

## The Prince George Chamber of Commerce's Carbon Reduction Project

Since 2015, the Prince George Chamber of Commerce has embraced student talents from the University of Northern British Columbia to assist local business to reduce carbon emissions. This project is a win-win-win. UNBC wins as it provides students with an exceptional experiential learning opportunity. The students win as they get to practice a new skill set, carbon footprint analysis. Each local business wins as it receives a FREE analysis with recommendations on how to reduce reliance on fossil fuels.

**Businesses** volunteer about four hours of their time to:

- 🌿 Allow students a tour of their premises
- 🌿 Forward utility bills from a recent 12-month period
- 🌿 Forward company vehicle information from a recent 12-month period (make, model, year, total fuel consumption and mileage)
- 🌿 Participate in an interactive audience of student presentations
- 🌿 Provide employee commute information
- 🌿 Learn how to lessen reliance on fossil fuels
- 🌿 Learn how to reduce operational expenses
- 🌿 Learn from a creative mind just how environmental considerations will benefit operations
- 🌿 Payback calculations, based on the recommendations, is also an option

**Students** work directly with each business and put theory into practice. They do the work to save the volunteer businesses as much time, effort and energy as possible.

The Chamber is the link between the local organizations that want to make a positive difference. The Chamber is pleased to receive so much support from the Prince George business community and in return assists so many more through this community-oriented, benefit for its members.

Thank you for your interest. Please contact the Chamber to see if this project can work for your business:

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### Carbon Footprint

A carbon footprint is the total amount of greenhouse gases (GHGs) produced directly and indirectly to support human activities. They are produced through fossil fuel combustion, deforestation, agricultural practices, electricity generation, and commercial/residential activities.

### Carbon Neutral

Having a net zero carbon footprint.

### Carbon Offsets

A carbon offset is the reduction in GHG emissions created by one party, which can be purchased and used to balance the emissions of another party.

### Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)

GHGs are gases that trap heat in the atmosphere. All GHGs are standardized using a carbon dioxide equivalence factor (CO<sub>2</sub>eq). The summation is referred to as a total carbon footprint.

