

QUEST Canada National Deep Retrofit Community of Practice

Terms of Reference for Review and Feedback
Updated July 2023

Overview

The National Deep Retrofit Community of Practice is made up of stakeholders interested in implementing deep retrofit strategies at the community level. The Community of Practice will meet five times a year. The goal is to create a community of practice for municipal staff interested in more quickly and effectively implementing deep retrofit in their communities.

Background

Buildings are responsible for 12-17% of Canada's greenhouse gas emissions. Most community local energy and climate plans include a goal of retrofitting a significant portion of their local building stock. Yet conventional methods of deep retrofits are not scalable and also too slow and expensive to achieve such goals.

This Community of Practice is part of a larger project to develop deep retrofit solutions for Canada called the ReCover Initiative. The ReCover Initiative completed its first project through QUEST Canada, designing a deep retrofit for a 3 story, 4 unit apartment building in 2020, and has been hard at work ever since. The ReCover Initiative has a grand vision to develop a deep retrofit solution that works at the speed and scale necessary to meet the challenge of the climate crisis.

Currently, ReCover is completing Front End Engineering Design (FEED) studies on municipal buildings in six municipalities across Canada. But many more municipalities will benefit from lessons learned from these studies. Further, there are many important conversations to be had about scaling up deep retrofits to meet the ambitious climate action targets set by many local governments. This Community of Practice will create a space for municipal staff to answer some of the questions facing deep retrofit technologies and methodologies and work together to develop some of the necessary solutions.

All the Community of Practice meetings will happen virtually on Zoom.

Definitions

A *deep retrofit* usually includes reducing energy demand and switching from fossil fuels to electricity for space and water heating – to achieve 70% energy savings and 80% to 100% GHG emissions reductions.

Purpose and Key Objectives

Knowledge sharing and collaboration with and between Canadian municipalities will increase confidence in Deep Retrofits across the country, contributing to the implementation, scalability, replicability, efficiency, and predictability of DR projects. This Community of Practice will be a Community of Practice with the goal of moving participating municipalities closer to deep retrofit readiness, implementation, and success.

Participation

The Community of Practice is open and will be relevant to:

- Municipal staff interested in DERs
- Researchers
- ENGOs
- Other Canadian (and non-Canadian) Energyprong-ers
- Industry

Meeting Frequency and Schedule

Five times a year / bi-monthly with a break for summer

2023 Schedule:

1. February 28th
2. April 11th
3. June 20th
4. Sep 19th
5. Nov 7th