched a new campaign focused on mini fridges in offices and classrooms. The campaign promotes proper temperature settings, elimination of unnecessary units, and the selection of ENERGY STAR® models when replacements are needed. Supporting materials included surveys, educational communications, and the development of a new operational standard to guide future purchasing and use.

Together, these campaigns strengthen a culture of energy conservation across the college by combining employee engagement, operational standards, and practical actions that reduce costs, emissions, and wasted energy.

## EMISSIONS SUMMARY

In 2025, VCC aligned its reporting framework with the Climate Change Accountability Act by resetting its emissions baseline year to 2007, consistent with the standard established under the CleanBC initiative. CleanBC mandates province-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets of 40% by 2030, 60% by 2040, and 80% by 2050, using 2007 as the reference year. For the public sector specifically, it sets an additional target of a 50% reduction in building-related emissions by 2030.

To ensure methodological consistency and improve the accuracy of longitudinal assessments, all historical emissions data have been recalculated using the most recent emission factors embedded in the provincial Clean Government Reporting Tool. This tool standardizes GHG reporting across post-secondary institutions, health authorities, and government ministries.

These adjustments provide a more precise depiction of VCC's progress relative to provincial climate goals and enable consistent, year-over-year performance comparisons.

### Emissions Breakdown

In 2025, VCC's total greenhouse gas emissions were **1,253 tCO<sub>2</sub>e**, representing an **8% decrease** from **1,357 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2024** and a **58% reduction** from the 2007 baseline.

- Natural Gas: 809 tCO<sub>2</sub>e (65%)
- Steam: 161 tCO<sub>2</sub>e (13%)
- Electricity: 222 tCO<sub>2</sub>e (7%)
- Office Paper: 21.0 tCO<sub>2</sub>e (2%)
- Fugitive Emissions: 40.9 tCO<sub>2</sub>e (3%)

Mobile energy use was also tracked in 2025 and accounted for 7.6 tCO<sub>2</sub>e, representing less than 1% of total emissions.

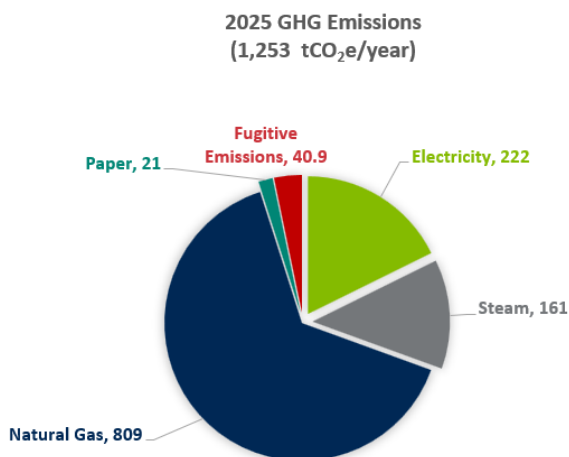


Figure 1: 2025 Emissions Breakdown

Compared with 2024 levels, VCC reduced total greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 7.7%, from 1,357 tCO<sub>2</sub>e to 1,253 tCO<sub>2</sub>e. Relative to the 2007 baseline, emissions have decreased by approximately 58%.

### VCC Carbon Neutral Emissions (tCO<sub>2</sub>e/year)

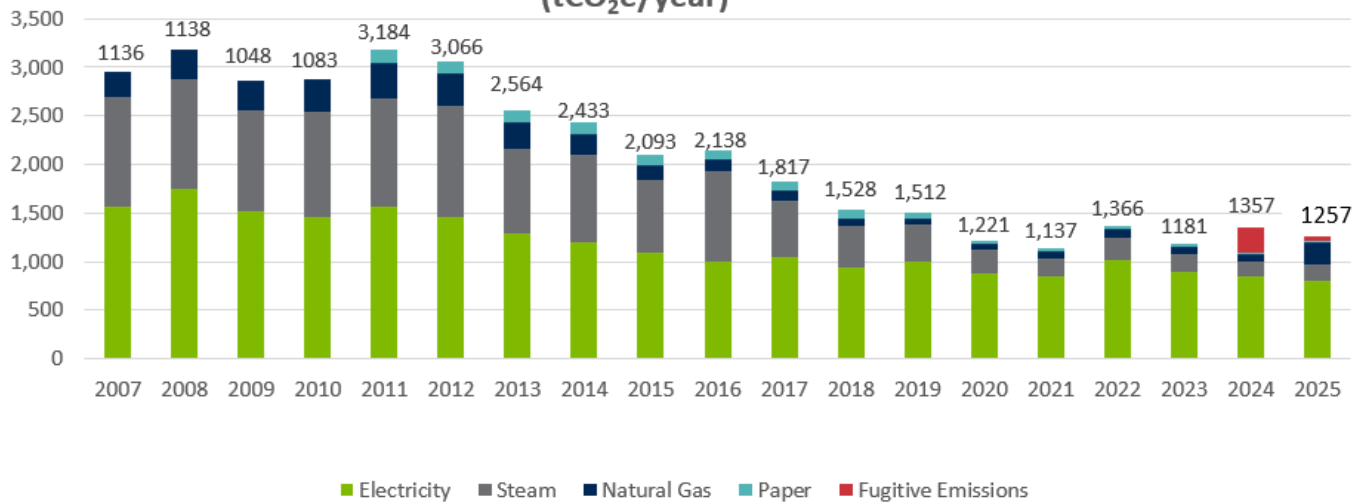


Figure 2: Historical Annual Emissions 2007-2025

Figure 2 shows that VCC’s carbon neutral emissions declined from a peak of 3,184 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2011 to 1,253 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2025. Natural gas and steam have delivered the largest reductions, while electricity-related emissions have remained comparatively stable.

Paper emissions appear beginning in 2010 because paper consumption data are not available for 2007 to 2009. Fugitive emissions appear beginning in 2024 following the expansion of refrigerant tracking. Since 2010, VCC has continued to reduce emissions through energy efficiency projects, fuel switching, sustainable procurement, and digital workflows.

## 2025 GHG EMISSIONS AND OFFSETS SUMMARY TABLE

<b>Vancouver Community College 2025 GHG Emissions and Offsets Summary</b>	
GHG emissions for the period January 1 - December 31, 2025	
Total BioCO <sub>2</sub>	21.2
Total Emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	1,274
Total Offsets (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	1,253
<b>Adjustments to Offset Required GHG Emissions Reported in Prior Years</b>	
Total Offsets Adjustment (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	-55
<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)	1,198
Offset Investment (\$)	1198 x \$25 = \$29,950

### RETIREMENT OF OFFSETS:

In accordance with the requirements of the Climate Change Accountability Act and the Carbon Neutral Government Regulation, Vancouver Community College 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 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.

## PUBLIC SECTOR LEADERSHIP

The Energy Team convenes monthly to review institutional commitments, operational guidelines, procedures, and budget allocations. These meetings help ensure that VCC remains aligned with its greenhouse gas reduction targets and increasingly incorporate behaviour change and climate adaptation initiatives to strengthen institutional resilience.

VCC continues to pursue greenhouse gas reductions through capital planning, operational standards, employee engagement, and major projects such as the Kitchen Electrification Project and the Centre for Clean Energy and Automotive Innovation, which is currently under construction at the Broadway Campus. The Kitchen Electrification Project is converting selected culinary teaching kitchens from natural gas and steam to electric equipment, with completion anticipated in 2028.

By preparing the next generation of zero-emission vehicle technicians and clean energy professionals, the Centre for Clean Energy and Automotive Innovation will play a pivotal role in advancing British Columbia's transition to a low-carbon economy and enhancing climate resilience across the province.

## CLIMATE RISK MANAGEMENT

Vancouver Community College is proactively addressing the potential impacts of climate change on its infrastructure to ensure reliability, operational efficiency, and occupant safety across its campuses. Through a comprehensive Climate Resilience Assessment of electrical and mechanical systems, VCC identified vulnerabilities associated with climate change and extreme weather events.

In collaboration with the Safety and Security Department, Facilities Management has incorporated these risks into the VCC Risk Registry to strengthen institutional resilience and improve preparedness across both campuses.

## VCC 2025 PSO Climate Change Accountability Report

### OTHER SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES

Vancouver Community College continues to advance sustainability through institutional governance, employee and student engagement, sustainable procurement, and operational improvements across both campuses. These initiatives support the objectives of the VCC Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2023–2028 and the Environmental Policy, which has guided the integration of environmental considerations into institutional decision-making for over two decades.

Established in 2022, **the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Group (ESAG)** serves as VCC’s official green team and provides strategic advice to senior leadership. Through the Small Eco Grants program, ESAG offers up to \$3,000 to support student and employee projects that advance sustainability through education, research, service, and campus operations. In the most recent funding cycle, ESAG supported a range of initiatives, including **Bee VCC project, sewing machines** for the Library’s equipment lending program, a student waste separation video, Bee Fest, the David Suzuki Butterflyway Garden, and the Sustainability Study Room at the Downtown Campus.

The college promotes circular economy principles through its **Furniture Re-Use and Re-Upholstery Program**, which extends the life of existing furniture, reduces waste, and minimizes disruption to campus operations.

To support low-carbon transportation, VCC provides **secure e-bike storage**, free charging stations, lockable battery storage, bike repair tools, and a **no-interest Bike Loan Program for employees**. Additional initiatives, including Go by Bike Week, employee workshops, and improved cycling facilities, encourage active commuting.

Cross-departmental initiatives continue to embed sustainability into daily operations. Culinary and Commercial Services have introduced **recyclable and compostable food service products**, optimized kitchen ventilation schedules, reduced water use, and expanded digital learning materials. The IT Department has implemented **screen timeout** settings and printer sleep modes to reduce electricity consumption and improve digital security.



The VCC **Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2023-2028** functions as a comprehensive roadmap designed to establish VCC as a leader in environmental stewardship within the post-secondary education sector. Acknowledging its responsibility for environmental impacts, the institution seeks, through this strategy, to systematically integrate sustainability values and practices across all organizational levels over the five-year period. Complementing this strategic framework, VCC has developed the Environmental Sustainability Strategy Implementation Workbook, a practical tool intended to facilitate the planning and execution of initiatives aligned with the strategy's objectives.

Since 1998, VCC has upheld its **Environmental Policy** designed to ensure that all institutional activities are conducted with a commitment to responsible environmental stewardship. This policy mandates the integration of environmental considerations into all planning and decision-making processes, actively supports the initiatives of the VCC Green Team, and prioritizes timely responses to emerging environmental risks and concerns.

## VCC 2025 PSO Climate Change Accountability Report

### Recycle & Waste Reduction Initiatives

VCC operates more than 160 waste stations across both campuses to collect garbage, organics, mixed paper, plastics, clean wood, and metal. Materials are consolidated and collected by Maple Leaf Disposal through the BCNET waste management program and sent for sorting and recycling.

To support the circular economy, VCC has implemented procedures for the responsible disposal of surplus assets, prioritizing reuse through BC Auction and other approved channels.

Construction waste is managed by general contractors in accordance with VCC's Contractor Guide and applicable regulatory requirements.

VCC also maintains specialized recycling programs for batteries, toner cartridges, lighting, air filters, and regulated wastes. Batteries are collected across both campuses and sent to Call2Recycle for processing. Toner cartridges are returned to Ricoh, while lighting, filters, and related maintenance materials are managed by Angus Consulting Management Limited. Medical waste, sharps, pharmaceuticals, and hazardous materials are collected and processed by Stericycle.

Together, these programs divert a wide range of materials from landfill and support VCC's commitment to responsible resource management and environmental stewardship.

### A RESILIENT AND LOW-CARBON FUTURE

This report affirms Vancouver Community College's enduring commitment to climate action, institutional transparency, and evidence-informed continuous improvement.

Looking ahead, the College will remain aligned with provincial climate objectives, while strategically investing in initiatives that advance a low-carbon and climate-resilient future.

We extend our gratitude to all readers and stakeholders for engaging with this report and for supporting VCC's collective pursuit of environmental sustainability.

Vancouver Community College

vcc.ca

Downtown campus

250 W Pender Street Vancouver, BC

Broadway campus

1155 E Broadway Vancouver, BC

Executive Sign Off:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ian Humphreys". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "I" and a long, sweeping underline.

**Signature**    **Date** May 31, 2025

Ian Humphreys VP Administration & International Development