

CHBA BC stresses affordability with housing action in the Climate Leadership Plan

August 19, 2016. Burnaby, British Columbia – The built environment is key component of the Climate Leadership Plan announced today by the Premier. CHBA BC is pleased with some of the recommendations in the report, but believes affordability must also be a priority with any mandatory changes to the building code or housing sector.

“The housing sector continues to be a leader in addressing climate change in Canada, and an example of this is the advancements in net zero housing,” said Neil Moody, CEO of the Canadian Home Builders’ Association of British Columbia. “We will continue to push for voluntary energy-efficiency solutions that will meet the climate change needs while protecting affordability at the same time.”

An often overlooked opportunity for climate action is in the existing housing stock. Across Canada, 50% of the housing stock was built before 1985, and it uses twice as much energy as homes built since. CHBA BC encourages strong incentives for energy retrofits for homeowners, such as a home renovation tax credit for energy-efficient upgrades in addition to the smaller utility rebates that are already in place.

It is positive that the report includes a strong commitment to improve transit infrastructure and a focus on growth near transit corridors. To accommodate a growing population in British Columbia, this is vital to ensuring that we are able to bring more transit-oriented housing supply in high-growth areas.

We believe that with industry feedback, climate leadership is possible while maintaining affordability. We look forward to collaborating with Government and other stakeholders as this plan unfolds to benefit all British Columbians.

To view the Climate Leadership Plan, [view this link.](#)

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About the Canadian Home Builders’ Association of BC:

The Canadian Home Builders’ Association of BC is the voice of the residential construction industry in British Columbia representing more than 1,700 members through an affiliated network of nine local home building associations located throughout the province. The industry contributes over \$19.0 billion in investment value to British Columbia’s economy creating 137,000 jobs in new home construction, renovation, and repair – one of the largest industry employers in British Columbia.