

Kootenay Energy Diet

Background

Did you know that heating and hot water systems use almost 75 per cent of all the energy used in Kootenay homes? That's why FortisBC, Natural Resources Canada, the Columbia Basin Trust and the province of British Columbia have partnered provide Kootenay residents with an energy diet — a community based, hands on initiative to help residents improving their homes' energy efficiency and comfort, and save money on their energy bills.

By participating in the Kootenay Energy Diet, residents will receive access to:

- an initial home energy assessment at a reduced cost of \$60 (a value of \$400)
- installation of some initial energy efficient household items
- financial incentives of up to \$4,000 through LiveSmart BC
- up to \$2,000 in FortisBC incentives
- a low-interest no money down loan through local credit unions
- personal assistance to make energy efficiency home improvements

How the program works

The Kootenay Energy Diet launches on May 22, 2013 from 7-9 p.m. in Castlegar with ener-ventions (community information sessions and trade shows) in communities across the Kootenays to follow. Registered participants will get hands-on help moving through these steps:

- FortisBC staff will arrange for a Certified Energy Advisor (CEA) to provide an initial home assessment for participants.
- The CEA will install initial energy efficient household items at the time of the assessment. These items may include energy efficient lighting, a low flow shower head, and pipe insulation.
- Participants will receive a copy of their assessment and have until December 31, 2013 to make the recommended changes. They must keep all receipts and submit when applying for rebates.
- Participants interested in financing their energy efficient upgrades are encouraged to contact their local credit unions directly to discuss low-cost loan options.
- Once upgrades that qualify for FortisBC offers are complete, participants can apply directly to FortisBC for rebates. Conditions apply and deadlines may vary. Be sure to check the terms and conditions of individual program offerings for full details. Participants can also call Shelley Hastie, FortisBC PowerSense Ambassador, for help through this process.
- For LiveSmart BC rebates, participants will have until March 31, 2014 to complete a post renovation assessment. They can contact the CEA to arrange for the final assessment. The cost is \$150. Once the final assessment is complete, the CEA will submit the paperwork to LiveSmart BC for the qualifying rebates.

Register at an ener-vention

Residents can register at the launch in Castlegar on May 22, 2013 from 7-9 p.m. at the Stanley Humphries Senior Secondary or attend an ener-vention in their community:

Salmo	May 23, 2013 7-9 p.m.	Salmo Community Centre
Castlegar	May 28, 2013 7-9 p.m.	Castlegar Community Complex
Trail	June 11, 2013 7-9 p.m.	Trail Cominco Gym
Rossland	June 12, 2013 7-9 p.m.	Rossland Miners Hall
Grand Forks	June 18, 2013 7-9 p.m.	DA Perley School
Slocan	Sept 10, 2013 7-9 p.m.	Slocan WE Graham School
Creston	Sept 11, 2013 7-9 p.m.	Creston and District Community Complex
Kaslo	Sept 12, 2013 7-9 p.m.	JV Humphries School

Participants can also register online at fortisbc.com/energydiet for up to 6 weeks after the ener-vention in their community. They can also choose to attend an ener-vention in a different community.

Financial options

Residents may be eligible for a low-interest, no money down loan provided by their local credit union, in addition to rebates from FortisBC and LiveSmart BC. They can access up to \$20,000 for energy efficiency upgrades with:

- a fixed low-interest rate
- equal, predictable monthly payments over a five year term
- an amortization period of up to 10 years

Participating credit unions include:

- Nelson and District Credit Union,
- Kootenay Savings Credit Union,
- Heritage Credit Union,
- Grand Forks Credit Union, and
- Creston and District Credit Union

Contact information

For more information, contact FortisBC PowerSense Ambassador Shelley Hastie at 250-368-1918, email at energydiet@fortisbc.com or visit fortisbc.com/energydiet.

Participants can also go online to kootenayplanet.com/energydiet to connect with other participants, find out what's new with the program and get tips and additional information.

Or, tweet using **#KootenayEnergyDiet**.

Residential rebates at a glance

Energy Efficiency Upgrade	LiveSmart BC rebates	FortisBC Home Improvement Program rebates ^{1,2}	FortisBC Natural gas rebates ²
Air ceiling and ventilation			
Air tightness and draft proofing	\$400		
ENERGY STAR® bathroom fan	\$25		
Insulation			
Attic insulation	\$600		
Exterior wall insulation	\$1200		
Basement, crawlspace, exposed floor insulation	\$1000		
Heating and cooling systems			
ENERGY STAR water heater ³			up to \$500
ENERGY STAR air source heat pump ^{4,5}		\$200 per tonne	
ENERGY STAR split ductless air source heat pump ⁵		\$300 per tonne	
ENERGY STAR ground source heat pump ⁵		\$500 per tonne	
Gas furnace replacement ³ (enroll by July 1, 2013)			\$800
EnerChoice fireplace			\$300
Windows and doors			
ENERGY STAR windows & doors ⁵			\$2.50 per square foot
Lighting			
ENERGY STAR lighting	up to 50% off per bulb		
Appliances			
ENERGY STAR Appliances (refrigerator, freezer, clothes washer)		\$25-75 per unit	

¹ Insulation rebates through the FortisBC Home Improvement program cannot be combined with insulation rebates through the LiveSmart BC Efficiency Incentive Program

² Terms and conditions apply. FortisBC may modify or cancel programs at any time.

³ Only for households whose primary heating system is natural gas. Applicants must pre-qualify for the rebate by July 1, 2013.

⁴ Only for households whose primary water heating system is natural gas.

⁵ Heating, cooling, window and door rebates only apply to households whose primary heating system is electric.