



## ***EU-Canada Exchange***

### ***Webinar 2: Pathways to 2050***

***20 April 2021***

***Deep dive into policy strategies to boost building renovation***

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#### Background

In March 2020, the EU and Canada affirmed their determination to put into action energy efficient solutions in buildings at all levels of governance to address the climate challenge at a joint workshop organized by the European Commission and Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN), within the framework of the Specific Partnerships for the Implementation of the Paris Agreement (SPIPA). Hosted by BPIE, the Buildings Performance Institute Europe, the Canada-EU Exchange will continue in 2021 as a series of five webinars, running monthly from March until July. The webinars will cover selected building policies and programmes, their implementation, best practices, and innovative policies across Canada and EU Member States.

The second webinar, hosted on April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021, will focus on strategies in EU Member States and Canadian provinces to boost renovations and decarbonize the building stock by 2050.

#### The European experience

There are various ways in which a country can decarbonise its building stock. Switching all energy supply to carbon-free sources is one route; however, doing so without improving the energy performance of buildings fails to meet the “highly energy efficient” part of the EPBD requirement and does not apply the EU’s “energy efficiency first” principle. Furthermore, the benefits to building occupants and society at large, as identified in the Renovation Wave strategy, will not be realised. For this reason, the decarbonisation objective needs to be accompanied by a significant reduction in building energy consumption by 2050.

Regarding building policy on the national level, the EPBD ([\(EU\) 2018/844](#)) requires Member States (MS) to set up long-term renovation strategies outlining how MS plan to transform their national building stock. Long-term renovation strategies can fulfil an essential role for local authorities aiming to decarbonise the building stock, get access to funding and benefit from opportunities presented by the Renovation Wave – but how well are municipal authorities’ needs reflected in the latest strategies submitted to the European Commission? This webinar will include an overview and two “deep-dives” of EU Member States’ Long-Term Renovation Strategies.

The LTRS are meant to act as roadmaps to a highly energy-efficient and healthy building stock, providing guidance for municipalities on specific policies to stimulate deep renovation, target energy-poor communities, and prioritise public buildings as role models. High-quality LTRS are an essential instrument to guide recovery investments under the frame of the EU Recovery and Resilience Facility towards building renovation. MS should develop ambitious renovation schemes and reforms in their



Recovery and Resilience Plans, building on robust and comprehensive LTRS to allocate the budget effectively.

### The Canadian Experience

In Canada, energy efficiency is a shared responsibility between federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments. As a result, advancing efficiency requires close collaboration and alignment among the different levels of governments. Canadian provinces and territories play an essential role in improving national energy efficiency rates, considering, for example, their oversight of public utility regulations and building code adoption.

[Build Smart: Canada's Buildings Strategy](#), endorsed by federal, provincial and territorial Energy Ministers in 2017, is an implementation plan for actions under the [Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change](#) targeting the built environment. It includes a plan for: the development of increasingly stringent national model energy codes for new buildings with the goal that provinces and territories adopt a “net-zero energy ready” model building code by 2030; the development of a model code for existing buildings; actions on energy benchmarking and labelling; and, a *Market Transformation Roadmap* for energy efficient equipment. In addition to *Build Smart*, each province and territory have their own climate plans and programs adapted to their regional circumstances and ambitions. This webinar will discuss the important role that provinces and territories play in decarbonizing the building stock and accelerating energy efficient renovations through different strategies, programs and initiatives. It will highlight examples from one or two leading provinces.

This webinar will also present an overview of progress across Canada through [Efficiency Canada's Energy Efficiency Scorecard](#), which ranks provinces and territories based on the performance of their efficiency programs and policies. This *Scorecard* benchmarks progress, promotes healthy competition, and shares best practices by assessing efficiency policies and performance in energy efficiency programs, enabling measures, buildings, transportation and industry.