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# HomeZero: Clean Energy Retrofits in Vernon

Fri June 28, 2024, from 12 - 1pm PST Free Webinar I zebx.org





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low carbon cities canada

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**ZCIC** 'S BUILDING DECARBONIZATION TEAM



We are a broad coalition working together to electrify buildings in British Columbia in order to reduce their climate impacts and reliance on fossil fuels.

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# How are B.C.'s homes heated?



Electricity: Space heating 32% Water heating 21%

> Natural gas: Space heating 58% Water heating 79%

12% of British Columbia homes now use heat pumps •70% since 2021

# Why Existing Building Emissions Matter



# The Scale of Opportunity

80%

Year-by-year market transformation needed to meet provincial climate targets

60% 40% 20% Annual rate of conversion Homes with a heat pump Homes with a gas furnace (relative to 2022 installed base)



#### **Clean Energy Neighborhoods, Vernon BC**

#### **Retrofitting with Geothermal Heat Pumps**

Presenters: Amandeep Singh, HomeZero Collective Natalie Appleton, Homeowner Nick Croken, Okanagan Geothermal

#### Homeowner Challenges

- **1.** High Cost Barriers for Homeowners are limiting adoption
- Central Air Source Heat Pump: \$15k \$25k
- Geothermal System: \$50k \$60k
- Often homeowners sell the home and loans have to be paid off

#### 2. Change is complex for homeowner

- Learn about the problem and study various solutions
- Find qualified people to complete the work
- Project managing the change is a significant barrier

#### **HomeZero Solution**

#### **1. Retrofit at a Neighborhood Scale to reduce costs**

Pilot project offers a subsidy in addition to existing government rebates

Air Source Heat Pump Package 85% - 95% Emissions Reductions	Geothermal Heat Pump Package 100% Emissions Reductions
Subsidy offered: \$10,000	Subsidy offered: \$30,000
Cold climate air source heat pump	Geothermal heat pump
Heat pump water heater	Heat pump water heater
Solar panels	Solar panels
EV charging receptacle	EV charging receptacle
Electrical and building envelope upgrades (if required)	Electrical and building envelope upgrades (if required)



Use monthly savings to pay down the loan

#### **HomeZero Solution**

#### 2. Offer a complete turnkey solution

- Community based education on clean energy systems
- Project management with highly qualified installers
- 3-way contract
- Ensure quality work we hold back funds until all projects are complete
- Navigate homeowner through all applicable rebates for their retrofit

Maximize benefits, minimize friction, increase adoption





Federation of Canadian Municipalities

Administers \$1.6 billion Green Municipal Fund

<u>Goal</u>: Develop Bold, Transformative, Replicable Building Retrofit Programs

FCM Pilot Funding: \$500,000

BC Hydro **Low Energy Efficiency Partnership (LEEP)** program participant



### **Pilot Project**

#### **Deep Energy Retrofits**

7 Homes with Air Source Package

4 Homes with Geothermal Package

May 2024 - September 2024







#### Geothermal Systems – Ground Source Heat Pumps

The ground maintains a steady temperature through the seasons.

Extract heat from the ground in the winter Push heat to the ground in the summer

Mild temperature makes heat extraction very efficient



#### Geothermal Systems – Ground Source Heat Pumps

System has two components:

- 1. Ground Loop
- 2. Geothermal Heat Pump





#### Pilot Home 2

- 2500 Square FeetBuilt 1979
- 100 AMP service

#### **100% emissions reduction 100% solar coverage**

- Geothermal heat pump
- EV Charger with load management
- Solar PV 10.4 KW
- Heat pump hot water system



Pilot Home 2

Drilling





#### Excavation

#### Landscape

Restoration



Geothermal Heat Pump Installation



#### Peak Load Management

Efficiencies of a Cold Climate Air Source decrease as the temperature gets extreme.

Ground temperature does not fluctuate as the ambient temperature.

Ground source heat pumps can continue maintaining a high level of efficiency even when there is an extreme temperature outside.

#### **Ontario Clean Air Alliance Research**

Having geothermal systems in the mix makes it possible to reduce peak loads



**Coefficient of Performance (COP)** 

#### **Pilot Project Lessons Learned**

- 1. Homeowners are willing to spend money to retrofit when you present a simple fully managed process.
- 2. 50% of homeowners prefer geothermal systems over air source heat pumps, if the price difference is reasonable
- 3. Community engagement and simplified offerings are key to signing up homeowners

#### Homeowner Experience

#### **Natalie Appleton**



# What makes an average homeowner take the leap?

- Aging infrastructure
- Logistics & funding support
- Climate change action

What has been her experience so far?

**Natalie Appleton's Yard** 

#### **During Loop Installation**

#### **After Loop Installation**







#### **Financial Institutions, Government, Utilities, and Educational Institutions**

Amandeep Singh: amandeep@homezerocollective.com



#### Home Builders, Contractors, Homeowners

Nick Croken: nick@okanagangeothermal.net











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Buildings

From ZEBx's Net-Zero Energy-Ready Playbook Series

Overview

Read This Playbook





zebx.org



# Embodied Emissions

\_⊫∕ar Stream 2

An applied research project for low-rise homes that minimize embodied emissions.

Utility Data Stream 4 A ZEBx utility data collection initiative to determine the real emissions and energy profiles of BC homes.

nearzero.ca



Complete our 10 minute survey.

Enter draw to win \$250 (3 prizes).

Deadline: Jul 14, 2024

# ZCIC 's Building Decarbonization Programs



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