Clean Energy Improvement Program







Alberta Municipalities Strength In Members

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



About

The Clean Energy Improvement Program is an innovative financing tool for supporting the adoption of energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades in Alberta. The program gives residential and commercial property owners access to flexible, long-term financing through their municipality. Unlike a traditional loan, repayment is made through a levy on the owner's property tax bill. If the property should be sold, the new property owner continues repayment while enjoying the benefits of lower energy costs.

The program is administered by Alberta Municipalities on behalf of partner municipalities. For over 100 years, Alberta Municipalities has been helping to grow resilient communities.

For more information, visit abmunis.ca

History of the Program

The Government of Alberta established the legislative basis for the Clean Energy Improvement Program in 2018. Over the next two years, municipalities began passing bylaws, securing capital funds, and structuring their programs. In 2021, the government named Alberta Municipalities the sole program administrator.



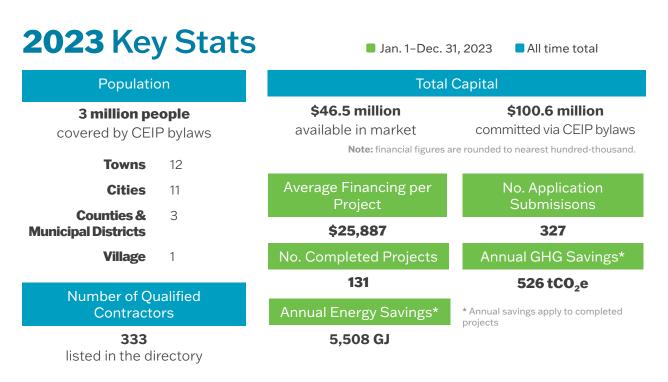




2023 Building Momentum

After a successful first full year in 2022, Alberta Municipalities kept the momentum building in 2023. The Clean Energy Improvement Program (CEIP) grew from 8 programs in 2022 to 15 in 2023, nearly doubling the number of programs in under one year.

CEIP became an **award-winning program** in 2023 by winning a "Clean50 Top Project Award", which recognizes a select number of projects across Canada for their significant environmental impact.



2023 Milestones

Bylaws

6 municipalities, passed Clean Energy Improvement Tax bylaws in 2023, bringing the total number of municipalities with bylaws passed to 27.

- Town of Slave Lake, January 17, 2023
- Town of Banff, March 13, 2023
- City of Medicine Hat, March 17, 2023
- Town of Stettler, May 2, 2023
- City of Wetaskiwin, June 6, 2023
- City of Spruce Grove, September 11, 2023

Contractor participation

Clean Energy Improvement Program Qualified Contractors are energy efficiency and renewable energy companies that support property owners with implementation of their Clean Energy Improvement Program projects. In 2023, **158 Qualified Contractors** — including HVAC contractors, window and insulation installers, solar PV installers, and energy auditors — were onboarded, bringing the total number of our Qualified Contractor directory to 333.

New Programs

7 new programs launched in 2023.

The **City of Calgary** launched its program on January 31, 2023 and is the largest residential program in market. Within one hour of launch, the first round of financing was fully subscribed. A total of \$15M million is available for the first four years, which will support an estimated 797 projects.

The **City of Lethbridge** launched its residential program on February 28, 2023, with approximately \$3.5 million in financing available over four years, which will support an estimated 182 residential projects.

The **City of Grande Prairie** launched its residential program on May 9, 2023. With approximately \$1.9 million in financing available over four years, this program will support an estimated 92 residential projects.

Sturgeon County launched its residential program on July 5, 2023. This launch made CEIP available to a county for the first time. With approximately \$2.6 million in financing available over four years, the residential stream will support an estimated 124 projects. The county intends to launch a commercial program in the future (tentatively 2024).

The **Village of Stirling** launched its residential program on September 12, 2023, and is the first village in Alberta to bring affordable retrofit financing to their community. The Village of Stirling will make up to \$1 million in financing available to property owners and intends to launch a commercial program in future years.

Strathcona County launched its residential program on October 17, 2023, with approximately \$5.3 million in financing available over four years. This program will support an estimated 256 residential projects.

The **Town of Westlock** launched its residential program on October 31, 2023, with approximately \$1.2 million in financing available over four years. This program will support an estimated 57 residential projects.

Engagement and marketing

Alberta Municipalities delivered over 20 CEIP webinars, meetings and presentations in 2023, reaching contractors, municipal stakeholders, and others working in the energy efficiency and building retrofit industries. Sessions included the BUILDEX Alberta event in Calgary; EDA Xperience 2023 Leaders' Summit & Conference in Kananaskis; contractor engagement workshops in Lethbridge, Grande Prairie, and Edmonton; and the Lethbridge Community Conversations event.

What our participating municipalities say

"CEIP has been a valuable asset. The anticipation of continued partnership reflects a mutual commitment to advancing clean energy initiatives in Alberta." Brandon Sandmaier, Energy Systems Specialist, Sturgeon County

"The City of Calgary's Clean Energy Improvement Program has been extremely popular with Calgary homeowners. The technical and administrative expertise of the Alberta Municipalities' Clean Energy Improvement Program team has been integral in the successful launch and implementation of the program" Justin Smale, Public Program Coordinator, City of Calgary "The City of Leduc has seen rapid uptake in our CEIP program, with enthusiastic participation and the completion of significant projects. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with community members reporting improved property conditions, increased home comfort, and utility bill savings. Key advantages of the program for our municipality include enhanced community engagement, innovative project outcomes, and measurable environmental benefits." Nathan Schaper, Energy Project Manager, City of Leduc

2023 Project Showcases

Upgrades Installed: High-efficiency natural gas furnace, energy-efficient windows, energy-efficient door, solar photo voltaic system

Estimated Annual Energy Savings: 46 GJ/year

"We upgraded 13 new triple pane windows including a full patio door, high efficiency furnace, and a 9.45 kW capacity Solar system. It really helps homeowners upgrade to more renewable resources and be able to pay it off over time through your property taxes. Thanks to everyone on the CEIP team that helped out with the process." Kevin Tam, resident of Edmonton **Upgrades Installed:** 8 triple pane windows, 2 energy-efficient doors, high-efficiency natural gas furnace, high-efficiency central air conditioner

Estimated Annual Energy Savings: 23 GJ/year

"I submitted my application in February 2023 and began working with the CEIP team April 2023. Due to the outstanding knowledge and professionalism of the CEIP team, we were able to incorporate all of the renovations we required to make our home more energy efficient and enjoyable. The CEIP team ensured the renovation process was easy and enjoyable." Scott Mizibrocky, resident of Calgary

Upgrades Installed: Attic insulation, 8 triple pane windows, 1 energy-efficient door, high-efficiency natural gas furnace, High-efficiency storage water heater

Estimated Annual Energy Savings: 39 GJ/year

"Thanks to the CEIP program in partnership with the municipality of Lethbridge, we have been able to afford to complete energy efficient upgrades that have been cost saving and have improved the comfort of our home. The windows are no longer drafty and they look amazing, the furnace is quiet and costs less to run. This has been an amazing experience and program to help people improve their home value, decrease their energy bill, and make their homes more comfortable." Ida Draper, resident of Lethbridge





Improve property values and achieve community sustainability goals

With the Clean Energy Improvement Program, municipalities encourage the adoption of energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades by providing property owners with access to flexible, long-term financing.

Municipalities that encourage clean energy improvements achieve community climate and sustainability goals faster. At the same time, they generate more work for local contractors, improve their community's building stock, and decrease residents' utility bills.

Unlike a traditional loan, the Clean Energy Improvement Program provides low-cost financing that is tied to the property tax bill, not personal credit. This encourages property owners to make multiple, cost-saving renovations at once. For example, replacing a furnace and hot water tank while also adding insulation and rooftop solar PV.

Property owners save on energy costs which makes it easier to pay back their financing. Since the financing is tied to the property, if the property is sold, the new owner assumes repayment, and enjoys the benefit of lower energy costs.

How it works

- **STEP1** The municipality passes a Clean Energy Improvement Tax Bylaw, secures the capital required to finance eligible projects, and partners with Alberta Municipalities to administer the program.
- **STEP 2** Once the program is launched, property owners apply to the program with their proposed projects. Approved applicants install eligible upgrades and Alberta Municipalities verifies the project is complete.
- **STEP 3** Once project completion is verified, municipal program funds are used to pay Qualified Contractors.
- **STEP 4** Property owners repay the municipality over time through a charge on their regular property tax bill.

Get started today

If the Clean Energy Improvement Program sounds right for your community, we can help you get started. Let's chat!

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