

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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# **Alberta remains only province in Canada without energy efficiency programs**

**CALGARY** — A new report from the Alberta Energy Efficiency Alliance shows that Alberta remains the only province or state in Canada or the U.S. without energy efficiency programs that the public can participate in. With the provincial government's climate change announcement last November, Alberta is expected to launch new energy efficiency programs, but the details of the programming are still to be determined.

"With new carbon charges on the way for consumer fuels in 2017, this will be an important year for the Province to prepare new energy efficiency programs," stated Jesse Row, Executive Director of the Alberta Energy Efficiency Alliance. "Consumers that become more efficient and reduce their energy use could see an overall savings once the new carbon charges come online."

In nearly every other province, energy efficiency programs are funded through a charge on utility bills. This charge is designed to pay for itself through consumer energy savings and a reduced need to build new infrastructure such as power plants and transmission lines. For every dollar spent on energy efficiency programs, consumers are expected to save nearly four times that amount.

The job creation potential of energy efficiency programs in the U.S. was a big driver for increased funding during their 2008 recession and recovery. During this time, energy efficiency budgets increased from US\$3.1 billion in 2007 to US\$8 billion in 2011.

"Estimates for Canada show that even a middle-of-the-road energy efficiency program for Alberta would create about 3,000 new jobs in the province," adds Row. "Now is absolutely the time to join the rest of the country by creating new energy efficiency programs."

- 30 -

The report, Jurisdictional Review of Funding for Energy Efficiency Programs in Canada and the United States, can be found on the Alberta Energy Efficiency Alliance's [website](#).

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