

THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO ANNOUNCES CHANGES TO THE CONSERVATION FIRST FRAMEWORK

In a press conference on Thursday afternoon, (March 21, 2019), the government of Ontario announced its plan for the future of energy conservation in Ontario, and program changes to achieve cost efficiencies. Benefits of investing in energy efficiency are well-documented. While wasteful spending should always be scrutinized, understanding the greater risks posed to cities and businesses by aging infrastructure, urban growth, and extreme weather events, a coping mechanism to maintain reliability and a certain degree of resilience across the grid is essential. Now more than ever, there is a great need to preserve and encourage engagement through the various components of conservation programs that have provided successful, cost effective solutions and that have made Ontario highly competitive. Strategic investments in energy efficiency not only benefits customers, but benefits the entire Province and the communities it serves.

To that end, BOMA Toronto applauds the government for its decision to continue to offer the high-value retrofit programs and its commitment to work with stakeholders to help shape the post-2020 conservation framework.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM YESTERDAY'S ANNOUNCEMENT

IESO will centrally deliver energy-efficiency program on a province-wide basis with a focus on business and industrial programs.

Effective April 1, 2019:

- All new Retrofit applications must be submitted to the IESO for review and approval
- The IESO will facilitate all new Retrofit applications & customer service

Existing applications

- All previously approved, existing Retrofit projects underway will continue to be supported by the local hydro company until completed
- All existing applications that are not approved by the local hydro company before May 1, 2019 will be transferred to the IESO for review

The interim framework is expected to include the following programs:

Retrofit, Small Business Lighting, Energy Manager Program, Process & System Upgrades, Industrial Accelerator Program, Energy Performance Program, Home Assistance Program, and some special Targeted Programs

Programs eliminated include:

Business Refrigeration Incentive, Audit Program Funding, High Performance New Construction, Existing Building Commissioning, Monitoring & Targeting, Instant Discounts, Heating & Cooling Incentive, and Residential New Construction

The government has also introduced certain measures to reform the governance structure and accountability framework of the Ontario Energy Board (OEB). We are committed to providing continued

updates in the coming weeks as salient details of this new framework are released.

BOMA Toronto is committed to continue to collaborate with the Government, IESO, OEB, local distribution companies (LDCs) and related stakeholders to help address the needs of our membership and the Commercial Real Estate Industry to ensure that the momentum gained through the previous Conservation Frameworks are maintained and enhanced.

For more information

The IESO website: <https://www.saveonenergy.ca/en/For-Business-and-Industry/Changes-to-programs>

Save on Energy Call Centre: 1 877 797 9473

**DETAILS OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY,
NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT & MINES**

Comprehensive reform to the conservation programs, Ontario Energy Board and end of Fair Hydro Plan: https://news.ontario.ca/mndmf/en/2019/03/ford-government-taking-bold-action-to-fix-hydro-mess.html?utm_source=ondemand&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=p

Ontario Reducing Costs by Centralizing and Refocusing Conservation Programs: <https://news.ontario.ca/mndmf/en/2019/03/ontario-reducing-costs-by-centralizing-and-refocusing-conservation-programs.html>