



# REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY MEDIA RELEASE

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For immediate release

## RDCK Adopts Step 1 of the BC Energy Step Code

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Nelson, BC: On November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) Board adopted the Regional District's bylaw update to adopt Step 1 of the BC Energy Step Code. The new bylaw will officially go into effect on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2021.

The Step Code is a new provincial standard that provides an incremental and consistent approach to energy efficient construction. Each step on the BC Energy Step Code means a more efficient building, with the final step being net-zero (ie. The building creates as much energy as it consumes). Visit [energystepcode.ca](http://energystepcode.ca) for more information about the BC Energy Step Code.

"Adoption of the BC Energy Step Code step 1 will greatly help support our region in the gradual move to sustainable building in the RDCK and across BC," said Paul Faulkner, RDCK Senior Energy Specialist. "Our staff, building industry and energy advisors will work collaboratively with residents to adapt to the new processes and optimize access to current incentives for residents. This move not only aids in our preparedness for Provincial policy updates, but also aligns with the RDCK sustainability goals and commitment to 100% renewable energy by 2050."

For permits applied for after **December 31<sup>st</sup> 2020**, which are dwelling units or which contain dwelling units within the building envelope, new Part 9 residential buildings will need to demonstrate "enhanced compliance" with Step 1 of the Step Code. Step 1 is a no-fail option which uses a third party energy assessment to measure and report the air-tightness and energy performance of new residential buildings. Buildings can also voluntarily be built to a higher step (2 – 5).

[Click here](#) for the latest information on Step Code Implementation in the RDCK.

For more information on the RDCK's Regional Energy Efficiency Program (REEP) and how you can reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save energy go to [www.rdck.ca/reep](http://www.rdck.ca/reep).

*Incorporated in 1965, the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) is a local government that serves 60,000 residents in 11 electoral areas and nine member municipalities. The RDCK provides more than 160 services, including community facilities, fire protection and emergency services, grants, planning and land use, regional parks, resource recovery and handling, transit, water services and much more. For more information about the RDCK, visit [www.rdck.ca](http://www.rdck.ca).*

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