
From: Web NoReply
Sent: Sunday, May 4, 2025 5:55 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Comments - Candace Savage - Energy Regulation Options for Building Standards
Attachments: Building Code.pdf

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Submitted on Sunday, May 4, 2025 - 17:54

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

I have read and understand the above statements.: Yes

I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.: No

I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.: No

Date: Sunday, May 04, 2025

To: Her Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name: Candace

Last Name: Savage

Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name: 306 [REDACTED]

Phone Number : [306](tel:306) [REDACTED]

Email: hello@wildaboutsaskatoon.org

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: [REDACTED] Albert Avenue

Ward: Ward 6

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): Wild about Saskatoon

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: SPC Planning, Development and Community Services

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: 6.1.1- Energy Regulation Options for Building Standards

Comments:

Please see our letter, attached.

Attachments:

Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?: No



May 4, 2025

To: Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development, & Community Services,

We are writing to urge the City of Saskatoon to adopt the National Building Code's Tier 2 standards for energy use efficiency in 2025 and Tier 3 in 2026.

Residential homes account for around 25% of greenhouse gas emissions in Saskatoon (1). Compared to Tier 1, Tier 3 would reduce the energy use of new builds by 20% (2). Adopting Tier 2 standards in 2025 and Tier 3 in 2026 would support Saskatoon's commitment to emissions reductions and climate resilience as outlined in the Low Emissions Community Plan and 2022-2025 Strategic Plan.

As advocates for nature, we know that climate change is already desynchronizing ecological relationships, causing the collapse of wildlife populations (including pollinators), and threatening our life-support system. Adopting standards that reduce our emissions is a necessary response to this crisis.

Cities like Vancouver and Toronto have already adopted more efficient building standards and have meaningfully reduced their carbon emissions (4, 5). Saskatoon has the opportunity to learn from these successes and adapt them to our local context. A 2021 Abacus Data poll showed that 62% of residents in Saskatchewan support or strongly support changing building codes so that new buildings are more efficient (6). These figures give a clear mandate for action to the City of Saskatoon.

Tier 2 & 3 building codes are not simply an upgrade—they are an investment in Saskatoon's future. By adopting these standards, the city will be taking a bold, proactive step to mitigate the effects of climate change while prioritizing affordability, public health, and livability for its residents. The climate crisis demands decisive action, and now is the time for Saskatoon to rise to this challenge. Later is too late.

We appreciate the ongoing efforts of Mayor Block and City Council to explore innovative solutions to support our community's wellbeing. We are confident that adopting Tier 2 building code standards in 2025 and Tier 3 in 2026 will be a milestone in Saskatoon's journey toward sustainability, affordability, and livability.

Sincerely,

Candace Savage, Joanne Blythe and Andrea Carroll

1. Green Municipal Fund. (n.d.). Case study: Bringing energy efficiency to Saskatoon homes. <https://greenmunicipalfund.ca/case-studies/case-study-bringing-energy-efficiency-saskatoon-homes>
2. Efficiency Canada. (2025, February 19). *Saskatchewan's building code backtrack will burden homeowners with higher costs*. <https://www.energycanada.org/saskatchewans-building-code/>
3. Wang, C., Wang, J., & Norbäck, D. (2022). A systematic review of associations between energy use, fuel poverty, energy efficiency improvements and health. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 19(12), 7393. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph19127393>
4. General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability. (2024). *Vancouver's next climate plans*. City of Vancouver. <https://council.vancouver.ca/20240723/documents/r3.pdf>
5. City of Toronto. (2023). *City of Toronto releases two reports detailing progress on ambitious TransformTO Net Zero Climate Action Strategy*. <https://www.toronto.ca/news/city-of-toronto-releases-two-reports-detailing-progress-on-ambitious-transformto-net-zero-climate-action-strategy/>
6. Efficiency Canada. (n.d.). Building codes for new buildings. <https://www.energycanada.org/building-codes/building-codes-for-new-buildings/>