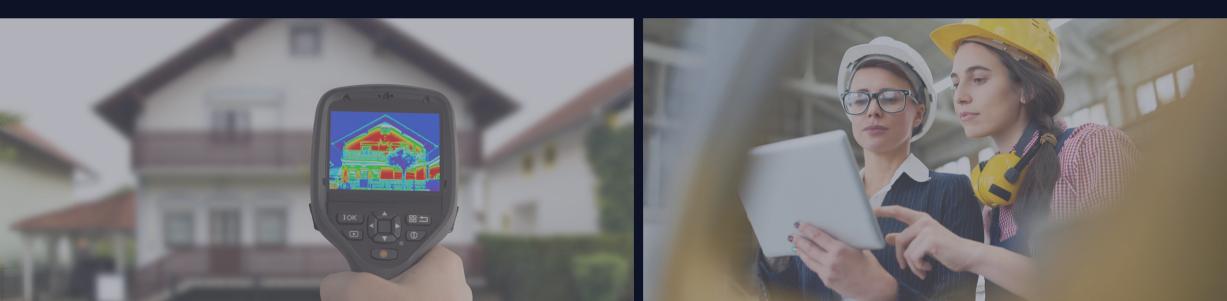


# Efficiency For All

A review of provincial/territorial low-income energy efficiency programs with lessons for federal policy in Canada

Abhi Kantamneni, Research Associate 01/04/2022





#### TODAY'S TOPICS

TOPIC 1

TOPIC 2

TOPIC 3

Key features of existing programs

TOPIC 4

#### Why low-income energy efficiency matters now

#### Key strengths and gaps of existing programs

#### A federal role in low-income energy efficiency



# Low-income energy efficiency

Why it matters now



Low-income Why it matters now

- Low-income households
  - more vulnerable to energy
  - poverty
- Cannot afford upfront costs
  - or assume more debt
  - burden
- Tailored approaches are needed

# energy efficiency





Low-income energy efficiency Why it matters now

• Energy efficiency should benefit all Canadians • Energy poverty a priority for transition to be fair and just • Federal gov. can play a leadership role in achieving net-zero emissions and reducing energy poverty



Key Features of Existing Programs Program types, target markets and what they are accomplishing



### Key Features Of provincial low-income energy efficiency programs



Income based eligibility (LICO, LIM, **Province Specific**)



image: Flaticon.com

#### Turnkey installs at no (or very low) cost to participants

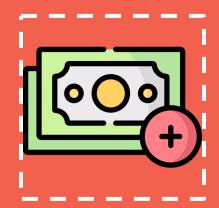




Self-install



**Direct install** (minor upgrades) (major upgrades)



Bonus Rebate

Supplemental

image: Flaticon.com



## **Direct install**



Custom Multi-unit





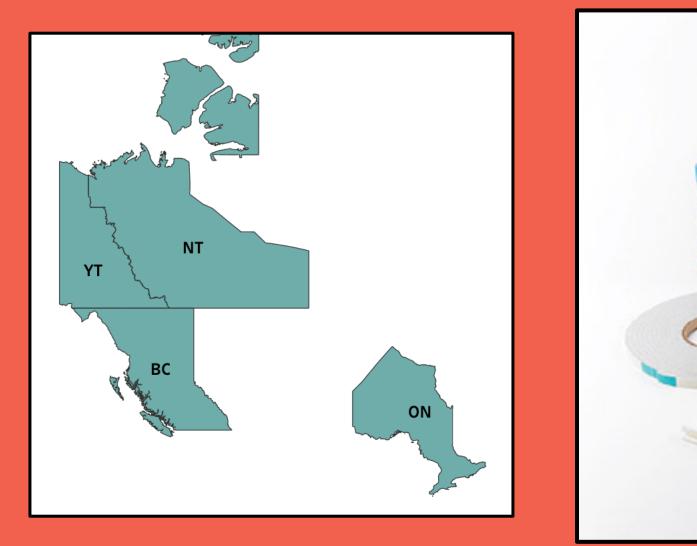


image: Flaticon.com, fortisbc.com







#### Direct install (minor upgrades)





image: Flaticon.com, fortisbc.com





Direct install (major upgrades)





image: Flaticon.com, fortisbc.com



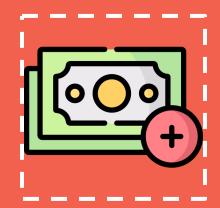




Self-install



**Direct install** (minor upgrades) (major upgrades)



Bonus Rebate



Supplemental

image: Flaticon.com

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# **Direct install**



Custom Multi-unit



### Program types What programs are accomplishing

Program type	Range of participation rates [%]	Range of program cost per participant [\$]	Range of energy savings per participant [GJ]
Self-install programs	< 3%	< \$100	1.0 GJ – 1.5 GJ
Direct installs with minor upgrades	0.7% – 1%	\$400 - \$1000	< 5 GJ
Direct installs with major upgrades	1% – 2%	\$2,600 - \$11,000	17 GJ – 40 GJ

## Program strengths and gaps



#### Program Strengths



**Engaging low-income** Canadians in energy efficiency



#### Institutional knowledge, local networks and relationships



Program Gaps In relation to achieving net-zero emissions and reducing energy poverty







Deeper energy savings per household

Fuel-switching not standard feature, even when it may reduce costs

Removing nonenergy health & safety barriers



Not targeting energy poor and 'hard to reach' households



# A Federal Role

A responsible and appropriate role in low-income energy efficiency

### Federal Role Reducing energy poverty and achieving net-zero emissions





Focus on results, set targets and let provinces meet them in own context

Create supportive systems and platforms ensuring energy poor households achieve a minimum home energy efficiency rating better than or equal to the top 20 of the most efficient houses in the country

### Federal Role Reducing energy poverty and achieving net-zero emissions



Leverage and enhance existing delivery capacity



Stable long-term investment, not boom/bust



47 years of Federal– providing funding to supplement local and state low-income energy efficiency initiatives. Offers local program design flexibility while meeting federal objectives

## Federal Role Reducing energy poverty and achieving net-zero emissions





Focus on results, set targets and let provinces meet them in own context

Leverage and enhance existing delivery capacity



Stable long-term investment, not boom/bust



**Create supportive** systems and platforms



#### What's next? For low-income energy efficiency in Canada



Encouraged by lowincome supports in Fed NDP-Liberal agreement



**Discouraged** by \$485M in ERP for loan program for low-income

# Excited for upcoming **Efficiency** Canada research



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