November 27, 2026

The Honourable Peter Milobar
Minister of Finance
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
Email: FIN.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Re: Ensuring Value for Money in Home Renovation Incentives and Tax Credits

Dear Minister Milobar,

On behalf of the Canadian Association of Consulting Energy Advisors (CACEA), our BC membership and the Energy Advisors working throughout the province, congratulations on your appointment as Minister of Finance. Founded in 2017, CACEA is the national voice for Energy Advisors, who improve the energy efficiency, resilience and comfort of new and existing homes, and serves as a trusted resource for homeowners, industry partners and policymakers. We look forward to supporting your government's commitment to affordability and responsible management of public funds.

Your mandate includes a Multigenerational Home Renovation Tax Credit, a Blue-Ribbon Panel to review BC's tax system, and a government-wide commitment to scrutinize programs and measure value for money. Incentives and tax credits for home improvements support affordability and meaningful upgrades to homes. To make sure they deliver results, **we respectfully ask that your government:** (1) require an Energy Advisor evaluation for incentives and tax credits that support energy-related upgrades, including under the Multigenerational Home Renovation Tax Credit; (2) make the cost of that evaluation an eligible expense; (3) use the evaluation results to assess program performance; and (4) consult CACEA as incentive and tax programs are reviewed. These measures should be available to all homeowners, not only income-qualified households.

Energy Advisors are impartial, federally registered Part 9 residential building professionals. They assess homes before and after upgrades and provide independent advice, separate from the products and services being sold.

Energy Advisor evaluations protect public and household investments in four ways:

1. **Informed decisions before money is spent.** Multigenerational renovations can be complex: adding a suite or new living space affects heating, ventilation, air quality and comfort throughout the home. Trained in building science, an Energy Advisor assesses the house as a system and identifies the improvements with the best return, so public dollars and family savings go further.
2. **Consumer protection and program integrity.** The initial Energy Advisor evaluation establishes a baseline and a clear plan; the follow-up confirms the work was completed and performs as expected. This protects families from poor or incomplete work and

protects the Province from paying for upgrades that were never delivered or that underperform. Documented evaluations also encourage homeowners to hire legitimate, tax-paying contractors, helping recover revenue lost to the underground economy.

3. **A small cost that protects a large investment.** An evaluation costs a fraction of the renovation it guides. In one recent Kelowna home, a furnace five times larger than needed was installed, adding cost and shortening the equipment's life. Problems like this are avoided when an Energy Advisor is involved.
4. **Ready to deliver now.** Energy Advisors are trained professionals working within the Government of Canada's EnerGuide Rating System, many operating small businesses across BC. The Province can rely on this existing capacity without building new verification programs or adding staff.

The result is lasting affordability for families through lower monthly energy bills, confidence for taxpayers that incentives deliver results, and work for small businesses across BC.

CACEA members have modelled, tested and reported on tens of thousands of BC homes. Specifically, CACEA offers:

- a briefing for your ministry on how Energy Advisor verification supports program accountability;
- a submission to the Blue-Ribbon Panel on how energy-related tax measures can recover revenue lost to the underground economy and deliver lasting affordability;
- BC field data and case examples from member projects; and
- advice on the design of energy-related eligibility requirements for incentives and tax credits.

We respectfully request the opportunity to meet with you and your team in the coming months. CACEA will follow up with your office in the coming weeks to arrange a meeting. In the meantime, please contact Cindy Gareau at manager@cacea.ca or 888-315-2774 with any questions.

Respectfully,

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cc: The Honourable Cathie Ounsted, Minister of Local Government, Housing, Sport and Culture; The Honourable Zeeshan Wahla, Minister of State for Housing; The Honourable Larry Neufeld, Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources; The Honourable Gavin Dew, MLA for Kelowna-Mission; CACEA Board of Directors