



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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PRINCE GEORGE WOOD STOVE EXCHANGE PROGRAM – FINAL WEEK

The 2009 Prince George Wood Stove Exchange Program, which began on March 1st, will end on **April 30th**. Qualifying residents have four more days to receive a \$150 discount off of the purchase of a new pellet, natural gas, or EPA-certified clean burning wood stove or insert from participating retailers and to obtain a voucher for an additional \$250 rebate from PGAIR. Remaining vouchers (if any) will continue to be available from participating retailers until **May 31st**.

The “Nominate Your Neighbour” program will also continue throughout May. People living next to a smoky neighbour can leave a pamphlet, containing exchange program details and proper wood burning tips, in their neighbour’s mailbox. Pamphlets are available from participating retailers or can be mailed by PGAIR on request.

In BC, residential wood burning is believed to be a significant cumulative source of fine particulate matter (PM), which can affect the health of homeowners and their neighbours, and overall airshed health. The Wood Stove Exchange Program is a provincial program designed to encourage British Columbians to exchange older, smoky wood burning appliances for low emission appliances, including natural gas, pellet, and EPA-certified clean burning wood stoves or inserts. The program offers discounts and rebates to promote exchanges, as well as education to assist residents operate wood burning appliances efficiently and reduce their emissions. Program details can be found on www.pgairquality.com.

The PG Wood Stove Exchange Program, being carried out by the Prince George Air Improvement Roundtable (PGAIR), is generously sponsored by the Province of British Columbia, the BC Lung Association, Environment Canada, the Hearth, Patio and Barbecue Association of Western Canada, the Wood Energy Technicians of British Columbia (WET BC), the City of Prince George and the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George. Community Partners include the River, the Drive, CKPG TV (Electronic Media Sponsor), the Wolf, 94X, the Prince George Citizen and the Free Press.

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