

Home renos on a post-holiday budget

The build up to the holidays is an exciting time of year, but can often lead to tighter budgets by the time January rolls around. Indulging in gifts and holiday parties through December, may lead to cashed-out piggy banks for many homeowners seeking ways to save money when the new year begins. One way to help build savings is to create a more energy efficient home. By taking on a project such as re-insulating your attic, you can help increase your home's energy efficiency while helping to save up to 28 per cent* on monthly heating bills.

“An adequately insulated attic can help slow the amount of heat lost through the roof during the winter months,” says Cheryl West, Insulation Expert at Owens Corning. “The attic is an area often under-insulated in Canadian homes that contributes to significant heat loss, resulting in increased heating bills.”

Venture into your attic to see if your home is one of the seven million under-insulated attics across the country. If your attic insulation doesn't meet the recommended standard of R-50, take on a re-insulation home project to help save you energy and money. All the supplies you'll need can be found at your local home building supplies store to help you install up to 15 inches of PINK FIBERGLAS batt insulation or 18 ½ inches of PROPINK blown insulation. With only a weekend's worth of work, you can help save both energy and money all year long.

And home renovation costs are nothing to fear with the amount of government support available. With government grants accessible to homeowners, this means that re-insulating your attic can fit into any budget, even after the holidays. Along with the The Home Renovation Tax Credit, Natural Resources Canada can help further reduce your attic re-insulation costs with the ecoENERGY retrofit rebate of up to \$750 in grants.

Act fast while some government grants are available only for a limited time. Visit www.oeenrncan.gc.ca for more information on how to qualify for an ecoENERGY retrofit rebate. To learn more about the HRTC and how to insulate your attic visit, www.actionplan.gc.ca and www.insulationtaxcredit.ca.

**Savings vary depending on the original amount of insulation in your home, climate, house size, air leaks and personal energy use and living habits. The colour PINK is a registered trademark of Owens Corning ©2009 Owens Corning. All Rights Reserved.*

– *News Canada*