



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BC CADE, HPBAC, industry members call for Metro Vancouver to drop impending September 15 deadline for registration and fines for homeowners with wood-burning fireplaces, stoves; instead work with industry to create better incentive program to purchase more efficient appliances

VANCOUVER – Metro Vancouver should drop its impending September 15 deadline for homeowners to register their wood-burning fireplaces and stoves and instead work with industry to create incentives to install more efficient appliances says the BC Coalition for Affordable Dependable Energy [BC CADE], the Hearth, Patio and Barbecue Association of Canada [HPBAC] and industry representatives.

“We want Metro Vancouver to use a carrot, not a stick, to encourage 100,000 homeowners to purchase far cleaner and more efficient fireplaces and stoves – which are being made right here in British Columbia by several manufacturers – not tell them they have to register or face potentially significant fines,” said Bill Tieleman, BC Coalition for Affordable Dependable Energy.

“It would be far smarter and more economical to drop the registration and deadline and work with the industry to encourage purchase of the latest, built-in-BC or Canada wood-burning fireplaces and stoves,” Tieleman said. “That would reduce air pollution considerably while boosting our home-grown fireplace, stove and barbecue industry, which is facing major challenges from tariffs imposed by the United States.”

Mike McNeice, HPBAC spokesperson, said his association supports some aspects of Metro Vancouver’s bylaw – especially best practices for wood heating, but does not believe the registration and fines will work, while the right incentive program can.

“This is a huge administrative task. Rather than use valuable time and resources to find and register wood fireplaces and stoves, an improved incentive program would greatly encourage buying new, cleaner appliances to improve air quality while helping the Canadian manufacturing industry,” McNeice said. “Let’s create a win-win instead of a lose-lose.”

McNeice noted that Metro Vancouver has a limited incentive program that is not well promoted, is complicated, and cannot accommodate the large number of homeowners affected.

Kyle Grant, Vice-President of Sales and Marketing at Regency Fireplace Products, says his firm generally supports Metro Vancouver’s goals and a transition to modern efficient appliances.

“Our new stoves can reduce emissions by up to 90% compared with older, uncertified units. Given current economic pressures and the affordability crisis, we agree with HPBAC that change-out incentives would be the most effective near-term measure,” Grant said.

“Wood energy is a recognized biofuel and renewable option that gives many households an affordable, safe supplemental heat source—especially during winter storms and power outages,” added Grant. “Modern wood stoves are a reliable backup heat source that can lower electrical demand and help avoid costly power imports during peak demand periods.”

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Background

The BC Coalition for Affordable Dependable Energy [BC CADE] is a coalition bringing together businesses, business organizations, labour unions, and others to support choice on affordable, dependable energy. Coalition members include:

- BC Chamber of Commerce
- Canadian Federation of Independent Business – BC Branch
- Surrey Board of Trade
- Greater Vancouver Board of Trade
- Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association of Canada
- BC Restaurant and Foodservices Association
- Restaurants Canada
- BC Craft Brewers Guild
- BC Asian Restaurant Cafe Owners Association
- International Union of Electrical Workers Local 213
- UA Local 170
- BC Building Trades
- Mott Electric
- Canadian Institute of Plumbing and Heating
- The Limona Group
- South Asian Business Association
- Northwest Stoves
- Align West Homes
- Alliance of Beverage Licensees BC
- Concorde Distributing
- Jackson Grills
- Ready Propane

- Napoleon Grills & Fireplaces
- Continental Fireplaces & HVAC
- Valor Radiant Gas Fireplaces
- Pioneer Fireplace
- Maxquip
- Regency Fireplace Products
- Heat Savers
- Burden Propane
- Urban Fireplaces
- Quadra Homes
- Isle of Mann Property Group