

Direct Cost of Energy and Water

Electricity

Electricity in the Vancouver region is provided by the BC Hydro, who currently charges private households CAD\$8.58 per 100 kWh for the first 1,350 kWh in an average two-month billing period, then \$12.87 per kWh beyond that. Ontario Hydro provides the list of electricity prices across Canada that is plotted in Figure 1 (<http://www.ontario-hydro.com/electricity-rates-by-province>). Interestingly, most provinces charge less per kWh the more electricity is consumed. In contrast, BC Hydro makes the cost per kWh progressive.

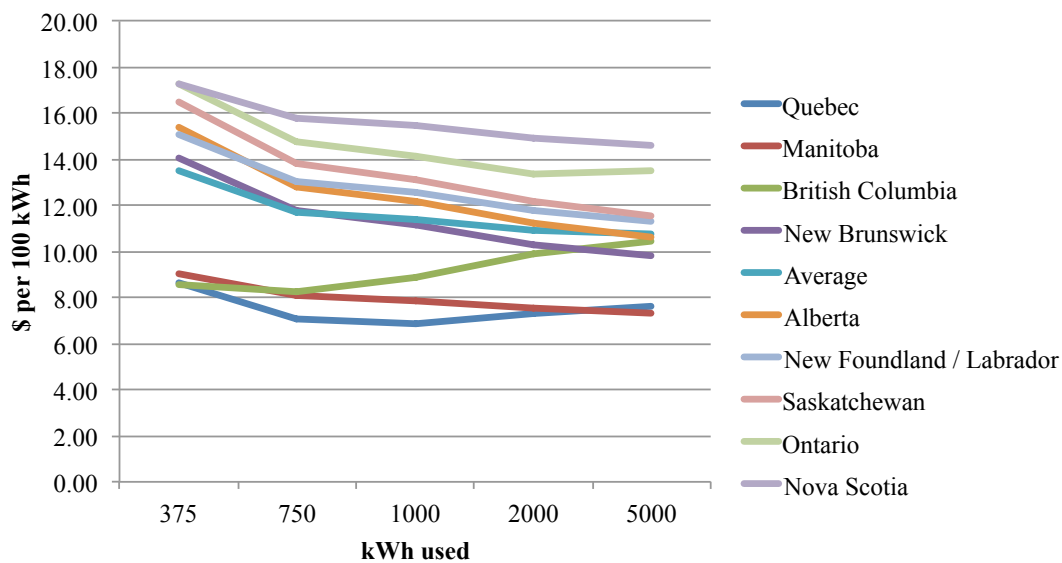


Figure 1: Electricity prices in Canada.

Water

The City of Vancouver charges less for water during rainy season from October 1 to May 31 than in summer (<http://vancouver.ca/home-property-development/metered-rates.aspx>). The current price per 2,831.6 litres of water, 100 cubic feet, is \$2.849 in the rainy season and \$3.571 in the summer. That means \$1.01 and \$1.24 per m³, respectively.

Gasoline and Diesel

At gas stations in Vancouver the price per litre of regular gasoline is around \$1.40. About \$0.05 is saved by filling in municipalities such as Coquitlam and White Rock. Filling in Prince George can give a further \$0.25 saving per litre. The price of diesel is around \$1.30 per litre in Vancouver. Gasoline and diesel prices are more volatile than electricity and water costs; gasoline prices from \$1 to \$1.5 have been seen in Vancouver within a year or so.