

Strathcona County

New rebate supports green practices

June 30, 2006

New rebate program supports "green" building practices

Strathcona County is pleased to introduce a new building permit fee rebate program for homebuilders who achieve R-2000 or Built Green™ certification.

A building permit fee rebate adds financial incentive for builders to go above the minimum Alberta Building Code standards and incorporate "green" building practices to improve energy efficiency, indoor air quality and resource use, while reducing overall environmental impact.

Upon meeting all permit and inspection requirements, rebates will be issued to the building permit applicant, calculated on a percentage of the base building permit fee. There are four categories of eligibility:

- 30% rebate of the building permit fee for R-2000 Certification
- 30% rebate of the building permit fee for Built Green™ Gold Certification
- 20% rebate of the building permit fee for Built Green™ Silver Certification
- 10% rebate of the building permit fee for Built Green™ Bronze Certification

Built Green™ is an industry-driven voluntary program that promotes and recognizes the use of resource-efficient and environmentally friendly practices and products in building construction. The program's aim is to achieve: greater energy efficiency and reduced pollution, healthier indoor air, water conservation, natural resources preservation, and improved durability and reduced maintenance.

A Built Green™ home is estimated to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by about one tonne per house, compared to a conventionally constructed home. Using the current construction pace in the County of approximately 900 new homes per year, this equates to a 900 tonne reduction of greenhouse gas emissions if all were constructed to a Built Green™ standard.

"Providing rebates to builders who take the steps and meet "green" certification is a tangible way Strathcona County can support this builder initiative," says Mayor Cathy Olesen. "The rebate program promotes environmentally responsible building construction in our community, and demonstrates our commitment to a 'green' future."

For more information about Strathcona County's building permit fee rebate program call 464-8264.

For information on Built Green™ visit <http://www.builtgreencanada.ca/>.

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Contact: Cathy Olesen, Mayor, 464-8000
