

Arguments in favour of implementing the BC Zero Carbon Ready early.

- a. Zero Carbon Ready will become **mandatory** across the **province of BC**. The new **Zero Carbon Step Code** establishes BC-wide standards for energy efficiency. The building industry will benefit by municipalities opting-in to Zero Carbon emission standards that start in **BC May 2023**. It will help the transition go more smoothly.
2. **We have the technology to go Zero Carbon Ready today** right across the Southern Interior/South Okanagan Similkameen. Heat pump technology has advanced rapidly in recent years and now works efficiently down to **-30C** and provides efficient cooling in the increasingly hot BC Interior summers.
3. Capital costs of Zero Carbon Ready are reasonably competitive with gas furnaces + air conditioning.
4. Operating costs of heat pump technology are now competitive with fossil gas, depending on gas costs which are volatile.
5. Electricity costs are extremely stable compared to gas.
6. Electricity costs carry **no increasing carbon tax**.
7. Fossil fuels will continue to lose competitiveness with rising carbon taxes.
8. Fossil fuel/ gas furnaces are “old technology”. **Why saddle clients with old tech?**
9. Heat pump heating is far more comfortable than gas, which blasts out high temperature air, then shuts down and allows temperatures to swing. Heat pump heat is steady and holds the temperatures exactly the same all the time.
10. Natural gas stoves are harmful to health, even with high quality range hood vents.

Notes adapted from **Bruce Murdoch**, builder, Cranbrook, BC <http://kcountryhomes.com/>

For more look at Saanich city's adoption of the policy for new buildings CPS strategy.

<https://www.saanich.ca/EN/main/community/sustainable-saanich/bc-energy-step-code-and-carbon-pollution-standard.html>



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