

Society for Atmosphere Solutions

Community Wood Smoke Reduction Program



2023 Rebate Application Package

Thank you for your interest in the Community Wood Smoke Reduction Program (CWSRP). The Society for Atmosphere Solutions (SAS) administers the CWSRP for the Sunshine Coast Regional District, Squamish-Lillooet Regional District, Bowen Island, Lion's Bay and Horseshoe Bay areas (follow [this link](#) and consult the interactive map to confirm if you reside within our boundaries). If you have any questions about rebate eligibility or this application, please contact info@atmospheresolutions.ca.

Residential wood smoke is a major source of air pollution in BC, especially fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}). The pollutants in wood smoke are known to affect health.

Heating a home with wood is still a common practice, particularly in rural BC. Many people think wood is an environmentally friendly fuel since it comes from a renewable source. While it's true that wood is renewable, when it's burned in wood stoves and fireplaces it releases significant amounts of harmful substances.

Wood smoke caused by residential wood burning is a major concern in many communities across BC. Measurements show that in many BC communities wood smoke is one of the largest sources of PM_{2.5}. Even in Metro Vancouver where wood heating is less common, wood burning accounts for nearly one-third of PM_{2.5}. Wood smoke is a contributor to poor air quality in most areas of the province. The hardest hit are valley communities where temperature inversions may prevent wood smoke from dispersing.

The smoke from wood burning affects everyone in the community, not just those who burn wood. When wood smoke levels are high in a community, people are exposed to it both indoors and outdoors. Pollutants enter buildings through cracks and leaks and are drawn in by ventilation system.

To tackle the woodsmoke problem, we can offer rebates to change out old, smoky wood stoves for heat pumps and electric inserts, which are cleaner heating options.

This application package has four parts:

Part 1: Personal Information. Responses provided in this section contain personal information and will be kept confidential.

Part 2: Determine Your Eligibility. This section will help you determine which incentive(s) you are eligible for. Contact us if you need assistance!

Part 3: CWSRP Participant Survey. Answers to the questions in the survey will be summarized and anonymized by SAS and submitted to BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy and the BC Lung Association.

Part 4: Photos and Information Supporting Your Application. Photos and receipts to support your application will be provided as email attachments when submitting this application package.

Part 1: Personal Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

Preferred Rebate Payment Method (select one):

- Cheque
- Interac Transfer (SAS can process rebates faster with this method)

Part 2: Determine Your Eligibility and Incentive Amount

Mark the appropriate boxes in the “Eligible?” columns to note which incentives apply to your application. Then, add all incentives that apply and enter the amount in the field at the bottom of the table:

Criteria	Incentive Amount			
	First Nation Communities	Eligible?	Other SAS Communities	Eligible?
Primary Incentive: Exchange an uncertified wood stove with a heat pump.	\$2,000	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$1,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Top-up</i> to the <u>Primary Incentive</u> if the uncertified wood stove is removed and destroyed.	\$300	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$300	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Top-up</i> to the <u>Primary Incentive</u> for District of Sechelt residents.	N/A	N/A	\$250	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Top-up</i> to the <u>Primary Incentive</u> for low-income households in The District of Sechelt (household income less than \$80,000).	N/A	N/A	\$1500	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secondary Incentive: New electric insert is installed in formerly wood-fired hearth.	\$400	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$400	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tertiary Incentive: Remove existing non-EPA or CSA certified wood appliances without installing new heating appliances. The removed wood appliance must be demolished, disabled, or recycled.	\$300	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$300	<input type="checkbox"/>
Total Estimated Incentive (SAS will contact you to confirm the amount):				

Notes on the 2023 CWSRP:

- Incentives for gas appliances will cease after January 1st, 2023.
- The incentive can be combined with CleanBC incentives where applicable (not part of this application).
- The maximum total rebate must be less than the cost of the appliance.

Applicants installing a new heat pump will have the option to keep their existing wood stove if the following requirements are met:

- The existing old wood stove is EPA or CSA certified and is currently in use.
- The applicant signs a clean burning pledge (SAS will provide the pledge document) and commits to only use the wood stove under specific conditions (i.e., power outage and/or during cold weather when supplementary heat is required) and provide the wood cord usage data to SAS for at least three years.
- The applicant lives in a First Nation community or a specific area such as:
 - a rural or remote area where power outages are frequent.
 - a cold climate area where a backup heating system is recommended in conjunction with a heat pump.

Part 3: CWSRP Participant Survey

Why are we doing a survey?

- To get feedback on the program from the public, especially CWSRP participants.
- To use this feedback to improve our program.

What do we want to find out?

- How can we encourage more exchanges of old wood stoves?
- What is the best way to provide education on good burning practices?

How will the information from the survey be used to improve the program (or other goals)?

The information from the survey will be summarized and anonymized by SAS and submitted to BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy the BC Lung Association. The information will be used to help achieve:

- More removal of old uncertified wood stoves
- Better awareness of good burning practices
- Reduction in wood smoke pollution

This survey is a mandatory requirement for each CWSRP applicant. Please complete the survey and attach it to your rebate application. Your responses will be summarized and anonymized. No personal or identifying information will be retained.

1. Why do you want to replace your old wood stove? You may choose multiple answers:
 - Concerned about wood smoke in my community
 - My old woodstove no longer works well
 - Concerned about indoor air quality
 - Safety concerns
 - Recommended by building inspection results
 - My old woodstove is not efficient enough
 - Want to heat my place with less effort
 - For cleanliness purpose
 - Others

2. What type of replacement appliance did you choose?
 - electric heat pump
 - electric fireplace insert
 - other heating appliance, please state what kind: _____

3. How did you find information about the program? You may choose multiple answers:
 - Brochure or poster
 - In-store
 - Newspaper ads
 - Radio ads
 - Website or social media such as Facebook
 - Home inspectors or other qualified personnel
 - Others, please list them: _____

4. How often (approximately) did you use your original wood appliance in winter?
 - Less than 3 times per week
 - 3 to 5 times per week
 - More than 5 times per week
 - Primary heating source

5. Approximately, how much wood approximately did you use in the winter?
 - Less than half cord
 - Half cord to 1 cord
 - 1 cord to 2 cords
 - 2 cords to 4 cords
 - More than 4 cords

6. What is the total cost of your new appliance including installation fees?
 - Less than \$500
 - \$500 to \$1,000
 - \$1,000 to \$5,000
 - \$5,000 to \$10,000
 - \$10,000 to \$20,000
 - More than \$20,000

7. What did it cost you to dispose of your old wood stove (removal, transportation, recycling)?
 - Less than \$100
 - \$100 to \$300
 - \$300 to \$500
 - \$500 to \$1,000
 - More than \$1,000
 - Not applicable / No disposal

8. How much rebate do you qualify for in total (from the provincial program, local governments, retailers, etc.)
 - Less than \$400
 - \$400 to \$800
 - \$800 to \$1,600
 - \$1,600 to \$2,600
 - \$2,600 to \$3,600
 - More than \$3,600

For the following questions: 1 = strongly disagree, 2 = disagree, 3 = neutral, 4 = agree, 5 = strongly agree

9. Why did you choose this type of replacement? (Please choose all that apply)

- Appliance was affordable 1 2 3 4 5
- Cleaner burning/less smoke 1 2 3 4 5
- Fuel is affordable 1 2 3 4 5
- It works during a power outage 1 2 3 4 5
- Convenience 1 2 3 4 5
- More effective heat (warmer during cold weather) 1 2 3 4 5
- Includes air conditioning for hot weather (heat pump) 1 2 3 4 5
- Please add other reasons that are important to you if none of the above applies:

10. How would you rate the process of participating in the community wood smoke reduction program?

- a. It was easy to find all the required information 1 2 3 4 5
- b. The information was clear and adequate 1 2 3 4 5
- c. It was easy to fill out the application form 1 2 3 4 5
- d. The local retailers were very helpful 1 2 3 4 5
- e. Did you recycle/destroy your old woodstove (Yes / No)? If yes, It was easy to recycle/destroy the old wood stove 1 2 3 4 5

11. Rate your overall experience in participating in the program 1 2 3 4 5

Please provide comments or suggestions to improve the program:

Respondent Characteristics (responses to #12 and 13 are optional, if you do not want to provide information, please skip them, and submit the rest of answers)

12. To which gender identity do you most identify?

- Male
- Female
- If not listed, please indicate
- Prefer not to answer.

13. What is your family income range?

- Less than \$40,000
- \$40,000 to \$80,000
- \$80,000 to \$120,000
- \$120,000 to \$200,000
- More than \$200,000
- Prefer not to answer.

Part 4: Photos and other Documentation

Heat Pump and/or Electric Fireplace Insert Information

Make: _____

Model: _____

Installation Date: _____

Retailer: _____

Installer: _____

Make: _____

Model: _____

Installation Date: _____

Retailer: _____

Installer: _____

Make: _____

Model: _____

Installation Date: _____

Retailer: _____

Installer: _____

Please attach the following documentation when submitting your application:

- a photo of the original wood burning appliance in place in your home
- if applicable, a photo of the new appliance in your home (for heat pumps, photos of both the outdoor and indoor components are required)
- a copy of the receipt/invoice for your new appliance
- if applicable, a receipt from the scrap yard OR confirmation from your new appliance installer that the old appliance was recycled (if they did it on your behalf)
- for District of Sechelt residents claiming the low-income top-up, a copy of your CRA Notice of Assessment

Submit this application package along with the photos and copies of receipts to:

info@atmospheresolutions.ca