



# LEED Tech Bulletin

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## Update on LEED Certification streamlining

Since announcing plans to streamline the LEED Canada certification process the CaGBC has made significant progress on a number of fronts, and project submittals are already being processed at a higher volume than ever before.

Due to increases in staff, review teams and other measures, we were able to complete nearly 300 reviews and certify 86 projects in the first four months of 2012. More improvements are on the way – [read more](#) in this article from the CaGBC's eNews and watch for more updates in the months to come.

## Voting for Regional Priority credits re-opened!

With nearly 600 completed surveys, the first round of voting was a great success – but some sectors are not adequately represented, so we need your help! We have re-opened voting, and are collecting additional input from all sectors. In particular, we need additional data for:

- Rural areas
- EB:O&M projects
- Less populated provinces and territories

**Vote  
now,  
Vote  
often!**

LEED APs are encouraged to vote in all sectors where they feel they have an informed opinion. If for example they have any general work experience in a sector, or grew up in a given region, they are encouraged to consider voting!

Voting closes July 20, and LEED APs will receive an invitation with links to the survey by June 25. Please contact CaGBC's [Customer Service](#) if you fail to receive an invitation.

To read more about how voting for Regional Priorities will help streamline certification, [click here](#).

## **Improved energy benchmarks for LEED Canada for Homes to take effect August 1, 2012**

The Canada Green Building Council (CaGBC) has completed a national consultation on the energy prerequisite in LEED Canada for Homes. Introduced in early March 2009, LEED Canada for Homes is a national third-party certification system for energy efficient, healthy, green homes with over 2000 homes registered, and 350 certified to date.

In an effort to build upon this success, the CaGBC has responded to the suggestions of LEED Canada for Homes builders and developers by consulting with the industry to determine whether or not it should be raising the minimum energy efficiency threshold for participation in the program.

As a result of the survey that was conducted in winter 2012, the CaGBC has announced that the new minimum for energy performance in the LEED Canada for Homes rating system will be EnerGuide 80 for all homes that register after August 1, 2012. In keeping with this, the Prescriptive and HERS (Home Energy Rating System) paths will also be adjusted: a HERS score of 72 will be required, or if using the prescriptive path a minimum of 8 points will need to be achieved from EAc2, EAc3, EAc4, EAc5, EAc6 and EAc7.3. Projects that are registered before August 1 will be able to continue with the existing energy performance thresholds.

The CaGBC would like to thank all of those who provided feedback from across the country, for continuing to help shape the progress of LEED Canada for Homes. We'd also like to recognize the great work being done by the hundreds of dedicated green home builders in Canada who are committed to improving the way homes are built now and in the future.

For more information on LEED Canada for Homes or the updated energy requirements, please visit [www.cagbc.org/homes](http://www.cagbc.org/homes). We also welcome your feedback at any time, comments can be sent by email to [homes@cagbc.org](mailto:homes@cagbc.org).

## **Get certified for as little as \$75 per home with new batch certification**

With over 2000 homes now registered with LEED Canada for Homes, the program is seeing greater interest from proponents of large single-family projects. In response to this heightened interest, the CaGBC has introduced a less expensive and more convenient certification model.

The changes allow builders to register larger projects, possibly with multiple models, under one LEED Canada for Homes registration. Groups of homes aiming for the same certification level can then be certified in batches, allowing projects that are built in phases to certify different stages of work at different times. Batch certification also increases flexibility as developers can decide at any time which homes they wish to group together for certification purposes.

Batch certification also introduces great cost savings. Each group of homes pays a single batch review fee of just \$255, which allows each home within the batch to then be certified for only \$75 per home (member rate). With these advantages and savings, the CaGBC hopes to further encourage the adoption of LEED Canada for Homes on larger development projects.

For more details, visit [www.cagbc.org/homes](http://www.cagbc.org/homes) today.

**Did you know?**  
The largest LEED Canada for Homes project certified to date is Minto's Chapman Mills project, with 160 homes.