



wildsight golden

Box 25 Golden BC V0A 1H0 • 250-439-8491 • e golden@wildsight.ca

For Immediate Release

Air Quality Rebates are Still Available in Golden to Replace Uncertified Wood Stoves!

Are you burning an older wood stove that is not certified to the CSA International B415.1 Performance Testing of Solid-Fuel-Burning Heating Appliances, or EPA 1990 Particulate Emission Standards?

What is that?!

Well, it is something to take seriously if you live in a town like Golden. Nestled as we are among beautiful mountains, smouldering, smoky fires can produce blue-grey smoke that collects in our lovely valley and contributes to hazy and very unhealthy winter air.

If your wood stove is much more than 20 years old it probably does not burn as efficiently as newer models. So-called “advanced combustion wood stoves” use technology that increases energy efficiency and produces lower particulate emissions. These newer stoves fall into two subtypes:

Now is the time to replace that old smoker! A number of cash rebates are still available to help you upgrade to a safer, cleaner, more efficient stove.

Up until December 31, 2023 residents of Golden/CSRD Area A who heat with an older wood stove can apply for a rebate to install an electric heat pump, wood pellet stove or new *CSA/EPA (2020) certified wood stove. Wildsight Golden is partnering with Kardash Plumbing and Heating and Parky’s Heating and Cooling to offer this program. All new appliances must be purchased and installed by either of these participating retailers in order to qualify for the rebate.

The rebates are as follows:

Replacing your primary source of wood heat with a heat pump, you could be eligible for \$1000, or replacing it with a wood pellet Stove, the rebate is \$750. For replacement for the CSA/EPA certified wood stove, you could get \$500.

If you are applying for a rebate for a heat pump, you are permitted to keep your old wood stove as a backup heat source when the power goes out or when it gets too cold. Different models of heat pumps work well at different temperatures. Talk to your local retailer for more information. If you install a heat pump you are allowed to keep your old wood stove even if it is not CSA/EPA certified. However, if you decide to get rid of your old wood stove you can qualify for an additional \$300 bounty. Rebates for heat pumps can be combined with federal rebates for heat pumps through the Greener Homes Grant. You will also need to sign a pledge stating that you will only use your wood stove when the power goes out or when it gets too cold that your heat pump does not provide adequate heat.

If you are purchasing a wood pellet stove or CSA/EPA certified wood stove, you will qualify for a rebate only if your old wood stove is not CSA/EPA certified. Your old wood stove will also have to be destroyed and cannot be reused. You must take photos of the old wood stove in place before removal as well as photos of the new stove after it has been installed and submit these with your application for a rebate.

Changes will be coming with the new year. Rebates for wood/pellet stoves will be discontinued after December 31 2023, but rebates for heat pumps will continue in 2024.

For more information about the wood stove exchange rebates, air quality issues, or to find out how to join the Golden and District Air Quality Committee, please see <https://wildsight.ca/branches/golden/air-quality/>.

For more information, please contact Leslie Adams, Branch Manager, golden@wildsight.ca