




zeb^x
ZERO EMISSIONS BUILDING EXCHANGE

ANNUAL REPORT

APR 2020 / MAR 2021

ZEBx.org





Peatt Commons West, one
of the CleanBC
Net-Zero Energy-Ready
(NZER) Challenge finalists

**"ZEBx has been a
much-needed source
of all things zero-
emissions buildings
for BC, especially by
providing a forum for
sharing information
and helping to make
connections between
industry members."**

**– Lisa Westerhoff
PhD, EcoDistricts AP
Principal, Integral
Group**

In the City of Vancouver's 2016 Zero Emissions Building Plan, the Zero Emissions Building Exchange was conceived as a Centre of Excellence to build capacity and enthusiasm for zero-emissions buildings. As Canada's first Centre of Excellence for zero-emissions buildings, we collaborate with governments and the building industry to facilitate knowledge exchange, showcase excellence and build a sense of community in order to accelerate action for effective market transformation across the Metro Vancouver region.

ZEBx operates under some of the country's most progressive green building policies, regulations and climate emergency action plans. We are well-positioned to support effective solutions that reduce GHG emissions from the built environment, thereby mitigating climate change. If you have embraced the low-carbon future of the building sector, ZEBx's mission is to ensure that you don't get left behind.

The 2020-21 fiscal year arrived with some obvious challenges related to the global pandemic. This had a big impact on our community's ability to network, but ZEBx was able to successfully pivot to online programming and offer a way to stay in touch and allow the community to grow. In fact, switching to online programming greatly extended our reach!

We look forward to continuing our mission to empower and enable the building industry and local governments. Together, we are making Metro Vancouver's building sector a shining example of low-carbon innovation and progress.



Events

59 events with 89 speakers

2,661 attendees
5,870 training hours
12 industry collaborations



Resources

12 published resources

<http://www.zebx.org/resources>
2628 visits to
www.zebx.org/resources



Relationships

60% of our community expanded their network through ZEBx events - a highly valued opportunity in a pandemic

Media



209% increase in newsletter subscribers

40% increase in website visitors

50% increase in social media followers

Reach & Influence

54% of our community are at the senior or executive level

Community Profile

Part 9



28%

Part 3



72%

Satisfaction



96% of our community rated our events and resources good or excellent

1 DECARB LUNCH SERIES

With funding from BC Hydro, the Decarb Lunch Series showcases leading low-carbon projects, policies and emerging technologies with the intent to accelerate the building sector's advance towards cost-effective, zero-emissions buildings. Taking place on the last Friday of each month, the series facilitates knowledge exchange among early adopters and allows for peer-to-peer learning and networking. It is by far, our most popular program offering.

2 CLEANBC NET-ZERO ENERGY-READY CHALLENGE SERIES

With funding from CleanBC, the six-part webinar series showcased some of the finalists of the CleanBC NZER Challenge - some of the first projects that are aiming for or have achieved the highest levels of the BC Energy Step Code and beyond. Drawing on the lessons learned from industry-leading experts, webinar participants advanced their knowledge of emerging solutions and key barriers to widespread adoption.

Decarb Lunch Series



Taking place on the last Friday of each month

"The Zero Emissions Building Exchange has filled a need in our industry by providing Contractors with ongoing support through a centralized portal where we can access high performance construction best building practices and networking opportunities. Their resources are clear and concise and the ZEBx team is very accommodating. It's been cool to see ZEBx evolve along with Vancouver's low-carbon movement and I'm excited for what lies ahead in the next five years."

- Aaron Lavalle

Project Manager for Kingdom Builders, participant in ZEBx's NearZero Emissions Building program

WOMEN4CLIMATE MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

In collaboration with the City of Vancouver, we launched the third year of C40 Cities' Women4Climate Mentorship Program in Vancouver. Matching industry experts with the next generation of climate leaders, this program empowers women to advance environmental initiatives across the building, energy, transportation, and packaging industries.

REAL ESTATE FINANCE PILOT PROJECT

With funding from Forestry Innovation Investment, ZEBx and the LFV Collaborative have also partnered on a real estate finance pilot project. The project's goal is to demonstrate that early integration of low-carbon design considerations in the real estate financing process will result in higher-performing buildings and lower risk to financial lenders.



Recording videos for the CleanBC NZER Challenge playbook series

NEARZERO EMISSIONS BUILDING PROGRAM

With funding from CleanBC and the City of Vancouver, the NearZero Emissions Building program aims to incentivize the construction of near-zero emission homes within Metro Vancouver with generous compensation in exchange for design, construction and occupancy information. With this stockpile of valuable lessons learned from over 50 high-performance home projects, ZEBx has begun disseminating the knowledge through the Decarb Lunch series and resources which will be published on our website.

PROJECT VISIONING + PRE-DESIGN CHARRETTE

With funding from BC Hydro, ZEBx and the Living Future Vancouver (LFV) Collaborative delivered four Project Visioning and Pre-Design Charrettes to a diverse selection of project teams. The program focused on providing insights on how to successfully incorporate low-carbon and resilient design strategies during the early development stages.

"ZEBx has been a great source of knowledge on how to implement high performance building practices and to find the products, materials and professionals that fit with the low carbon future."

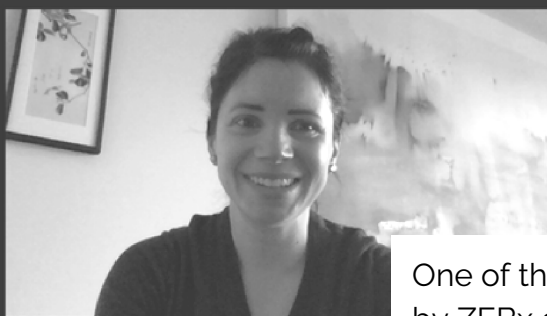
– Rod Nadeau

Managing Partner of Innovation Building Group, finalist of the CleanBC NZER Challenge Program

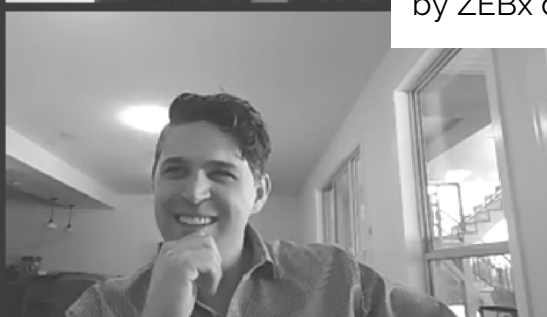
PATTERN LANGUAGE FROM PASSIVE HOUSE

With funding from Forestry Innovation Investment and in collaboration with RDH Building Science, ZEBx provided our community with a course focused on cost-effective design and construction of high-performance, wood-framed, mid-rise, multi-unit residential buildings. The course was a smashing success, with over 200 architects, builders, developers, urban planners and many others enrolling in this highly acclaimed educational offering.

Skeena Residence, one of the CleanBC NZER Challenge finalists



One of the many live events conducted by ZEBx during the pandemic



"If you have taken an intro to passive house, then the next 'must take' course for your passive house knowledge is Pattern Language from Passive House. The instructor is constantly updating his slides so that your experience and examples will be up to the minute. I will probably take the course again next year"

– Shaun St-Amour
Product Consultant for Western Canada at 475 High-Performance Building Supply



Roberto Pecora

Director of
Programs



Kim McClymont

Program
Manager



**Gordon Patrick
Newell**

Communication and
Events Manager



Mariko Michasiw
Building Electrification
Coalition Program
Manager



**Janani Gunasegaran
Surender**
Research
Coordinator

Temporary Leave

Michaela Neuberger
Director of Operations

"ZEBx knows their audience and they do a great job curating content that is timely and relevant."

– Morgan McDonald
Director of Operations, Ledcor Renew

Starting from the March 2021 Decarb Lunch event, we now provide our community with podcasts.



The ZEBx Podcast

**Decarb
Lunch**

GROWING OUR CONNECTION TO INDUSTRY

Our team will continue to constantly engage with the leaders (and enthusiastic followers) of the zero-emissions building community. By participating in a growing number of building sector councils, working groups, committees, workshops and dialogues and collaborating with more industry associations, we will bring the zero-emissions perspective to more tables. This growing engagement and participation gives ZEBx a connection to the building sector like no other organization and allows us to leverage expertise from across the sector to ensure our work is relevant and impactful.

BUILDING ELECTRIFICATION COALITION

ZEBx is proud to be the host organization for the Building Electrification Coalition. Building electrification is the most effective tool to decarbonize the building infrastructure and with the Coalition, ZEBx's pursuit to decarbonize the building sector has taken a major leap forward.

EXPANDING OUR REACH

In the past fiscal year, we reached new building industry stakeholders throughout BC and beyond by launching the monthly Decarb Lunch series and the NZER Challenge series, consulting on the creation of the BC Building Electrification Road Map, and quickly pivoting to webinars and online courses in response to the pandemic.

AMPLIFYING OUR IMPACT

Starting this fiscal year, ZEBx has expanded its online, on-demand offerings. We have begun rolling out podcasts of our highly regarded Decarb Lunch Series and videos of our CleanBC NZER Playbook Series. We've also set a goal to collaborate with industry or government on every event we organize. We expect that these strategies will have a big impact on our reach.

British Columbia's Building Electrification Road Map

March 2021

ZEBx is the Building Electrification host organization and launched the Road Map





