



Hello,

On Wednesday, June 4, **we invite you to celebrate National Green Building Day**—and recognize the builders in your region doing great work in sustainable building.

In conjunction with [National Environment Week](#), Built Green Canada encourages municipalities and the building sector to recognize the first Wednesday of June National Green Building Day. The intention is to raise awareness and support for sustainable building practices—recognizing industry leaders already doing so and encouraging others who aren't as far along in their journey.

For those municipalities committed to encouraging more sustainable communities, this is an occasion to recognize your local leaders and strengthen your relationship with them. We encourage you to highlight your local builders and give them a well-deserved nod.

Ways You Can Recognize the Day:

1. Brag about what you're doing in sustainable building through your website and socials or just celebrate the environment and include: #NationalGreenBuildingDay and our handle, @BuiltGreenCanada. Consider using the attached graphic.
2. Feature those in your community who are building beyond code requirements and certifying through a third party.
3. Feature those in your office who are promoting sustainable building practices and / or sustainability practices your office employs.
4. Email your colleagues and network about your work and / or those in your community building sustainably.
5. Consider doing National Environment Week programming and / or socials' posts—perhaps attend an event!

There may be Built Green builders certifying homes in your region—these are healthier, more durable homes with lower environmental impact and economic benefits, verified through third-party certification. Whatever the labelling program, whether that's BUILT GREEN®, ENERGY STAR, EnerGuide, LEED or another, we're all working towards the same goal of greener, better-built buildings and communities. **We encourage you to recognize these builders' contributions, which progress your sustainability and climate resiliency goals.**

Building Code & Third-Party Certification Programs

The Province of British Columbia adopted Energy Step Code in April 2017 and since then, has increased its step requirements, while the remainder of Canada has now adopted the National Energy Tier Code, all toward the country meeting its goal of achieving Net Zero Energy Ready buildings by 2030. British Columbia is well on its way. The BUILT GREEN® programs are a made-in-Canada solution that aligns with, supports and extends beyond these building codes. We support builders in achieving code—and provide them with a competitive advantage that goes beyond energy through affordable programs with on-demand training courses and supports.

As you continue to progress your municipality's climate resiliency goals, here are quick construction facts to consider:

- Buildings produce 17% of Canada's greenhouse gases, including emissions from generating electricity that buildings use. A large part of this is from using fossil fuels to heat and cool our buildings.
- 40% of emissions from electricity generation is for energy used in our buildings.
- Measures to promote energy efficiency could create up to 100,000 new jobs by 2030.
- The average Canadian home uses about 100 gigajoules of energy per year. However, there are myriad energy-efficiency practices encouraged through sustainability programs that can enable reductions.
- **Working with a proven third-party certification program can help you reach your municipality's sustainability and climate resiliency goals, while guiding your builders through more sustainable building practices.**

Built Green Canada

T. 780.485.0920 / toll-free 855.485.0920 Web www.builtgreencanada.ca



We recognize that some municipalities choose to create their own green building requirements to meet their own sustainability goals. These are often more restrictive than provincial and national code and can set challenging timelines. Amidst our current housing crisis, this can limit competition, impede construction and inflate costs. Given we have national and provincial building codes in place to address energy, those municipalities creating their own green building standards add further stringency for the builder and another layer of processes, procedures and staff time for you. And for those builders working in multiple regions, each with its own building specifications, the differences in requirements from municipality to municipality creates another challenge for the builder.

For those who want to encourage building beyond code, standardization that comes with following a proven national program can simplify builder and municipality processes and provides municipalities with valuable partners that support their builders in reaching targets, while reporting back on green building progress—so you can track climate mitigation successes in your community. Our programs help builders reach code and go beyond into other key areas of sustainable building that can feed back into your municipality's goals. These areas do not require the builder to spend more; rather, it's about them learning to make more informed decisions during the build.

In your efforts to progress your environmental initiatives toward creating sustainable communities, **we welcome the opportunity to support you.** We are a proven third-party certification program that can progress industry and work alongside them to offer support in reaching your building requirements. We recognize municipalities may not be able to favour one program over another and therefore encourage you to include BUILT GREEN® programs as an option to endorse: to help builders meet building code targets and progress beyond them.

In the meantime, this June 4, we hope to see you recognize National Green Building Day—celebrating the progression of the building industry and the leaders behind it!

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Christenson".

Jenifer Christenson
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Podolski".

Karen Podolski
Director of Special Projects

CC: Whenever possible, we have included relevant departments in your municipality.



Future-Proof Builds in Your Community

Address Your Climate Mitigation Targets & Support Your Builders' Progress

Built Green Canada offers a means to build better, more resilient homes and buildings, and we provide support to go with that.

Our affordable, straightforward third-party certification programs provide performance-based pathways to enable improvements. We support builders in achieving code—and going well beyond, towards homes built to tomorrow's standards, helping you future-proof your communities.

We take a holistic approach, with eight pillars of sustainability: Energy & Envelope, Materials & Methods, Indoor Air Quality, Ventilation, Waste Management, Water Conservation, Occupant Wellness and Business Practices. Building code fits into just one of these sections, and it refers to the minimum requirement that everyone must do. We can help builders reach targets and address sustainability beyond energy.

How Our Programs Future-Proof Buildings



This approach benefits the environment as well as homeowners, who will enjoy a healthier, more durable home with a lower environmental impact, with a reduction in the homeowner's monthly operating costs, [rebate eligibility](#), improved resale value, and more. These are homes built beyond today's status quo,

Meanwhile, the Built Green programs also address critical issues like disaster preparedness, aging in place and multi-generational housing, while promoting pathways to reductions in greenhouse gases, both operationally and embodied carbon. We enable builders to calculate their projects' GHGs in the Energy & Envelope section of our program. We're also encouraging life-cycle analysis or environmental product declarations for materials used in the build.

As you navigate your own ESG reporting, rest assured GRESB (formerly Global Real Estate Sustainability Benchmark) recognizes BUILT GREEN® projects for Environmental, Social and Governance Reporting (ESG) for full points under their Design / Construction category.

Built Green Canada is a not for profit on a mission to progress sustainable building practices through our third-party certification programs. Our organization began in 2003, and since then builders have worked with us to complete 53,884 BUILT GREEN® certified single family, MURB, renovations, and high density (including multi-storey, residential tower, mixed-use and renovations) projects, small commercial, as well as three community certifications, and enrolment in our new schools' pilot program. These projects are represented in Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Ontario (as at December 31, 2024).

Built Green Canada

T. 780.485.0920 / toll-free 855.485.0920 Web www.builtgreencanada.ca