



# PGAIR Community Wood Smoke Reduction Program

## 2024 Terms and Conditions

### Eligible Program Area

Residences within the City of Prince George and Regional District of Fraser-Fort George (RDFFG) are eligible for the PGAIR Wood Smoke Reduction Program. To find a Wood Stove Exchange Program running in another region, please visit [the local program information](#), on the Province of British Columbia's website.

### Tracking Numbers and Expiry Dates

All applications submitted for the program must have a tracking number. The application must be submitted no later than the expiry date provided with the tracking number (generally a 2-month time frame is allowed for the upgrade to be completed). The contractor/retailer or the homeowner must contact the PGAIR Program Coordinator at [info@pgairquality.com](mailto:info@pgairquality.com) to request a tracking number and expiry date. The address at which the installation is occurring must be provided to verify eligibility.

### Eligibility Period

New replacement appliances must be purchased from a licensed BC retail store during the eligibility period for the program. For 2024, the eligibility period for the purchase to take place is January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

### Rebate Value

The value of the rebate for the 2024 PGAIR Community Wood Smoke Reduction Program is:

- \$850 for a new, emission-certified wood stove
- \$1250 for a qualifying pellet stove appliance
- \$1750 for an electric heat pump (that meets the criteria for BC's Home Renovation Rebate and Efficiency BC Program: <https://app.bchydro.com/hero/HeatPumpLookup>).

### **Rebate values cannot exceed new appliance price.**

Program participants may also be eligible to have their permit fee waived by their local government (wood burning appliance replacements only). Please contact your local government office (municipal or regional district) to inquire. Participants should also contact their insurance company to learn if they can save on home insurance (by qualifying as a secondary heat source).

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

1. The existing wood stove is EPA or CSA certified and is currently in use.
2. The applicant signs a clean burning pledge and commits to:
  - Apply clean burning practices.
  - Only use the wood stove under specific conditions (i.e., power outage and/or during cold weather when supplementary heat is required).
  - Provide the wood cord usage data to the local program for at least two years (before and after heat pump installation).
3. The applicant lives either in an Indigenous community or an area designated by the local program that meets one or more of the following criteria:

- 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.
- A priority area defined by the local program.
- A low-income community according to local social services or other vetted information sources such as the Canadian Index of Multiple Deprivation (CIMD) Index where supplemental wood heating is viewed as economically essential.

### **Eligible original appliances**

- A free-standing non-EPA certified “stove” or a “homemade” or “barrel” stove.
- A so-called “airtight” non-EPA certified fireplace insert, or tube type heat exchanger with a face plate and door (like the “Free Heat Machine” or Welenco or Heatalator that is currently installed in an open-hearth fireplace).
- A non-EPA certified “wood furnace” (ducted, forced air, home heating appliance) – may only be replaced by an EPA certified wood furnace or pellet furnace.
- A wood-burning cook stove.
- An outdoor wood boiler/hydronic heater.

### **Eligible replacement appliances**

- An EPA-certified wood stove or pellet stove.
- An EPA-certified wood insert, pellet insert or electric insert.
- An EPA-certified factory-built wood fireplace. This may only be accepted if it is replacing a NON-EPA-certified WOOD STOVE OR NON-EPA-certified WOOD INSERT (not an existing factory-built fireplace).
- An electric heat pump that meets the criteria for BC’s Home Renovation Rebate and Efficiency BC Program: <https://app.bchydro.com/hero/HeatPumpLookup>.

### **What does NOT qualify as a replacement appliance?**

- A new insert to an existing open-hearth fireplace that does NOT have an existing insert installed in it.
- Electric stoves or fireplaces
- Factory-built (“zero-clearance”) fireplaces.
- Wood cook stoves: Cook stoves are EPA exempt.
- Tin heaters/tent stoves, i.e., something NOT used in a residential application.

### **Destroying Original Appliances**

You or your contractor are responsible for ensuring that the old appliance can no longer be used or sold again. You must show proof that the appliance has been rendered unusable or crushed at a scrap metal facility (photo or signed declaration from facility attendant). A [template declaration form](#) for scrap metal facilities is available at [www.pgairquality.com](http://www.pgairquality.com). A receipt from the scrap metal facility will not be accepted as proof that the stove has been destroyed. You can make the stove unusable yourself, by removing the doors, breaking the glass, damaging the hinges with a hammer, and bashing in the flue collar (please take photos).

### **Application Submissions**

This application and all attachments must be submitted to the PGAIR:

1. **Through the online portal** at [PGAIR Community Wood Smoke Reduction Program](#)
2. **By E-Mail:** [info@pgairquality.com](mailto:info@pgairquality.com)
3. **By Mail:** PGAIR, PO Box 322, Prince George, BC V2L 4S2

4. **Drop-Off:** PGAIR, c/o Fraser Basin Council, Suite 507 - 1488 4<sup>th</sup> Ave, Prince George, BC

## Rebate Cheques

Rebate cheques will generally be mailed out to the participant/homeowner within 6 weeks of receiving their completed application. Incomplete information that is submitted, missing documents, or non-eligibility for the program will delay or void the issuing of your rebate.

**\*\*Each person who exchanges an appliance and applies for the rebate must complete the program survey.**

## Application Checklist

- PGAIR Wood Smoke Reduction Program – [2024 Online Application](#) filled out completely.
- Copy of purchase receipt for the new appliance.
- Copy of [Solid Fuel-Burning Permit](#) (wood burning appliances, new builds only & RDFFG residents only).
- Copy of WETT Inspection (for replacement wood burning appliances, if applicable).

## Photos showing:

- Old appliance still installed.
- New appliance installed (in same location as old appliance).
- EPA plate/label of new appliance (wood burning appliances only – usually found on the backside).
- Old appliance destroyed or submit a signed declaration form completed by a *scrap metal facility attendant* stating that the old appliance is being scrapped. **Program participants cannot complete their own declaration form.** Declaration forms are available [here](#).

## Bounties for Removing Old Wood Appliances with No Exchanges

The CWSRP provides a \$300 incentive for applicants to remove existing non-EPA or CSA certified wood appliances without committing to a new heating appliance. The incentive is per stove and limited to one stove per household. The removed wood appliance must be demolished or disabled to claim the incentive. Declaration forms are available [here](#).