

## Transition 2050: Residential Retrofit Acceleration Project (RRAP)

### Project Summary

#### Transition 2050 Funding Opportunity

**Transition 2050:** In March, 2018, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) called for Expressions of Interest for their Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program (MCIP) Transition 2050 Partner Grants. These grants of up to \$400,000 provide funding for non-profit organizations to deliver training and support that will help municipalities advance in low-carbon development. The Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program is five-year, \$75-million program designed to encourage Canadian municipalities to better prepare for and adapt to the new realities of climate change as well as reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The program is delivered by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and funded by the Government of Canada.

The Transition 2050 Partner Grants seek to support municipalities in reaching their low carbon targets by leveraging the expertise, training, tools and practical project solutions developed by organizations across Canada. In addition, FCM will help convene national-level meetings, both in-person and virtually, between applicant organizations and participating municipalities. These meetings will enhance peer-learning, document lessons learned for resource development and broaden knowledge sharing.

The Transition 2050 Partner Grants provide funding to partner organizations to work with a group of (at least 5) local governments to towards advancing their commitments to deep emissions reductions. Funding will flow to partner organizations, which will engage selected local governments in the following mandatory activities:

- (1) Formalization of a collaborative cluster/grouping of municipalities through a governance framework, memorandum of understanding or other common structure.
- (2) Collaborative peer learning and training on various topics that are essential to a low carbon transition.
- (3) Complementary planning or strategies to map the preferred pathway to a low carbon target for each participating municipality.
- (4) Collaborative implementation project(s) that assists in execution of the pathway.

**Funding Details:** The total project budget of \$800,100 is made up of the FCM grant (\$400,000) and participant cash and in-kind contributions (\$400,100).

- The grant covers up to 80% of eligible project costs.
- Funds are provided on a reimbursement basis in up to four (4) disbursements over the project.
- Proposed project activities must be completed within two (2) years.

#### Introducing the Residential Retrofit Acceleration Project

**The Challenge:** Programs designed to achieve residential emissions reductions over the past 25+ years have not created the sustained market transformation needed to produce long-term business opportunities for the home performance industry, or the volume and type of retrofits required for governments to meet future targets. Currently, BC governments are committed to making deep cuts in emissions, and BC industry is developing roadmaps for growing the market for emissions reduction products and services. A new opportunity presents itself: to enable the industry-government collaboration which will be essential to accelerating the design and implementation of the strategies and initiatives required to drive innovation, grow and sustain a robust retrofit industry, create a clear and motivational pathway for homeowners, and achieve the transition to 2050.

**The Solution:** A new approach to government and industry collaboration to develop a model for accelerating energy retrofit and emissions reductions. This program will: help municipalities understand their role in reducing emissions, develop implementation-focused strategies, inform policies and regulations, engage citizens and industry, implement actions, measure impact, and continuously improve strategies and projects. It will help industry provide input, have better avenues to be co-developers of retrofit strategies implementation projects and become the centre of a vibrant green workforce.

This project has been designed to have broad local and national significance and to enable collaboration, innovation, scaling up, acceleration, and replication. This will be achieved through: integrating strategies and roadmaps; diverse partners; strategic partnership with industry, multi-pronged implementation strategies, innovating with new – and variations of – rebate incentives, formal connections and broad networks; and information sharing and replicability.

**The Goals:** To mobilize government and industry collaboration and accelerate energy- and carbon-reduction strategies and projects to double the emissions reductions achieved from residential (Part 9 building) retrofits in program communities by 2021 while establishing a clear path to achieving medium-term and 2050 targets.

## The new 'CleanBC' Context

On Wednesday, December 5, 2018, The Government of British Columbia released its [CleanBC](#) plan aimed at reducing climate pollution, while creating more jobs and economic opportunities for people, businesses and communities. Several of the CleanBC objectives, incentives and targets are in alignment with the Transition 2050 Residential Retrofit Acceleration Project (RRAP):

- Support for home energy retrofits with incentives to make heat pumps more affordable and home more energy efficient.
- 70,000 heat pump upgrades in single family homes by 2030 (or 6,363 conversions from gas/oil heating systems a year for 11 years).
- Incentives for residential heat pump hot water heaters (for existing homes and new construction) instead of natural gas systems.
- Adopt the Model national Energy Code for Existing Buildings by 2024.
- Efficiency initiatives for residential and commercial buildings will reduce carbon pollution by 2 million tonnes by 2030.
- Encourage the development of innovative and cost-effective low-carbon building solutions.
- Exploration of a simple and inexpensive home energy labelling program.

## Project Partners

The following organizations have committed to being participants: City Green Solutions, Home Performance Stakeholder Council, Capital Regional District, City of Victoria, District of Saanich, Township of Esquimalt, District of Central Saanich, City of Campbell River, Regional District of Nanaimo, Comox Valley Regional District, Cowichan Valley Regional District, BC Hydro, BC Government.

**Organization Representatives** for municipalities, provincial government and utilities are responsible for the following:

- Attendance and participation at Energy Retrofit and Deep Emissions Reductions Working Group.
- Attendance and participation at workshops to identify market challenged, cross-sectoral understanding gaps.
- Supporting identification of opportunities (policy, regulation, leadership, communications, engagement, etc.) for learning and co-development of strategies.
- Supporting project team on identification and provision of relevant residential retrofit and GHG reduction data.
- Supporting project team on conducting a comprehensive review of relevant existing bylaws and plans to integrate home energy retrofit and emissions reduction strategies and initiatives.
- For those local governments supporting larger implementation projects these roles will be worked out in the Spring of 2019