

# Commitment to Low Carbon New Home Solutions

Credit: CHBA Central Interior 2021 Training House

CHBA BC is committed to developing solutions to fulfill the diverse housing needs of British Columbians, both owners and renters, while working towards the CleanBC goal of zero carbon new construction by 2030. British Columbia needs a selection of practical and flexible options and incentives for a smooth transition to an affordable, resilient, low carbon future, which home builders can apply to the diverse types of homes being delivered across the province.

## Unlocking More Low Carbon New Homes

In 2022, within three months of relaunching the CleanBC Better Homes New Construction Program, it was fully subscribed. Over 1,000 new home applications have been pre-approved, leaving over 1,000 projects seeking funding to invest in low carbon construction.

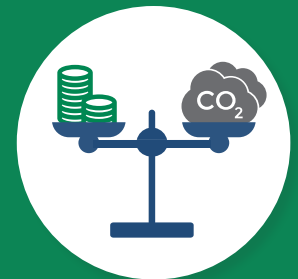
The program was effective at motivating homeowners to select higher-than-code energy performance by reducing the upfront financial burden. CHBA BC's industry survey showed that 63% of builders cited cost as a primary homeowner barrier to selecting higher Energy Step Code performance and low-carbon mechanical systems.

Continued investments for new construction are necessary to transition to low carbon housing in advance of changes to the BC Building Code. **Directing CleanBC funding towards new multiplexes and secondary suites unlocks more low carbon homes, faster.**

### INCENTIVES WORK

63%

of respondents said that if the CleanBC Better Homes New Construction Program is not available, **costs to homeowners would be a barrier to building higher performance levels** of the Zero Carbon and Energy Step Code.



1,000

eligible projects

..... **seek funding** for the CleanBC Better Homes New Construction Program since the **program became fully subscribed** in August 2022.

1,000

pre-approved homes

..... Since its launch in November 2020, approximately **1,000 homes have been pre-approved** for the CleanBC Better Homes New Construction Program.



CANADIAN  
HOME BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION  
**BRITISH COLUMBIA**

Leading Advocate of the Residential Construction Industry in BC

# Commitment to Low Carbon New Home Solutions

Credit: CHBA Central Interior 2021 Training House

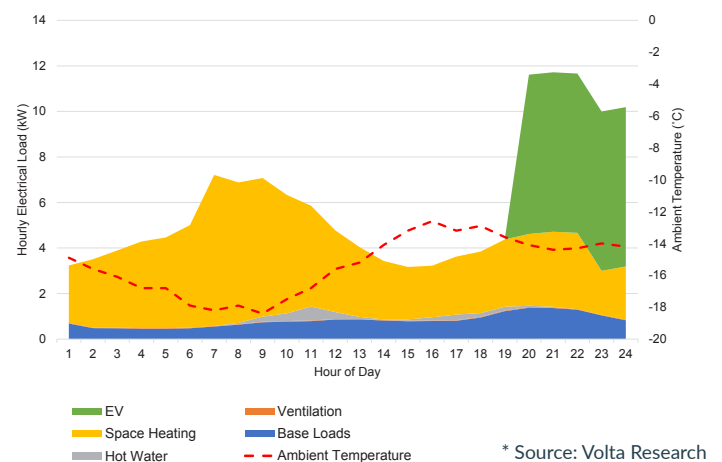
## Supporting Low Carbon Residential Growth

Decarbonization efforts, including the record number of light-duty zero-emission vehicles, combined with upcoming legislation to support small-scale, multi-unit housing, will require a pro-active approach to distribution system capacity planning in the near-term.

Distribution capacity increases for planned developments are currently tied to customer requests rather than local growth, and timelines to bring capacity to these locations are uncertain and costly.

The home building industry needs confidence in available distribution system capacity in the near-term to deliver housing for British Columbians and realize decarbonization targets.

## RESIDENTIAL ELECTRICITY LOADS WITH ZERO-EMISSION VEHICLE CHARGING



## CHBA BC RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Reopen the CleanBC Better Homes New Construction program** over the next three-year fiscal period, with a focus on small-scale, multi-unit housing.
- **Expand CleanBC's investments** under energy efficient buildings by an **additional \$11 million** to enable new low carbon housing funding



- programs that support market transformation and housing affordability as B.C. transitions to zero-carbon new construction **by 2030**.
- Direct BC Hydro and Local Governments to **accelerate distribution system capacity timelines**, in coordination with local demand growth **by 2028**.