



Home Energy Retrofit Funding Must Be Available to All Ontarians

OTTAWA, February 10, 2016 – The Ontario Government recently announced a \$100 million home energy retrofit program to upgrade furnaces, water heaters and insulation. The intent of the program, as noted by Ontario’s Minister of Environment and Climate Change Glen Murray, is to help homeowners upgrade their homes, save money and keep Ontario on a path to a low carbon future.

As announced, the funding is only available to customers of natural gas utilities. This means that many Ontarians, including those in rural areas of the province who use low-emission propane, will not be able to access the rebates.

“The Canadian Propane Association (CPA) applauds the government’s efforts to promote energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and is excited to work with them to ensure that propane consumers can access retrofit rebates,” said CPA Executive Director, Andrea Labelle. “However, based on current information, the program could deny rural Ontarians the opportunity to upgrade their homes and take advantage of energy efficient propane.”

Over 100,000 homes across the province use propane as their primary heating fuel. These households, along with a significant percentage of the province’s population who heat with energy sources other than natural gas, are not currently eligible for the announced incentives.

“The CPA urges the government to consider home efficiency opportunities for all Ontarians, including those living in rural areas,” added Labelle. “On a per household basis, there is as much environmental and economic benefit to be gained from upgrading furnaces, water heaters and insulation in propane-powered houses as there is in houses that use natural gas.”

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About the Canadian Propane Association

With over 400 members, the Canadian Propane Association (CPA) is the national association for a growing, multi-billion dollar industry that impacts the livelihood of tens of thousands of Canadians. The CPA develops and produces industry training materials, offers an emergency response assistance plan to its members and provides advocacy services for the propane industry.

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