



## Education Committee Report for 2022

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

The Education Committee oversees the Cool It! Leadership Program through the BC Sustainable Energy Association (BCSEA). We have enjoyed a good partnership with BCSEA and received grants from the City of Penticton and the District of Summerland as well as funding from Wiltse and Uplands Elementary PACS in 2021/2022.

The program is presented by an educator to two classes in a school. The students then take a climate challenge home to attempt to reduce their carbon and ecological footprint and to see which class is able to do the boldest actions.

Ella Braden ran 4 class deliveries in Penticton to Wiltse Elementary in 2021 and Uplands Elementary in 2022 for that school year. The PACS provided funds to augment the cost of delivery that we pay to BCSEA. Even though COVID was still hampering some activities, the participation was great. She delivered workshops to **4 classes**, reaching **110 students** who collectively completed over **400 actions** focused on climate change and sustainability. BCSEA crunched the data and expects the City of Penticton student actions to result in the estimated annual savings of a total of **13.4 tonnes** of carbon dioxide emissions (CO<sub>2</sub>e) if they commit to maintain their actions completed during the program for one year.

Ella indicated that the information sent to the parents to inform them of the program was too cumbersome, so we hope to reduce it to make it more user friendly for homes.

Ella Braden, our previous educator, has had to pull out of most activities due to a busy schedule of farming, family, and other personal concerns.

The Committee reached out to Bobby Bovenzi, with help from Barry Loewen, former Committee member and retired teacher. Bobby has an MEd, is familiar with the schools and classes having done music programs in the system for a while. He ran the Cool It! Program in Summerland at Giant's Head Elementary in the fall of 2022. He worked with **six classes**, reaching **145 students** who collectively completed over **600 actions** focused on climate change and sustainability. This could result in **15.5 tonnes** of carbon dioxide emissions (CO<sub>2</sub>e) if the students and families commit to maintain their actions completed during the program for one year.

FTFO Climate Action is committed to running the programs in 2023 and will continue to work with Penticton and Summerland and BCSEA to educate youth on what they can do to improve their air, water, land, and homes.