



Media Release

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For immediate release

Learn all about home energy efficiency at upcoming Green Home Shows

Public events in Creston and Castlegar followed by a professional builders' workshop

Creston / Castlegar, BC: The public is invited to attend an upcoming Green Home Show to learn more about home energy efficiency opportunities. Whether you are building, renovating or buying, the Green Home Show will connect you with locally available resources and services for renovating homes that prioritize energy efficiency, cost savings, and comfort. The Green Home Show events are free to the public, and all ages are welcome. Dessert and refreshments will be served. No registration is required.

The Green Home Shows are being held as follows:

Wednesday, April 4, 6:00 to 8:00 pm – Creston

Creston & District Community Complex
312 – 19th Ave., N.

Thursday, April 5, 6:00 to 8:00 pm – Castlegar

Castlegar & District Community Complex
2101 6th Ave.

The Green Home Shows are facilitated by Trish Dehnel, Senior Energy Specialist at the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK), sponsored by FortisBC and enabled by the Community Energy Association. The events will feature local businesses and services that focus on home energy efficiency. There will also be a complete set of model wall-assemblies, available to demonstrate possible combinations of construction and insulation techniques for improved building performance.

Following the Green Home Shows is a professional builders' workshop in Castlegar on Friday, April 6, from 7:30 am to 3:00 pm at the Castlegar & District Community Complex. In this interactive workshop, building science expert Hamid Heidarali, and Energy Advisor Gerry Sawkins will present a holistic perspective on high performance builds, particularly in the context of the BC Energy Step Code. The discounted early-bird registration rate is \$85 until noon on March 22, after which the fee will be \$110. The workshop is pre-approved for 6 continuing professional development (CPD) credits from BC Housing.

“When it comes to improving the energy efficiency of a building, the building envelope should be given the first attention, and this is the spirit of the newly introduced BC Energy Step Code,” said lead instructor Hamid Heidarali. “The builders’ workshop will demonstrate how a holistic approach can help achieve an optimum balance between thermal performance, moisture management, thermal comfort, long-term durability, etc. Thinking holistically is the only reliable way to achieve long-term satisfactory performance of a building as a whole.”

These events build off of the success of a similar initiative in the East Kootenay. Builders in the Kootenay region have identified distance as an obstacle to their continuous improvement, because most training is offered outside of the region, often in the Lower Mainland. These made-in-the-Kootenays initiatives provide high-caliber, hands-on instruction available locally through funding from partners like BC Hydro and Fortis BC, and support from the Regional Districts.

For more information on the Green Home Shows, see the RDCK website:

<http://www.rdck.ca/EN/meta/news/news-archives/2018-news-archive/green-home-shows-coming-to-the-west-kootenay.html>

For more information and to register for the builders’ workshop on April 6th in Castlegar, go to the Eventbrite site: <https://castlegar-builder-workshop-2018.eventbrite.ca>

About the partners

These learning opportunities are facilitated by the Senior Energy Specialist of the RDCK. Design and construction of the mobile wall assemblies was completed by the firm “Hamid Design Build” and made possible through funding from BC Hydro.

The Senior Energy Specialist position of the RDCK is funded by FortisBC and enabled through the Community Energy Association (CEA), an organization that supports local governments in developing and implementing community energy and emissions plans (also known as climate action plans, community energy plans, and local action plans). The CEA also helps local governments with carbon neutral action plans for their operations. Current research and implementation includes biomass district heating, electric vehicles, home energy retrofits, and green economic development. CEA facilitates the BC Mayors Climate Leadership Council (<http://communityenergy.bc.ca/>).

Incorporated in 1965, the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) is a local government that serves 60,000 residents in 11 electoral areas and nine member municipalities. The RDCK provides more than 160 services, including community facilities, fire protection and emergency services, grants, planning and land use, regional parks, resource recovery and handling, transit, and much more. For more information about the RDCK, visit www.rdck.ca.

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