

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 2023

Members of the Education Committee: Lori Goldman, Kathleen Davies, Bill Laven and Corinne Durston.

The Education Committee continued to support the “Cool It! Climate Leadership Training” program created and supported by the BC Sustainable Energy Association (BCSEA).

An educator presents to two classes in a school and the students take a climate challenge home to reduce their household’s carbon and ecological footprint and to see which changes in each home have the most impact per class.

The program was supported by funds from the City of Penticton Sustainability Coordinator and a grant from the Summerland City Council.

In 2023, Bobby Bovenzi took over the presentation of the Cool It Program. He presented the program in Spring to six Penticton classes and in the Fall to 6 classes in Summerland. Two hundred and eighty-six students participated in the Cool It program which resulted in 1273 climate actions that avoided an estimated 50 tonnes of GHG emissions.

First Things First was fortunate to have Bill Laven join the committee and help in contacting schools and PAC’s. Bill is a retired teacher with many community and school connections. We hope to expand the program to reach students in Oliver and Naramata in 2024.

Corinne Durston