

HARBORD VILLAGE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Box 68522, 360A Bloor St. W.
Toronto, ON M5S 1X1



HVRA Home Energy Retrofit Opportunity Home Energy Assessments

The first phase of the HVRA's Home Energy Retrofit Opportunity (HERO) project is a bulk purchase of home energy assessments to find out how energy efficient your home is and what you can do to improve that efficiency.

The HERO Project

The HERO home energy audit/upgrade project consists of four phases:

1. Pre Retrofit Evaluation. No upgrade work can be started including any demolition work prior to the Pre Retrofit audit being completed.
2. Homeowner performs the upgrade work, including participating in the HERO upgrade bulk purchase. You have 18 months to complete ALL of the work before your follow-up home energy audit.
3. Post-Retrofit evaluation. The home energy auditor returns to your home to confirm that the upgrades have been completed, including a second blower door test.
4. Government rebates mailed to homeowner (usually 8-10 weeks after the follow-up audit)

Carson Dunlop & Associates, our energy auditor partner, does all the administrative work for the EcoENERGY program including management of the homeowner files, submissions to Natural Resources Canada, and initiation of the grant process.

Energy Auditing Costs

	Standard Price (Inc. GST)	HERO Special Price (Inc. GST)	Provincial Rebate	HVRA Grant	Cost to You
Single family dwelling, up to 3500 square feet:	\$ 341.25	\$299.25.	\$ 142.50	\$ 25.00	\$ 131.75
Single family dwelling, 3500 to 5500 square feet:	\$ 397.95	\$ 351.75	\$ 150.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 176.75
Addl. for Second Unit, separate entrance.*		\$ 52.50			\$ 52.50
Post-Retrofit Audit (for EcoENERGY grant application)	\$ 157.50	\$ 141.75			\$ 141.75

* Same house, separate entrance. Pricing may vary depending on your specific home layout.

HVRA Home Energy Retrofit Opportunity

Home Energy Assessments

What to expect on your evaluation:

Pre-Retrofit D Evaluation

- Evaluation takes approximately 1 to 2 hrs
- This evaluation determines how energy efficient your house is currently and gives you an overall rating
- The energy auditor will measure the footprint of your home, count the number of doors and windows, ask you how much insulation you have in your walls, ceilings, and attics. They will look at your basement and attic (make sure they have access to these areas) to measure the amount of insulation present. You will receive an outline of the recommended improvements that should be made to your home
- The auditor will then perform a blower door test, where they measure how much air leakage you have in your house. With the blower door running, they will walk around your house to find the most significant air leaks that can be sealed.
- The assessment concludes with a brief review of the homeowner package they bring with them.
- You will receive a rebate of \$142.50 from the government to cover part of the cost of your evaluation within 8 to 10 weeks.
- You will receive your final report within 30 days of your evaluation date.

Post-Retrofit E Evaluation: (must take place within 18 months of the D evaluation)

- Evaluation takes approximately 45 minutes.
- This evaluation determines a new energy rating for your home after you have completed your upgrades
- Upon completion, the final energy-rating sticker will be mailed to you.
- You will receive your eligible grant money from the government usually within 8 to 10 weeks.

Important Fact - You are only allowed to make one submission to the government for your grant money. Complete all desired repairs and upgrades within the 18-month time period and then make one complete submission.

How to prepare for a successful evaluation:

In order to make your experience a success, please be aware of the following requirements prior to your appointment:

1. Provide your property tax roll number - this number can be found on your property tax bill, or assessment, and is a mandatory data field on the NRCan application form.
2. Full access to all areas of your home - the advisor will need to access; all interior rooms, the exterior areas of the home, all attic hatches.
3. Clean out your wood-burning fireplace - close your damper. Please do not use the fireplace for a 24 hr period prior to the appointment.
4. Photographs are required - your advisor must include a number of photos in the report to satisfy the NRCan report standards.
5. The blower door test - the advisor will depressurize your home using a blower door kit. This enables the advisor to capture critical air leakage information. This does not cause any discomfort and people and pets can be home without any distress.

Who should be present during the evaluation process?

It is imperative that the person who is listed on the title of the property is present at the evaluation. NRCan requires several signatures from this individual on a number of forms.

During the evaluation, we encourage you to:

- Follow along and ask questions
- Communicate any concerns about your home to the advisor
- Discuss any future renovation plans
- Discuss your current energy consumption/bills

HERO strongly recommends that homeowners be present during the assessment to take notes of where the drafts that need to be sealed are, to discuss their findings with the auditor, etc. We suggest you use sticky notes to mark which gaps need sealing.

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HERO Home Energy Assessments Additional Information

How do I participate in the HERO home energy assessment project?

Getting involved in the HERO project is easy.

1. Fill in and sign a Sign-Up form, forward it to David Booz, HERO Project Coordinator
2. We will forward your contact information to Carson Dunlop.
3. Ryan from Carson Dunlop will contact you to arrange your energy assessment.
4. Have your energy assessment done. Carson Dunlop will collect their fee of \$ 299.25 for a single-family home (or slightly more, depending on the configuration of home: see houses with apartments below).
5. Carson Dunlop will send you your energy assessment report.
6. You will receive a rebate cheque for \$ 142.50 from the Provincial Government in 8 to 10 weeks.
7. You will receive a rebate cheque for \$ 25.00 from HERO within a few weeks of receiving your report.
8. You will be notified by HERO of the service providers who are offering discounts on some kinds of retrofit work needed in the neighbourhood.

Looking for more information?

We encourage you to click on any of the links listed below to access more detailed information.

For a comprehensive FAQ section please click on the following link <http://oee.nrcan.gc.ca/residential/personal/retrofit-homes/questions-answers.cfm>

For detailed information on eligible grants, please click on the following link - <http://showmethethegreen.ca>

HERO Home Upgrade Bulk Purchase Project

Once you have received your energy assessment report, you can start upgrading your home to increase the energy efficiency. But don't move too fast – you might want to wait for the home upgrade stage of the HERO project.

HVRA HERO will be offering bulk purchase rates on some of the work that has been identified as needed for homes in Harbord Village. You will be notified about participating contractors and/or service suppliers in short order. If you need the work done quickly, please proceed with the work on your own.

Once HERO has organized our home upgrade project, you may elect to participate in that upgrade. Or you may decide to proceed with other upgrades not included in the HERO project.

HERO Home Energy Assessments Additional Information

Had an Energy Audit Before?

If you had an energy audit before March 12, 2006, your audit was under the old EnerGuide for Homes program. That program has now ended. You still qualify for the EcoEnergy program and are eligible to participate in the HERO project and receive a provincial government rebate on the cost of the audit and federal and provincial rebates for the upgrades you do on your home.

If you had your energy audit after March 12, 2006, you are already enrolled in the EcoEnergy program and cannot re-enter and therefore cannot participate in the energy assessment phase of the HERO project. However, on March 30, 2009, the Federal government announced an extension of the EcoEnergy program. Even if you have had a follow up audit and received a grant, you may be eligible for additional grant monies if you do further upgrades on your home. Once you have received your post-retrofit evaluation, you can re-enter the program using the evaluation as a baseline if you would like to perform more work within a new 18-month deadline, provided you do not exceed the maximum grant of \$5,000 per dwelling unit. To re-enter the program, you must first contact your old service organization or Carson Dunlop to register for a new 18-month period.

The value of the grant you will receive is calculated and based on the grant amounts and eligibility requirements that are in effect at the time of the post-retrofit evaluation.

You must complete your retrofits and receive your post-retrofit evaluation by March 31, 2011, or within 18 months from the date of your pre-retrofit evaluation report, whichever comes first, and subject to available funding.

Homes with Apartments

If your home has an apartment, your home energy assessment may be more complex. A single-family home (attached or detached) with a separate apartment in the basement is not considered a multi-unit residential building and can be audited as a single-family home. If all the interior doors can be opened and the entire home can be one single volume, a single assessment is acceptable and no extra charges will apply (as long as the total floor space is less than 3500 square feet or 325 square metres).

If your home is configured so that you cannot open interior doors to make a single interior space, your assessment may require two blower doors running at the same time to perform the blower door test. This will increase the cost of your assessment by \$ 50.00 + GST, subject to confirmation for the exact configuration of your home.

If your home consists of more than two separate units with openable interior doors, it is considered a Multi-Unit Residential Building (MURB). We are not including MURBs in the HERO project at this time, however, we anticipate being able to do so by May 2009. Please contact us to discuss the configuration of your home and how we can accommodate you.