

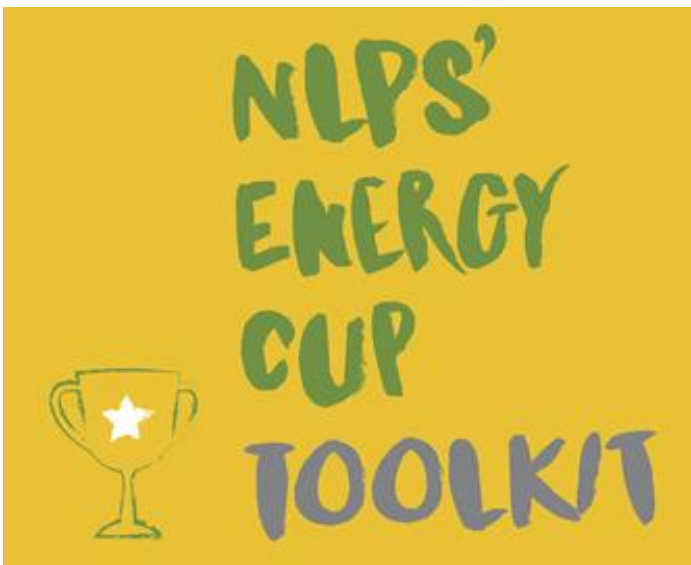


2nd Energy Cup Challenge

Building on Last Year

We are excited to report the successful wrap up of the second year of our Energy Cup Challenge. This year, schools could participate in the full challenge or sign up for one of the three main activities: a school audit, sweater month and unplug before you leave for winter break campaign. Students and staff at participating schools not only learned about energy consumption and environmental impact, but they also took action in some pretty creative ways to reduce their impact.

With the collective goal of saving 325,000 kWh of electricity every year, the equivalent of powering 2.5 elementary schools, "Energy Champions" from each participating school stepped up to organize teams and implement activities. Together these efforts went a long way to offsetting utility cost increases, raising awareness about energy consumption and fostering a culture of social responsibility in our schools.



Beyond Toolkits

We provided schools with a toolkit of ideas to help them implement energy awareness and saving activities, including conducting a school energy audit, organizing a lights out lunch campaign or hosting a sweater month.

Teams didn't stop there however.

Generating new and creative ways to save energy and encourage sustainability resulted in activities such as: haunted hallways, energy saving Saturdays/Sundays, environmental reading club, and clean-up club.



Clean-up Club in action at Ladysmith Intermediate

The Nanaimo District Secondary School not only ran a number of initiatives within their school, they also encouraged local elementary schools to save energy at school and home through games, questions and take home activities.



Energy Saving in Action

School Audit – Schools used a checklist to conduct Energy Audits on areas such as lighting, heating & cooling, electrical equipment and water use. Students were on the hunt for items such as personal device chargers, and space heaters in addition to electronic devices consuming phantom power. NDSS students even identified where power bars could be installed to make shutting power off to electronic devices as simple as shutting of a switch.

Unplug before you leave for Winter Break – With the help of completed school audits Energy Cup Challenge teams guided staff and students to unplug electronic devices before taking off for the Winter Break.

“One person, one situation, and one act of conservation at a time has the power to inspire a culture of energy savers in the community and in reducing our energy consumption at large.”

- Nanaimo District Secondary

Sweater Month – Variations of sweater month occurred throughout the district. This activity generated awareness of energy conservation by cozying up in sweater, toques or scarves. “We had a sweater day and gave out hot chocolate. It was really fun”.



Wool Scarf Wednesdays at Ladysmith Intermediate

And the Winners are...

After all that hard work, participant points were tallied to determine the winners in each of the following categories: 1) elementary and intermediate schools and 2) high schools. The official 2017 Energy Cup Challenge winners are:

Energy Cup High

- 1) Dover Bay Secondary
- 2) Nanaimo District Secondary
- 3) Cedar Secondary

Energy Cup

- 1) Ladysmith Intermediate
- 2) McGirr Elementary

It's Because of You...

We want to thank all the schools that participated in this year's Challenge. Your actions play an important part in helping meet our District energy reduction goals.

We'll be hosting the Energy Cup next fall to continue building a culture of energy conversation and sustainability. If you missed this year, get involved in the Energy Cup Challenge next time round.

Energy Management at NLPS

At NLPS, we are committed to saving energy and our success in this area would not be possible without the help of our students and staff. Our strategy to reduce energy use at the District is led by our Energy Management Team who keep track of our energy use, find efficiencies in operating buildings, and works with a variety of different people at the District to help them adopt more energy efficient behaviours.