

# Power Smart 2.0

Putting conservation first



May 2026

# Power Smart 2.0 is built on a simple idea: the best energy is the energy you never have to use.

For more than 35 years, BC Hydro has worked with customers to make that idea real—encouraging small, practical actions like turning off lights, adjusting the thermostat, upgrading to energy efficient appliances, and making simple home improvements that add up over time. At the same time helping businesses invest in more efficient technologies, lowering their costs while improving efficiency.

These collective efforts have become one of our greatest energy resources, and have made British Columbians global leaders in energy efficiency. Since 2008, they've helped cut demand by more than 7,500 gigawatt hours per year—enough to power 750,000 homes annually.

As demand for electricity grows, the smartest path forward isn't just building more—it's working alongside customers to use energy more efficiently, helping them to save money and electricity.

That's why BC Hydro is **launching its largest-ever Power Smart plan**, investing over **\$1 billion** over three years to support our customers in lowering their energy bills while making smarter, more efficient choices every day.

By reducing overall demand, we can ease pressure on the system and avoid or delay the need for costly new infrastructure—keeping rates more affordable for everyone. This plan is expected to deliver an additional 800 megawatts of capacity savings and 2,200 gigawatt hours per year in energy savings—enough to power 220,000 homes per year—and save or defer over \$2 billion in avoided generation, transmission and distribution costs.



## Power Smart 2.0 highlights



### Free smart thermostats (a \$350 value)

for homes heated with electric  
baseboards available this fall



### Enhanced rewards for all residential customers

Earn up to \$200 annually,  
plus additional bill savings



### Expanded support for low-income customers

Eligible customers can earn  
up to \$325 per year in rewards



### Improved digital experience

A new app launching this fall will  
allow customers to access Power  
Smart products and manage  
accounts in one place



### In-store and online rebates at point of sale

Instant savings ranging from  
\$10 to \$200 at more than  
300 locations across B.C.



### Increased support for commercial and industrial projects

Funding available for up to  
100% of eligible project costs

### A legacy of conservation since 1989

Since its launch in 1989, BC Hydro's Power Smart program has helped build a culture of conservation across British Columbia—transforming how homes and businesses use electricity.

What began as a simple idea—using energy more efficiently instead of endlessly building new supply—quickly grew into one of North America's leading conservation programs. By working with customers, industry and governments, Power Smart has driven the adoption of more efficient appliances, improved building standards, and everyday energy-saving habits, to name a few examples.

Lighting is one of the clearest success stories. The shift to LEDs has reduced energy use by up to 40 to 50% compared to older systems—and at scale, widespread LED adoption by millions of British Columbians has been a key factor in keeping overall electricity load growth relatively flat over time.

Together, these changes show how small actions, taken across millions of customers, add up to big results—saving energy, lowering costs, and supporting a more efficient energy future.

## Power Smart at home: Making it easy (and more rewarding) to save every day

Imagine if saving energy was as simple as picking the right product off the shelf—or getting rewarded for small, everyday choices. With Power Smart 2.0, that's exactly the goal.

BC Hydro is investing \$265 million to make saving energy at home easier, more visible and more rewarding than ever before.

### Making everyday choices count

It starts with moments that already happen—shopping for a new appliance, upgrading a light bulb or improving home comfort.

Customers will now see instant rebates right at the checkout at more than 300 stores across B.C., ranging from \$10 to \$200 on high-efficiency products like:



ENERGY STAR® appliances  
(refrigerators, washers and dryers)



Portable air conditioners  
and air purifiers



And new additions  
like air fryers

No forms. No waiting. Just immediate savings—online or in-store—that make the efficient choice the easiest one. And over time, those simple upgrades quietly add up: lower monthly bills, better comfort and homes that work smarter, not harder.

## Ongoing bill savings are **5x** the value of the rebate



Cumulative value  
of bill savings



Value of  
retail rebate

## Getting rewarded for smarter behaviour

But savings don't stop at the checkout. Power Smart 2.0 makes it easier than ever for customers to see—and benefit from—their everyday energy habits. Programs are being brought together into one simple, engaging experience with the release of a new digital app later this year that will allow customers to access:



### Team Power Smart challenges

Rewards to encourage customers to reduce usage.



### Peak Saver offers

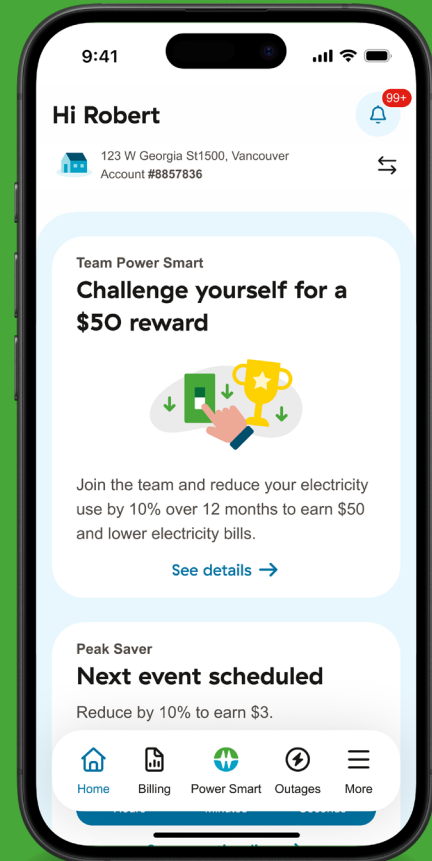
Bill credits for shifting or reducing energy use during high-demand periods—manually or automatically.



### Enhanced low-income offers

Higher rewards, simplified access, and greater support for those who need it most.

For many households—especially those using electric baseboard heating—these small, low-effort actions can lead to meaningful savings. Residential customers can earn up to \$200 per year in rewards, or up to \$325 for income-qualified households, on top of additional bill savings achieved through reduced energy use.



**\$50** for connected thermostats through Peak Saver



**\$150 reward** for a successful Team Power Smart challenge

**\$200 in rewards** or 30% of average annual electricity bill for an electrically heated apartment

What used to be invisible—how and when you use energy—is now something customers can see, control and get rewarded for.

## Upgrading homes for lasting impact

For deeper, long-term savings, BC Hydro is supporting home upgrades that make a lasting difference.

These programs focus on improving how homes perform year-round, including:



### Rebates on windows and doors

Upgrading to energy-efficient windows and exterior doors helps prevent drafts, reducing heat loss in winter and heat gain in summer. Receive \$100 per window or door, up to a maximum of \$2,000.



### Improved insulation and air sealing

Keep heat in and energy costs down with upgrades to attics, exterior walls, and more—eligible for rebates of up to \$5,500.



### High-efficiency heat pumps

Replace electric resistance heating with a more efficient heat pump and receive up to \$4,000.



### Efficient water heating upgrades

Switch to an electric heat pump water heater and get up to \$1,000 toward installation.



### Solar panels and battery storage

Eligible grid-connected solar panels are eligible up to \$5,000 and up to an additional \$5,000 for battery storage systems to qualifying residential customers. You can install solar panels or a battery, or both.

For customers living in multi-unit residential buildings, we also offer a dedicated suite of supports. This includes targeted energy coaching, funding for strata-led energy studies, and incentives for high-efficiency space and water heating upgrades. Individual residents can also access rebates for in-suite improvements, making it easier to take action at both the building and unit level.

To support these efforts, we continue to invest in a strong network of contractors and industry professionals, making it easy for customers to find qualified partners to deliver projects and participate in Power Smart programs.

These upgrades don't just save energy—they **make homes more comfortable, healthier, and more resilient.**

## Supporting those who need it most

At the heart of the plan is a strong commitment to affordability. The plan invests \$106 million in programs to support low-income households, Indigenous communities, and social housing—ensuring that savings are meaningful and accessible to those who need them the most. This includes:



**No-cost or heavily subsidized** home upgrades.



**Free tools and technology**, including smart thermostats and a digital app to help customers manage and monitor their energy use.



**Expanded reach**, with a goal to reach up to three times more low-income customers.



**Priority access** to programs and enhanced rewards levels.



**\$100** for connected thermostats through Peak Saver



**\$225 reward** for a successful Team Power Smart challenge

**\$325 in rewards** or 50% of average annual electricity bill for an electrically heated apartment

Customers can start with simple steps—like participating in a challenge—and build toward deeper, long-term upgrades over time. Because the goal isn't just participation—it's lasting bill relief and better living conditions.

## Power Smart at peak moments

Electricity demand peaks during cold winter evenings, when heating use is highest. Meeting these short periods of demand is costly, often requiring new infrastructure that sits idle most of the year. Power Smart gives customers flexible, practical ways to reduce or shift their electricity use during these times—earning rewards while helping to keep system costs lower for everyone.

Households can take part and earn rewards by reducing or shifting their energy use during peak periods:

- **\$3 per event** for manually reducing or shifting use by 20% over a 4-hour window during Peak Saver events.
- **\$100 to \$500 in enrollment incentives**, plus \$50 to \$250 per season for connecting smart devices—like thermostats, EV chargers, water heaters or batteries—that can be automatically adjusted by BC Hydro during peak events.
- **Discounted rate** for charging an EV overnight through the Residential Time-of-Day Rate.

Customers can choose how they participate—from simple, manual actions to fully automated energy management that delivers savings with little to no effort.



### Building a connected home energy system

This fall, customers with baseboard heating will be able to get free thermostats (a \$350 value)—a simple upgrade that makes managing home energy use easier from day one. With it, you can:

- Automatically adjust temperatures to save energy without sacrificing comfort.
- Control your home remotely through a mobile app.
- Take part in Peak Saver events—without needing to think about it.

It's a small change that quickly adds up to greater comfort, convenience and savings.

Over time, these individual upgrades come together to create a more connected, intelligent home energy system. Imagine a home where:

- Your EV charges when electricity rates are lower because demand is lower.
- Smart panels and load controllers help to manage major appliances—reducing the need for costly electrical upgrades while unlocking new reward opportunities.
- Water heaters, appliances and even home batteries work seamlessly in the background to optimize energy use.

It all builds toward a home that not only uses energy more efficiently, but actively works for you—saving money, reducing strain on the system, and adapting to your needs without added effort.

## Supporting businesses and industry

BC Hydro's 220,000 commercial and industrial customers are at the heart of the province's economy—and a key part of the energy solution as some of the highest users of electricity.

Through Power Smart 2.0, BC Hydro is making it easier than ever for businesses to turn efficiency into a competitive advantage. With \$247 million for commercial programs and \$334 million for industrial customers, these investments unlock flexible, high-impact solutions—covering up to 100% of project costs in some cases.

Businesses gain access to:

- Dedicated energy managers to guide large organizations every step of the way
- Strategic energy management programs that embed efficiency into everyday operations
- In-depth energy audits and feasibility studies to uncover new opportunities
- Incentives for temporarily reducing or shifting load through building automation systems, smart HVAC controls, battery storage integration and industrial load curtailment
- Custom funding for equipment upgrades, process improvements and new plant design
- Solar and battery storage rebates

From upgrading HVAC and refrigeration systems to optimizing industrial processes, recovering waste heat, and deploying advanced controls, these projects deliver real, measurable results. The impact goes beyond energy savings. Businesses can lower operating costs, boost productivity, and improve performance of their assets—all while strengthening their bottom line.

At the same time, these smarter energy choices reduce pressure on the electricity system, helping defer costly infrastructure investments and supporting a more affordable, resilient energy future for B.C.

It's a win-win: **stronger businesses, a stronger economy, and a smarter, more efficient energy system.**

### Jobs created through these Power Smart investments include:



Contractors performing home upgrades, supporting the installation of solar panels, and designing and building efficient new industrial plants.



Energy managers and consultants supporting businesses with strategic energy management, integrated energy audits and studies.

## Jobs, growth and new technology

BC Hydro's Power Smart 2.0 investment will generate \$1.4 billion in provincial GDP and 3,500 jobs per year through spending on household rewards, energy efficiency products and associated labour—supporting retailers, contractors, and businesses across the supply chain in B.C.

Not only are we investing in technologies that are commercially available today, but we are also supporting demonstration projects that will drive the next wave of innovation—things like balcony solar installations, adaptive street lights, vehicle-to-grid (V2G) and thermal storage systems.



## Building the Power Smart legacy—together

Power Smart 2.0 represents the next chapter in BC Hydro's long-standing partnership with customers to save energy and reduce costs. Building on decades of success, the plan moves beyond one-time actions toward a more connected, flexible, and customer-focused approach—one that makes it easier than ever for British Columbians to take control of their energy use.

By combining simple everyday actions with deeper upgrades and new technology, Power Smart 2.0 empowers customers to save in ways that fit their lives—whether that's earning rewards, lowering bills, or improving the comfort and efficiency of their homes and businesses. At the same time, these individual actions add up to system-wide benefits, helping manage growing demand and reducing the need for costly new infrastructure.

With over \$1 billion in investment, meaningful incentives, and expanded access—especially for low-income households—this plan ensures that the benefits of being power smart are widely shared. It also lays the foundation for a more responsive and resilient electricity system, where customers play an active role in shaping how energy is used.

Ultimately, Power Smart 2.0 is about more than saving energy. It's about delivering lasting affordability, strengthening our electricity system, and continuing to build a culture of conservation that benefits all British Columbians—today and into the future.

