



# Media News Release

**Date:** February 21, 2017

**Subject:** 2017 Woodstove Exchange Program

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**For Immediate Release** (Prince George, BC) - The Prince George Air Improvement Roundtable (PGAIR) is pleased to announce that the Woodstove Exchange Program is underway again this year. This is an initiative of the Provincial government, supporting the improvement of community air quality through the reduction of particulate matter and other emissions by providing incentives to upgrade older, smoky wood burning appliances. The network of community organizations who run the Program also provide education on clean burning techniques through workshops, pamphlets, websites, and social media.

The 2017 Woodstove Exchange Program invites eligible residents of Prince George and the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George to trade in their old smoky woodstove for a new emissions certified wood burning, natural gas, or pellet appliance and receive a \$500 rebate. Program participants who require a Heating Unit Permit through the regional government office are eligible to receive an additional \$130 towards their permit fee. Further information and application forms can be found on the PGAIR website, or by phoning 250-612-0252.

The PGAIR Woodstove Exchange Program is a partnership with the BC Lung Association and the Province of BC, and is also supported locally through contributions from local governments.

## **Resources:**

- 1) PGAIR Woodstove Exchange Program Website: <http://www.pgairquality.com/Programs>
- 2) Burn It Clean Tips: <http://www.pgairquality.com/Programs/burn-it-clean>
- 3) BC Woodstove Exchange Program Website: <http://www.bcairquality.ca/topics/wood-stove-exchange-program/>

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PGAIR is a non-profit society representing a broad spectrum of the community, including the public, government, industry, Northern Health, UNBC, PACHA, commercial and transportation sectors. PGAIR is working towards continuous improvement of the air quality within the Prince George airshed, and coordinates various programs and communication initiatives in support of this effort. PGAIR also coordinates research and provides science-based recommendations to various stakeholders and decision making bodies to help improve air quality.