

ON TABLE
City Council Meeting
July 10, 2023

re: Item 4.1

July 5, 2023

Roderick Carle General Manager, Electrical Utility City of New Westminster 511 Royal Avenue New Westminster, BC V3L 1H9

**Delivered via email** 

Re: Energy Conservation Assistance Program (Portable Air Conditioners)

Dear Rod,

As recently announced on June 27, 2023, the Government of B.C. will provide \$10 million in funding to BC Hydro to expand our Energy Conservation Assistance Program (ECAP) to include free, publicly funded portable air conditioners (AC) for people who are medically vulnerable and have low incomes.

The \$10 million will provide approximately 8,000 more AC units to be installed over the next three years. It is anticipated at least 50% of the AC units will be installed in apartments or multi-unit dwellings, with the remaining balance installed in single family dwellings.

To ensure that air conditioners are provided to those that need them the most, the application process is income tested through BC Hydro's Energy Conservation Awareness Program. Applicants can apply online or by mail. Medical eligibility for the AC program will be based on vulnerability criteria which is being established by the Ministry of Health.

Eligible customers in City of New Westminster can apply through the Energy Conservation Assistance Program provided these customers are not currently approved or will be receiving free air conditioners administered by the City of New Westminster.

Sincerely,

Carmelina Sorace

Carmelina Sorace
Manager, Sector Marketing
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cc: Jim Nelson, Senior Manager Product Management Rick Truong, Senior Key Account Manager