

Regional Indigenous Engagements on Climate Change and CleanBC

- Spring 2019 -



Initiative	Relevant Information
Name of Program	Indigenous Community Energy Coach
Name of lead Ministry	Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources (EMPR); Electricity and Alternative Energy Division (EAED); Built Environment Unit (BEU); Community Clean Energy Branch (CCEB), in partnership with the CleanBC Better Homes and Better Buildings program.
Description of Program	<p>The purpose of this program is to have an Indigenous Community Energy Coach who can work with communities to access CleanBC Better Homes and Better Buildings program offers. This will include providing information on the program, raising awareness on fuel-switching, and relationship building. Primarily the Indigenous Community Energy Coach will help to coordinate bulk fuel-switching from fossil fuel heating systems to electric heat pumps.</p> <p>Fuel-switching from fossil fuels for space and water heating to clean electric heat pumps is a key path to achieving greenhouse gas reduction goals under the CleanBC Plan.</p> <p>The Province's Better Homes and Better Buildings program is providing financial incentives to help individuals and communities make this switch. However, incentives alone are not sufficient to drive participation. An identified solution to barriers to fuel switching at the community level is the introduction of an Indigenous Community Energy Coach. The Coach can help to facilitate an understanding of the value of fuel switching where feasible and desirable, provide guidance on program eligibility, aggregate multiple opportunities into bulk projects, and assist on project planning.</p> <p>CleanBC Commitments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that programs that support sustainable communities and more efficient choices are available to Indigenous communities.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialized support for Indigenous communities to make energy-saving improvements. • Incentives to make heat pumps affordable and assists in making the sourcing process simpler
Types of Projects Eligible	Indigenous communities where electricity is primarily renewable but have houses that heat with fossil fuels are the focus of this program. While many homes in other situations could benefit from fuel switching, and may be the focus of the Indigenous Community Energy Coach at a later date, the current focus will be on communities that fit these parameters.
Total amount of Fund	<p>The Indigenous Community Energy Coach will work with communities to access incentives and facilitate bulk purchasing of heat pump.</p> <p>There is potential to integrate with existing funding sourcing in a systematic way. For example, a partnership with communities using EMPR/MIRR funding programs (First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund, BCICEI etc.) to help fund heat pump conversion projects.</p>
Amount available per Project (range)	<p>The Indigenous Community Energy Coach will facilitate access to CleanBC Better Homes and Better Buildings offers. Better Homes provides <i>up to</i> \$14,000 to: fuel-switch from fossil fuels to electric heat pumps for space and water heating (where electricity is primarily renewable); install high efficiency windows and doors in homes heated with fossil fuels; and install insulation in homes heated with fossil fuels. Better Buildings offers <i>up to</i> \$200,000 for a commercial or social housing building to switch to high-efficiency heating equipment or make building envelope improvements.</p> <p>Note, BC Hydro and FortisBC also offer rebates for heat pumps, furnaces, water heaters, and boilers in their service areas.</p>
Deadline for Applying	This will be an ongoing program with a pilot start date in fall 2019.
Timeframe for Fund	Program duration: 2019 through to 2022
Website for more information	For all relevant information on the rebate programs please visit: www.betterhomesbc.ca
Other Information	Interested communities are welcome to connect with program staff to discuss their project ideas and how they might benefit from the assistance of an Indigenous Community Energy Coach.
Main Contact	<p>Name: Katya McClintock Title: Senior Program Coordinator Email: katya.mcclintock@gov.bc.ca Phone: 250-475-7462</p>