# There are benefits to making energy-efficient choices Are You Taking Advantage?

According to Natural Resources Canada, approximately 61% of the energy in our homes is used for space heating, followed by water heating (19%), appliances (14%), lighting (4%), and space cooling (3%). While the cost to heat and cool our homes inevitably rises during the colder and warmer months, there are ways to mitigate these costs by making small changes and incorporating effective energy-efficient strategies.

### BENEFITS OF THE ENERGY-EFFICIENT ADVANTAGE PROGRAM

As added incentive, Canada Guaranty offers a mortgage insurance partial premium refund of up to 25% for qualified homeowners who purchase energy-efficient homes or obtain mortgage financing to make energy-efficient home improvements.

# Available to borrowers with a mortgage currently insured by Canada Guaranty. Eligible for Purchase transactions with the intention of making energy-efficient improvements. Premium refund requests must be submitted within 24 months of the mortgage advance.

# Energy-Efficient Advantage Program | Highlights + Eligibility

 Offered on all Canada Guaranty mortgage insurance products for both New Construction and Existing homes.

 Mortgage insurance premiums and applicable fees must have been received by Canada Guaranty prior to receiving the Energy-Efficient Advantage premium refund.

# **BENEFITS OF MAKING ENERGY-EFFICIENT CHOICES**

### **Short-Term Benefits**

- Lower utility bills due to efficient energy use
- Healthier and more comfortable living space
- Improved lifespan of major household appliances

### **Long-Term Benefits**

- Lower levels of pollution and reduced impact on the environment
- Increased resale value on the home

### **PREMIUM REFUND PROCESS**

For complete details regarding program qualifications and the simple online refund application process, please visit www.canadaguaranty.ca to view the **Energy-Efficient Advantage** program under Insurance Products.



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## **5 TIPS FOR MAKING YOUR HOME MORE ENERGY EFFICIENT**

The following solutions represent only some of the positive changes homeowners can make to reduce their overall energy consumption and consequent energy bills. While some changes require a larger investment than others, in the long term, all of these steps will result in a more comfortable, efficient and cost-effective home.

#### Upgrade home insulation

Ensuring the walls, ceiling and attic of a home are effectively insulated can reduce energy use.

### Weather-strip doors

Draught-proofing through appropriate weather-stripping measures can reduce home heating or cooling loss.

### Adjust the thermostat

In the winter, most homes will save approximately 2% on the heating bill for every degree the thermostat is turned down. In the summer, turning up the thermostat by just one degree can save from 3-5% on air conditioning costs.

# Replace an old furnace or outdated appliances with high efficiency systems

Replace an old furnace with a model that has an efficiency rating of at least 95% for gas and 85% for oil.

### Upgrade or replace windows

Replacing old, inefficient windows with new, higher-performance models can use up to 8% less energy.

#### SOURCES:

- Natural Resources Canada: <u>http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/energy/products/categories/heating/13740</u>
- Tips for Making Your Home More Energy-Efficient: <u>https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/energy-efficiency/energy-efficiency-homes/make-small-changes-add/21850</u> <u>https://smarterhouse.org/</u>



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