

12 organizations receive \$8 million in multi-year grants to promote energy efficiency and create jobs

August 28, 2018, Calgary, Alta. – A wide range of community organizations are benefiting from Energy Efficiency Alberta grants to expand energy efficiency education, technical training and environmental performance for residents, educators, energy management professionals and businesses across Alberta. The grants are also helping create jobs in the province’s growing energy efficiency and renewable energy sector.

Ranging in value from \$29,000 for a one-year project to \$2.6 million over three years, the grants provide \$8.2 million in total funding to 13 projects being delivered by 12 community organizations.

“By working with these community organizations, we’re helping more Albertans access the benefits of energy efficiency. Not only are we helping Albertans reduce their carbon footprint, but we’re also helping them keep more money in their pockets.”

Shannon Phillips, Minister of Environment and Parks and Minister responsible for the Climate Change Office

“These organizations are all well respected for their education, industry training and community efforts across our province. By investing in their work to advance energy efficiency and renewable energy, we help them do more, for more Albertans, with even greater benefits.”

Monica Curtis, CEO, Energy Efficiency Alberta

One grant recipient is Inside Education. The organization provides professional development and interactive learning on energy use and efficiency to Alberta teachers and students (K-12). Grant funding is supporting a full-time energy efficiency educator to deliver the program, classroom education materials, youth summits and other educational supports.

“As a grant recipient, Inside Education is so pleased to be able to engage students, teachers and all Albertans. The support from Energy Efficiency Alberta will enable us to deliver balanced, engaging and innovations-focused energy education to thousands of students and teachers across Alberta.”

Steve McIsaac, Executive Director, Inside Education

Other grants have been awarded to organizations such as the Solar Energy Society of Alberta, the Alberta Rural Development Network and Habitat for Humanity.

The grants allow these 12 organizations to do more of what they are already experts at, reaching more Albertans in their homes, classrooms, businesses and communities.

“Energy Efficiency Alberta’s support is helping us upgrade our re-sale homes which we refurbish when they come back into our portfolio, to a higher level with higher-performance furnaces, on-demand water heaters, smart thermostats and low-energy light bulbs. We’re very grateful for this support, as it makes a difference for our homeowners and the environment.”

Gerrad Oishi, president and CEO, Habitat for Humanity Southern Alberta



NEWS RELEASE

Grants to the Canada Green Building Council, Electrical Contractors Association of Alberta and Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters invest in technical training and certification for Albertans already engaged in, or interested in, careers in energy efficiency and energy management.

"We're thrilled to be offering LEAN & Green to Alberta companies – a program helping companies dramatically reduce costs while at the same time signaling to the market they are taking measurable actions to become more sustainable. Energy Efficiency Alberta grant funding will help us deliver this specialized training to a broader range of companies committed to improving their environmental performance."

David MacLean, Alberta vice president, Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters

Another grant project is Empower Me: Community Connections for Healthier Homes. This program supports new Canadians, seniors and urban Indigenous households by providing information on energy efficiency and energy kits. The kits include items that help individuals save energy – such as silicone, weather stripping and kitchen faucet aerators. Through the program, 39 jobs are expected to be created – through hiring positions such as Energy Mentors from multicultural communities-- and greenhouse gas emissions are expected to be reduced by more than 13,000 tonnes.

"Statistically we know that members of multilingual and multicultural communities have very low participation in energy efficiency programs due to language and cultural factors. The Empower Me program will help to ensure that important energy efficiency information is successfully delivered to all Albertans. Empower Me recognizes and meets our citizens' unique needs in a way that makes a real difference in their homes and their families."

Yasmin Abraham, managing director, Empower Me Alberta

Energy Efficiency Alberta will be announcing a second round of grants this fall. A Call for Proposals will be issued in the coming weeks with a focus on supporting a broad range of organizations across Alberta in the areas of energy efficiency education, technical training, community projects and capacity building across the province. Additional details including eligibility, funding levels and how to apply will be publicly announced and available at efficiencyalberta.ca. Interested organizations can register at events@efficiencyalberta.ca for more information as it becomes available.

2017 – 2018 Grant Recipients

Organization	Grant highlights
Empower Me: Community Connections for Healthier Homes	Award-winning energy-conservation program engaging culturally diverse communities that have traditionally been difficult to reach. The program delivers vital information about energy efficiency, water use, recycling, safety and health to seniors, multicultural communities, new immigrants and urban Indigenous households.
Empower Me: Efficiency Barriers Pilot	Pilot program designed to test the implementation of natural gas- and electricity-saving measures as well as energy education for up to 150 limited-income homes.
Alberta Council for Environmental Education	Providing professional development, interactive learning and resource development for teachers and youth in Alberta. Organization will also provide schools with tools to

Organization	Grant highlights
	enable energy management learning, youth (K-12) regional workshops, webinars, forums and conferences. Students will also be trained as school energy managers, through the installation of in-school circuit meters.
Habitat for Humanity (southern Alberta)	Providing energy efficient products for Habitat for Humanity retrofits.
Alberta Rural Development Network	Funding energy efficiency products for the Sustainable Housing Initiative, which builds net-zero affordable housing, primarily in rural communities.
Canadian Institute of Energy Training	Targeted to trade allies and participants in the business, non-profit and institutional sectors, CIET will offer a range of technical training to Alberta's energy efficiency service industry, including a one-day best practice course, CEM certifications, Building Operator certifications, and other certification courses.
Energy Futures Lab (The Natural Step Canada)	Organization will convene and enable industry experts and influencers to engage in deliberative dialogue about energy challenges and innovative opportunities.
Inside Education	Providing professional development and interactive learning to Alberta teachers and youth (K-12). Funding will support a full-time energy efficiency educator to deliver the program, classroom materials, youth summits and other educational supports.
Canada Green Building Council	Industry education, training and introduction of an Investor Confidence Project to the Canadian market, enabling the pursuit of energy efficiency retrofits using Canadian-tailored protocols.
Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters Association (Lean and Green Pilot Project)	Lean and Green Manufacturing program – Workshops on improving environmental performance, developing strategies and management approaches to green wastes, customized training and coaching programs.
Solar Energy Society of Alberta	Creation of Code of Conduct, Complaint Form and Consumer Guide documents for solar businesses to be included in Alberta Solar Providers Directory.
Canadian Solar Industries Association (Solar Guide)	Development of training materials to support program delivery and participation.
Electrical Contractors Association of Alberta (Solar Training)	Training delivery to their membership and interested public, to enhance the knowledge of the electrical contractors throughout Alberta, who have done, or who may in the future, install solar PV systems.

Learn about other ways to save money and energy through energy efficiency programs at efficiencyalberta.ca.

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