



City of Port Moody

Interim Report

2021



Executive summary

During the 2020/21 school year the City of Port Moody provided generous sponsorship to the BC Sustainable Energy Association's (BCSEA) Cool It! Climate Leadership Training Program (The Cool It! Program) supporting the delivery of the program in up to 8 classrooms in the city.

Ultimately, the Cool It! Program delivered workshops to **5 classes**, reaching **122 students** who collectively completed more than **900 actions** focused on climate change and sustainability.

Disruptions to schools and individual class schedules in the City of Port Moody due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic impacted the ability to deliver programming – especially in the early months of 2021. BCSEA and the City of Port Moody agreed to deliver the remaining balance of 2020/21 funded programming (i.e. three additional classrooms) during the Fall 2021 semester. A final report covering the performance of all classes will be provided at the conclusion of the Fall 2021 semester.

In response to COVID-19, BCSEA redeveloped the Cool It! Program so that it could be delivered online through virtual conferencing technology. We also restructured our take-home climate so challenge to ensure it could be completed safely by students and their families. We developed a new Climate Challenge Card, which encouraged students to choose from a variety of actions that would reduce their carbon and ecological footprints while encouraging further investigation and reflection about climate change and sustainability.

The Climate Challenge Card gathered both qualitative and quantitative data on student actions. Through energy conserving and emissions saving actions at home, along with research and inquiry activities, we expect the City of Port Moody student actions to result in the estimated annual savings of a total of **42.2 tonnes** of carbon dioxide emissions (CO₂e) if they commit to maintain their actions completed during the program for one year. Overall, students did a fantastic job, we had high participation in both workshops and the challenge despite teachers and students facing many barriers with a new mode of learning.

The revised Cool It! Climate Leadership Training Program

The workshops

Instead of in-class workshops, BCSEA delivered virtual workshops via videoconferencing platforms. Each participating class completed either one longer (60 minute) or two shorter (30-40 minute) workshops with one of our trained environmental educators. In the workshops students learnt about the fundamentals of climate change science, debunked common climate myths and misconceptions, watched videos on the scientific processes of climate change, practiced a life cycle analysis of an everyday item, explored the causes, impacts and solutions to climate change and learnt about taking climate action with their friends and families and in their local communities. After four weeks, our educator had a follow up session with students to share their successes and challenges and congratulate them on their results.










The challenge

During the 2020/21 school year we developed a version of our climate challenge that was appropriate for students and their families in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. We wanted our challenge to enable students to be self-sufficient in case their parents were juggling working from home; for the actions to be fun and informative; for the actions to have zero cost to account for additional household financial pressures during COVID-19; and for actions to be appropriate for social-distancing and isolation measures.

The Climate Challenge Card was provided to students as an interactive PDF document that could be used digitally or printed out and completed by hand. The card contained 25 actions. When completed, students checked off the corresponding square and entered answers where required. We provided a 15-page supplementary booklet which offered additional facts and information about each category and action, tips, and advice on how to complete the action and opportunities to for optional further research and investigation with additional resources and information.

Traditionally, the Cool It! Program focuses on gathering quantitative data through actions, measuring outcomes in carbon dioxide emissions savings. This version of the challenge also had a range of actions with an associated carbon factor, allowing us to measure estimated CO₂e reductions. Other actions yielded qualitative results through individual reflection, personal investigation, and research.

The final Climate Challenge Card developed and used in 2020/21:

CLIMATE CHALLENGE					Name: <input type="text"/>		
					Teacher: <input type="text"/>		
					Parent/Guardian signature: <input type="text"/>		
1. FOOD		2. HOME ENERGY		3. WASTE		4. TRANSPORT	
5. WATER		6. GO GREEN		7. RESEARCH + REFLECTION			
1.1 TASTY LEFTOVERS Re-use leftovers 3 times later: 1. <input type="text"/> 2. <input type="text"/> 3. <input type="text"/>		4.1 CAR SMART Learn about cars and how to reduce your GHG's and complete one of the actions in the information page below. 		6.1 GO BIO Make a biodegradable cleaning or bath product I made: <input type="text"/>		7.1 GAMING FOR NATURE Watch two videos or do two of the games and complete the actions in the information page below. 	
7.3 COMMUNITY EXPLORATION Map your community and think of ways to make it more sustainable and complete the actions in the information page below.		6.2 GREEN YARD CARE Reduce pollution by planting a tree or greening your yard I did: <input type="text"/>		3.1 REUSE AND REPAIR Reuse/swap/repair/upcycle instead of throwing stuff away or buying new I did: <input type="text"/>		7.4 LOCAL ACTION Our sponsors have chosen a special action for you, check 7.4 to see what it is! and complete one of the actions in the information page below.	
6.3 GROW YOUR OWN Plant garden veggies, balcony or windowsill plants I planted: <input type="text"/>		3.2 DIY CRAFTING Make home-made, upcycled gifts, decorations, cards, or toys I made: <input type="text"/> from: <input type="text"/>		7.5 FOOTPRINT Use an online carbon footprint calculators to see what GHG you produce daily My carbon footprint is: <input type="text"/>		1.2 MEATLESS MONDAYS Have two meat-free Mondays (or another day) I ate the following two meat free meals: 1. <input type="text"/> 2. <input type="text"/>	
7.6 CLIMATE REFLECTION Write a short reflection on the future and complete the actions in the information page below. 		2.2 COOL DRYER Hang-dry your laundry each week to save energy 		2.3 STAY SNUG Turn down the heat in your house and shut your curtains four times each week 		4.2 TRAVEL SMART Swap the car for public transit, walking or biking I will go to: <input type="text"/> by: <input type="text"/>	
5.2 SHORTER SHOWERS Aim for at least 4 showers of 4 minutes or less My showers are <input type="text"/> minutes shorter now.		7.7 YOUR OWN IDEA Come up with your own activity for reducing our environmental footprint I did: <input type="text"/>		7.8 LIFE CYCLES Sketch a life cycle of a household item and complete the actions in the information page below. 		3.3 HOME WASTE Do an audit of your garbage bins at home and complete the actions in the information page below. 	
		2.1 EARTH HOUR Have an Earth Hour at home and turn off all lights and electronics 		1.3 LOVE VEGGIES Give up eating beef and lamb or go vegetarian for a week <input type="checkbox"/> vegetarian <input type="checkbox"/> didn't eat beef/lamb		2.4 ENERGY SOURCES Find out which energy you use at home and complete the actions in the information page below. 	

City of Port Moody funded workshops

Program Results

The City of Port Moody enabled BCSEA to deliver 5 Cool It! workshops to 122 grade 4 to 7 students in the City of Port Moody during the 2020/21 school year (see table on next page for additional information). The 4-week challenge encouraged students to perform actions at home, resulting in an estimated total reduction of 42.2 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions (tCO₂e).

City of Port Moody workshop summary:



5 classes



122 students



939 actions



42.2 GHG
savings (tCO₂e)

Overall, the classes did a fantastic job particularly given the challenges facing students and teachers through this school year as a result of COVID-19. Overall engagement with the Climate Challenge was strong – with all five classes participating the Climate Challenge component of the program. Three classes recorded over 200 actions each – with the winning class recording more than 300. These performances are well above the program-wide engagement levels with the Climate Challenge and a sign of really strong commitment to the program from classes in Port Moody.

Feedback from teachers and environmental educators was generally very positive and all classes reported high engagement and satisfaction with the workshop component of the program. Collectively students in Port Moody classes completed 939 actions related to climate change, sustainability or further research and independent investigation. A breakdown of class performance on the next page.

City of Port Moody workshop details:

School name	Teacher name	Grade	Class size	# Cards returned	Return Rate (%)	Total squares completed	Actions completed (%)	GHG totals per class
Mountain Meadows Elementary	Lyndsay Abdou	4	26	18	69%	235	36%	11.0
Pleasantide Elementary	Holly Steinson	3/4	22	6	27%	77	14%	3.4
École Moody Middle School of the Arts	Dora Turje	6/7	23	8	35%	66	11%	3.6
Heritage Mountain Elementary	Wendy Pollock	4/5	26	24	92%	245	38%	10.9
Mountain Meadows Elementary	Corianne Lange	4/5	25	19	76%	316	51%	13.4
Totals			122	75	60%	939	30%	42.2

A summary of student actions

1.1 Tasty Leftovers	70	1.2 Meat Free	55	1.3 Love Veggies	49	2.1 Earth Hour	45	2.2 Cool Dryer	43
2.3 Stay Snug	46	2.4 Energy Sources	23	3.1 Reuse and Repair	47	3.2 DIY Crafting	50	3.3 Home waste	30
4.1 Car Smart	23	4.2 Travel Smart	56	5.1 Cool Laundry	59	5.2 Short Showers	59	6.1 Go Bio	32
6.2 Green Yard Care	47	6.3 Grow Your Own	53	7.1 Gaming for Nature	24	7.2 Climate Action	21	7.3 Community exploration	15
7.4 Local Action	23	7.5 Carbon Footprint	17	7.6 Climate Reflection	13	7.7 Your Own Idea	25	7.8 Life Cycles	13

Total actions

939

Student climate action ideas (Individual / City of Port Moody)

- Make electric cars cheaper
- Build more public transit
- Make meals from scratch
- Build more clean energy sources
- Separate garbage
- Started shopping at only local stores
- Encourage all students to bike to school
- Eat less meat
- Use LED lights
- Install bulletin boards with climate news
- Consult with Indigenous people and listen to their ideas
- Walk to things within 1km of my house
- Protect trees and plant as many as you can
- Make a garden
- Install solar energy
- Collect rainwater and preserve water
- Ask school about solar panels
- Try not to use power and upcycle lot

Student and Teacher Recognition and Rewards

BCSEA rewarded the hard work and dedication of students and teachers who did their best to complete the 4-week program. We rewarded top performing students and classes with e-gift cards and other small gifts such as seedling packets donated from West Coast seeds. We also offered random prize draws to encourage students to submit their cards no matter how many activities they completed. We are also sending personal thank you notes to all teachers who achieved over 75% return rate, or who filled in our teacher survey.

Acknowledgement of the City of Port Moody's sponsorship and support

BCSEA is grateful for the continued support from funders like the City of Port Moody who have made climate change education programming possible in their community. The City of Port Moody was acknowledged for their support of the Cool It! Program in the following ways:

- The City of Port Moody logo was featured on the Climate Change Card
- The City of Port Moody logo is featured on the sponsor section of the Cool It! webpage <http://www.bcsea.org/cool-it>
- Presenters acknowledged the support of the City of Port Moody during workshops and during the follow-up sessions
- Emails to teachers and schools in the region acknowledging the City of Port Moody's support

The BCSEA would like to thank the City of Port Moody for its partnership in achieving the shared goals of increasing awareness of climate change and energy conservation, and for making real behaviour change possible for BC students and their families to conserve and reduce their climate impacts. Thank you for sticking with us through a unique and challenging school year!