2025 Climate Change Accountability Report

UNIVERSITY OF THE FRASER VALLEY

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Land Acknowledgment

The University of the Fraser Valley is situated on S'ólh Téméxw, the traditional lands of the Stó:lō peoples who remain present and active in the region today. We are grateful to be able to work, learn, live and play on these lands that have been kept pristine for thousands of years. To honour this relationship and in the spirit of reconciliation, UFV's Energy and Climate team along with UFV's Office of Sustainability (OoS) work to contribute to this legacy by caring for our environment and its ecosystems.

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.

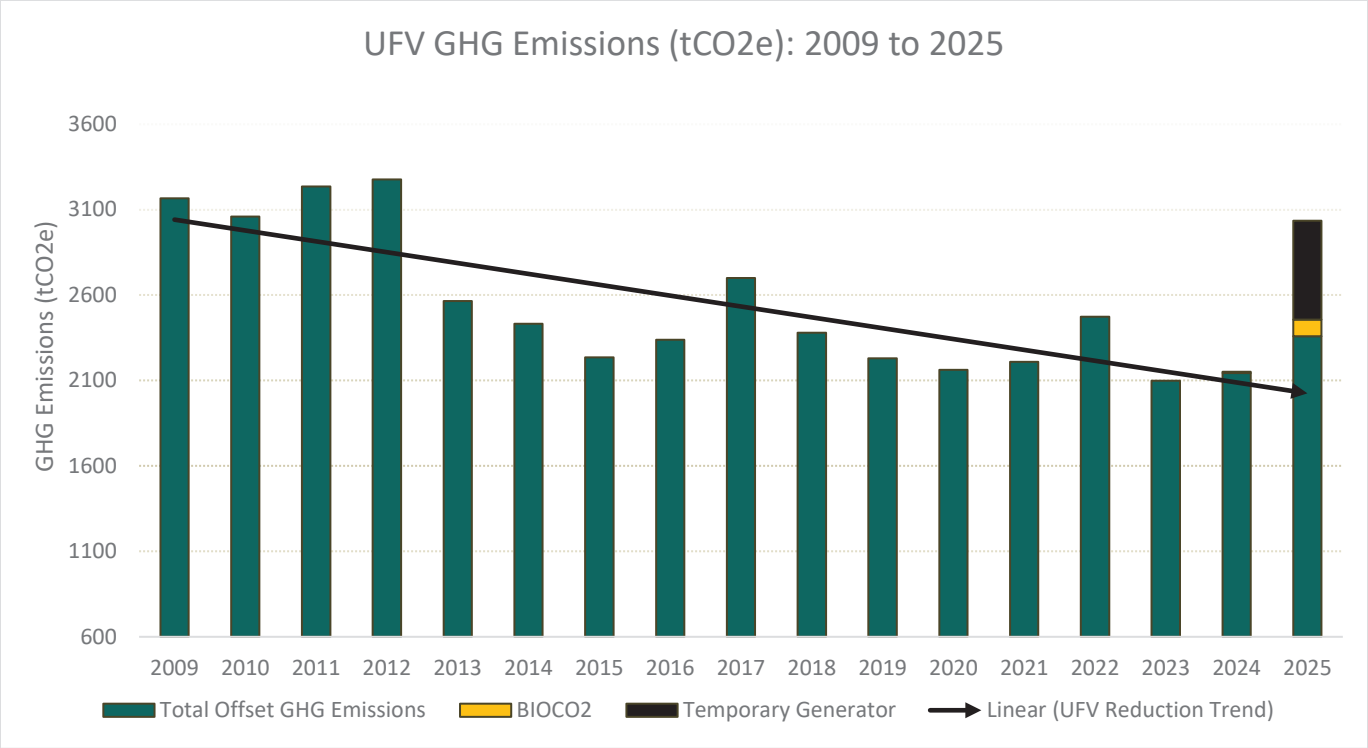
2025 Emission Overview

The carbon footprint for the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV) registered at **3037 tonnes CO2 equivalent (C02e)** emissions in 2025. The emissions UFV includes in this report are based on the scope outlined by the B.C. Carbon Neutral Government program. The scope includes electricity, natural gas, and diesel used in buildings owned and leased by UFV, gasoline and diesel used in operation of UFV's fleet, paper used for printing, and fugitive refrigerant emissions, the later of which UFV began reporting in 2024. UFV has continued to reduce its carbon emissions overall since the beginning of reporting in 2009, however in 2025 there were some unexpected events that resulted in more emissions that usual.

In August 2025, an electrical room fire caused major disruption to the campus and resulted in a temporary diesel generator on site to safely continue UFV's operations. This generator was in place from mid August to mid November and was used to power 3 of UFV's buildings. These emissions resulting from this event are highlighted separately in the charts below. There are additional influences in the 2025 emissions from the provincial energy grids. Much of the electricity generated in B.C. is reliant on the operation of hydroelectric dams. Over the past few years droughts in the province have resulted in increased need to import electricity from higher emissions sources. This may continue to impact emissions over the next few years.

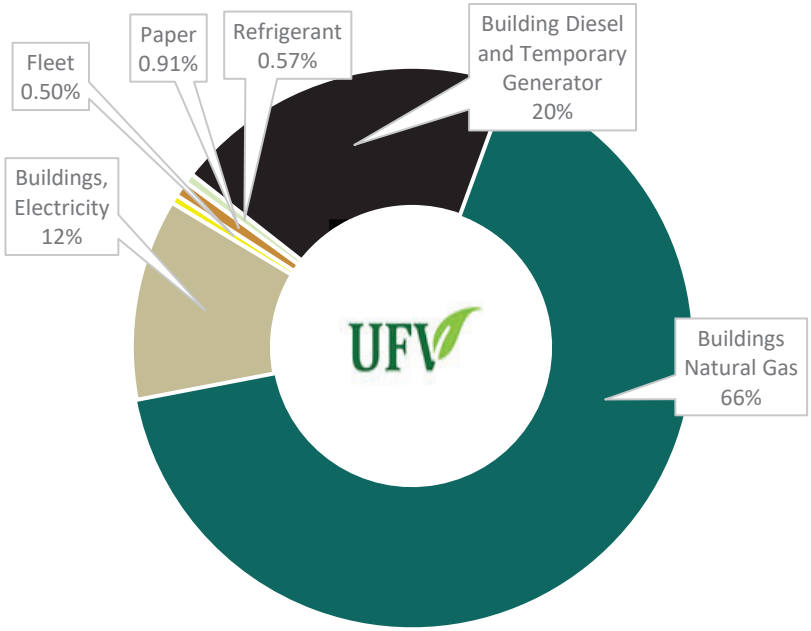
UFV aims to align with the provincial targets by reducing emissions by 50% from the 2010 baseline by 2030 and will be following the newly developed *UFV Energy and Climate Resilience Plan* to meet these targets. In 2025 there was a 6% overall reduction in carbon emissions, that are counted towards the offset amount from 2009 to 2025, however when excluding the unprecedented diesel use incurred due to the electrical room fire, there was a 26% reduction. The progress is displayed in the chart below. The values here are not normalized for weather. Therefore, changes in weather, such as years that are colder than the average can cause some of the spikes in emissions that are seen (2022). Other variations over the reporting years can be attributed to energy efficiency projects, electrification projects, and changes in UFV's building portfolio including selling, leasing, purchasing, and construction of new buildings. Additionally,

the emissions from different energy sources can change over time as technology changes on larger power grids. For example, the natural gas grid has been implementing more renewable gas projects and have seen decreases in their emissions.



The 2025 GHG emissions distribution:

- Natural gas used in buildings: 66%
- Electricity used in buildings: 12%
- Fleet combustion: 0.5%
- Paper consumption: 0.91 %
- Refrigerant: 0.57%
- Temporary Generator: 20%



Emission Reductions: Actions and Plans

UFV has prioritized reducing energy consumption, costs and environmental impacts, and being able to respond to climate change events that could impact services and the wellbeing of employees, students, and broader communities. In 2025, the University implemented projects that support and advance these priorities. The rest of this section provides an overview of the main campus-wide initiatives that form UFV's strategy for climate change mitigation and adaptation. Behaviour change campaigns are also done to help contribute towards GHG reduction goals and are outlined in the other sustainability initiatives section of this report.

Overarching Plans and Actions

- **Energy Management and Climate Resilience Plan:** UFV has developed the Energy and Climate Resilience Plan, completed early 2025. This plan aims to align UFV with provincial GHG emission targets as well as establishing, energy conservation and climate resilience targets; and identify specific pathways that will be taken to achieve these targets, including annualized capital projects. UFV is working to begin projects based on the priority areas identified in this plan to mitigate emissions and create resilience to climate change.
- **Sustainability Action Pathway (Plan):** The Sustainability Action plan maps out UFV goals and direction to align with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. It will be working in tandem with the Energy and Climate plan outlined above.
- **Sustainability Policy:** The UFV Sustainability policy (est. October 2023) identifies sustainability as a priority for the university. The policy provides UFV's common understanding of what sustainability means. It is a framework for integrating sustainability into decision-making, university practices, initiatives, and education.
- **UFV Energy and Climate Mitigation Committee (ECMC):** The purpose of this committee is to coordinate the creation and successful implementation of university-wide energy and GHG emissions reduction policies, plans, and best practices. The committee is still in the early stages of development and is expected to be reengaged largely in 2026 with plans to implement ISO 50001 certification.
- **Metering Gap Analysis:** This analysis involved a review of the condition and locations of current utility meters on campus and identified opportunities where new meters can be installed. Meters help to identify where natural gas, electricity and water is being used on campus so that new projects can target the highest consuming areas. New metering can also help inspire behavior change and quickly flag issues in equipment performance. An implementation plan was under development during 2025 with new meters to be

installed in 2026 and will be completed alongside ISO50001 certification to follow best practices. This project also involves the integration new data analytics tools to be used by UFV staff.

- **Design Standards:** UFV has been working throughout 2025 to develop design standards that will include direction for energy efficiency and climate resilience measures. Design standards identify the primary considerations to guide the design of new construction and renovation projects at UFV
- **Collaboration and Partnerships:** In 2025, UFV once again participated in the FortisBC Energy Specialist Program, BC Hydro Energy Manager Program as well as Energy Wise Network led by the BC Hydro and FortisBC. These programs look to help organizations foster a culture of strategic energy and carbon management within the organization. Partnerships are also formed internally between different departments on campus.

Stationary Sources

Building operations are responsible for a significant portion of UFV's total GHG emissions. The Energy and Climate Resiliency Plan described in the previous section guides UFV's strategic approach will ensure that UFV effectively addresses its emissions from building operations, fostering a more sustainable and climate-resilient campus.

Previous projects such as the PV Solar Panels (Building G) and the solar thermal panels (Lá:lem te Baker) continue to operate effectively and reduce the need for electricity from the grid and its related emissions.

UFV has an annualized budgeting plan to upgrade existing equipment, implement energy efficiency measures and optimize processes to reduce emissions and energy consumption. The major projects that were completed and planned for in 2025 are as follows:

- **Roof-top Unit Replacements - Abbotsford, Building A + K:** Existing gas-fired RTUs were replaced with equivalent air-source heat pump (ASHP) type RTUs in early 2025 (Building A) and early 2026 (Building K) following study and design work in 2022-2024. This reduces the reliance on natural gas use and reduces GHG emissions.
- **Energy Efficiency Audits - Energy Conservation Measures - Door Seals, Insulation, Hot Water Re-Circulation:** Through the Fortis Rental Apartment & Accommodation Efficiency Program, UFV completed an energy assessment report on each of its buildings to highlight current energy consumption and infrastructure conditions. Energy conservation measures were implemented as a result including adding domestic hot water re-circulation demand controls which change the runtimes of equipment from 24h/day to 1-

3 hours per day, saving significant energy. Piping insulation, new seals around doorways, were also completed. The projects will save an estimated 29.7tonnes CO2e/year!

- **Dedicated Heat Recovery Chillers (DHRC) - Abbotsford, Buildings A, B & D:** In 2022 an energy study was conducted to identify gas-saving opportunities by interconnecting the heating and chilled water systems of three buildings to create the start of a campus district energy system. Steps were taken during 2023 and 2024 to prepare for completing the detailed design and the project was installed in late 2025 and is now undergoing measurement and verification work.
- **Gas Absorption Heat Pump (GAHP) - Chilliwack, TTC:** The GAHPs have been operational since October 2024 and have resulted in significant gas and GHG savings in 2025. The technology provides an efficient means for supplying domestic hot water for the building as well as supplemental cooling for nearby classrooms at the Trades and Technology Center. There are six heating and one combined heating/supplemental cooling GAHP units. This project has been set up as an educational facility for property managers, engineers, and contractors interested in GAHP technology and can be used a teaching tool for courses at UFV. This project was done in collaboration with Fortis BC as part of their GAHP pilot program.
- **Construction of a New Student Housing - Abbotsford:** The new student residence building was substantially completed in 2025 with some students moving in to the space in December. Full occupancy of the building is expected in late 2026. The building meets the requirements of Energy Step Code 4 and LEED Gold. These standards signify a high level of energy efficiency and sustainability. During 2023 the design process occurred using an Integrative project delivery (IPD) approach to promote energy efficiency and sustainable practices throughout the project construction and operation.
- **Expansion of the Dining Hall – Abbotsford (Cover Photo):** Like the New Student Housing, the expansion of the current dining hall went through the design phase in 2023 using an integrated design process. The dining hall re-opened its operations in September 2025. Key energy efficient features include Sun shades and windows designed to limit solar glare and heat loading during the hottest parts of the year, while letting in natural light, use of mass timber and GUL Portland cement to lower the building's carbon footprint compared to traditional building materials, Energy Star certified cooking equipment and use of LED lights and daylight/occupancy sensors to automatically control lights.
- **University-Wide Solar Assessment:** During 2024-2025 UFV hired a consultant to assist in completing a campus wide assessment for new solar projects to identify areas on campus that would be suitable to having solar energy generation. UFV will use the results to align potential new projects with campus upgrades, budgeting constraints, grant opportunities,

and energy goals. The findings from the assessment also highlighted what upgrades are needed for projects to be installed. The goal of additional solar projects would be to help generate low emission electricity on campus.

- **District Energy Planning:** During 2025 UFV was engaged with a consultant to conduct a feasibility study that will determine if a district energy system would be suitable for the UFV's Abbotsford campus and what the implementation strategy would be. Results will be provided to UFV in 2026 and will be used to determine UFV's best decarbonization approach moving forward. District energy systems reduce the reliance on having buildings to each have their own individual boiler units and allows energy to be drawn from lower emissions sources such as geothermal or heat recovery from sewer.
- **LED Lighting Upgrades:** Some small lighting retrofits happened in Buildings A and Q at the Chilliwack campus as well as some office spaces in Building B (Abbotsford). These retrofits transition UFV to state-of-the-art LED lighting. LED lighting offers numerous benefits, including reduced energy consumption, longer lifespan, and improved lighting quality, contributing to a more comfortable and productive learning, and working environment for our students, faculty, and staff. Additionally, in 2025 detailed lighting audits occurred that helped prepare a full inventory of lighting fixtures, and controls (including outdoor lighting), understanding implications related to safety, and identify new opportunities for energy savings. UFV plans to continue with some major building level lighting retrofits in 2026.

Mobile Sources

UFV has a small fleet of vehicles, mostly used by the Logistics Department for transporting items between campuses, and by the Facilities teams. There is also a small amount of vehicle use associated with the Trades' departments activities. There is a mix of passenger vehicles, vans, and offroad utility vehicles that are a mix of electric and gas powered.

Note: electricity used in vehicles cannot be explicitly recorded at this time. Most of the electricity use is accounted for within the building energy use as the electric vehicles are usually charged on campus.

UFV saw a decrease in fleet related emissions in 2026 largely due to Logistic department's efforts to consolidate trips so that there are less frequent trips to deliver shipments between UFV's different campuses. UFV in the past has also had the University's president's car within it's fleet, however, with a change in leadership this is no longer the case.

EV Charging Stations:

Continued installation and maintenance of EV Chargers is part of a broader effort to reduce scope 3 GHG emissions and foster a culture of sustainability throughout the entire university community. In 2025 UFV saw an installation of a fleet specific charger to ensure reliable charging for UFV's fleet vehicle.

UFV is preparing for continued expansion of the charging network through EV-ready stalls at the new student housing building. This means that electric conduits were pre-installed in the parking lot so that new stations can be easily installed when EV demand increases or additional resources are available.

In addition to the UFV owned EV Chargers, the University has partnered with BC Hydro to greatly expand the available public charging stations on campus through BC Hydro owned stations through installations of Level 2 and Fast Chargers on both the main Campuses. Now a total of 37 EVs can be charging at one time across the UFV campuses!

Note: During 2025 UFV had to temporarily close some of the chargers for several months in relation to the electrical room fire.

Fleet Management Plan: UFV worked during 2024-2025 with a consultant to develop a fleet EV Ready Plan that provides a framework for transitioning the university's vehicle fleet to electric. This plan includes understanding what vehicles would be suitable as electric, both from a technical and economic perspective, and determines new charging infrastructure that is needed. The is now complete with continued internal discussion to decide the next steps for implementation.

In addition to the EV Ready Plan, UFV plans to develop an EV Policy, a Fees Schedule, and a Responsibilities guide, to guide future EV infrastructure development.

Paper Consumption

UFV's GHG emissions associated with paper consumption are less than 1 percent of the total reported emissions. The paper consumption reported is based on the paper used in printers, at UFV and does not include notepads, envelopes, or paper sold in the bookstore. UFV Printing Services has adopted environmentally friendly practices in its printing operations and has made a dedicated commitment to using paper with a recycled content. UFV continues to purchase most of it's paper with a 30% recycled content or with Forest Stewardship Council certification. Additionally, by actively transitioning from paper-based to digital workflows, this downward trend in paper-related GHG emissions is expected to continue in the future.

Refrigerants

With guidance from the Carbon Neutral Government Program, UFV will now be putting a higher emphasis on tracking and understanding refrigerant use on campus moving forward. Refrigerants are found in any piece of equipment that provides cooling including air conditioning units, heat pumps, and small refrigerators in kitchens and labs.

To determine refrigerant use, the number of non-maintained pieces of equipment were estimated (such as staff and lab fridges), and a leak rate factor determined through the Carbon Neutral Government Program was applied. Refrigerant used in regularly maintained equipment gets reported when levels need to be topped up. This allows the fugitive, or leaked refrigerant to be calculated based on the amount that is refilled.

The main source of refrigerant emissions were larger pieces of equipment including air conditioner, walk in fridge, and display units that are regularly maintained and were topped up with refrigerant due to leaks. Refrigerant has a large global warming potential, so it is important to quickly address any leaks and keep units maintained.

2025 GHG Emissions and Offsets Summary Table

University of the Fraser Valley 2025 GHG Emissions and Offsets

GHG emissions for the period January 1 - December 31, 2025	
Total $BioCO_2$	97.2
Total Emissions (tCO_2e)	3037
Total Offsets (tCO_2e)	2939
Adjustments to Offset Required GHG Emissions Reported in Prior Years	
Total Offsets Adjustment (tCO2e)	17.4
Grand Total Offsets for the 2025 Reporting Year	
Grand Total Offsets (tCO2e) to be retired for 2025 Reporting Year	2956
Offset Investment ($25 per tCO2e)	$73,900.00
Offset Investment ($25 per tCO2e) including taxes (5% gst)	$77,595.00

Note: $BioCO_2$ (those released from the combustion or decomposition of biomass) are not currently included in the emissions that are required to be offset by UFV through the Carbon Neutral Government Program. The rise of $BioCO_2$ in the past few year's report can be attributed to Fortis BC allocating more renewable natural gas to it's customers supply and due to renewable fuel blends used in fleet and generators. The refrigerants reported are included in the amount to be offset.

Note: Prior year adjustments shown here are a result of some fuel and paper purchases being missed during the 2024 reporting period that have now been added.

Retirement of Offsets

In accordance with the requirements of the Climate Change Accountability Act and the Carbon Neutral Government Regulation, The University of the Fraser Valley (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 Leadership

Climate Risk Management

The University has begun the process to identify and respond to current and future climate change related risk.

- UFV's recently completed Energy and Climate Resilience Plan has identified climate-related risks, and actions that will be taken to reduce energy consumption and GHG emissions and reduce climate vulnerability that may result in service disruptions.
- UFV's Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee to works to identify current and future risks with the Director of Energy and Sustainability sitting on the committee to help guide decisions in relation to climate change on the health and wellbeing of staff, students, and faculty. This includes forest fires, flooding, extreme heat, and extreme weather.
- UFV Procurement teams have been involved in the development of a Sustainable Procurement Policy through BCNET. The policy will integrate environmental, social, and economic considerations into the procurement process and will be designed to ensure that the goods, services, and work procured by the university will have minimal negative impacts on the environment and society.
- An Outdoor Space Plan is under development for UFV campuses. The plan seeks to balance beauty, functionality, and sustainability in all its forms (social, environmental, economic) in UFV's outdoor spaces. It includes many aspects seeking to address climate risks including water management and vegetation growth.

Other Sustainability Initiatives

UFV has implemented several actions to support the advancement of sustainability more generally through UFV's Office of Sustainability:

- Hosted March for Sustainability, a series of over 30 coordinated events, co-hosted by various UFV departments and groups throughout the month of March to raise awareness and address sustainability topics such as climate change, biodiversity, EDI, and gender equity.
- Facilitated a Campus-wide Eco Challenge to encourage students and staff to lessen their impact on actions related to food, water, waste, nature, community, and more. This challenge is run through https://drawdown.ecochallenge.org/ and promoted by the Office of Sustainability. 89 members of the UFV community signed up and committed to actions

that lowered their carbon footprint, avoided waste, encouraged mental wellbeing and much more.

- Hosted other events and campaigns throughout the year including Plastic Free July, Fall GoByBike Week, and Sustainable Gift Wrapping.
- Expanded the Sustainable Office Certification program which has UFV departments complete sustainability audits and a list of actions to take to boost a sustainability score. Various sustainability practices, including ways to reduce energy consumption, determines their score and a final designation of bronze, silver, gold or platinum. The program began in 2023 with offices working to improve upon their original designation and new departments signing up. The Sustainable Events Certification also continued in 2025, that brings sustainability to the forefront of event planning at UFV, event holders can complete a checklist, opting for sustainable actions to complete during preparation, day of, or post-event.
- Continued to publish a monthly newsletter, develop social media content, and an Annual Sustainability Report with the goal of educating staff and students on sustainability initiatives and sharing tips and resources for sustainability practices including energy conservation. The Office of Sustainability website also saw a large redesign in 2024 and now has the most up to date information and resources available

  https://www.ufv.ca/sustainable-ufv/.
- During 2024-2025 a new pollinator garden was established to replace a nutrient deficient, unused grass area at the Abbotsford campus. This is the second pollinator focused garden at UFV and is one of numerous gardens at UFV that will be used as a teaching space for biology, conservation, biodiversity, and sustainability. The garden supports native pollinators on campus and contributes to a more climate resilient campus due to added vegetation that can help with improved soil drainage, cooling, and air quality.
- 2025 saw the continuation of an annual waste auditing and work to development of a new waste management plan.
- A Changemaking team was created aimed to empower students and educators to contribute innovative, evidence-informed solutions to complex problems. This is largely done through curriculum development that addresses topics of sustainability, innovation, and equitability in UFV's courses. The team works closely with the Office of Sustainability to connect ideas.

Executive Sign-off:

April 24, 2026

Signature | Date

Nicole Adams | CFO & VP Administration

Name (please print) | Title