



A DIFFERENT KIND OF FINANCING FOR RENOVATION PROJECTS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The Clean Energy Improvement Program is Alberta's approach to Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing. PACE is an innovative financing tool for residential and commercial property owners to pay for energy efficiency upgrades and renewable energy installations.

CEIP IS A RESILIENCE-BUILDING, INNOVATIVE FINANCING TOOL FOR PROPERTY OWNERS

- With CEIP, property owners can access flexible, long-term financing through their municipality, with repayment facilitated through an added charge to the participant's regular property tax bill. Approval is primarily based on mortgage and property tax payment history, and participants can finance projects with a competitive interest rate and flexible terms.
- This type of financing encourages property owners to make multiple upgrades at once (for example, replacing their furnace or boiler, hot water tank, and insulation), creating more projects for local contractors, upgrading building stock, and decreasing utility bills.
- Although legislative framework is in place to allow the program to exist in the province, local participation is made possible when a municipality decides to "opt-in" to the program by adopting a clean energy improvement bylaw.

CEIP INCREASES JOB OPPORTUNITIES AND DRIVES ECONOMIC STIMULUS

- CEIP boosts job opportunities in the energy efficiency and renewable energy sector for local Qualified Contractors. Local businesses and professionals that can benefit from the program include, but are not limited to, HVAC contractors, window and insulation installers, solar PV providers, energy advisors, and energy auditors.
- **Benefits for municipalities:** creates local jobs, increases property value, deeper energy savings projects lead to deeper greenhouse gas emissions reductions, and the municipality reaches its sustainability goals quicker.
- **Benefits for property owners:** low-cost financing that can cover up to 100% of the eligible project costs; long, flexible repayment periods; utility bill savings; loan transferability (the Clean Energy Improvement Charge is tied to the property, not the property owner); and increased property value.



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE FOR CEIP

- In 2020, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) launched the Community Efficiency Financing (CEF) program. This program provides funding for municipalities to develop and implement efficiency financing programs, such as CEIP.
- The Program Capitalization Stream offering provides a loan for the financing requirements of the program of up to \$10M at a low-interest rate (approximately 2%).
- As part of this stream, a grant is also available to cover program administration costs for up to four years (includes municipal staff time, program administrator costs, marketing costs, etc.). The grant value is up to 50% of the total program financing provided by FCM (e.g., if the loan requirement is \$4M, a grant of up to \$2M is available to cover administration costs).

CEIP ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

- The Alberta Municipalities Services Corporation (AMSC) is the provincial CEIP program administrator.
- As program administrator, the AMSC serves as the central hub for municipalities, Qualified Contractors, and property owners participating in CEIP.
- The AMSC supports municipalities in the program and bylaw development and manages the majority of the program administration responsibilities (e.g., application processing, Qualified Contractor onboarding and marketing support).

MUNICIPAL PROGRESS WITH CEIP IN ALBERTA

- The Town of Devon and the Town of Rocky Mountain House passed CEIP bylaws and are preparing to launch CEIP in late summer 2021; both applied for and received funding to capitalize their programs.
- The Town of Canmore, Town of Okotoks, City of St. Albert, City of Lethbridge, and the City of Leduc have passed CEIP bylaws. They are all in the program design process.
- The City of Edmonton applied and was approved for FCM funding, and is expected to pass its CEIP bylaw and launch in late summer 2021.
- An additional twelve communities have participated in the CEIP Community of Practice meetings or have had preliminary discussions with AMSC about CEIP. The CEIP Community of Practice (COP) is a group of municipalities engaged in sharing best practices, co-developing materials and tools, and facilitating connections between municipalities. All municipalities across Alberta are welcome to join the CEIP COP. Please email hello@myceip.ca to express your interest in joining.

PACE PROGRAMMING OUTSIDE ALBERTA

- Twelve municipalities in Canada have PACE programs available – all of which are offered to residential property owners only. These include Ontario (City of Toronto), Prince Edward Island (City of Charlottetown and the Towns of Stratford) and Nova Scotia (Halifax, Town of Amherst, Town of Bridgewater, District of Barrington, Municipality of Cumberland, District of Digby, District of Lunenburg, District of Yarmouth and Town of Wolfville).
- FCM's CEF program is providing \$300M in financing to support PACE program adoption in municipalities across Canada. As a result, PACE-type programs will become widely available across Canada over the next 4 years.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE?

Visit myCEIP.ca or email us at hello@myceip.ca to learn more about implementing CEIP in your community.