

Why Solar Panels Matter

Solar panels in Nova Scotia can save homeowners an average of **\$1,300 annually** on electricity bills. Nova Scotia currently ranks **6th in Canada** for solar adoption.

Cost & Rebates

- Average installation cost for a **9.17 kW system**: **\$26,318**
- Rebates available:
 - **\$3,000** through the SolarHomes Program
 - **\$5,000** through the Greener Homes Grant
- Final cost after rebates: **\$18,318**

Renewable Energy Goals

Nova Scotia aims to achieve **80% renewable energy** by 2030. Solar energy is a key contributor to reducing the province's **42% coal dependency** for electricity generation.

Solar Efficiency in Winter

Each kilowatt of installed solar capacity generates approximately **1,090 kWh per year**, even with minimal energy loss (**3%**) due to snow and winter conditions.

Community Impact

The Community Solar Program targets **500 MW** of renewable energy by 2026. This initiative is projected to create over **500 local jobs** in the solar industry, driving economic growth.

SEIC Talks Financial and Environmental Wins for Nova Scotians Switching to Solar Energy in 2025

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SEIC, a company focused on providing the latest information on sustainable energy solutions in Canada, recently published an article explaining why 2025 is a pivotal year for Nova Scotians considering a switch to solar energy. With electricity prices among the highest in Canada, alongside advancing technology and robust government incentives, solar power is becoming an increasingly viable and compelling option for homeowners and businesses across the province.

"Right now, we are living in a remarkable time," shared a SEIC spokesperson, Vitaliy Lano. "Solar technology has improved so much, and with all the financial support available, switching to solar isn't just about sustainability?it's also about smart, long-term financial planning."

Nova Scotia has experienced a significant uptick in solar adoption in recent years. By the end of 2023, over 2,000 new solar panel systems had been installed, bringing the total to around 8,000 systems province-wide. This trend is driven by a mix of economic and environmental incentives.

The province's average electricity rate of \$0.18/kWh—the highest in Canada—has turned solar energy into an attractive solution for combating rising costs. For a typical household, switching to solar panels can lead to annual savings of approximately \$1,300 on electricity bills. Over a span of 25 years, homeowners could save upwards of \$50,000, with rural households potentially saving even more due to higher energy consumption.

Lano added, "It's exciting to see Nova Scotians take control of their energy costs. These savings don't just make life more affordable—they also give families greater financial stability."

For many homeowners, the upfront cost of solar panels may seem daunting. A standard 9.17 kW system in Nova Scotia costs approximately \$26,318 before rebates. However, thanks to programs like the SolarHomes Program and the federal Greener Homes Grant, this cost can be significantly reduced. SolarHomes Program offers rebates up to \$3,000, while Greener Homes Grant provides an additional \$5,000 in financial assistance.

With these rebates, the net cost of installing a solar system drops to approximately \$18,318. Financing options, such as the Halifax Solar City program and other municipal Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) initiatives, further ease the financial burden by offering low-interest loans.

SEIC article noted that these programs are making solar energy more accessible than ever before. "These incentives are a game-changer," Lano said. "They bridge the gap for families and businesses who might otherwise see solar as out of reach."

Beyond financial benefits, the environmental impact of switching to solar energy is profound. Nova Scotia's dependency on coal still accounts for 42% of its electricity generation, making the province one of Canada's most coal-reliant regions. However, the province has committed to generating 80% of its electricity from renewable sources by 2030.

Solar energy is a key contributor to achieving this ambitious goal. Each kilowatt of installed solar capacity in Nova Scotia produces about 1,090 kWh annually, even with minimal energy loss during winter conditions. These advancements ensure year-round efficiency, regardless of shorter daylight hours or snow.

"Switching to solar isn't just about saving money," Lano emphasized. "It's about reducing greenhouse gas emissions and contributing to a cleaner, healthier future for Nova Scotia."

While the benefits of solar are clear, SEIC highlighted the importance of choosing a reputable company for installation. "It's crucial to work with a company that not only uses high-quality materials but also ensures a seamless, properly scheduled installation process," the article stated.

Nova Scotia homeowners have voiced concerns over inconsistencies in inspections conducted by Nova Scotia Power Incorporated (NSPI), where varying familiarity with solar photovoltaic (PV) systems has occasionally led to delays or added costs. Experienced installers are better equipped to navigate these challenges, ensuring compliance and efficiency.

"Solar is an investment," Lano remarked. "Homeowners deserve the peace of mind that comes with knowing their system will be installed correctly and perform optimally for decades."

The provincial government's Community Solar Program, targeting 500 MW of renewable energy capacity by 2026, exemplifies Nova Scotia's commitment to clean energy. This initiative is expected to generate over 500 local jobs, contributing to economic growth while expanding access to renewable energy.

Battery storage solutions are also gaining traction as a complement to solar panel systems. By storing excess energy generated during daylight hours, homeowners can use solar power during peak consumption times or power outages. This innovation not only increases energy independence but also reduces reliance on the grid, particularly during Nova Scotia's harsh winter storms.

For homeowners still hesitant about making the switch, SEIC offered clear advice: "There's no better time than now to invest in solar. The technology has never been more reliable, the financial incentives are substantial, and the environmental benefits are undeniable."

For more information about solar panels in Nova Scotia, visit SEIC's official website.

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Solar Energies In Canada SEIC

SEIC is Canada's platform for solar energy insights, dedicated to making green living accessible and practical. From detailed guides to savings calculators, SolarEnergies.ca empowers Canadians to make informed decisions for a sustainable future.

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