

**July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024**

**Issue**

Zero Carbon Step Code (ZCSC) and Energy Step Code (ESC)

**Rationale**

The BC ESC is an incremental process to achieve the highest new building performance by 2032. The (ZCSC) is an incremental process requiring new buildings to achieve the most stringent greenhouse emissions limits by 2030.

BC Hydro's electricity generation provides just 19% of BC's total energy requirements. Additional forms of renewable energy are required to transition from fossil fuels to achieve the Province's net zero goals by 2050. The use of gas for water and space heating in single-detached and duplex residential buildings is a necessary option during the transition to clean, renewable energy sources.

**Referral motion**

That, in relation to the Zero Carbon Step Code and Energy Step Code in the Building Regulations Bylaw and OCP, for single-detached and duplex residential buildings, staff be directed to:

- (1) Provide options for Council consideration related to the current implementation timeline; and,
- (2) Clarify the role of natural gas for space heating and domestic hot water and provide options for Council consideration.

Andy Hobbs