

Developing
Opportunities for
Sustainable Operations



2016/2017 UFV
Report on
Sustainability

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Letter of Commitment to Sustainability



Letter of Commitment to Sustainability
April 20, 2017

Globally, there is an overwhelming consensus that climate change poses a serious threat to our environment today and into our future. The University of the Fraser Valley (UFV) intends to mitigate its negative environmental impact that contributes to climate change, and the degradation of our natural environment.

Each member of the UFV community has a role to play in this effort.

We must continue to encourage dialogue, develop ideas, and increase innovation aimed at the discovery of solutions to the environmental problems we face, and in some instances, the problems we continue to create.

UFV is committed to modelling a more sustainable campus and broadcasting leadership in environmental sustainability for our students, staff and faculty. UFV further engages-in and fosters sustainable development within its local communities. We are committed to harnessing creativity in the development of a healthier campus life which supports the well-being of all our students, staff and faculty. UFV does this by:

1. Prioritizing learning everywhere
2. Committing to flexibility and responsiveness in the face of rapidly changing challenges
3. Collaborating with various people and places
4. Developing local and global citizenship
5. Integrating experiential learning

UFV has made significant strides in recent years to reduce its operational impact on the environment, a few impactful initiatives include, but are not limited to: a dedication to green building design and construction, energy efficiency upgrades, monitoring of environmental metrics, reduction of CO₂ emissions, reduction of paper consumption, and the development of a more streamlined approach to waste management. UFV will continue to expand its scope and detail of work dedicated to improving sustainability on its campuses.

Sustainability at UFV is a critical and necessary focus for a more sustainable future; a future in which UFV's examples and teachings provide solutions to problems on its campuses and within its communities. Students, faculty and staff will over time develop a greater understanding of the complex challenges related to sustainability, and they will have the ability to take these learnings with them into the different communities their lives may take them to.

Together, we are creating that future. I am proud of UFV's commitment to sustainability, the strides UFV has taken, and the path ahead that we are developing. I look forward to supporting an increased dedication to sustainability and environmental stewardship and to work diligently with a variety of diverse stakeholders to solidify UFV's position as a green community leader.

A blue ink signature of Mark Goudsblom, written in a cursive style.

Mark Goudsblom
Director of Facilities and Project Management

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Who We Are

The University of the Fraser Valley (UFV) continued to develop its commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship 2016-2017 with another successful round of campaigns focused on reducing negative environmental impacts of our operations and increasing energy efficiency. UFV as a post-secondary institute has been an important centre for the development of the Fraser Valley over the last 40+ years and now serves 15,000 students annually. As such, UFV's impact stretches far beyond the business community, by shaping students as they enter into society with new skillsets, ideas, and expectations. In an effort to better serve our students and the community abroad, UFV refreshed its approach to the development, promotion, and support of sustainability initiatives.



A number of volunteers wrap up the 2016 Waste Audit: [Left to Right] Mark Goudsblom, Director of Facilities, Blair McFarlane, Energy Manager, Pat Harrison, Biology Faculty, Lisa Dekker, Administrative Assistant, Facilities, Travis Gingerich, Sustainable Coordinator Assistant, Sheldon Marche, Associate Director of Building Systems, David Shayler, Manager of Janitorial.

Our Mission

SustainableUFV aims to guide UFV in conducting all activities in a manner that demonstrates management accountability and promotes responsible stewardship of social, economic, and environmental issues. Achieved by:

1. Helping to define sustainability in the vision, values, and outcomes at UFV
2. Offering recommendations with regards to sustainability to various departments based on best practices.
3. Providing information on future trends and options as well as seminars and forums for discussion on sustainability across the institute.
4. Collaborating with Facilities, Dana Hospitality, Campus Planning, and key student groups on campus to promote sustainability initiatives.
5. Consolidating all department and organizational plans into a summary report to create awareness of how UFV is advancing sustainability.
6. Promoting involvement and commitment to sustainability as a core value of UFV.

Overview

The report on sustainability is intended to be a transparent reporting of the environmental footprint of the University of the Fraser Valley’s operations. It includes the work being done at the core campuses in Abbotsford, Chilliwack, and Aerospace to the west of Abbotsford.

This report is for internal leadership and staff, as well as students – both current and prospective - to understand the University’s operational impacts. It is also intended to reach out to the general public to increase awareness of the work the University is undertaking to become a regional leader in sustainability.

The Centre for Sustainability witnessed numerous changes at UFV in 2016 including the restructuring of the advisory committee, comprised of three facilities personnel, one faculty, one student, and a member of the Faculty and Staff Association (FSA). The former Sustainability Coordinator Assistant (SCA, student position) Alyssa Bougie graduated and moved on from the role. The Facilities Department continued their support for the position and hired Travis Gingerich, a geography student, who immediately put his appetite for environmental stewardship to work. Facilities hired an Energy Manager, Blair McFarlane, to oversee energy efficiency projects and initiatives, the SCA, and sustainability campaigns. Patrick Harrison, known to many at UFV and throughout the community for his lasting work on sustainability as Chair of the Centre for Sustainability (CFS), maintained an integral voice in all things sustainable at UFV. The Director of Facilities, Mark Goudsblom, and Associate Director of Building Systems Sheldon Marche continued to serve the advisory committee with unique perspectives and a wealth of experience. Kim Nickel from the FSA also joined the ranks on the advisory committee, providing a perspective and voice from UFV staff. The changes and shifts in structure of the Centre for Sustainability created numerous opportunities for the leadership group to excel, excite and motivate students, staff and faculty to reduce their environmental impact while on campus, as well as in their home communities.

Campus Vital Statistics

- 24 core buildings
- 92,835m² of facility space
- 2 LEED Gold buildings (18,358m²)
- 17,778 students
- 1,456 faculty & staff

*Figures do not include Online or Chandigarh, India

2016/2017 Goals

The goals set in 2016/2017 were as follows:

- Improve waste management, using Waste Audit results as a guide to pinpoint key areas
- Reduce energy consumption through behavioral campaigns
- Increase recognition and involvement of SustainableUFV on campus
- Refine availability and practicality of sustainability communications
- Increase tracking of sustainability metrics

Initiatives

Culture Change

The University has grown significantly in the last 10 years from its regional college roots, increasing instructional hours by 33%, creating 19% more floor space, and welcoming 18% more full time students into the classrooms during that time period. While the University has expanded, so has the environmental footprint of the institution. In an effort to become a regional leader in environmental sustainability, the University created the Energy Manager position to drive positive change and growth in the areas of energy efficiency, sustainability and outreach. With a full time position dedicated to sustainability, the University has a consistent figurehead to push forward the campaigns, initiatives, projects and vision of the SustainableUFV team and the Facilities Department.

Rebranding

Prior to summer of 2016, there were several groups affiliated with the Centre for Sustainability. These included: GreenUFV, Students for Environmental Advocacy (SEA), the UFV Centre for Sustainability, and the UFV Green Team. With so many bodies working toward the same mission, the sustainability advisory committee decided that a more concise brand should be developed to bind all these bodies together. *SustainableUFV* was chosen to encompass the values of the aforementioned groups, increasingly incorporating the Triple Bottom Line (social, economic, and environmental sustainability), compared to previous groups that were solely environmentally focused. SustainableUFV was born and the SCA was first tasked with developing a new logo and brand in collaboration with MarCom, as seen in Figure 1.



Figure 1, Centre for Sustainability and SustainableUFV logo suite. Clean, concise brand for all future communications.

Re-Organizing Communications

Website updates

With increased hours made available for sustainability efforts on campus, many of the back-burner initiatives could now be resurrected. The website, which has been in dire need of an update, was once again given higher priority. Outdated information was cleaned out and many superfluous pages were eliminated.

Sign up form accessibility

Having people join SustainableUFV was once an arduous process of hand-written email addresses and timid participants. This year, an online form was added to ease the process and ensure consistency in data collection. The streamlined process to sign up for updates, articles and volunteering opportunities resulted in nearly 100 new members in the first 5 months, bringing the total SustainableUFV members to 176.

Social media and sustainability communications

With the turnover of SCAs in the past, many different social media accounts have been created around SustainableUFV/GreenUFV/Center for Sustainability on Facebook and Twitter. This year, the accounts were consolidated all of these accounts, rendering some inactive and diverting others to the proper accounts. SustainableUFV can be found on the following social media platforms:

- Facebook: www.facebook.com/SustainableUFV (138 likes)
- Instagram: www.instagram.com/sustainableufv (56 followers)
- Twitter: www.twitter.com/sustainableufv (179 followers)

Other information on topics related to campus sustainability can be found at:

- www.ufv.ca/sustainability
- www.ufv.ca/energy
- www.ufv.ca/janitorial
- SustainableUFV blog: www.blogs.ufv.ca/sustainability
- Science Department blog: www.blogs.ufv.ca/science
- The Cascade: www.ufvcascade.ca
- *UFV Now* online staff magazine

Energy Wise Network

SustainableUFV joined the Energy Wise Network in 2016. The Energy Wise Network is a collaborative network made up of Advanced Education, Government, Schools (K-12), Hospitality, Municipalities, Property Management, and Retail sectors. This network supplanted the Workplace Conservation Awareness program and was initiated by BC Hydro and Fortis BC. The network provides campaign tool kits, professional coaching hours, networking opportunities, training webinars, and two summits per year providing the framework for many of the energy efficiency focused initiatives throughout 16/17.

Events & Campaigns

Summer Shutdown

This campaign began in June with publications the SustainableUFV blog, UFV Now, and signage on the SustainableUFV bulletin boards. The premise of the event was to reduce phantom energy consumption in individual offices while occupants were off campus on summer vacation. Outlined were suggestions for how to reduce energy waste including: turning off lights and computers, unplugging chargers, refrigerators, etc., and setting thermostats to reasonable ambient temperatures to reduce cooling load. A social media contest was also included as part of this event, where participants sent in selfies of them unplugging or shutting down for the summer. 10 entries were received, and due to the low number of entries, all received prizes. SustainableUFV and the Facilities Department plan to increase engagement and participation for this campaign in the summer of 2017.

Get Your Fleece On

Beginning in October, *Get Your Fleece On* was designed to reduce the number of space heaters throughout the Abbotsford and Chilliwack campuses. With the support of BC Hydro, the Facilities Department was able to acquire 125 UFV-branded fleece blankets to distribute. The intended result was to reduce the number of work orders placed as a result of heating deficiencies, and to educate staff and faculty on the benefits of passive personal heat regulation. Additionally, this campaign was intended to address the significant energy consumption used by these small appliances. Blanket priority was given to those who were utilizing space heaters as a means to stay warm(er) during the winter months. In exchange for a blanket, users were requested to sign a pledge to reduce space heater usage or to utilize blankets in place of heaters during the colder months.

The results were a distribution of 87 fleece blankets to the Abbotsford campus, and 38 to the Chilliwack Canada Education Park campus – a full subscription (14% of full time employees) with additional demand exceeding the inventory. Of the 125 blankets distributed, 68 pledges were received with a commitment to reducing the reliance on space heaters or turning up the thermostat. Of the 89 space heaters counted at UFV, 40 blankets were requested by space heater users.

With the resoundingly positive feedback from this campaign, it is expected to be refreshed again for the winter of 2017/18.



Figure 1. Get Your Fleece On participants warmly receive their requested blankets.

Small Appliance Audit

The Facilities Department conducted a small appliance audit in December 2016. It was found that there were 377 small appliances throughout the Abbotsford and CEP campuses. These small appliances use an estimated 84,600 kWh/yr, costing the University \$8,554/yr (based on \$0.101/kWh). The prevalence of blown breakers throughout the campuses can be attributed to a number of factors including constantly changing spaces through renovations and space utilization, as well as aging infrastructure and the increase in dependency on electronics in the workplace (plug load). During the

April 1, 2016 – March 31, 2017 timeframe there were 60 work orders placed to the Facilities Department to reset blown breakers. This survey provided a map of where education could be best used to reduce energy consumption and increase awareness of wasted energy. The causes of blown breakers were identified, and education to the occupants of that space was provided on how to better manage the plug load and reduce the number of hours building maintenance workers spend on resetting breakers.

Waste Audit

As a continuation of the trajectory toward sustainable waste management at UFV, the second annual waste audit occurred on October 6th, 2016. Considering the event had to be postponed for a week due to a power outage, then experienced pouring rain on the revised day, it was nothing short of a brilliant success. Over 20 students, staff, and faculty braved the elements, donned ponchos and gloves, and sifted through trash for the better part of a day. From the year prior, there was a 25% improvement in compliance (from 20% to 25%), with the main area of improvement being in recycling. This was likely due to the mixed recycling program that had been introduced after the 2015 waste audit. This program allows users to recycle more materials, as well as receive better education on what can be recycled.

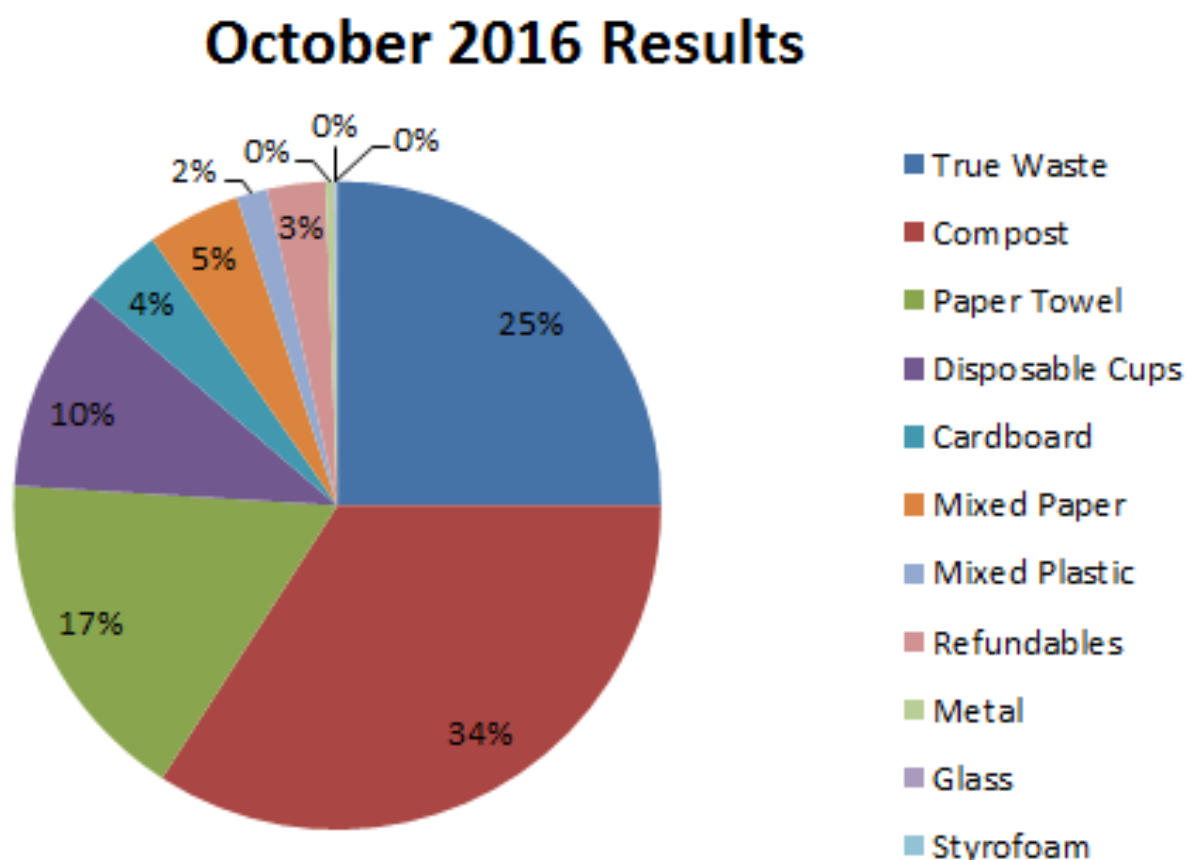


Figure 3. Results from the 2016 Waste Audit. Compliance has increased resulting in less recycling found in the garbage, however there was a spike in compostable material compared to 2015.

The key issue that needs to be addressed from this waste audit is that of compost. The percentage of compostable materials in the garbage from this audit actually increased from 2015 from 47% to 52%, which is likely due to an increase in compostable materials on campus. This comes on the heels of the introduction of a new food service provider, Dana

Hospitality, which has taken many initiatives to serve all food out of disposable compostable containers. This finding has solidified efforts by SustainableUFV to prioritize the full restructuring of waste collection at UFV.

Waste Talks

SustainableUFV partnered with Student Life as well as the Student Union Society to be involved in New Student Orientations (NSO) as well as U-Join events respectively. Involvement at these events had two goals:

1. To engage with students regarding responsible waste disposal behavior, and
2. To have students get involved with SustainableUFV through signing up to the email list and hearing about future events.



Figure 4. CFS Chair Pat Harrison at a New Student Orientation event in September 2016.

To increase the quality of interactions a small challenge was conducted at NSO events which consisted of having students sort through a variety of common trash items and place them into proper disposal categories (Compost, Recycling, and Garbage). Upon completion, waste stream selections were reviewed and basic education was offered on the proper waste stream for each of the items. At U-Join events, waste bins were gathered at the table in an effort to have one-on-one conversations with anybody disposing of garbage or trash. This yielded many positive conversations and gained a great number of allies. At both events there was a tablet available for efficient SustainableUFV sign-ups.

Sweater Week

From November 14-18, Sweater Week was held on the Abbotsford campus. The event was centered around energy reduction on a natural gas level. Building set temperatures were lowered from the winter standard 21.5°C to 20°C, and participants were encouraged to wear sweaters to mitigate any adverse effects of the temperature decrease. “Sustainable Selfie Stations” were set up at 5 locations around campus, and a selfie contest was run throughout the week, with daily prizes of \$20 gift cards, and a grand prize of a UFV hoodie and bookstore gift card.

- During the week, there were 40 unique participants, with a total of 79 entries on 4 channels: Email, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.
- Stripe Wednesday had the most submissions (21).



Figure 5. Grand prize winner Amanda Graham entered every day with a series of unique sweaters.

Sustainable Purchasing Policy

The Facilities and Project Management Team strives to diligently maintain, preserve, and enhance the life and functionality of UFV buildings and infrastructure. It is the department’s aim to keep the facilities safe and sustainable in part by being responsible stewards of the environment, facilities, and resources entrusted to in the present and into the future. In doing so, the Energy Manager has been working towards the inclusion of guidelines to promote energy efficiency in the project development stage. In advance of a formalized process being introduced, there have already been a number of instances whereby the Energy Manager has had project documents shared for his review. As it stands, there is a clear path forward, and the Facilities & Project Management office are looking forward to an improved procedure that speaks to the values of both the Facilities Department and University alike. The Energy Manager will continue to develop this initiative and ensure that projects are the highest quality with the highest energy efficiency possible.

Sustainability Essay Competition

In 2017, the UFV School of Business partnered with SustainableUFV to host the *UFV Sustainable Development Essay Competition*. This competition was designed in support of the UN's Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME), which the School of Business has been a part of since 2015. The purpose of this essay competition was to have students think critically about what UFV and the Fraser Valley community could do to implement one or more of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals put forth by the UN in creative, collaborative ways. SustainableUFV leveraged its social media presence to offer a campaign for the competition, posting 2 Tweets per week and approximately 1 Facebook post per month. As part of the campaign, SustainableUFV and the School of Business also hosted a *Sustainability Morning*, where it was discussed how to make UFV and the Fraser Valley as a whole more sustainable over coffee and Timbits in front of the Library.



Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Figure 6. Part of the Sustainable Development Essay Competition included a social media campaign.

Battery Recycling

Working with the Experiential Learning wing of Student Life, a framework has been developed to establish eight battery recycling locations around campus. This initiative is intended to address the lack of opportunities for students to dispose of batteries properly on campus, and because of this, they batteries are likely ending up in the landfill. Battery Recycling will be made widely available on campus by September 2017.

Energy, Carbon Emissions, and Sustainability Metrics

Energy Management

In addition to the energy saving behavioural campaigns listed in the Events & Campaigns section of this report, there were numerous mechanical and systematic upgrades aimed at increasing energy efficiency and comfort for building occupants.

- Abbotsford A Building chiller upgrade
- Abbotsford B Building cooling tower upgrade
- Abbotsford D Building CIS Lab LED upgrade
- Abbotsford D Building Skylight de-lamping project
- Abbotsford E Building lighting audit
- Abbotsford F Building LED upgrade
- Abbotsford G Building entrance LED upgrade
- Abbotsford G Building solar PV feasibility study
- Abbotsford parking lot & exterior LED upgrade
- DDC holiday re-scheduling to optimize HVAC
- Aerospace Hangar 4 LED upgrade
- CEP T Building thermal curtain installed

Energy management continues to play a pivotal role within UFV as there is an increased reliance on technology (computers, scanners/printers, laptops, tablets, projectors, etc.) in classrooms and offices, which in turn increases the demand for electricity. With increased utilization of energy-requiring technology, and an abnormally cold winter, there has been an increased onus on the facilities department to optimize major energy consuming systems, such as boilers, chillers, and the HVAC system that brings conditioned air to learning and working spaces.

As UFV increases floor space (new construction, renovations, acquisition of buildings), and increases programming hours, maintaining and lowering energy consumption is a significant challenge. It is important to track the energy used

overall, as well as how much energy is used per square meter of floor space. A useful tool is the Building Energy Utilization Index (BEPI), shown in Figure 7. BEPIs help determine how efficient buildings are operating annually, regardless of variations in gross floor space. Keep in mind that fluctuations in weather and temperature can vary significantly from one year to another, and have a great impact on the energy used in buildings – no greater example than the winter of 2016/2017.

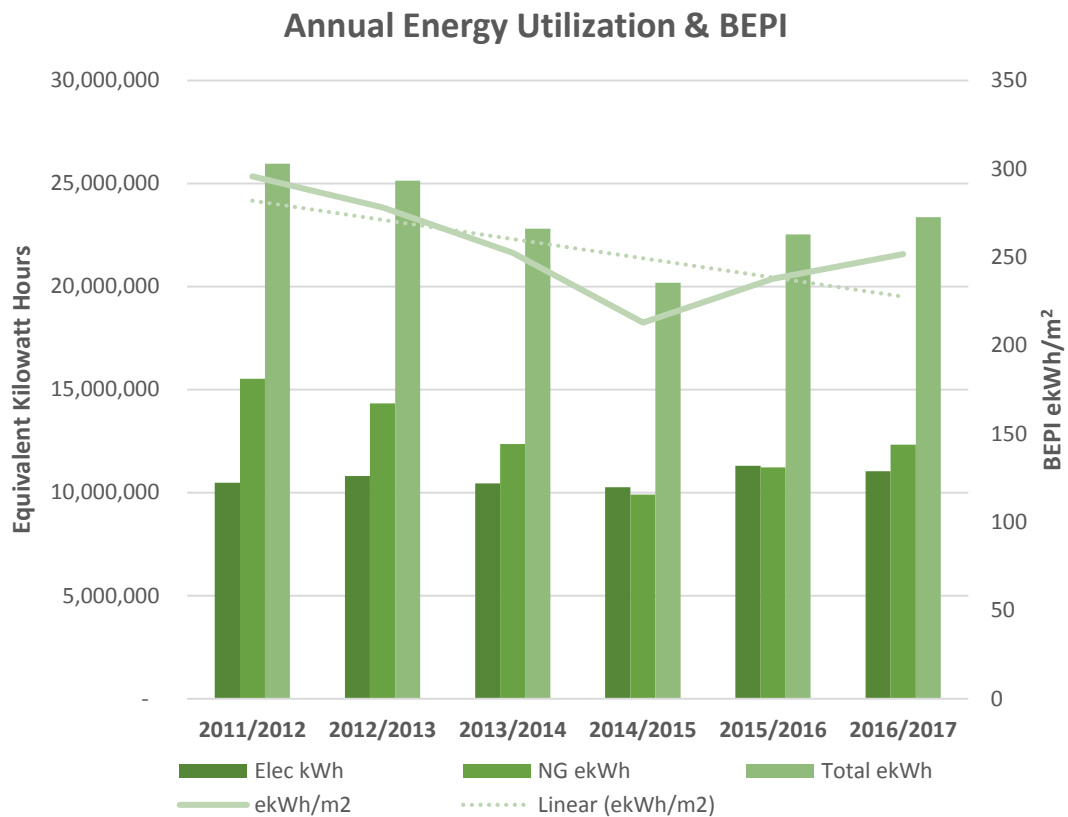


Figure 7. Annual energy utilization per m² at UFV.

Carbon Emissions

Carbon emissions have been significantly reduced since detailed tracking began in 2009. In fact, there has been a 36% overall reduction from 2009 – 2016, and a further 75% reduction in tCO₂e/m² within the building portfolio during that same time frame. A small increase in 2016 emissions can be attributed to the historically cold winter and spring, where more natural gas was used to heat buildings throughout the Fraser Valley. The impacts of the cold winter would have been more significant had there not been energy efficiency upgrades in previous years.

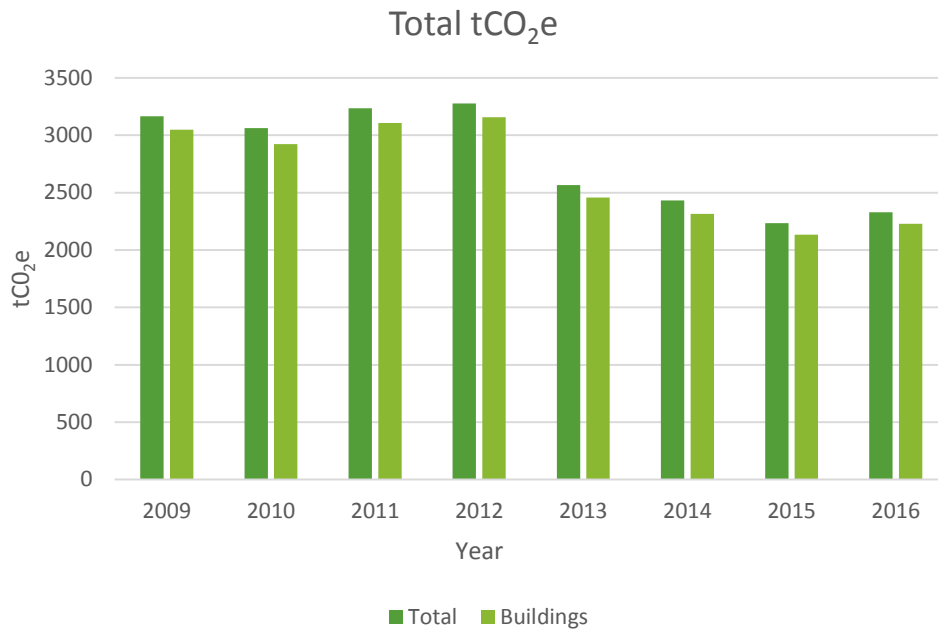


Figure 8. Carbon emissions per calendar year.

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

UFV has 4 stations capable of charging up to 8 vehicles simultaneously that are available to all students, staff, and faculty free of charge. Installed in 2012/2013 at the Aerospace Campus (1), Abbotsford Campus (2), and CEP (1), there has been significant year-over-year increases in unique charging sessions, energy provided for cost-free charging, and emissions reductions from traditional combustion engine vehicles.

	Sessions	Energy (kWh)	Community GHG Savings (t)
2013/2014	51	227.5	0.096
2014/2015	459	3,150	1.33
2015/2016	971	9,830	4.13
2016/2017	1,357	13,928	5.85

Figure 9. Electric vehicle charging frequency and impact.

Water

Water consumption throughout the 24 core buildings and associated grounds has remained relatively consistent per m² over the previous 4 years. 2016/2017 shows a significant 26.6% decline in water consumption, with Chilliwack North's D Building decreasing 102,000ft³ from the previous year.

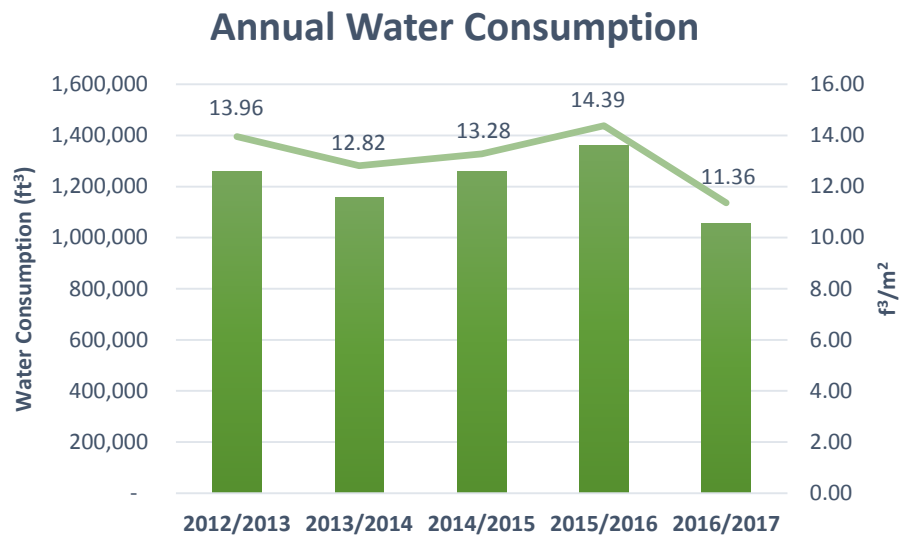


Figure 10. Annual water consumption totals, and volume consumed by area.

UFV has shown a commitment to reducing the amount of plastic bottles that end up in the landfill by facilitating convenient water bottle filling stations. 17 bottle fill stations can be found in 9 buildings throughout the Abbotsford and CEP campuses. An additional 5 stations will be installed in 2017/2018.

Goals & Potential Projects/Initiatives for 2017/2018

Website Upgrades

With some progress made this past year on website upgrades, several more areas of improvement surfaced. Further streamlining of the website is in order for navigational efficiency and to promote a clean, concise message.

Waste Collection Re-vamp: September 2017

The 2016 Waste Audit highlighted the need for composting to increase at the University. A new waste collection plan has been drafted, and the summer of 2017 will see the initial implementation of this audit, with two waste audits planned, one at the beginning of the roll-out, and a second audit after significant education and training has been afforded to the end-users. For more information on the plan that has been developed a short presentation (link below) outlining the *what, when, where and how*.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xh0xx17FcUg>

Sustainability Survey

To better assess the prevalence of sustainable practices at the University, a survey has been developed that addresses the visibility of SustainableUFV on campus, individuals' personal practices regarding sustainability, and suggestions for what else the University can do to become more sustainable. This first survey is expected to be prepared in the early part of Fall 2017 semester.

Social Media Engagement Campaign

As a push for greater visibility and engagement with students, staff, and faculty, there are plans to host a social media engagement campaign to ensure the SustainableUFV message is reaching as broad an audience as possible.

Residence Energy Efficiency Awareness

To increase the impact of sustainability messaging in light of high rates of turnover, as within any post-secondary institute, messages and education need to be spread effectively, and constantly. University residences are prime examples of high rates of user turnover, and so there is an intent to dedicate more time to educating the occupants on how to reduce their environmental impact while living on campus. In this training initiative, students and resident assistants will be provided training, and training materials on how to reduce their energy consumption, and how to reduce the amount of waste that is generated – and the appropriate methods of disposal at UFV.

Get Your Fleece On 2.0

The success of Get Your Fleece On in 2016/2017 was abundantly clear, with demand exceeding the inventory of fleece blankets. This upcoming year there will be another push for staff to remove, or reduce the hours of run-time of their personal space heaters. Continued education on how space heaters adversely affect the HVAC system, and passive personal temperature regulation will be paramount to the continued successes of this initiative.

Sweater Week 2017

A popular framework for Sweater Week was developed by the SCA in 2016. The SCA will continue to build upon that success and gain more participation in the events, while ensuring the foundational education components are being broadcasted and increasing the interest and active participation in carbon reducing behaviours on campus and in the community.

Energy Efficiency and Carbon Emissions Reduction

Energy efficiency and sustainability are often seen as one in the same, however within the scope of the Report on Sustainability, energy efficiency and carbon emissions have only been touched on. Details and plans for energy efficiency and carbon emission reducing projects and initiatives can be found in the Sustainable Energy Management Plan (Summer 2017), and the Carbon Neutral Action Report which can be found online at: www.ufv.ca/energy

Final Words on Sustainability

“The Centre for Sustainability helps UFV strive towards minimal energy usage and to instill a zero waste ethic in employees and students.”

– Pat Harrison, Faculty



“We aspire to be seen as a catalyst in community development and sustainability within the communities of the Fraser Valley.”

– Craig Toews, Executive Director of Campus Planning