

City of Kamloops I Press Release

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City of Kamloops Launches New Program to Encourage "Smart" Renovations

Kamloops, BC – Renovate Smart Kamloops is a new City program that offers to help residents get the most out of their home renovation plans by incorporating energy performance improvements that will enhance home comfort, reduce energy costs, and increase home value and marketability.

The program offers free consultations and virtual workshops for homeowners.

"Whether you're planning to replace your siding, furnace, or hot water heater or renovate your kitchen, we want to help you understand all of your options," said Derek de Candole, the City's Community Energy Specialist.

The Home Energy Consultation involves a one-on-one telephone or virtual consultation with de Candole. The homeowner will have the opportunity to discuss their renovation plans and explore ways to improve their home's energy performance while learning about incentives and rebates that are available.

The two workshops being offered are in a virtual group format. The Home Energy Performance Workshop allows homeowners to explore ideas for enhancing home energy performance while the Carbon Accounting Workshop guides participants on calculating their household's carbon footprint.

The first Home Energy Performance Workshop is scheduled for Monday, November 16, at 12:00 pm, and the first Carbon Accounting Workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, December 1, at 2:00 pm. Interested homeowners can register at Kamloops.ca/RenovateSmart.

Improving your home's energy performance also contributes to its overall value.

The Canadian Home Builders' Association's annual Home Buyer Preferences Survey shows that four of the top ten homebuyer preferences are related to home energy performance, with energy efficient appliances and general home energy efficiency being reported as the top two.







"An energy-efficient home is valued by homeowners and buyers as it offers greater comfort, is quieter, and is more cost-effective," said Glen Cheetham, the City's Sustainability Services Supervisor.

Renovate Smart Kamloops is supported by FortisBC's <u>Climate Action Partners program</u>, an initiative to help municipalities and organizations achieve their climate action goals. Initiatives such as this align with FortisBC's 30BY30 target, a goal to reduce its customers' greenhouse gas emissions by 30% by 2030.

"Renovate Smart Kamloops is among the many examples we have of working with governments and organizations to achieve our shared climate action goals," said Robert Stupka, FortisBC's Climate Action Partners Program Manager.

"The program offers helpful support to residents who are renovating their homes, and we hope they take advantage of it along with <u>FortisBC's rebates</u> to further reduce their emissions and energy costs."

For more information, visit Kamloops.ca/RenovateSmart.

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