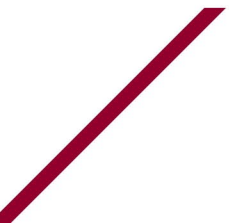


GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY 2022-23 REPORT

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Concordia's total greenhouse gas emissions in 2022-23 were approximately 27,000 tCO₂e.

Direct Scope 1 emissions account for 34% of total emissions. The largest source of Scope 1 emissions is from the consumption of natural gas for heating buildings. Indirect Scope 2 emissions from the purchasing of electricity decreased even as annual electricity consumption increased because of changes in the average emission intensity of the electrical grids. Indirect Scope 3 emissions account for 65% of total emissions. Commuter emissions are the largest source of Scope 3 emissions at Concordia. Despite an increase in community population size, emissions decreased because of efficiencies in transportation emission factors over the ten-year period.

Highlights

Buildings

- Buildings are responsible for 32% of overall GHG emissions and make up 94% of direct (Scope 1) emissions.
- Overall, direct emissions from buildings decreased by 5%, from 9,306 tonnes CO₂e in 2010-11 to 8,813 tonnes CO₂e in 2022-23.
- Emissions from buildings at the Loyola campus decreased by 26%, from 4,930 tonnes CO₂e in 2010-11 to 3,639 in 2022-23. This was due to the conversion from natural gas heating system to electrical in one area of the campus.
- Emissions from buildings at the SGW campus increased by 16%, from 4,594 tonnes CO₂e in 2010-11 to 5,307 tonnes CO₂e in 2022-23.

Commuting

- Commuter emissions are responsible for 45% of overall GHG emissions and make up 74% of indirect (Scope 3) emissions.
- Overall, emissions from commuting decreased by 9%, from 15,221 tonnes CO₂e in 2010-11 to 13,795 tonnes CO₂e in 2022-23. Despite an increase in community population size from 47,170 to 53,216, emissions decreased because of a modal shift toward active transport as well as an improvement in fuel efficiencies in the transportation sector over ten years.
- Commuter emissions from past inventories were extrapolated from the amount calculated in the 2019 Commuter Habits Survey because the 2019 inventory included emissions from all modes of transportation. Applying the estimate from the 2019 survey has its shortcomings, as the habits of the Concordia population and the

location of dwellings in past years are not necessarily consistent with the figures from the 2019 Commuter Habits Survey, but it was important to have a placeholder for non-vehicle commuting emissions to have the results be comparable over time.

Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report

Reporting Entity: **Concordia University**

Reporting Year: **Academic Year 2022-23**

Consolidation Approach: **Operational Control**

Operational Boundary: **Operations of Concordia University**

	tCO ₂ e
Scope 1 (Direct) Emissions	
Stationary Combustion	8,813
Mobile Combustion	327
Fugitive Emissions	209
Process Emissions	5
Total Scope 1 Emissions	9,340
Scope 2 (Indirect) Emissions	
Purchased electricity	132
Total Scope 2 Emissions	132
Scope 3 (Indirect) Emissions	
Landfill waste	346
Commuting	13,795
Student exchange travel	752
Fuel and energy related activities	2,849
Office paper production	160
Electricity T&D losses	8
Total Scope 3 Emissions	17,909
Total Emissions, Academic Year 2022-2023	27,397

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INTRODUCTION

A greenhouse gas (GHG) emission inventory is an exercise designed to quantify and report the greenhouse gas emissions related to an organization's activities. This exercise is becoming increasingly widespread in an attempt to understand and mitigate an organization's contributions to climate change. At the regional level, the main objective of the Montreal Climate Plan is for the city to become carbon-neutral by 2050 (Ville de Montreal, 2015). The Provincial and Federal Governments have committed to the same timeframe thereby becoming carbon neutral by 2050.

Concordia University has formalized its commitment to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions in its Climate Action Plan. The 20-year (2040) targets include:

- 1) *Elimination of CO₂ and other greenhouse gas emissions from all sources controlled and operated by Concordia University, including all building energy use and transportation operations*
- 2) *Full electrification of all transportation infrastructure at Concordia, including both vehicle fleets and university parking facilities*
- 3) *Carbon neutrality across all remaining sources of emissions*

Reporting targets include performing and publishing a bi-annual GHG inventory, beginning to include more detailed Scope 3 emissions, and developing a comprehensive plan for offsetting Scope 3 emissions, all by 2025.

Concordia has quantified and reported its greenhouse gas emissions for the 2010-11, 2014-15 and 2018-19 academic years. The last report was published in August 2023 by the Office of Sustainability.

1.1 FRAMEWORK FOR INVENTORY

Concordia uses the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Standard (hereafter referred to as *the Protocol*) as a framework for quantifying and reporting its emissions. In 2004, the Protocol was created in collaboration by the World Resources Institute and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development. It was originally designed to provide a standardized tool for businesses to measure their GHG emissions. However, it can and has been used by a variety of other types of organizations such as NGOs, government agencies and universities. The Protocol accounts for emissions from six greenhouse gases covered by the Kyoto Protocol: carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), and sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆). A primary objective of the Protocol is to provide organizations with information that can be used to build an effective strategy to manage and reduce GHG emissions.

To report in accordance with the GHG Protocol Corporate Standard, reporting and accounting shall be based on the following principles:

Relevance: *Ensure the GHG inventory appropriately reflects the GHG emissions of the organization and serves the decision-making needs of users – both internal and external to the organization.*

Completeness: *Account for and report on all GHG emission sources and activities within the chosen inventory boundary. Disclose and justify any specific exclusions.*

Consistency: *Use consistent methodologies to allow for meaningful comparisons of emissions over time. Transparently document any changes to the data, inventory boundary, methods, or any other relevant factors in the time series.*

Transparency: *Address all relevant issues in a factual and coherent manner, based on a clear audit trail. Disclose any relevant assumptions and make appropriate references to the accounting and calculation methodologies and data sources used.*

Accuracy: *Ensure that the quantification of GHG emissions is systematically neither over nor under actual emissions, as far as can be judged, and that uncertainties are reduced as far as practicable. Achieve sufficient accuracy to enable users to make decisions with reasonable assurance as to the integrity of the reported information.*

In 2011, the *Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Accounting and Reporting Standard* (hereafter referred to as the Scope 3 Standard) was created as a supplement to the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard. Concordia will use this standard as a framework for measuring its Scope 3 GHG emissions.

1.2 DESCRIPTION OF THE INSTITUTION

Concordia University has two campuses based in Montreal, Quebec: the Sir George Williams campus in downtown Montreal, and the Loyola Campus located approximately 7 km west in the borough of Notre-Dame-de-Grace. The university is a publicly funded institution and provides education up to the doctoral/research level. In the 2022-23 academic year, 45,488 students were enrolled for credit at Concordia. The number of students in residence was approximately 929. At the same time the university also employed 6,731 people. The university has four academic divisions and 53 academic departments.

2. INVENTORY BOUNDARY

2.1 TEMPORAL BOUNDARY

The reporting period for this inventory is from May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023.

2.2 ORGANIZATIONAL BOUNDARIES

The Protocol offers two approaches for setting the organizational boundaries for the inventory. Firstly, the equity share approach which accounts for emissions from operations according to an organization's share of equity in the operation. Secondly, the control approach where organizations account for 100 percent of the GHG emissions from operations over which it has control. The control approach can be defined as financial or operational control. If the organization has the ability to direct the financial and operating policies of an operation with the purpose of gaining economic benefits from its activities, it is categorized as having financial control. Operational control is characterized by an organization, or its subsidiaries having full authority to introduce and implement its operating policies at the operation (WBCSD & WRI, 2015a).

The operational control approach was chosen for Concordia's inventory as this was consistent with the last report. In order to determine which spaces the university has operational control over, an inventory of all associated spaces to Concordia was created. Ownership and usage of spaces were identified, and all spaces owned by Concordia were included in the inventory. Spaces not owned but used by the University were not included in the GHG inventory since the University is contractually restricted and does not have full operational control.

A total of nine buildings were excluded from the inventory. The CL, SI, ER, GS, SA and CV buildings were excluded from the inventory because the spaces are not owned by the University. The LC, LD and ET buildings are owned by Concordia however Concordia has limited operational control. It was noted that acquiring energy consumption data from the tenants is very difficult.

There are several new buildings included in the 2022-23 inventory. These include the following buildings on SGW campus: GA, LS, MK, MM, MN, MO, MV, MW, NB, VR and WR. On Loyola campus, the HU and PB buildings have been added since the last inventory. For a complete list of spaces included in the inventory see [Appendix A](#).

2.3 OPERATIONAL BOUNDARIES

The next step was to set an operational boundary. This requires organizations to identify emissions from its operations and decide if and how these emissions will be accounted for.

Following the Protocol, at minimum organizations are required to quantify and report Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions. Reporting on Scope 3 emissions is optional, however best practice is to report on activities that are relevant to the organization and its goals. The Protocol organizes emissions by different Scopes to improve transparency and facilitate planning for different types of climate policies or strategic goals. Definitions for each Scope are provided in Figure 1. Source categories for Scope 1 emissions are defined in table 1.

Emissions type	Scope	Definition	Examples
Direct emissions	Scope 1	Emissions from operations that are owned or controlled by the reporting company	Emissions from combustion in owned or controlled boilers, furnaces, vehicles, etc.; emissions from chemical production in owned or controlled process equipment
	Scope 2	Emissions from the generation of purchased or acquired electricity, steam, heating, or cooling consumed by the reporting company	Use of purchased electricity, steam, heating, or cooling
Indirect emissions	Scope 3	All indirect emissions (not included in scope 2) that occur in the value chain of the reporting company, including both upstream and downstream emissions	Production of purchased products, transportation of purchased products, or use of sold products

Figure 1 - Emission Scope definitions and examples (WBCSD & WRI, 2011, p.28). Please note that carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions created by the combustion of biomass are reported separately.

Stationary combustion	Combustion of fuels in stationary equipment such as boilers, furnaces, burners, turbines, heaters, incinerators, engines, flares, etc.
Mobile combustion	Combustion of fuels in transportation devices such as automobiles, trucks, buses, trains, airplanes, boats, ships etc.
Process emissions	Emissions from physical or chemical processes such as CO ₂ from the calcination step in cement manufacturing etc.
Fugitive emissions	Intentional and unintentional releases such as equipment leaks from joints, seals, packing, gaskets, as well as fugitive emissions from coal piles, wastewater treatment, pits, cooling towers, gas processing facilities, etc.

Table 1 - Categories of Scope 1 emissions (WBCSD & WRI, 2011, p. 27)

As previously mentioned, the Scope 3 Standard was created in 2011 as a supplement to the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard created in 2004. The purpose of the Scope 3 Standard was to provide a framework to make accounting for Scope 3 emissions easier and more accessible. As illustrated in Figure 2, Scope 3 emissions are separated into upstream and downstream activities and then further categorized into fifteen categories. However, not every category will be relevant to all organizations. Upstream emissions are indirect emissions from the purchasing or acquisition of goods and services for example waste generated from operations. Conversely, downstream emissions are indirect emissions from the sale of goods and services for example an organization's investments. The fifteen categories of Scope 3 emissions provide organizations with a systematic framework for reporting, minimizes the likelihood of double counting and encourages accounting for a large range of sources (WBCSD & WRI, 2011).

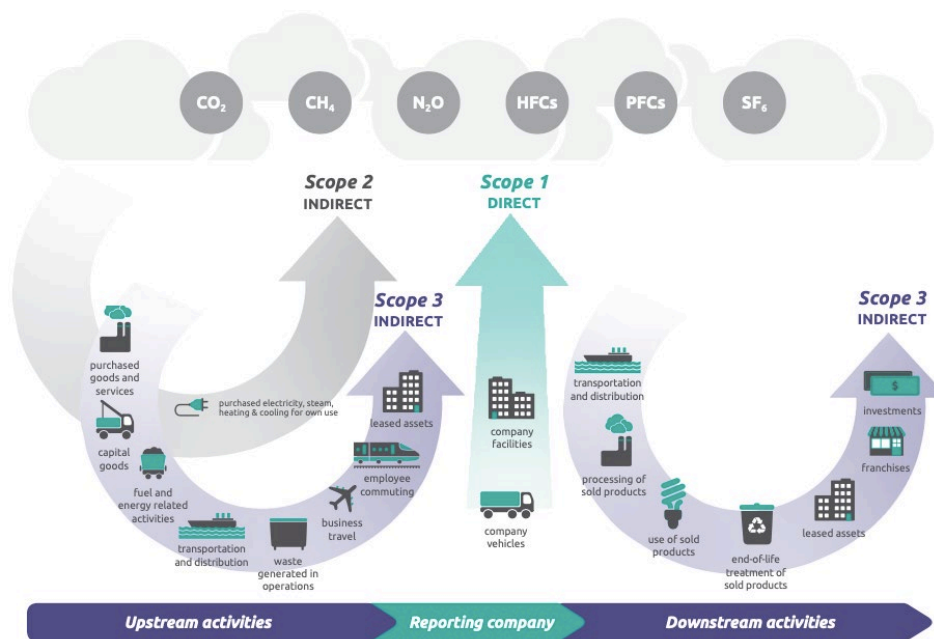


Figure 2- An organization's sources of emissions (WBCSD & WRI, 2011, p. 31)

The Scope 3 Standard requires organizations to account for emissions from each Scope 3 category and disclose and justify any exclusions. The Protocol also requires a list specifying which types of activities are covered in Scope 3.

Table 2 outlines the sources of emissions included in Concordia's inventory. The sources are organized by Scope, category and identify the type of fuel/gas used (if applicable). Any sources reported separately from the inventory are detailed in table 3.

Table 2 - Sources of emissions included in Concordia's 2022-23 GHG inventory.

Scope	Category	Source	Fuel or gas
Scope 1	Stationary combustion	Buildings	Natural gas
	Mobile combustion	Campus fleet	Gasoline, diesel
		Varsity coach buses	Diesel
		Concordia shuttle buses	B20 biodiesel (diesel portion)
		Zamboni	Propane
Process emissions	Laboratory materials	Gaseous CO ₂ tanks, dry ice nuggets	
Fugitive emissions	Refrigerants	HCFC-22, CFC-12, R744, HFC-410a, HFC-134a, HFC-404a	
Scope 2	Purchased electricity	Buildings	N/A

Scope 3	Purchased goods and services	Paper purchased	N/A
	Fuel- and energy-related activities	Production of fuels used for buildings and campus fleet	Gasoline, diesel, natural gas, propane
		Transmission and distribution losses from purchased electricity	N/A
	Student and employee commuting	Commuting via various modes	N/A
	Student exchange travel	Air travel for student exchange program	N/A
	Waste generated in operations	Landfilled waste	N/A

Table 3 - Sources of emissions reported separately from Concordia's GHG inventory.

Scope	Category	Source	Fuel or gas
Scope 1	Stationary combustion	Buildings	Renewable natural gas
	Mobile combustion	Concordia shuttle bus	B20 Biodiesel (biogenic portion)

3. CALCULATING EMISSIONS

After the inventory boundaries have been set and the sources of emissions have been identified, the next step was to select a calculation approach. The calculation approach for most emission sources involves collecting operational data and then multiplying quantities by the appropriate emission factor and the global warming potential of applicable greenhouse gases. The process of calculating emissions is discussed in further detail below.

3.1 GLOBAL WARMING POTENTIAL

A Global Warming Potential (GWP) is a relative measure of how much heat a greenhouse gas traps in the atmosphere. It compares the amount of heat trapped by a certain mass of greenhouse gas to the amount of heat trapped by a similar mass of carbon dioxide (CO₂ equivalent). The GWPs used for the inventory are listed in table 4 and are taken from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) sixth assessment report (2021).

Table 4 - List of 20-year Global Warming Potentials used for this assessment.

Greenhouse gas	Chemical formula	GWP
Carbon dioxide	CO ₂	1
Methane	CH ₄	82.5
Nitrous oxide	N ₂ O	273
Hydrochlorofluorocarbons	HCFC-22	5,690
Chlorofluorocarbon	CFC-12	11,400
Hydrofluorocarbons	HFC-32	2,690
	HFC-125	6,740
	HFC-134a	4,140
	HFC-143a	7,840
Blend of HFCs	HFC-404a	7,208
	HFC-407a	4,890
	HFC-407c	4,457
	HFC-410a	4751

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports indicates that despite high uncertainties in the carbon cycle, it is likely that GWPs that include the climate-carbon feedbacks for non-CO₂ gases (such as hydrofluorocarbons and methane), instead of only for CO₂, provides a better estimate of the metric values. It also states that this inclusion provides a more consistent methodology (IPCC, 2013).

3.2 EMISSION FACTORS

An emission factor is the average emission rate of a given greenhouse gas for a given source, relative to the units of activity (e.g., per unit of volume, of mass, of energy). Emission factors for the 2022-23 GHG inventory are listed in table 5 and were obtained from a number of sources, most notably Environment Canada's National Inventory Report (NIR) on greenhouse gas sources and sinks in Canada.

Table 5 - List of emission factor references by activity.

Activity or Fuel	Unit	Reference
Natural gas (stationary combustion)	kg/m ³	Environment Canada (2023), NIR Part 2
Propane (mobile combustion)	kg/L	
Gasoline (mobile combustion)	kg/L	
Diesel (mobile combustion)	kg/L	
B20 biodiesel (mobile combustion)	kg/L	
Electricity	kg/kWh	Environment Canada (2023), NIR Part 3
Natural gas production	kg/m ³	Natural Resources Canada (2022),

Gasoline production	kg/L	GHGenius v5.02b
Diesel production	kg/L	
Propane production	kg/L	
Solid waste in landfill	kg/tonne	Environmental Protection Agency (2024). GHG Emissions Factor Hub
Electricity transmission and distribution losses	kg/kWh	Derived from Environment Canada (2023) by Ecometrica Ltd

3.3 DATA SOURCES AND ASSUMPTIONS

SCOPE 1 – DIRECT EMISSIONS

Stationary Combustion

- Data on building energy consumption was provided by the Building Performance Coordinator in Facilities Management.
- All buildings owned by Concordia University were included in the inventory except for the CL, ER, ET, GS, LC, LD, CV, and SI buildings.

Mobile Combustion – Campus Fleet

- Data on the campus fleet (campus vehicle list, fuel invoices) was provided by the Environmental Coordinator in Facilities Management, in collaboration with the Insurance department.
- Vehicle emission factors are organized by tiers and light/heavy duty vehicles or trucks. The tiers refer to increasingly stringent emission standards over time, enabled through advancements in emission control technologies. Transport Canada uses a four-tier classification system. Tier 0 applies to models before 1994, Tier-1 applies to model years 1994-2003, Tier-2 applies to model years 2004-2017 and Tier-3 applies to model years 2017-2025. Environment Canada's NIR does not have Tier-3 emission factors listed yet. The NIR defines light-duty cars and trucks (including SUVs and minivans) as those with a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of 3,900 kg or less and heavy-duty as those vehicles with a GVWR greater than 3,900 kg.
- Advanced control diesel emission factors were used for Tier-2 diesel vehicles.
- Total fuel consumption for vehicles owned by Concordia was calculated based on fuel invoices; invoices provided the number of liters, type of fuel and cost of the transaction. In most cases, multiple vehicles were associated with a single credit card for invoicing purposes. In the case when vehicles grouped together belonged to different Tiers, the lower Tier was chosen for calculations following the precautionary principle.
- Fuel consumption for vehicles owned by Concordia used by faculty members for academic purposes was difficult to obtain. It was noted that faculty members did not regularly keep track of fuel consumption. Two methods were used based on the data

available 1) calculation of fuel consumption based on mileage 2) calculation of fuel consumption based on fuel invoices. Data for the Ford F150-XLT (2009) and the Chevrolet Suburban (2000) used for academic purposes was unavailable.

Mobile Combustion – Varsity coach bus

- Travel records and bus details were provided by the Recreation/Athletics department.
- The Varsity coach bus travel records included the destination of each trip. It was assumed that the distance travelled was equal to that of the fastest route identified on Google maps. The distance travelled was then multiplied by the coach bus's fuel efficiency to calculate the total fuel consumed during the trip.
- The Varsity coach bus model is a 52-seater. It was assumed based on research of similar models that its GVWR is greater than 3,900 kg and therefore should be classified as a heavy-duty truck.

Mobile Combustion – Concordia shuttle bus

- Fuel invoices were provided by the Facilities Management department.
- It was confirmed that Concordia's shuttle buses use B20 biodiesel (6% to 20% biodiesel). It was assumed that all shuttle buses use B20 biodiesel all of the time.

Mobile Combustion – Zamboni

- Fuel invoices were provided by the Facilities Management department.
- It was confirmed that Concordia's shuttle buses use B20 biodiesel (6% to 20% biodiesel). It was assumed that all shuttle buses use B20 biodiesel all of the time.

Process emissions – Laboratory material

- A purchase report was provided by the Business Process Office.
- It was assumed that all laboratory material purchased in the reporting year would be consumed in the same year.

Fugitive emissions – Refrigerants

- An inventory of refrigerant use at the SGW campus was provided by the SGW refrigeration mechanic.
- To calculate emissions, the amount of refrigerant added annually in a system is assumed to be equal to the amount of refrigerant that was lost/emitted annually by that same system. The amount of refrigerant lost annually due to leaks is not available.
- Data regarding the amount of refrigerant added annually in the system on the Loyola campus for the 2022-23 academic year was calculated based on six sources of refrigerants: HCFC-R22, CFC-R12, CO₂ (R744), HFC-R410a, HFC-134a, HFC-404a. The quantity of HFC-407a and HFC-407c could not be found and therefore was assumed to be zero.

SCOPE 2 – INDIRECT EMISSIONS

To calculate Scope 2 emissions the location-based method was used as recommended in the GHG Protocol 2 Guidance report. The location-based method quantifies emissions using the average emission intensity of grids on which energy consumption occurs (WBCSD & WRI, 2015b).

Purchased electricity

- A report of electricity purchased from Hydro-Québec was provided by the Building Performance Coordinator in Facilities Management.
- The emission factor for purchased electricity was taken from Environment Canada's NIR. It represents the average greenhouse gas intensity (grams of GHG/ kWh electricity generated) for the province of Quebec.

SCOPE 3 – INDIRECT EMISSIONS

Purchased goods and services – Paper

- A report of the volume of paper purchased was provided by the Business Process Office.
- Two reports were provided by the Business Process Office to calculate total paper consumption. The first report consisted of paper purchase orders processed through the University's procurement department. The other report included the paper purchase orders (for use, not sale) from the University bookstore (Concordia-owned at the time).
- For simplicity, all paper ordered was assumed to be the standard size 8.5" x 11".

Fuel- and energy-related activities – Buildings and campus fleet

- Same data sources as for stationary and mobile combustion categories in Scope 1.
- Emission factors for offsite fuel- and energy-related activities were in grams per gigajoule of energy. To create an emission factor per cubic meter or litre of fuel, the original emission factor needed to be multiplied by the energy density (GJ/tonne) and density (g/L) of the fuel.

Student and employee commuting

- A Commuter Habits Survey was created by the Office of Sustainability and the Office of Institutional Planning and Analysis.
- Total emissions from commuting were calculated using data obtained from the Commuter Habits Survey conducted in 2023. Responses included information about the Concordia community's frequency, origin, and mode(s) of commuting to and from their primary campus in the fall, winter and spring/summer. The distance between participants' home and primary campus was calculated and multiplied by the emission factor of the

associated mode of transportation. This number was then multiplied by the frequency of commuting to estimate annual emissions. An average commuter emissions per student and faculty/staff was calculated based on the survey results and extrapolated to the Concordia population to estimate total annual commuter emissions for the Concordia community.

- Emissions from commuters using the Concordia shuttle bus were not counted because these emissions were already accounted for in the Scope 1 category.

Student exchange travel

- A Commuter Habits Survey was created by the Office of Sustainability and the Office of Institutional Planning and Analysis.
- Total emissions from commuting were calculated using data obtained from the Commuter Habits Survey conducted in 2023. Responses included information about the Concordia community's frequency, origin, and mode(s) of commuting to and from their primary campus in the fall, winter and spring/summer. The distance between participants' home and primary campus was calculated and multiplied by the emission factor of the associated mode of transportation. This number was then multiplied by the frequency of commuting to estimate annual emissions. An average commuter emissions per student and faculty/staff was calculated based on the survey results and extrapolated to the Concordia population to estimate total annual commuter emissions for the Concordia community.

Waste generated in operations – Landfill waste

- A report on landfill waste was provided by the Environmental Coordinator in Facilities Management.
- The total weight of landfill waste was calculated from invoices provided to Concordia from our waste collection service provider.

3.4 CALCULATION METHODOLOGY

In general, the methodology below was used to calculate emissions.

$$CO_2e = \sum_{i=1}^n Fuel_i * (EF_{CO_2,i} * GWP_{CO_2} + EF_{CH_4,i} * GWP_{CH_4} + EF_{N_2O,i} * GWP_{N_2O})$$

CO_2e is the total annual greenhouse gas emissions in carbon dioxide (CO_2) equivalent

Index i refers to each activity

n is the total number of activities

$Fuel_i$ is the amount of fuel consumed during the reporting period

$EF_{CO_2,i}$ is the CO_2 emission factor for activity i

GWP_{CO_2} is the global warming potential of CO_2

4. RESULTS

4.1 SUMMARY OF RESULTS

For the 2022-23 academic year, total GHG emissions for Concordia University were approximately 27,397 tCO₂e. An estimated 35% of Concordia's emissions were Scope 1 and 2 emissions while the remaining emissions were Scope 3.

As shown in table 6 and Figure 3, the largest source of emissions at Concordia was from commuting which was responsible for just under half of total emissions (50%). The second biggest source of emissions is from the use of natural gas to heat buildings (32%) and the third is from the offsite production of fuel and energy used by Concordia at 10% of total emissions.

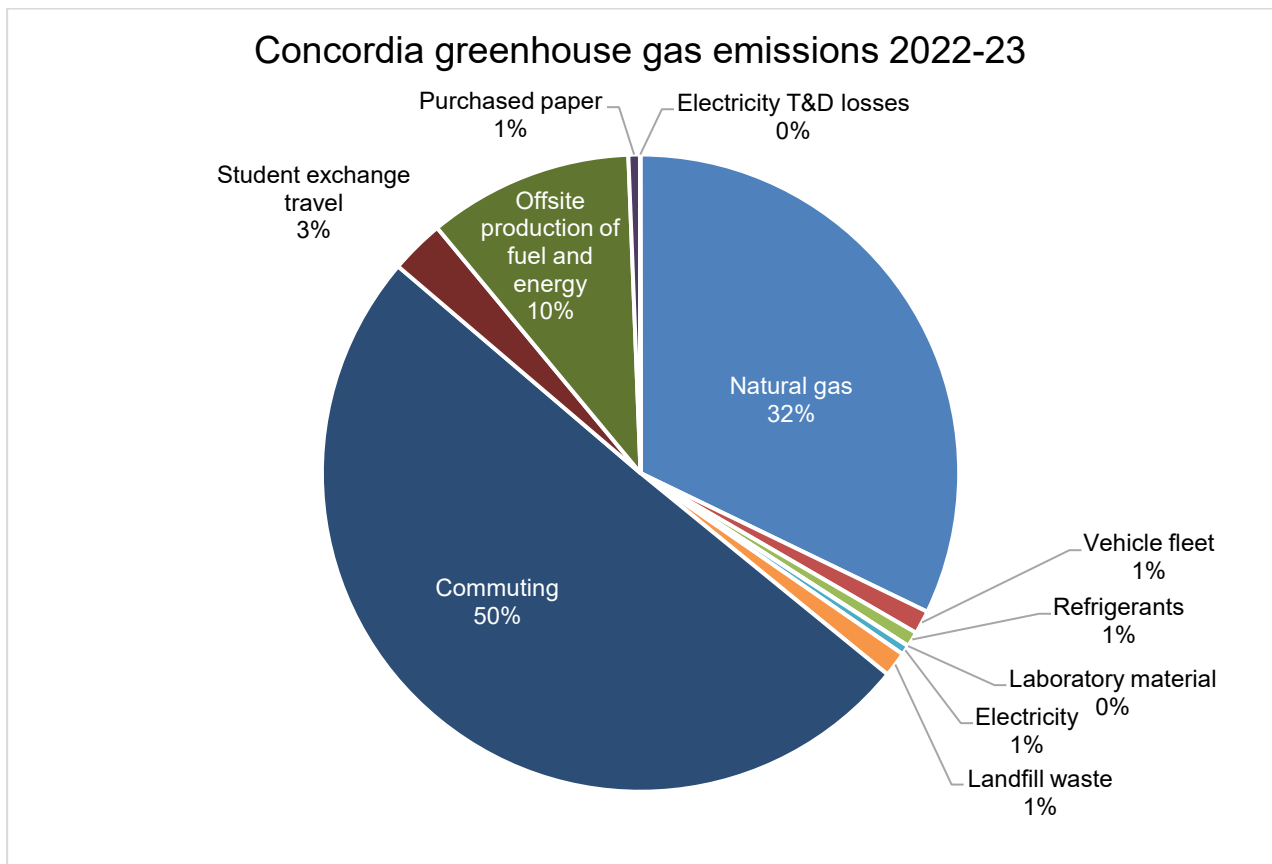


Figure 3 - Concordia's GHG emissions by Scope and source for 2022-23

Table 6 - Concordia's total GHG emissions by Scope for 2022-23

Category	Activity	Fuel type	Measure	Quantity	Emissions (tCO ₂ e)	% of total emissions
Scope 1 - Direct Emissions						
Stationary combustion	Buildings	Natural gas	cubic meters	4,546,169	8813	32%
Mobile combustion	Campus fleet	Diesel	liters	10,030	28	0%
		Gasoline	liters	16,649	39	0%
	Concordia shuttle bus	B20 biodiesel	liters	96,650	212	1%
	Varsity coach bus	Diesel	liters	14,784	40	0%
	Zamboni	Propane	liters	4,890	8	0%
Fugitive emissions	Refrigerants	Multiple	kilograms	59.06	209	1%
Process emissions	Laboratory material	CO ₂	kg	4,529	5	0%
Total Scope 1					9354	34%
Scope 2 – Indirect emissions						
Purchased electricity	Purchased electricity	Electricity	kWh	101,471,288	132	0.48%
Total Scope 2					132	0.48%
Scope 3 – Indirect emissions						
Commuting	Vehicles and public transit	Various	--		13,795	50%
Student exchange travel	Student exchange travel	Air travel	--		752	3%
Fuel- & Energy-related activities	Buildings, campus fleet	Natural gas	cubic meters	4,546,169	2,806	10%
		Gasoline	liters	16,649	16	0%
		Diesel	liters	24,814	27	0%
		Propane	liters	4,890	2	0%
Purchased goods & services	Paper consumption	Various	tonnes	19	160	1%
Waste generated from operations	Landfill waste	--	tonnes	581	346	1%
Electricity Transmission & Distribution Losses	Purchased electricity	Electricity	kWh	101,471,288	8	0%
Total Scope 3					17,911	65%
TOTAL SCOPE 1, 2 & 3					27,397	

5. COMPARISON OF EMISSIONS OVER TIME

The chosen baseline year is the period from May 1, 2010, to April 30, 2011. This baseline year was chosen as it is the oldest year for which reliable and verifiable emissions data are available. It was also chosen to be consistent with the previous GHG inventory conducted in 2018-19 that used the 2010-11 academic year as a baseline. It is important to note, however, that the 2014-15 GHG inventory is used as a target baseline year for several goals outlined in the Sustainability Action Plan.

5.1 COMPARISON OF 2022-23 GHG EMISSIONS WITH BASELINE YEAR

In 2022-23, total greenhouse gas emissions at Concordia decreased by 8% from the 2010-11 baseline year (table 7).

SCOPE 1 – DIRECT EMISSIONS

Scope 1 emissions have decreased slightly (-7%) from the baseline year because of a decrease in stationary combustion (-5%) from Concordia's buildings and a reduction (-57%) in fugitive emissions from refrigerants.

SCOPE 2 – INDIRECT EMISSIONS

There was a significant reduction of almost 40% in Scope 2 emissions. This decrease occurred even as annual electricity consumption increased from approximately 88.3 million kWh in 2010-11 to 101.5 million kWh in 2022-23. This reduction in emissions results from changes in the average emission intensity of the electrical grids that Concordia uses.

SCOPE 3 – INDIRECT EMISSIONS

- Indirect Scope 3 emissions were reduced by 9%, primarily from a decrease in electricity transmission and distribution losses.
- Landfill waste emissions have also decreased significantly by 25% since 2010-11.
- There was a 9% reduction in commuter emissions from 2010-11. Despite an increase in community population size from 47,170 to 53,216, emissions decreased because of efficiencies in transportation emission factors over ten years.
- Emissions from the offsite production of fuel and energy used for Concordia's stationary and mobile combustion increased due to the increase in the total volume of propane used for heating.

Similar to the uncertainties for process emissions, emissions from purchased paper are unreliable because of a lack of detail in the purchasing orders. It is possible that emissions from paper production are higher than 160 tCO₂e.

Table 7 - Comparison of 2022-23 GHG emissions with baseline year

Category	Activity	Fuel type	2010-11 Emissions (tCO ₂ e)	2022-23 Emissions (tCO ₂ e)	Percentage change
Scope 1 - Direct Emissions					
Stationary combustion	Buildings	Natural gas	9298	8813	-5%
		Heating oil	8	0	-100%
Mobile combustion	Campus fleet	Diesel	23	28	20%
		Gasoline	35	39	12%
	Concordia shuttle bus	B20 biodiesel	215	212	-1%
	Varsity coach bus	Diesel	36	40	12%
	Zamboni	Propane	3	8	157%
Fugitive emissions	Refrigerants	Multiple	484	209	-57%
Process emissions	Laboratory material	CO ₂	2	5	166%
Total Scope 1			10104	9354	-7%
Scope 2 – Indirect emissions					
Purchased electricity	Purchased electricity	Electricity	216	132	-39%
Total Scope 2			216	132	-39%
Scope 3 – Indirect emissions					
Commuting	Student and Employee Commuting	Various	15,221	13,795	-9%
Student exchange travel	Student exchange travel	Air travel	N/A	752	0%

Fuel- & Energy-related activities	Buildings, campus fleet	Natural gas	3,142	2,806	-11%
		Gasoline	16	16	1%
		Diesel	25	27	7%
		Heating oil	2	0	-100%
		Propane	1	2	145%
Purchased goods & services	Paper consumption	Various	179	160	-11%
Waste generated from operations	Landfill waste	--	459	346	-25%
Electricity Transmission & Distribution Losses	Purchased electricity	Electricity	543	8	-99%
Total Scope 3			19,588	17,911	-9%
TOTAL SCOPE 1, 2 & 3			29,908	27,397	-8%

5.2 COMPARISON OF GHG EMISSIONS OVER TIME

As shown in Figure 4, Scope 1 emissions have fluctuated slightly over time. In general, they have been increasing as the volume of natural gas consumed to heat buildings increases (Figure 5). In 2014-15, there was a milder winter and less natural gas was needed to heat buildings. Emissions increased again in 2018-19, but decreased by 9% in 2022-23 due to the purchase of biogas.

Electricity consumption at Concordia has been increasing overtime. However, indirect Scope 2 emissions from purchased electricity decreased because of a reduction in the average emission intensity of the electrical grid. Concordia does not have control over the emission intensity from the grid.

Indirect emissions (Scope 3) at Concordia decreased between 2010-11 and 2018-19 because of fuel efficiency in the commuting category. However, indirect emissions increased again by 13% in 2022-23, partially due to the new inclusion of student exchange travel. Emissions from the offsite production of fuel and energy fluctuate with the annual quantity of natural gas consumed at the university. Landfill waste emissions are at their lowest since 2010-11 and emissions from electricity transmission and distribution losses have been significantly reduced because of improvements in electricity transmission and distribution.

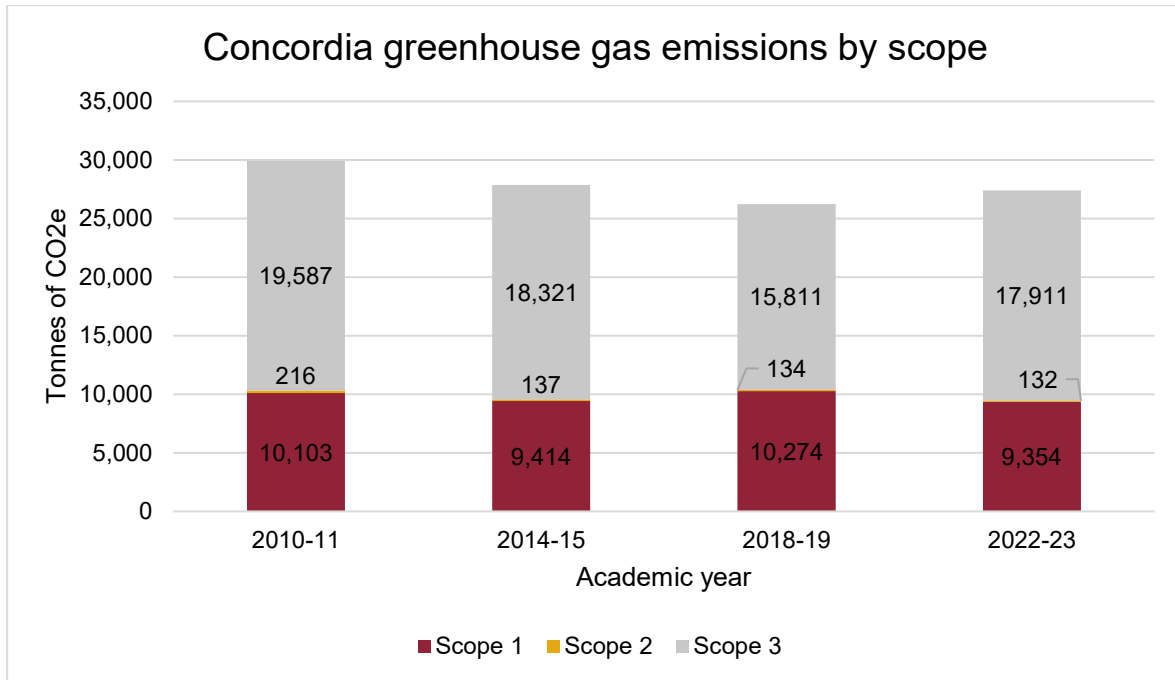


Figure 4 - Concordia greenhouse gas emissions by scope over time

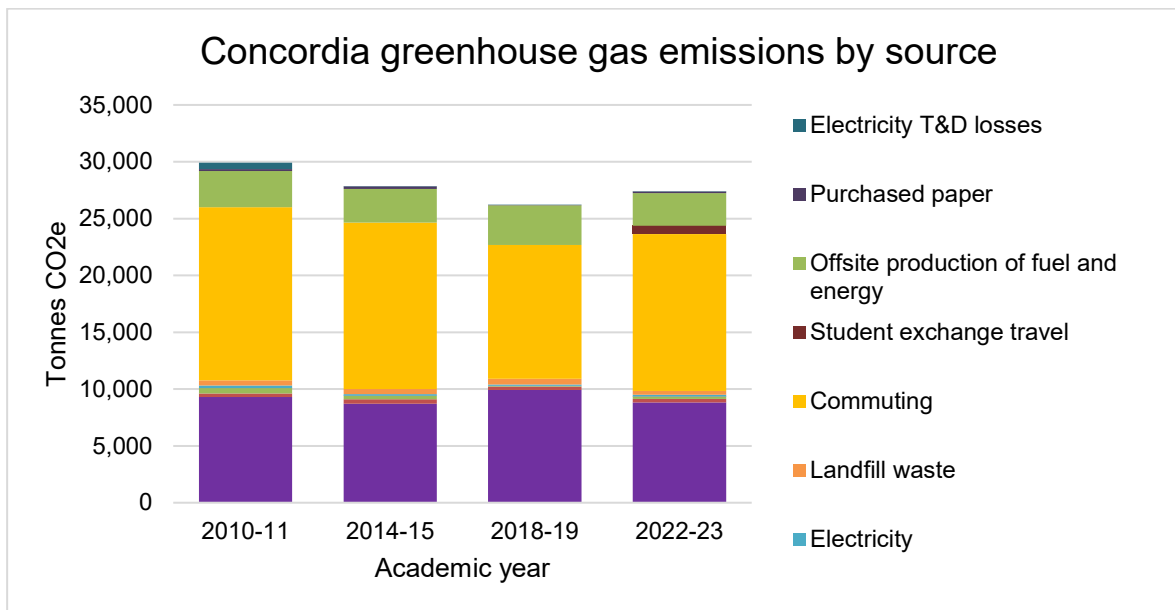


Figure 5 - Concordia greenhouse gas emissions by source over time

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 DATA COLLECTION

It is recommended that a person from the Facilities Management team be involved in the planning phase, as they manage a significant amount of data required for the inventory. The data collection process should be endorsed by the Office of the Vice President, Services and Sustainability for each department involved in submitting information for the inventory. This would encourage participation in the process and act as recognition of the importance of the inventory at the University.

6.2 REPORTING CYCLES

The Standard strongly recommends that organizations have their GHG inventory verified by an independent party. The goal of the verification process is to instill confidence in the users of the report that the data and statements presented are a faithful account of the organization's emissions. The verification ultimately increases the quality and the transparency of the report. The 2018-19 inventory was reviewed by a PhD student from Concordia's Climate Scenarios, Impacts and Modelling (CSIM) Lab. The 2010-11 and 2014-15 inventories were reviewed by members in our Office of Sustainability.

6.3 ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF EMISSIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

An effort has been made to include as many sources of emissions at Concordia in the inventory as possible without compromising the integrity of the report. Most of Concordia's Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions have been captured in the report. Several Scope 3 emissions remain to be measured. Below is a list of Scope 3 emissions that could be explored and possibly included in the next inventory.

1. Purchased goods and services
2. Business travel
3. Water supply and treatment
4. Investments

When comparing total emissions from year to year, it would be relevant to normalize them by community population size, building gross floor area and heating/cooling degree days as these are likely factors influencing emissions. Degree days are a representation of outside air-temperature data used to normalize the effect of outside air temperature on building energy consumption. Techniques and methods for estimating emissions should be explored in absence of reliable actual data.

6.4 CARBON OFFSETS

As previously mentioned, Concordia's Climate Action Plan has as one of its targets for 2025 to create a comprehensive plan for offsetting the University's Scope 3 GHG emissions. Research

into possible carbon offsets with an emphasis on local projects should be completed for the next inventory. It is important to note that reduction in emissions is the main priority and focus of the University. However, offsets could serve as a final solution when reduction strategies have been exhausted or when emissions are outside of the University's control.

Carbon offsetting is a mechanism that enables access to emissions reduction and carbon removal outside a company's or institution's organizational boundary. This takes place through the purchase of carbon credits, tradable units that represent one tonne of carbon dioxide or the equivalent amount of a different greenhouse gas (tCO₂e) reduced, avoided, or sequestered. Offsetting projects must generate real, quantifiable and verifiable GHG reductions while preserving environmental and social integrity.

However, skepticism and confusion around the validity of carbon offsets as a means of reducing atmospheric carbon levels are common among researchers, scientists and environmental organizations, creating a division in the community. In part, this is due to the lack of standardization that offsetting projects have, as carbon-offset providers generally follow the standard of their choice for validation and verification, usually with a low degree of transparency and accountability. Another concern that has arisen with the use of carbon offsets is the misconception that the purchase of carbon credits can act as a substitute for more ambitious efforts towards direct GHG emissions reduction, as a way for individuals and companies to "greenwash" and make claims about going net-zero or reaching carbon neutrality without needing to change their practices.

For an offsetting project to be considered of high quality, it needs to comply with certain criteria:

1. **Additionality:** *GHG reductions are additional if they would have not occurred in the absence of the offset purchase, the project is not already required by current regulations, or it faces economical or technological barriers;*
2. **Accurate quantification:** *including a precise quantification of baselines emissions and the avoidance of over-estimation of CO₂e reductions;*
3. **Third-party auditing:** *to get validation before the project and verification during the development of it by credible and qualified third-party auditors;*
4. **Unique ownership:** *the buyer of carbon credits needs to be assured that there is sole ownership of the purchased offsets;*
5. **Permanence:** *the project's benefit to the atmosphere should be irreversible;*
6. **Accounting for unforeseen emissions leakage through buffer pools:** *having credits accounted as insurance to secure the permanence of the emissions reductions.*

When selecting mission-linked offsetting projects, the following considerations should be assessed:

1. **Carbon footprint calculation and reduction of emissions:** the first step for any institution is to understand what their major emission sources are through carbon calculators, then reduce their emissions as much as possible, and only after reductions are made, a company should purchase carbon credits to offset the remainder of emissions that cannot be reduced yet;
2. **Type of project:** there are different types of offsetting projects available, these include renewable energy (displacing fossil-fuel emissions), energy efficiency, capture and destruction of greenhouse gases like methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), or hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) from agriculture, livestock and landfill, and biological carbon sequestration through reforestation, afforestation and avoided deforestation;
3. **Standard under which the project is certified:** choosing a project that follows a stringent and reliable standard can help ensure that key quality criteria are met.
4. **Location:** prioritizing local, state and regional projects allows a more realistic measurement of CO₂e emissions reductions and evaluation of co-benefits, always considering on whose land the projects take place, so the local people's rights are at best interest;
5. **Crediting lifetime:** the longer this period is, the greater the risk that the baseline has become outdated and inaccurate, some guides suggest a period of eight years as a reasonable balance between certainty and environmental integrity;
6. **Price:** oftentimes but not always, there is a correlation between price and quality;
7. **Sustainability considerations:** choosing projects with low risks and great co-benefits for the local communities and the environment, for example, developing employment opportunities, improving the air quality of an area, and enabling sustainable development through improved energy access, community empowerment, health improvements and biodiversity conservation.

Therefore, a close examination of the value and options available to offset Concordia's emissions will be necessary before implementing a carbon offsetting framework.

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APPENDIX A – DETAILED LIST OF SPACES

CU = Concordia University

Sir George Williams Campus				
Building	Address	Space type		Included/ Excluded in inventory
		Ownership	Usage	
B	2160 Bishop	CU	CU	Included
CI	2149 MacKay	CU	CU	Included
CL	1665 Ste Catherine W.	Third party	CU	Excluded
D	2140 Bishop	CU	CU	Included
EN	2070 MacKay	CU	CU	Included
ER	2155, Guy Street	Third party	CU, third party	Excluded
ES	2135, Guy Street	CU	CU	Included
ET	2135, Guy Street	CU	Third party	Excluded
EV	1515 Ste. Catherine W.	CU	CU, third party	Included
FA	2060 MacKay	CU	CU	Included
FB	1250 Guy	CU	CU, third party	Included
FG	1610 Ste. Catherine W.	CU	CU, third party	Included
GA (new)	1211-1215 St- Mathieu St.	CU	CU	Included
GM	1550 de Maisonneuve	CU	CU, third party	Included
GN	1190 Guy	CU	CU	Included
GS	1538, Sherbrooke W	Third party	CU, third party	Excluded
H	1455 de Maisonneuve	CU	CU	Included
K	2150 Bishop	CU	CU	Included
LB	1400 de Maisonneuve	CU	CU	Included
LC	1426 Bishop	CU	Third party	Excluded

LD	1424 Bishop	CU	Third party	Excluded
LS (new)	1535 de Maisonneuve	CU	CU	Included
M	2135 MacKay	CU	CU	Included
MB	1450 Guy	CU	CU	Included
MI	2130 Bishop	CU	CU	Included
MK (new)	2000-2002 MacKay	CU	Third party	Included
MM (new)	1209 Guy	CU	CU	Included
MN (new)	1205-1207 Guy	CU	CU	Included
MO (new)	1201 Guy	CU	CU	Included
MT	1195 Guy	CU	CU	Included
MU	2170 Bishop	CU	CU	Included
MV (new)	1189 Guy	CU	CU	Included
MW (new)	1181 Guy	CU	CU	Included
NB (new)	2081-2087 Guy	CU	Third party	Included
P	2020 MacKay	CU	CU	Included
PR	2100 MacKay	CU	CU	Included
Q	2010 MacKay	CU	CU	Included
R	2050 MacKay	CU	CU	Included
RR	2040 MacKay	CU	CU	Included
S	2145 MacKay	CU	CU	Included
SA	4710, rue St- Ambroise	Third party	CU, third party	Excluded
SB	1590 Dr. Penfield	CU	CU, third party	Included
T	2030 MacKay	CU	CU	Included
TD	1410 Guy	CU	CU, third party	Included
V	2110 MacKay	CU	CU	Included
VA	1395 Rene Levesque	CU	CU	Included
VR (new)	2130 Mackay	CU	CU, Third party	Included
WR (new)	2142-2144 Mackay	CU	CU, Third party	Included
X	2080 MacKay	CU	CU	Included
Z	2090 MacKay	CU	CU	Included

Loyola Campus				
Building	Address	Space type		Included/ Excluded in inventory
		Ownership	Usage	
AD	7141 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU	Included
BB	3502 Belmore	CU	Third-party	Included
BH	3500 Belmore	CU	Third party	Included
CC	7141 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU	Included
CJ	7141 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU	Included
CV	5800, boulevard Cavendish	Third party	CU	Excluded
DO	7141 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU, third party	Included
FC	7141 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU	Included
GE	7141 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU	Included
HA	7141 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU	Included
HB	7141 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU	Included
HC	7141 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU	Included
HU (new)	7141 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU	Included
JR	7141 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU	Included
PB (new)	7200 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU	Included
PC	7200 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU	Included
PS	7141 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU	Included
PT	7141 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU	Included
PY	7141 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU	Included

RA	7200 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU	Included
RF	7141 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU	Included
SC	7141 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU	Included
SH	7141 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU	Included
SI	4455 Broadway	Third-party	CU	Excluded
SP	7141 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU	Included
TA	7079 Terrebonne	CU	CU	Included
TB	7075 Terrebonne	CU	CU	Included
VE	7141 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU	Included
VL	7141 Sherbrooke W.	CU	CU	Included

APPENDIX B – DETAILED CALCULATIONS

SCOPE 1 STATIONARY COMBUSTION AND MOBILE COMBUSTION

$$CO_2e = \sum_{i=1}^n Fuel_i * (EF_{CO_2,i} * GWP_{CO_2} + EF_{CH_4,i} * GWP_{CH_4} + EF_{N_2O,i} * GWP_{N_2O})$$

CO_2e is the total annual greenhouse gas emissions in CO_2 equivalent

Index i refers to each activity

n is the total number of activities

$Fuel_i$ is the amount of fuel consumed during the reporting period

$EF_{CO_2,i}$ is the CO_2 emission factor for activity i

GWP_{CO_2} is the global warming potential of CO_2

SCOPE 1 MOBILE COMBUSTION: B20 BIODIESEL

B20 biodiesel is a biofuel blended with diesel. The proportion of biodiesel in B20 can be between 6-20% biodiesel. It was assumed in the case of the Concordia shuttle bus that the proportion of biodiesel in B20 was 20% and 80% diesel. Therefore, the emission factors for B20 are a weighted average of the biofuel and diesel emission factors.

$$CO_2e = \text{Liters of B20} * (EF_{CO_2,B20} * GWP_{CO_2} + EF_{CH_4,B20} * GWP_{CH_4} + EF_{N_2O,B20} * GWP_{N_2O})$$

Where CO_2e is the total annual greenhouse gas emissions in CO_2 equivalent

Liters of B20 is the annual number of litres of B20 biofuel consumed by the shuttle bus

$$EF_{CO_2,B20} = EF_{CO_2,DIESEL} * 80\%$$

$$EF_{CH_4,B20} = EF_{CH_4,B100} * 20\% + EF_{CH_4,DIESEL} * 80\%$$

$$EF_{N_2O,B20} = EF_{N_2O,B100} * 20\% + EF_{N_2O,DIESEL} * 80\%$$

$EF_{CO_2,B100}$ is the emission factor for 100% Biodiesel fuel

$EF_{CO_2,DIESEL}$ is the emission factor for heavy-duty diesel trucks

SCOPE 1 FUGITIVE EMISSIONS: REFRIGERANTS

$$CO_2e = \text{Quantity of added refrigerant} * GWP \text{ of specific refrigerant}$$

Where CO_2e is the total annual greenhouse gas emissions in CO_2 equivalent

Quantity of added refrigerant is the annual amount of refrigerant added to the system in kg

SCOPE 1 PROCESS EMISSIONS

$$CO_2e = \text{Quantity of gas purchased} * \text{GWP of specific gas}$$

Where CO_2e is the total annual greenhouse gas emissions in CO_2 equivalent

Quantity of gas purchased is the annual amount of gas purchased (e.g., CO_2 dry ice nuggets) in kg

SCOPE 2 PURCHASED ELECTRICITY EMISSIONS

$$CO_2e = \text{Quantity of electricity purchased} * (EF_{CO_2,EC} * GWP_{CO_2} + EF_{CH_4,EC} * GWP_{CH_4} + EF_{N_2O,EC} * GWP_{N_2O} + EF_{SF_6})$$

Where CO_2e is the total annual greenhouse gas emissions in CO_2 equivalent

Quantity of electricity purchased is the annual amount of electricity purchased in kWh

$EF_{CO_2,EC}$ is the emission factor for electricity purchased (same for $EF_{CH_4,EC}$ and $EF_{N_2O,EC}$)

EF_{SF_6} is the sulphur hexafluoride emission factor for electricity purchased. It is already expressed in CO_2e equivalent

SCOPE 3 WASTE GENERATED FROM OPERATIONS

$$CO_2e = \text{Quantity of waste sent to landfill} * (EF_{CH_4,WA} * GWP_{CH_4} + EF_{N_2O,WA} * GWP_{N_2O})$$

Where CO_2e is the total annual greenhouse gas emissions in CO_2 equivalent

Quantity of waste sent to landfill is the annual amount of waste sent to landfill in tonnes

SCOPE 3 STUDENT AND EMPLOYEE COMMUTING EMISSIONS

Detailed calculation methodology provided in 2023 Commuter Habits Survey

SCOPE 3 FUEL- & ENERGY-RELATED ACTIVITIES EMISSIONS

$$CO_2e = \sum_{i=1}^n Fuel_i * (EF_{CO_2,i} * GWP_{CO_2} + EF_{CH_4,i} * GWP_{CH_4} + EF_{N_2O,i} * GWP_{N_2O})$$

CO_2e is the total annual greenhouse gas emissions in CO_2 equivalent

Index i refers to each activity

n is the total number of activities

$Fuel_i$ is the amount of fuel consumed during the reporting period

$EF_{CO_2,i}$ is the CO_2 emission factor for activity i

GWP_{CO_2} is the global warming potential of CO_2

SCOPE 3 PAPER PURCHASED EMISSIONS

$$CO_2e = \sum_{i=1}^n P_i * (EF_{CO_2,i} * GWP_{CO_2})$$

CO₂e total annual greenhouse gas emissions from paper production in CO₂ equivalent

Index *i* refers to each paper

n is the total number of paper

P_i is the quantity of paper with X% PCF purchased during the reporting period

EF_{CO₂,i} is the CO₂ emission factor for paper *i*

GWP_{CO₂} is the global warming potential of CO₂

SCOPE 3 ELECTRICITY T&D LOSSES EMISSIONS

$$CO_2e = E * (EF_{CO_2} * GWP_{CO_2})$$

CO₂e total annual greenhouse gas emissions from electricity T&D losses in CO₂ equivalent

E refers to total kWh of electricity purchased

EF_{CO₂} is the CO₂ emission factor for T&D losses

GWP_{CO₂} is the global warming potential of CO₂