

Your Lot, Your Dream, Custom Built



IN THE NEWS

<September> <2016>

Are Prefabricated Homes Part of the Solution for “Net Zero” Homes in Ontario?

This June, Ontario unveiled its [new Climate Change Action Plan](#) and while it focuses on leading the province into a low-carbon economy, high efficiency homes are a crucial component of its’ success. Could this mean that high efficiency prefab homes are a viable pathway to success for Ontario’s green initiatives?

The Climate Change Action Plan encompasses many of the sources of carbon emissions for the province including businesses and the way people in Ontario live. Some of the highlights of the planned changes are:

- A green bank to provide funds for people and businesses to be able to pay for energy-efficient upgrades
- Cleaning up the transportation industry with zero/low-emission vehicles and better transit
- Providing incentives and tools to help people choose higher efficient construction for homes and buildings

Most relevant for homebuilders, this means that the province will be working to make greener construction the best and most obvious choice.

Glen Murray, the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, has said that a big part of meeting their goals will depend on “net zero carbon” homes and that changes to the building code will [come into effect by 2030](#).

A net zero carbon home is a home that uses as much energy as it is able to give back. A home like this must do two things: create energy with technologies like solar panels, and be highly efficient in order to consume less energy.

So where do prefab homes fit in? In the industry, it's commonly accepted that prefab homes are a much greener construction method. Contrary to traditional stick building, prefab homes use fewer material resources (less wastage) and can be closely inspected throughout the building process to make sure sources of inefficiency are less likely to occur.

Builders like Royal Homes take **green construction** a step further with high-efficiency standards and additional options that can easily take a home closer to "net zero" like a factory sealed airtight building envelope and solar ready access.

Prefab homes are likely a step ahead—already prepared to meet Ontario's needs for future homes. Highly efficient homes don't just save money, they save the environment as well!



Minto's "Killarney" model house, like this one in the Arcadia community, is "net zero," meaning it produces as much energy as it consumes with help from rooftop solar panels. (Gordon King Photography)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are introducing our Fall Order, Spring Delivery program to clients who are committed this fall to build next year. It's a great way to lock in current prices and begin the exciting design process by picking colours early. The market prices are expected to inflate by 5-6% and this is a great opportunity to lock today's price in while you can. This limited-time offer ends October 31st.



This past month, we wanted to say a special thank you to long-time employee Jim Hastings. Jim has worked for 29 years in plumbing and wall sheathing for Royal Homes - you will definitely be missed!



For the month of September, we've got some employee birthdays to celebrate! We'd like to personally wish Shawn Birrell, Michael Spitzig, Graham Finlay, Tony Bokkers, Selena McConnell, Tracy Petersen, Jacqueline Barrow and Mark Soul a very happy birthday from all of us here at Royal Homes!

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