



NEWS RELEASE

Driving Electric in B.C.: Home and Workplace Charging Get a Boost

Provincial rebates will help offset the costs of electric vehicle chargers in B.C. homes, apartments, strata complexes and – for the first time – workplaces

For immediate release

March 7, 2018

If you've been thinking about buying an electric car, new charge-up incentives may give you the boost you need. The Fraser Basin Council today announced rebates in its Plug in BC program to help offset the purchase and installation of electric vehicle charging equipment in single-family homes, duplexes and multi-unit residential buildings and – for the first time – in workplaces.

Three new rebates, funded with \$1.85 million from the Province of British Columbia as part of its Clean Energy Vehicle Program and administered by Plug in BC, are available now through March 31, 2020 (or while program funding lasts):

- A rebate for **Single-Family Homes and Duplexes** covers 75% of costs, up to \$750, for the purchase and installation of a Level 2 (208v/240v) charging station for residential use installed February 1, 2018 or later. A B.C. resident can request the rebate after the purchase and installation of the station is complete.
- A rebate for **Multi-Unit Residential Buildings** covers 75% of costs, up to \$4,000, for the purchase and installation of a Level 2 station (208v/240v). An applicant must apply in advance of a purchase and installation of a station and may apply for more than one station.
- A rebate for **Workplaces** covers 50% of costs, up to \$4,000, per Level 2 station (or \$2,000 per Level 1 (120 v) station). An applicant must apply in advance of a purchase and installation of a station and may apply for more than one station.

Rebates are available by application on a first-come, first-serve basis, subject to consideration of a fair geographic distribution of the incentives in B.C.

Plug in BC offers support and information to applicants, including free consultations on the steps to set up a charging station in a multi-unit residential building or workplace.

For details and to apply, visit: pluginbc.ca/chargingsolutions

Previously announced provincial incentives for clean-energy vehicles are also available:

- **Point of Sale Rebates on Clean-Energy Vehicles:** Rebates of up to \$5,000 off the final vehicle price for a qualifying new battery electric, fuel-cell electric or plug-in hybrid electric vehicle, and up to \$6,000 for a hydrogen fuel cell vehicle. To learn more: <https://www.cevforbc.ca/clean-energy-vehicle-program>

- **Specialty Use Electric Vehicles:** Rebates of \$2,000 to \$50,000 are available on the purchase of eligible specialty-use vehicles, including electric motorcycles, forklifts, trucks and buses. There are options for fleets and new options for individual consumers. To learn more: <http://pluginbc.ca/suvi/>

Fast Facts

- There are now 8,000 electric cars on B.C. roads
- Most auto manufacturers have at least one electric car model – and there are about 30 model choices today
- B.C.'s grid is 98% clean energy, meaning significant emissions reductions when switching from gas to electric
- Most vehicle charging is overnight at home, when demand on the electrical grid is low
- It costs EV drivers about \$5 to fully charge the average electric car – for 150-300 km of travel in a full battery electric car, depending on the model
- There are around 1,000 public charging stations in B.C., including over 40 fast chargers (and 20 more soon to be installed) to make long-distance travel easier. Learn more: <https://pluginbc.ca/charging-stations/finding-stations/>

Quotes

“Electric vehicles are clean, quiet and fun to drive. They help drivers reduce fuel, maintenance costs and tailpipe emissions, and are a growing economic sector in B.C. We know that the majority of electric vehicle charging happens at home and in the workplace, so the Charging Solutions and Incentives Program is being launched in partnership with the Fraser Basin Council to help make charging equipment more affordable for just about everyone.”

Michelle Mungall, Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources
Province of British Columbia

“There's been a nearly 70% increase in the purchase of fully electric vehicles over the past year in BC. Even more BC drivers are likely to go electric once they know they can charge up at home and at work - and FBC is pleased to see new provincial incentives that support the trend to cleaner transportation.”

David Marshall
Fraser Basin Council

Photos

Images of electric vehicle charging stations: <https://spaces.hightail.com/space/xWD7LPeNfo>

Note on images: The EV charging station at the Cadillac Fairview parking lot in Vancouver is accessible to the public, including shoppers and commuters. “Green at Work” is a Cadillac Fairview brand, not part of Plug in BC.

For more information, contact:

Denise Palmer Hoskins
Communications Manager, Fraser Basin Council

T: 604 488-5352
E: dhoskins@fraserbasin.bc.ca

Charlotte Argue
Program Manager, Plug in BC

T: 604 488-5369
E: cargue@fraserbasin.bc.ca

About the Fraser Basin Council

The Fraser Basin Council is a non-profit society that brings people together to advance sustainability in the Fraser Basin and beyond.

About Plug in BC

Plug In BC is a program of the Fraser Basin Council and is a broad collaborative between government, industry, academic institutions, EV owners, NGOs and utilities. The program lays the groundwork for plug-in electric vehicles and related charging infrastructure in British Columbia.

About B.C.'s Clean Energy Vehicle Program

In the September 2017 Budget Update, B.C.'s new government affirmed an investment of \$40 million in the Clean Energy Vehicle Program to ensure purchase incentives continue to be available for British Columbians who choose to purchase a qualifying zero-emissions vehicles, and to make further investments in charging infrastructure and hydrogen-fuelling infrastructure.