2025 Building Electrification Scorecard

B2E
Building to Electrification Coalition

A program of ZEIC
ZERO EMISSIONS INNOVATION CENTRE

The purpose of this annual scorecard is to track progress on implementation of 50+ recommended actions outlined in the 2021 BC Building Electrification Road Map (BERM) that support adoption of high-efficiency electric heating and hot water systems. **The goal of the BERM is a rapid and enduring province-wide shift to low-carbon buildings by 2030** by increasing consumer demand, growing the workforce, reducing technical barriers, enhancing technology availability and supply chains.

The Building to Electrification Coalition (B2E), was launched in September 2021 as a direct response to the recommendations of the BERM. **B2E acts as a convening body for BERM implementation** while coordinating, monitoring, tracking and reporting out on the progress of building electrification in British Columbia (B.C.).

Over the last five years, **significant progress in policy adoption and market penetration of electrification technologies has been made**, however, a renewed effort is needed to reduce emissions from the building sector. Electrification is a critical solution that results in health, environmental, and economic benefits.

In recognition of the continued work required to advance building electrification in B.C., an update to the BERM will be published in spring 2026. Through extensive stakeholder engagement the updated roadmap will chart a path forward in a new political and economic environment.

Learn more at:
b2electrification.org/building-electrification-roadmap-2026

2025 Building Electrification Scorecard Letter Grade

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B

GRADE

Based on an assessment of progress across the scorecard's 26 indicators, B.C. receives a "**B**" for building electrification progress in 2025. The grade reflects measurable advancement in several areas compared with 2024, while also recognizing persistent barriers that continue to limit the pace and scale of adoption. It represents a holistic judgment informed by the full set of indicators B2E has tracked since 2021 and the evaluation of overall momentum toward the roadmap's objectives.

Progress Over One Year

↗ Progress Leaders:

- Review/update BC Hydro's connections tariffs & distribution upgrades.
- Accelerate the adoption of technologies with low GWP refrigerants.

↘ Progress Laggard:

- Continue carbon pricing on fossil fuels.

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BERM Theme		Actions	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	
Provincial Policy Announcements	Create Market Demand	Commitment & timeline to regulate GHGs for new & existing buildings	1	3	4	4	4	~
		Confirm BC Hydro's LCE mandate	2	5	5	4	4	~
		Establish a timeline for mandatory labelling	2	3	3	3	3	~
		Establish a timeline for mandatory benchmarking	1	3	3	4	4	~
Actions with Short-Term Effects	Create Market Demand	Maintain a public building electrification campaign	3	5	5	4	4	~
	Improve Cost Competitiveness	Continue fuel switch incentives & expand to whole home	2	4	4	4	4	~
		Continue carbon pricing on fossil fuels	4	4	4	4	1	↘
		Help building owners & trades prepare for fuel switch well in advance	1	3	3	3	4	↗
	Expand Industry Capacity	Increase uptake of building electrification projects	3	3	4	4	4	~
Actions with Long-Term Effects	Expand Industry Capacity	Form building electrification coalition & knowledge hub	1	5	5	5	5	~
		Improve training requirements	1	3	4	4	4	~
		Build industry knowledge, experience, & competence	2	3	4	4	4	~
		Coordinate trades communications plans & work with key stakeholders	1	1	3	4	4	~
		Implement consumer awareness campaign about quality installation	1	1	1	3	3	~
		Increase recruitment to BC trades & professions	1	1	3	4	4	~
	Improve Cost Competitiveness	Review & update BC Hydro's rates to support electrification	2	2	3	3	3	~
		Review/update BC Hydro's connections tariffs & distribution upgrades	1	3	3	3	5	↗
		Establish low-income electrification plan	1	3	4	5	5	~
		Establish low-income programs	3	4	4	4	4	~
		Phase out fossil fuel heating equipment incentives	1	3	4	4	4	~
	Address Sytemic Barriers	Improve access to capital for building electrification projects	2	1	3	3	3	~
		Create clear guidelines & streamline permitting	2	3	3	3	3	~
	Accelerate Introduction of New Technologies	Support development of building & equipment standards	3	4	4	4	4	~
		Accelerate the certification of promising new technologies	2	2	2	2	2	~
		Support the introduction of certified technologies	2	2	2	2	3	↗
		Accelerate the adoption of technologies with low GWP refrigerants	1	1	1	3	4	↗

Status Legend

No coordinated activity	1
Promised/planned	2
In development	3
Partial implementation	4
Full implementation	5

Building Electrification | 2025 Year in Review

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Major policy announcements

The Province hired two independent climate-policy experts to conduct a **review of the CleanBC plan** to evaluate the program's relevance and effectiveness. The recommendations were informed by feedback from people and communities located across the province. The CleanBC Review's recommendations reaffirm the need for policies and programs that enable building and vehicle electrification, while seeking programmatic efficiencies.

Effective April 1, 2025 the B.C. **provincial carbon tax was eliminated**, resulting in a significant setback for climate action. Removing the $80/tonne consumer carbon tax that applied to the carbon content of energy, including gas for building heating, penalized electrification and resulted in a loss of approximately $1.5B in annual revenue for the Province.

The **Zero Carbon Step Code** (ZCSC) continues to be a strong policy that supports building electrification. By the end of 2025, thirty-one communities had adopted a better-than minimum requirement of the ZCSC, a provincial opt-in regulation that restricts the operational emissions of new buildings. **Together, these communities represent over 50% of B.C.'s annual housing starts.** As of March 2025, all new building permits across the province are to meet the first step (EL-1), requiring measurement and disclosure of operational GHG emissions.

Existing buildings represent the majority of building sector emissions. While no further progress on advancing the **Highest Efficiency Equipment Standard** (HEES) was made in 2025, research and pilots on related technologies continued, and recommendations for HEES were included in the CleanBC Review.

Some progress was made in **mandatory benchmarking** and **home labelling** for existing buildings. The Capital Regional District, in collaboration with the District of Saanich and the City of Victoria, launched a regional Building Benchmarking Program to help local governments track, manage and reduce energy use and carbon emissions from large buildings. The City of Vancouver continued with their mandatory reporting program, Energize Vancouver. For smaller residential homes, the BC Home Energy Planner, a virtual tool to help building owners save energy and make their homes more comfortable, was launched province-wide. This tool could be a useful platform if turned into an energy label and paired with the sale of the home.

BC Hydro announcements

BC Hydro released a 2025 Call for Power to expand grown clean power supply throughout the province. It expressed interest in projects that will expand B.C.'s long-term capacity to meet peak electricity demand with baseload energy and other reliable generation projects.

Investments continue in expanding and upgrading the province's electricity distribution system to support electrification and load growth.

BC Hydro's promotion of building electrification was less active in 2025 than in the first two years of its Low Carbon Electrification Plan. It is still supportive of building electrification, but programs place a stronger emphasis on energy efficiency, mitigating peak demand, and building commissioning.

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Actions with short-term (more immediate) effects

Targeted incentive programs and regional activity supporting strata and multi-family buildings kept heat pumps top of mind in 2025. However, the promotion of building electrification was considerably more muted than the previous four years, as provincial and regional priorities shifted to affordability concerns and international trade.

The **removal of the BC carbon tax** challenges the business case for fuel-switching to electrified equipment.

Without a financial disincentive for carbon pollution, the main drivers of electrification will likely be the growing demand for cooling and the consistent demand for safe homes and good indoor air quality.

The **shift in CleanBC rebates** toward income-qualified households and people living in multi-unit residential buildings (MURBs) continued. The income-based Energy Savings Program, which included over $3,500 for heat pumps, saw a 16% increase in the number of rebates from the previous year. A new Better Homes Energy Savings Program Condo and Apartment Rebate was launched in 2025 to support the purchase and installation of high-performance electric heat pumps by income-qualified households in individual suites in MURBs.

The BC Retrofit Accelerator (BCRA), a program to support electrification and energy conservation upgrades, is providing support and hands-on guidance to the owners and managers of (over 900) large commercial and residential properties across the province.

Similar concierge-style programs, such as the Home Energy Navigator and Retrofit Assist, are available to support homeowners in select communities throughout B.C.

Actions with long-term effects

The knowledge and experience of building professionals continues to grow each year, with more widespread adoption of building electrification opportunities and solutions. By the end of 2025, the Home Performance Contractor Network included 842 registered (and another 600 in-progress) **heat pump contractors** with representation across all parts of the province. Resources and guides continue to be produced by organizations across B.C., and many can be found in B2E's resource library.

Changes to BC Hydro's **distribution extension policy** were approved, resulting in more predictable costs to customers looking to connect to the system.

Much work has been done to better enable electrification through power-efficient design principles. The launch of the Consortium for Power Efficiency has resulted in new partnerships, resources, and advocacy for code changes that reflect the ability of today's technologies to optimize usage of buildings connected to the electrical grid.

Manufacturers, suppliers, and installers are currently **phasing out of refrigerants** with a high global warming potential (GWP). This transition is resulting in new heat pumps with refrigerants with a GWP one third lower than the previous generation of refrigerants.

Building Electrification Scorecard

Building to Electrification Coalition (B2E)

The Building to Electrification Coalition supports industry leaders to accelerate the electrification of all buildings in B.C. At the end of 2025, there were 252 member organizations, with many of their staff participating in the coalition. B2E serves to coordinate actions, share knowledge, and support its members to continue their excellent work on decarbonization through electrification.

Coordination

Through a series of all-member calls, committees, and a Leadership Council, the B2E member community continues to advance actions within the BERM. Member organizations are on the leading edge of policy, design, technology and education, both championing and implementing electrification initiatives across the province.

Beginning in 2022, B2E received external funding to launch a small granting program, and revamped it in 2024 to become the B2E Innovation Fund.

Knowledge sharing and capacity building

As a central convener of a multi-sector network in the building industry who view electrification as a critical climate solution,

B2E has developed resources and hosted/ participated in many education events highlighting emerging topics related to building electrification. In 2025, B2E published ten additional electrification-focused resources, with key themes including domestic hot water, small commercial retrofits, induction cooking, and residential heat pump design.

Community-building

The B2E network fosters community-building and encourages collaboration between its members. B2E is free to join and the membership has benefits including:

- An email listserv offering participants a forum to ask questions and share knowledge
- All-member calls serving as a venue for policy updates from government, and for members to share successes, lessons learned and project updates
- Early access to electrification news, updates and events
- Recognition of organizations who are fully engaged in decarbonizing the building sector

B2E Innovation Fund

In 2025, under the guidance of a selection committee, the B2E Innovation Fund supported 10 projects focusing on actions including multi-family building electrification, contractor capacity building, thermal safety policy, and mechanical systems technologies.

Completed and ongoing projects by fund recipients can be found at: b2electrification.org/innovation-fund

Ready to join B2E? Visit b2electrification.org/get-involved