



CITY OF
PRINCE GEORGE

Media Release

1100 Patricia Boulevard, Prince George, BC V2L 3V9

March 8, 2008

City Supports the Woodstove Exchange Program

The woodstove exchange program will help clear the City's air with support from the City of Prince George, Province of BC, Government of Canada, Hearth, Patio and Barbeque Association, BC Lung Association, and the Prince George Air Quality Implementation Committee.

"If your family and neighbors are concerned about wood smoke and particulate, this program is for you", says Mayor Colin Kinsley. "New certified wood stoves produce the same heat as your old stove but use less wood, and they also produce much less particulate air pollution, which your family and neighbors will appreciate."

Inefficient older wood stoves have a negative effect on local air quality around the stove, to the family in the home and the neighbors nearby. New EPA/CSA certified woodstoves produce up to 90% less particulate air emissions than older inefficient woodstoves. Newer certified stoves also reduce the risk of chimney fires.

The woodstove exchange program provides interested residents with a \$250.00 rebate cheque and a 15% discount to remove an old inefficient woodstove and replace it with a new wood stove that qualifies.

The City is contributing \$15,000.00 and the Province of BC is contributing \$33,000.00 to support the woodstove exchange program, and to provide \$250.00 incentive vouchers. The local participating retailers are: Prince George Furnaceland, CT Gasfitting Services, Dale's Trad'N Post, Mainline Plumbing and Heating, Fraser Plumbing and Heating, and the Hearth, Patio and Barbeque Association which are contributing the 15% discount on woodstoves. The Program Launch date is March 01, 2008, and will continue until April 30, 2008. In store discounts of 15% will be available ONLY during this 8 week period. The \$250 rebate has an expiry date of August 31, 2008. If successful, the program will run over a 3 to 5 year period.

The Woodstove Exchange Program Wood program offers a solution to the residential wood smoke problem. These programs can help reduce the amount of air pollution from wood smoke in your area by replacing old wood burning technology for new appliances. This is a voluntary program that provides information and incentives (e.g., rebates or discounts) to encourage people to replace their old, conventional wood stove with a cleaner burning gas, wood, or pellet stove. Information is available at the Prince George Air Quality Implementation Committee Website, from the City's main web page click on the air quality committee icon, or go to: http://www.pgairquality.com/woodstove_exchange.html

The "Burn-it-Smart" workshop at the Civic Center on March 8th from 1pm to 4pm will include a demonstration of a new woodstove in comparison to an old wood stove to show the difference in emissions. The workshop also provides a demonstration of new stove operation to make sure you get maximum efficiency and the least pollution from the new style of stoves. A promotional poster is at: <http://www.pgairquality.com/files/pdf/Poster.pdf>

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