



# VOLUNTARY HOME ENERGY LABELLING PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

## What is a Home Energy Label?

A home Energy Label (EnerGuide label) is similar to energy labels on major appliances. A home EnerGuide label shows the level of energy performance of a home, and by extension, the relative energy costs.

More information on the EnerGuide Rating System can be found in Edmonton's Green Home Guide ([www.edmonton.ca/GreenBuilding](http://www.edmonton.ca/GreenBuilding)).

## Why is the City Creating a Voluntary Home Energy Labelling Program?

The City has a long-term vision for Green Buildings in Edmonton. On June 20, 2012, Edmonton City Council supported Edmonton's Green Building Plan, which calls for the development of New and Existing Home Energy Labelling Programs.

## AS OF 2010, MORE THAN 2,000 EDMONTONIANS HAVE ENERGUIDE LABELS ON THEIR HOMES.

An EnerGuide Label is a helpful tool for home owners, buyers and sellers.

### Home Buyers:

Access to energy efficiency information on homes is typically not available to home buyers. Not all houses are created equal; the energy efficiency of a house isn't obvious just by looking at it.

Most home buyers get home inspections prior to buying in order to identify issues they are not aware of. An EnerGuide Label is a similar concept — providing energy information which buyers can use to make informed purchasing decisions.

### Home Sellers:

Early research conducted in other cities suggests that more energy efficient homes are listed on the market for fewer days and sell for higher prices.

### Home Owners:

A more energy efficient home means lower energy bills. According to Natural Resources Canada, a 1-point improvement on a Home EnerGuide rating typically reduces a home's energy consumption by three to five per cent, protecting home owners from future energy price increases.

## What is the Project?

In the last quarter of 2013, the City will begin developing a voluntary home energy labelling program for new and existing homes. This will involve researching labelling programs in other cities, determining what is needed for a successful labelling program in Edmonton and developing a way to measure the benefits from any program that is developed.

During this time, the City will contact various groups, such as community leagues, real estate agents, home builders and energy advisor representatives. The purpose of these discussions is for the City to provide information and for groups to share ideas on the program's development.