

B.C.'s Provincial Wood Stove Exchange Program



The Provincial Wood Stove Exchange is a program designed to encourage British Columbians to change out their older smoky wood stoves for low emission appliances including new CSA/ EPA-certified clean burning wood stoves.

New technology appliances are proven to burn 1/3 less wood, to reduce emissions by up to 70 per cent, and to significantly reduce risks of chimney fires. However, there is still a significant amount of old smoky wood stoves in operation around the province and these units can affect the health of homeowners, their neighbours, and overall air quality.

The Provincial Wood Stove Exchange Program is run at a community level through grants provided by the province. The program includes financial incentives to upgrade old wood stoves or inserts and education to help all wood burners improve their burning practices. Simple changes to the way people burn wood in their stoves or fireplaces can help minimize smoke, increasing the heat provided from wood burning, and limit people's impact on their neighbours.

To find out more about a program running in your community contact your local government office or check out the information posted at www.bcairquality.ca, including contacts for local program coordinators.

Each area may run their program slightly differently but in general they may require a photo or some proof that the old stove has been in use, proof that the new stove has been installed (in compliance with current building codes), and proof that the old stove has been destroyed. Community coordinators can help participants through this process. Once these steps are complete, a rebate will be issued in the amount of \$250 or greater.



Industry Discounts

In addition to the provincial rebates offered in certain communities, dealers, manufacturers and suppliers supports the program by offering discounts of up to \$300 off select models at participating dealers. Dealers in areas running the provincial program are most likely to participate in the industry program. As in the community exchange program, the old stove must be removed and destroyed.

LiveSmart BC Grants

Further rebates are available through the LiveSmart BC Efficiency Retrofit Program, including \$250 for a new wood stove or insert. This provincial program helps you improve your home's energy efficiency. A certified Energy Advisor conducts an energy audit of your home and makes recommendations for improvements. Once you carry out those improvements, a second

audit is conducted of your home to assess the results. You may qualify for a variety of incentives. See the LiveSmart BC website (http://www.livesmartbc.ca/homes/h_rebates.html) for more details.

Quick Facts

Exchange Program Results

- 10 years of exchange programs (1995-2004)~ 1350 exchanges
- Skeena Pilot Year 1 (2007)~ 200 exchanges and a reduction of 12.4 tonnes/year of fine particulate matter (PM 2.5)
- Provincial Exchange 2008 (7 community programs) ~600 exchanges and a reduction of 37.2 tonnes/year of PM 2.5
- Provincial Exchange 2009 goal (16 community programs) ~ 1000 exchanges and the potential to reduce 62 tonnes/year of PM 2.5
- Provincial Exchange 2010 (23 community programs) ~ 1500 exchange goal and the potential to reduce 93 tonnes/year of PM 2.5
- Provincial Exchange 2011 (New funding for 9 community programs) ~1000 exchange goal and the potential to reduce 62 tonnes/year of PM 2.5
- 1/3 less wood burned/year

