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## **Homeworks, BC Hydro & Terasen Gas launch energy efficiency pilot project in Victoria capital district.**

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Vancouver B.C. – Homeworks Services Inc. (Homeworks) is about to make it a whole lot easier for homeowners in the Victoria Capital District to obtain home energy grants and rebates. Canada's fastest growing home services company has signed on with BC Hydro PowerSmart and Terasen Gas to deliver their home energy efficiency rebates to qualified customers.

While the PowerSmart and Terasen Gas grants and rebates have been available previously, Homeworks one-stop-shop approach now makes these programs and energy saving home improvements more accessible than ever.

PowerSmart renovation rebates are for customers with electrically heated houses and town-homes, and assist in the funding of energy efficient renovations such as new windows and home insulation. Homeowners who participate are also eligible for a \$50 contribution towards the cost of their home energy audit under the EnerGuide for Houses program.

*"BC Hydro is pleased to be participating with both Terasen Gas and Homeworks in this pilot program in the greater Victoria area. The concept of pooling resources and creating a "one stop shopping" option for consumers on energy efficient products and services is a concept that BC Hydro feels is important to test in the marketplace,"* stated Richard Marchant, Manager Customer Care & Power Smart.

.Terasen Gas offers homeowners grants and rebates for converting to natural gas home heating and water heating systems. There is also free service line installation available to qualifying new residential customers, a value of approximately \$900.

*"Homeowners are telling us that energy efficiency is a priority for them and offers such as this one allow people to make smart choices and better utilize energy resources,"* said Jan Marston, Terasen Gas vice president of marketing. *"Converting to or installing a high-efficiency natural gas heating system will help reduce demand for electricity, help reduce emissions and ensures the most energy efficient fuel is used for these applications."*

The Homeworks model combines a commercially viable business approach with the coordination of sustainability initiatives between homeowners, utility companies and government. Through this tri-fold approach Homeworks helps these groups attain energy efficiency goals related to energy utility needs and Canada's commitment to the Kyoto accord.

*"We are really focusing our efforts on making energy efficiency programs easy for the consumer to access."* says Homeworks CEO Areef Abraham. *"Homeworks provides a 'One-Stop-Shop' approach to home services with central support, regional management, and local delivery of services and products which reduce energy consumption."*

Homeworks and its parent company in the UK, EAGA Partnership, have a proven track record of being able to deliver these services to homeowners. In the UK, services have reduced energy consumption in over five million homes since 1990. Homeworks was launched as a division of Terasen Inc. in 1997. In 2003, EAGA acquired majority ownership.

EAGA and Terasen Inc. are now joint owners of the company, which is growing quickly across Canada, recently launching operations in Ontario.

For more information on PowerSmart programs visit:

<http://www.bchydro.bc.ca/powersmart/reno/reno10344.html>

<http://www.bchydro.com/powersmart/fridge/fridge8437.html>

For more information on Terasen Gas programs, look for program details "For Vancouver Island and Sunshine Coast customers only" by visiting:

<http://www.terasengas.com/residential/specialoffers/default.htm>

For further information on Homeworks visit: [www.homeworks.ca](http://www.homeworks.ca).

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