



RESILIENT HOMES FIELD TRIALS - CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

[Resilient Homes Canada Project](#): ICLR and CHBA Collaborate to Advance Resilient Home Construction

OVERVIEW

The Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction (ICLR) and the Canadian Home Builders' Association (CHBA) are collaborating on the Resilient Homes Task Force (RHTF) project. The Task Force is working to create evidence-based solutions for more resilient new homes, renovations, and homeowner maintenance. These solutions will help inform the residential construction industry and Canadians about options to protect property and residents from increasing weather extremes and catastrophic loss.

Homes play an important role in our quality of life. They not only shelter us from extremes but are also where we make lifelong memories with family and friends. Purchasing a home is the largest investment most Canadians will ever make and is tied to financial stability. A resilient home is one that is more durable and less prone to catastrophic loss. The opportunities for homeowners to invest in their largest asset to reduce risk can happen at any time in home ownership, whether building new, renovating, or maintaining, including roof replacement.

The Resilient Homes Task Force is creating a unique opportunity to align insurers' goal of risk reduction with builder know-how, benefitting Canadian residents. The goal of the task force is to create awareness for industry and Canadians about what can be done to reduce the risk to homes and families.

PURPOSE OF FIELD TRIALS

The project is now seeking applications to conduct field trials with new home builders that meet the eligibility criteria below. The field trials will be used to evaluate the implementation of selected climate resilience measures in terms of cost effectiveness, constructability, and other barriers for implementation (such as supply chain issues, and homebuyer uptake/interest). The learnings will be used to create resources and guides for the residential construction industry and homeowners, outlining voluntary risk reduction initiatives for Canadian homes.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- The builder must be a CHBA member in good standing.
- The Part 9 residential construction project must have an expected completion date of 2025/early 2026.
- The home must be in an area that is exposed to at least one of these hazards: High wind, urban flood, or hail. (Wildfire is also a priority hazard but is already covered by a number of ongoing field trial projects.) For urban flood, the home must be serviced by a public wastewater system.
- The home must be located in a relatively populated area, and not be in an isolated area.
- The builder must be willing and able to incorporate resilience measures for at least one of the identified climate hazards in the home(s) being constructed.
- The home must be built using common construction practices. e.g., steep slope roofs with engineered trusses, wood frame, etc. Modular/factory-built construction is acceptable. This is to ensure that the home can become a standard reference case by refining resilience measures that are applicable for the majority of new Part 9 residential construction in Canada.





- Homes exposed to hazards for which lot-side resilience options are impractical or ineffective are not eligible. This includes high exposure to river and coastal flood and erosion, groundwater flood, subsidence, landslide, etc.
- The builder team must commit to participating in an Integrated Design Process for the selected home starting in January 2025 with construction completed per the project timelines below.
- The builder must be open to marketing opportunities and dissemination of outputs such as videos and/or photos of the build process, media events, staff/trades/contractor interviews, publication of outputs via ICLR, CHBA, and additional sponsors such as insurance companies.

TIMELINES

Application deadline:	Nov 22, 2024
Applicant screening and selection completed by:	Dec 13, 2024
Pre-construction Integrated Design Charrettes completed by:	Mar 31, 2025
Home construction completed by:	end of 2025/early 2026
Post-construction project results meetings completed by:	Mar 31, 2026*
Analysis of project results and report completed by:	Apr 31, 2026*

**There is some flexibility on these timelines.*

BENEFIT TO BUILDERS

For builders who are already looking to adopt resiliency measures into their new builds, this field trial project offers the opportunity to work with consultants and industry experts to select and implement the most effective measures, as well as participate in a post-construction review to evaluate the measures for cost effectiveness, constructability, and other barriers for implementation (such as supply chain issues, and homebuyer uptake/interest). Additionally, participating builders have the option to include optimization for overheating, operational GHG emissions, embodied GHG emissions, and the impacts of electrification on load management. Financial support for participating builder teams will be provided by covering the costs of the consultants to conduct the Integrated Design Process and optimization with your project team(s).

HOW TO APPLY

Complete the application form detailing how your company and your project meets the project criteria outlined above and email it to me at sonja.winkelmann@chba.ca by noon ET November 22, 2024.

Warm regards,

SONJA WINKELMANN, EP

Senior Director, Net Zero Housing

Canadian Home Builders' Association

141 Laurier Ave. West, Suite 500, Ottawa, ON, K1P 5J3
613-230-3060 x235 | sonja.winkelmann@chba.ca | chba.ca/nzc

