

## REPORT FROM THE FTFO EDUCATION COMMITTEE TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 19 JUNE 2019

The efforts of the Education Committee in 2018 were focused on getting the BC Sustainable Energy Association Cool It! Program underway in the South Okanagan. This involved communication with BCSEA, Summerland Schools, and the District of Summerland from whom we sought funding for the program. By the end of the year we were ready to make our pitch to the Summerland Sustainability Committee and then to Summerland Council; this took place in early January of 2019.

This list of communications and coordination looks short but It took a lot of consultation and explanation for stakeholders to realize the benefits of the program. Teachers were eager to have the program to include in their curriculum once it was funded and ready to implement. It takes a lot of time and patience to see things like this come to fruition. After many meetings, phone calls, and consultations, the Cool-it! program was finally here.

In 2019, following approval of funding by the district of Summerland, the Committee advertised for an Educator, interviewed candidates, and with ongoing communication with BCSEA, hired the successful candidate, Ella Braden.

Summerland Middle School is the location for the first rollout in the South Okanagan to four Grade 6 and 7 classes commencing in the week of April 21, 2019. The final report including the results of the students' efforts to save energy, converted by BCSEA to green house gas emissions saved, will be submitted to Summerland Council next Monday, June 24, 2019, for inclusion in the Municipality's reporting to the BC Provincial Government.

Other Summerland classes/schools are keen to provide this program for their students. Exploratory discussions have been held in Kelowna towards introducing the Cool It! program there, possibly in the fall.

In 2019 the Committee will focus on facilitating expansion in Summerland and also expanding the Cool It! Program to schools in other communities in the South Okanagan.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brita Park, Barry Loewen, Kathleen Davies  
17 June 2019