



ENERGY AUDIT & UPGRADE GRANT FUNDING IN BRITISH COLUMBIA FOR PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

As part of Canada's demand to drive down Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions to 30% below 2005 levels by the year 2030, our team in British Columbia have been helping clients from all sectors take advantage of some of the available grants being offered by BC Utilities, BC Hydro, Fortis BC and other funding bodies, to carry out studies and to partially or fully fund work that comes from those studies. We've put together a list of the energy audit & upgrade grant fundings currently available for property management in BC and we've outlined the eligibility criteria & the available funding amounts.

Click on the grant name for more information.

Business Energy Saving Incentives

BC Hydro

Eligibility Criteria

Financial incentives are available to replace inefficient products with energy-efficient technologies. They are offered for lighting, heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration. Commercial customers and local governments can apply for these incentives.

Available Amount

Varies but incentives on average cover about 25% of energy efficiency upgrades. They could fund up to 75% of costs. Incentives depend on hours of operation, energy savings, project cost and payback period.

CleanBC Commercial Express Program

CleanBC

Eligibility Criteria

The CleanBC Commercial Express Program provides support to building owners and operators who wish to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in their existing commercial buildings. You must be a BC Hydro Commercial customer on either the Small General Service (SGS), Medium General Service (MGS) or Large General Service (LGS) rate. The building must be in the BC Hydro service territory, including New Westminster. Your building must be a Commercial Building as defined by Part 3 of the BC Building Code.

Available Amount

The Program offers capital incentives up to a maximum of \$100,000 per project. Incentives are based on various factors specific to your building, including building: type, age, location, square footage, hours of operation, and the type of equipment being considered.

EV charging solutions for multi-unit residential buildings and workplaces

FortisBC

Eligibility Criteria

The building must be connected to a current electricity account with FortisBC or the municipal utilities of Grand Forks, Penticton, Summerland or Nelson Hydro. The building where the charging station is to be installed must have been constructed before August 31, 2020 (i.e. new construction buildings are not eligible). Eligible multi-unit residential buildings include condominiums, high-rises and apartment buildings that have dedicated parking for residents. Eligible workplaces must have five or more employees who work primarily at the premises where the charging station(s) will be installed and have dedicated parking for employees. Workplace premises may be owned or leased by the applicant. Applicants of the EV Ready Program must be a multi-unit residential building.

Available Amount

50% of eligible purchase and installation costs,* up to \$4,000 per station, to a maximum of \$14,000 per application



Commercial Performance Program for Existing Buildings

FortisBC

Eligibility Criteria

You must be a FortisBC commercial rate class natural gas customer and/or a FortisBC electricity customer or municipal electricity customer of Grand Forks, Penticton, Summerland and Nelson Hydro. You must be an owner or long-term leaseholder of an existing medium to large commercial, institutional, multi-unit residential, light industrial or agricultural building or facility. You must select a consultant included in FortisBC's list of approved consultants to perform a detailed energy study. For natural gas customers, your project must have the potential to save a minimum 1,200 GJ of natural gas annually. For FortisBC or municipal electricity customers, your non-lighting project must have the potential to save 50,000 kWh of electricity annually.

Available Amount

This funding is offered to help you have a detailed engineering analysis of your facility performed to identify opportunities for cost-effective natural gas and/or electricity projects. Until March 31, 2021, we've increased energy study funding² to up to 100 per cent of the cost of the study, subject to review and approval, to a maximum of \$50,000.

Commercial Lighting Rebates

FortisBC

Eligibility Criteria

You must be a commercial, industrial or irrigation FortisBC or municipal electricity customer of Grand Forks, Penticton, Summerland or Nelson Hydro. You must be an owner or long-term leaseholder of an existing commercial or industrial building or a builder/developer or owner of a new commercial or industrial construction project. You must submit an application and supporting documentation no later than 365 days after the purchase date of the product(s) (as shown on the paid invoice) or installation date, whichever is first.

Available Amount

Funds varies based on different product, see Fortis BC's website for details.

Condensing Make-Up, Air Handling & Rooftop Condensing Units

FortisBC

Eligibility Criteria

You must be a FortisBC natural gas customer under any rate class except Rate 1. You must be an owner or long-term leaseholder of an existing commercial or industrial building or a builder/developer or property owner of a new commercial or industrial construction project. The purchase date of products (as shown on the paid invoice) must be after May 1, 2019.

Available Amount

Units with input up to 199 MBH: \$3,500 per unit. Units with input 200 to 599 MBH: \$7,000 per unit. Units with input 600 MBH and higher: \$9,000 per unit.

Custom Efficiency For Buildings

FortisBC

Eligibility Criteria

You must be a FortisBC natural gas customer under any rate class except Rate 1 and/or a FortisBC electricity customer or municipal electricity customer of Grand Forks, Penticton, Summerland and Nelson Hydro. You must be an owner or long-term leaseholder of an existing commercial, institutional, or multi-unit residential building or facility. For natural gas customers, your project must have the potential to save a minimum of 1,200 gigajoules of natural gas annually. For FortisBC or municipal electricity customers, your project must have the potential to save 50,000 kWh of electricity annually.

Available Amount

Energy study funding up to 50% of the energy study cost, to a maximum of \$25,000. Implementation incentives: the lesser of 50% of the incremental cost of the project, an amount that brings project payback to two years, up to a maximum of \$500,000. Implementation bonus equal to the approved energy study incentive, to a maximum of \$25,000



HVAC Controls

FortisBC

Eligibility Criteria

You must be a FortisBC natural gas customer under any rate class except Rate 1 and/or a commercial or industrial FortisBC electricity customer or municipal electricity customer of Grand Forks, Penticton, Summerland or Nelson Hydro. You must be a long-term leaseholder of an existing commercial or industrial building, or a builder/developer or owner of a new commercial or industrial construction project. You must submit an application and supporting documentation no later than 365 days after the purchase date of the product(s) (as shown on the paid invoice) or installation date, whichever is first. You must submit an application and supporting documentation no later than 365 days after the purchase date of the product(s) (as shown on the paid invoice) or installation date, whichever is first.

Available Amount

Connected thermostats: \$40 per unit. Domestic hot water recirculation controls: \$1,500 per unit. Hydronic additives: \$200 per gallon

Natural Gas Boiler Rebates

FortisBC

Eligibility Criteria

You must be a FortisBC natural gas customer under any rate class except Rate 1. You must be a property owner or long-term leaseholder of an existing commercial building or a builder/developer or property owner of a new commercial construction project. Boilers must be used to meet your site's thermal loads: space, service hot water, domestic hot water (DHW), pool and/or process heating. Boilers installed to meet other operational needs (such as backup, standby or secondary boilers) are not eligible.

Available Amount

Improve your building's energy performance and qualify for a rebate of up to \$20,000 when installing an eligible mid-efficiency natural gas boiler. For a limited time, until December 31, 2021, get an even bigger rebates on eligible high-efficiency condensing models, of up to \$60,000 per boiler.

Natural Gas Water Heater Rebates

FortisBC

Eligibility Criteria

You must be a FortisBC natural gas customer under any rate class except Rate 1. You must be a property owner or long-term leaseholder of an existing commercial building or a builder/developer or property owner of a new commercial construction project. Water heaters must be used for service hot water (such as domestic hot water, sanitation or process hot water). You must submit an application and supporting documentation no later than 365 days after the purchase date of the product(s) (as shown on the paid invoice) or installation date (as listed on the application form), whichever is first.

Available Amount

Storage tank water heater (90 per cent TE and higher) up to 199.90 MBH: \$1000/unit. Storage tank water heater (90 per cent TE and higher) 200 MBH up to 399.99 MBH: \$2000/unit. Storage tank water heater (90 per cent TE and higher) 400 MBH and higher: \$3000/unit. Hot water supply boiler (90 per cent TE and higher): \$12/MBH. High-efficiency tankless water heater (90 per cent TE and higher): \$1000/unit

Sustainable Communities Program

BC Hydro

Eligibility Criteria

Local governments with more than 75,000 residents and champion local governments (those with over 20,000 residents, a Council-approved CEEP and demonstrated leadership in demand side management) in the BC Hydro service territory are eligible to apply. Local governments with fewer than 20,000 residents are eligible for the QuickStart Program, which supports the development of Community Energy and Emissions Plans and provides coaching and peer support for ongoing CEEP implementation activities.

Available Amount

CEEP: Up to 50% of costs to a maximum of \$60,000. Community plans: Up to \$20,000 per plan. CEM: Up to 50% of salary to a maximum of \$50,000 per year for two years. Interns: Up to 50% of salary to a maximum of \$7,000 per 4 month term. QuickStart: The Community Energy Association will deliver a CEEP webinar and workshop, develop the CEEP and provide coaching and peer network support for implementation.



New Multi-Unit Residential Building Rebates

FortisBC

Eligibility Criteria

The project must be located in a FortisBC electricity service area, including municipal utilities of Grand Forks, Penticton, Summerland and Nelson Hydro. You must be building new or extensively renovating a multi-unit residential building, such as an apartment or condominium complex that may include commercial space. You must receive approval before installing eligible energy-saving products.

Available Amount

Choose from a variety of rebates for energy-saving products, both in suites and in common areas. See the detailed list on the Fortis BC website.

Pipe & Tank Insulation Rebates

FortisBC

Eligibility Criteria

You must be a FortisBC natural gas customer under any rate class except Rate 1. You must be an owner or long-term leaseholder of an existing commercial or industrial building or a builder, developer or owner of a new commercial or industrial construction project. You must submit an application and supporting documentation no later than 365 days after the purchase date of the product(s) (as shown on the paid invoice).

Available Amount

Pipe insulation (min 1" thick): \$4 per linear foot. Tank insulation (min 1" thick): \$6 per square foot of tank. Tank insulation (1" to 2" thick): \$6 per square foot of tank. Tank insulation (min 2" thick) \$9 per square foot of tank

Grant Programs

Columbia Basin Trust

Eligibility Criteria

Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) offers a variety of funding programs, three of which are most pertinent for energy and infrastructure initiatives. Local governments and indigenous organizations within the Columbia River watershed are eligible to apply.

Available Amount

Community Development Program: Funding amount is not provided but CBT prefers to not be the only funder. Environment Grants: Small grants are \$5,000 or less, while large grants are over \$5,000.

Low & Zero Carbon Transportation Infrastructure Program

FortisBC

Eligibility Criteria

To help you get ready for lower carbon transportation options such as electric vehicles (EVs), FortisBC is working with the Province of British Columbia and BC Hydro to offer rebates to companies, building owners and strata councils for implementing EV charging solutions. Read the program guide for more information.

Available Amount

10 to 60 per cent of the incremental cost of upgrading to a CNG or LNG-fueled vehicle fueled with CNG or LNG, compared to an equivalent diesel vehicle.

Strategic Energy Management: Commercial

BC Hydro

Eligibility Criteria

Energy-saving opportunity identification fund – Funding to help businesses identify electrical energy-saving opportunities. This funding may be used towards hiring an energy manager, conducting a preliminary opportunity assessment, completing an electrical energy study or participating in an energy management assessment session. Implementation fund – A tiered incentive structure that improves the payback of energy-efficiency projects and encourages the implementation of energy-saving technologies.

Available Amount

BC Hydro funds 50% (up to \$50,000 per year) of an Energy Manager's salary, who is employed by the participating organization.