



How we electrified our Toronto home

"Our all-electric home is comfortable and having monthly savings on our bills is great. I only wish we'd done it sooner."

Kathryn
Toronto Hydro residential customer

Turning values into everyday action

KATHRYN AND HER FAMILY live in a 1920s semi-detached home in the heart of the city. Like many older homes in Toronto, natural gas was the main energy source. When it came time to modernize, they decided to go all in and fully electrify their space heating (radiators), appliances and transportation.

“We did our retrofit work and upgrades in a couple of stages. The first things that we adopted were the induction range and the electric vehicle.”

The family upgraded to an electric vehicle (EV) and modern electrical panel with the help of an electrician. “We charge the EV at home and that’s really convenient,” Kathryn says. “We don’t go to a gas station anymore.”

Next, the family tackled their space and water heating systems, switching to high-efficiency models with the guidance of a heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) contractor.

“We fully electrified with a heat pump. An air-to-water heat pump heats our radiators and a mini-split heat pump provides cooling.”

An unexpected bonus? How quiet the new equipment is. “With a gas boiler, you would hear it come on and off at different times throughout the day and night. The heat pump operates really quietly all the time in the background.”

For nice hot showers, laundry and dishwashing, their options were a heat pump water heater or tankless electric water heater.

“We weighed our options and decided to go with an on-demand electric tankless water heater, which means you never run out of hot water.”

Tankless models are often mounted on the wall, freeing up valuable floor space for other purposes.

For homeowners considering upgrades, Kathryn recommends planning as early as possible and doing work in the spring and fall. She also recommends reaching out for support along the journey.

“You’re not alone! There are neighbourhood groups, there are people throwing heat pump parties. And when you find a reliable, receptive contractor, they will work with you to meet your retrofit goals.”

Making the switch to a 100% electric home was a big decision — but one that proved worthwhile. “It feels great having done our part and reduced our greenhouse gas emissions by going all-electric. I only wish we’d done it sooner,” Kathryn says.



Did you know?

In 2024, 84% of Ontario’s electricity was generated from non-emitting sources, such as hydro, wind, solar and nuclear.*



Electrical panel



Electric water heating system

KATHRYN'S HOME ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT RESULTS**

46% annual reduction
in energy use

5% annual reduction
in energy costs

87% annual reduction in greenhouse
gas (GHG) emissions



Heat pump indoor unit



Induction range



Air-to-water heat pump

“Our Cleantech Services Directory is an online resource that allows customers to connect with contractors, service providers and consultants.”

Michael Atalick

Climate Action Consultant
Toronto Hydro



What is home electrification?

Home electrification means replacing fossil fuel-powered systems (like natural gas furnaces, water heaters and stoves) with alternatives powered by electricity. This improves energy efficiency and reduces GHG emissions.

How does Toronto Hydro support home electrification?

Our team provides expert support and resources for your home electrification journey. Our Cleantech Services Directory connects customers with qualified contractors, service providers and consultants. We've also made it easier to download historical energy use, which can help you plan for electrification.

How should homeowners plan for the electrification process?

Get to know your home, how old your appliances are, what condition they're in and when they may need to be replaced. We have a saying around here: **when it dies, electrify.**

Is Toronto ready for electrification?

The grid is ready for electrification. The speed of electrification will depend on how fast customers adopt electrified technologies — not by how fast the electricity system can expand.

How can I find a qualified contractor?

Search our Cleantech Services Directory for trusted local professionals who can help implement energy-efficient solutions for your home.

torontohydro.com/cleantechdirectory

Are there programs to help with home electrification?

Yes! Rebate, grant and loan programs are available to help offset the upfront costs of electrification upgrades.

Visit torontohydro.com/offersandrebates to learn more.

Toronto Hydro is here to help you every step of the way.



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Scan to watch
Kathryn's story



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* Source: ieso.ca/learn/ontario-electricity-grid/supply-mix-and-generation

** Based on an analysis by Simply Sustainable Energy Solutions Inc. for Toronto Hydro. These projections are specific to this case. Actual savings may vary for each project. Toronto Hydro does not make any claims regarding the cost savings or the specific amount of energy or GHG reductions achieved by any project.

