

MARKET SCAN COVER NOTE

To better understand industry concerns and potential challenges in implementing the BC Energy Step Code, BC Housing conducted multiple research interviews in early 2017 with manufacturers in key industries and local suppliers. The *Market Scan in Select Industries for the BC Energy Step Code* provides a summary of some of the key issues identified by interviewees involved in the manufacture and supply of air barrier systems, heat recovery ventilators, and windows, as well as outlines important factors for success.

In response to this research, the Province, in collaboration with the Energy Step Code Council (ESCC):

- Recommended as a best practice that local governments notify the ESCC of their intent to consult and reference the BC Energy Step Code and once the plan is approved and ready. This information will be made publicly available.
- Committed to ongoing monitoring of BC Energy Step Code implementation to help identify issues as they arise, including an annual Local Government survey.
- Developed the *Best Practices Guide for Local Governments*, which advises local governments to consult with local industry, including designers, builders, energy professionals, trades, and suppliers to identify potential local challenges and the appropriate policy tools and incentives for the community.
- Developed a provincial policy guide that outlined minimum timelines for implementing new requirements under the BC Energy Step Code, to ensure that local government staff (planning department and Building Officials) and industry have sufficient time to prepare.
- Funded an extensive costing analysis of the BC Energy Step Code to help inform implementation and guide industry participants on how to best achieve BC Energy Step Code requirements in their climate zone.
- Worked closely with key industry and professional associations to provide relevant and tailored information on the BC Energy Step Code for different stakeholder groups.
- Supported stronger coordination and development of education tools and opportunities for industry (builders, trades, architects, energy advisors, designers, engineers, etc.) and local government (planners and building officials) for the BC Energy Step Code, which will continue to evolve and progress over time.