



**Renfrew Hydro partners with Ontario AffordAbility Fund™
to provide free energy-saving products and professional advice
to help eligible hydro customers lower electricity costs**

(April 3, 2018 Renfrew ON) Renfrew Hydro is spreading the word about *the Affordability Fund*, a new Ontario program that supplies free energy-saving products such as ENERGY STAR® light bulbs, programmable thermostats, refrigerators, and insulation upgrades to eligible customers to help lower their electricity costs.

“Customers on fixed or lower incomes who don’t qualify for other energy assistance programs and can’t afford to upgrade to more energy-efficient products but want to lower their home energy costs are encouraged to get in touch with the *Affordability Fund* by calling 1.855.494.3863 or by filling out the contact form at www.affordabilityfund.org,” said Renfrew Hydro’s President Bill Nippard. “The first contact with the *Affordability Fund* has to be made by you.”

There are three levels of support up to a maximum value of \$15,000. That will depend on your net income, your average energy bill, and if your name appears on your hydro bill. It doesn’t matter whether you own or rent or live in a house or an apartment. Individuals who qualify for the *Home Assistance Program*, the *Low-Income Energy Assistance Program*, and the *Ontario Electricity Support Program* aren’t eligible for support under the *Affordability Fund*.

For example, if your total household income is \$45,334 after tax and your annual hydro bill is \$2,000, you may be eligible for up to \$4,500 in energy-efficient upgrades.

“After you have contacted the *Affordability Fund* by telephone or the internet, an *Affordability Fund* representative will call you back to ask you about basic information such as your net income and your average electricity bill to determine eligibility. Eligibility is subject to verification by Renfrew Hydro. Once eligibility and the level of support is confirmed, Renfrew Hydro is responsible for providing you with the products in 2018,” said Mr. Nippard.

In Level 1, you may receive a home energy kit and products such as a block heater timer, smart power bar, efficient shower heads, aerators, hot water pipe insulation, and LED light bulbs.

In Level 2, you may receive an in-home visit from a Renfrew Hydro home energy advisor, a home energy plan and upgrades to Energy Star appliances such as a refrigerator, freezer, window air conditioner, dehumidifier, and/or programmable thermostats.

In Level 3 which is specifically for those who heat with electricity, you may receive an in-home visit from a Renfrew Hydro energy advisor, a home energy plan and upgrades that may include heat pumps, attic and wall insulation, and draft proofing.

Renfrew Hydro will be holding presentations followed by questions and answers at different locations in the community. If your organization is interested in having a presentation, please call Renfrew Hydro at 613.432.4884.

Schedule

Thursday, April 12 1 p.m. Renfrew Golden Age Club, 212 Raglan St.S.

Tuesday, April 17 noon-1:30 p.m. RCAF 164 Argyle St. S.

**Tuesday, April 24 10:30 a.m. Renfrew and Area Seniors Home Support Board Room,
214 Raglan St.S.**

Tuesday, May 8 *Seniors in our Communities* Radio show with **Marion Eidsness on **98.7 Valley Heritage Radio.****

AffordAbility Fund™ is a trade-mark of Affordability Fund Trust, used under license. The Affordability Fund is run by the Affordability Fund Trust and supported by funding from the Government of Ontario.

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For more information, please contact:

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