



ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT  
REGIONAL DISTRICT  
3008- 5<sup>th</sup> Ave, Port Alberni, V9Y 2E3



Alberni  
Air Quality  
Society

Port Alberni  
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Council

## PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
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### WOODSTOVE EXCHANGE 2022 PROGRAM – SMARTER BURNING AND CLEANER LIVING

Residents of the Alberni Clayoquot Regional District continue to benefit from a provincial program that provides incentives to people replacing wood stoves with cleaner heating options.

The new savings between the rebate and the discount offered by the participating retailers equate to a savings ranging from \$450 - \$1300 depending on what type of heating you are switching to. For people living on First Nation lands these savings are higher, ranging from \$750 - \$1800.

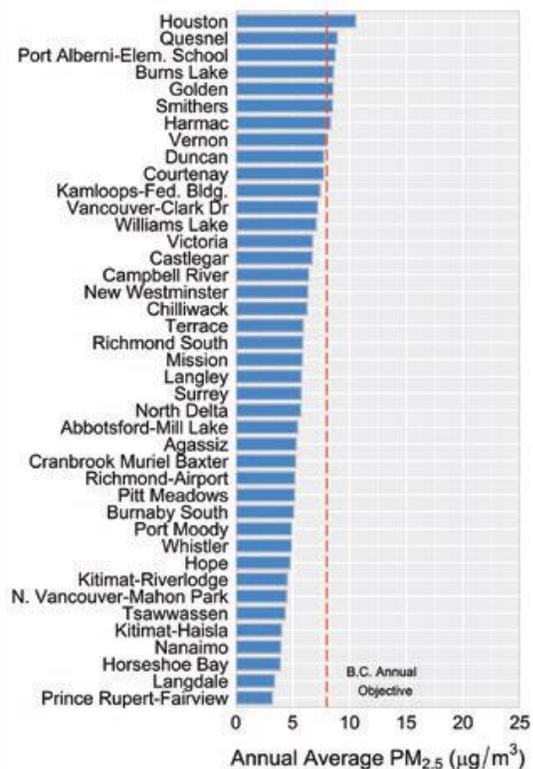
2022 will be the final year that propane and natural gas stoves will be eligible for rebates from the Wood Stove Exchange Program. Although these appliances reduce particulate matter pollution relative to wood stoves, they burn fossil fuels and therefore produce carbon emissions that contribute to climate change.

Port Alberni is currently categorized as a “red zone” community due to continual exceedances of the national standards set for Particulate Matter 2.5 (PM<sub>2.5</sub>). 2019 data shows that Port Alberni ranked third in the province for exceedances of PM<sub>2.5</sub>. Woodstoves have been identified as a significant source of air pollution in the Alberni Valley, a region which sees high incident rates of child asthma among other diseases often associated with poor air quality.

A statement from the 2020 BC Lung State of the Air Report emphasizes the importance of, "Aggressive action now to retire older high emission woodburning appliances and to prepare to implement bans on use of fireplaces and woodstoves that are not primary heat sources will help reduce this major source of air pollution when colder temperatures arrive in fall and winter".

All homeowners in the Alberni Clayoquot Regional District can utilize the Woodstove Exchange. The program runs on a first-come, first-served basis until the rebates run out. For further information and how to qualify please visit our participating retailers, check out the link

2019 PM<sub>2.5</sub> Levels in B.C.



[www.acrd.bc.ca/woodstove-exchange-program](http://www.acrd.bc.ca/woodstove-exchange-program) or phone 250)720-2700.

This year's participating retailers for the 2022 Woodstove Exchange include:

- Bamfield Builders Supply Ltd.
- Dolan's Gas Fitting and Heating Ltd.
- Good Deeds Chimney Service
- Pioneer Fireplace (Parksville location only)
- Tilleys Plumbing & Heating.

Help your health and your pocketbook. Acceptable air quality is everyone's right. Protecting air quality is everyone's responsibility.