

Building Officials

FREE BEAM ESTIMATOR TRAINING

- Tell building professionals to email Alex Leffelaar (aleffelaar@nelson.ca)
- Courtesy of the City of Nelson's [Low Carbon Homes Pilot](#)

10 Affordable Ways to Help Builders & Homeowners Reduce Embodied Emissions

Building officials work on hundreds of building projects every year, checking in as many as 5 times on each new home as it is built. And, while it is not a building official's place to alter a building's design beyond the requirements of code, there is ample opportunity for building officials to advocate for low carbon, affordable, and healthy building solutions and maintain a healthy working dynamic with the building community. Here are a few places to start:

 embodied carbon

 building costs

 homeowner income

 energy costs

 housing availability

 maintenance

Build Less for More

1 Building Smaller Buildings



- Propose a friendly challenge for building designers/homeowners to brainstorm how to achieve more efficient uses of smaller floor areas



2 Increasing Occupant Capacity



- Suggest adding a second unit to single-family homes or choosing a multi-unit building design
- New BC zoning = more housing



Build Smarter

3 Advocating for an Integrated Design Process (IDP)



- Encourage building professionals to connect and collaborate early on in, and throughout, the building design phase to promote innovative building design



4 Designing for Durability



- Encourage design features that help building assemblies last longer, increase flexibility for potential future uses, and account for end-of-life material recycling and reuse



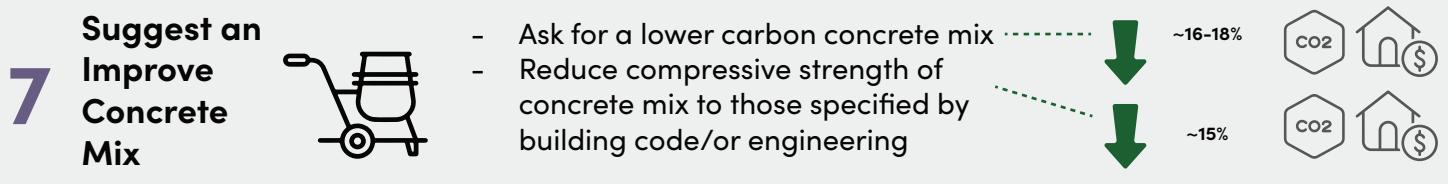
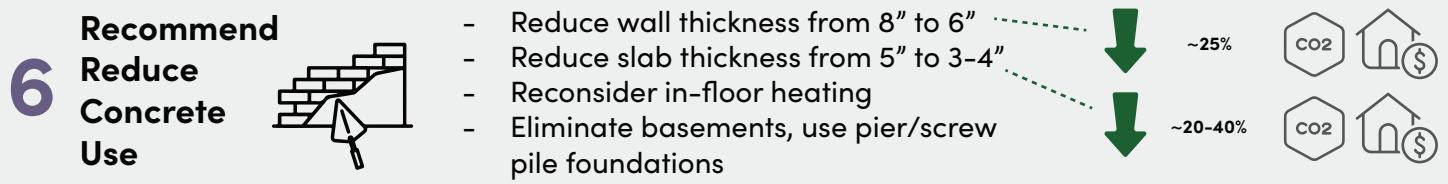
5 Improving Efficiency & MEP System Sizes



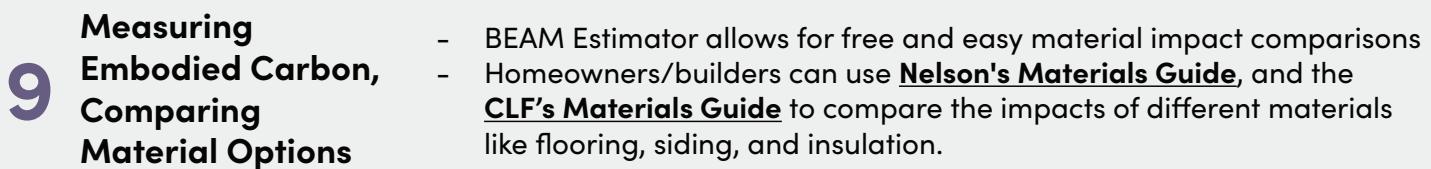
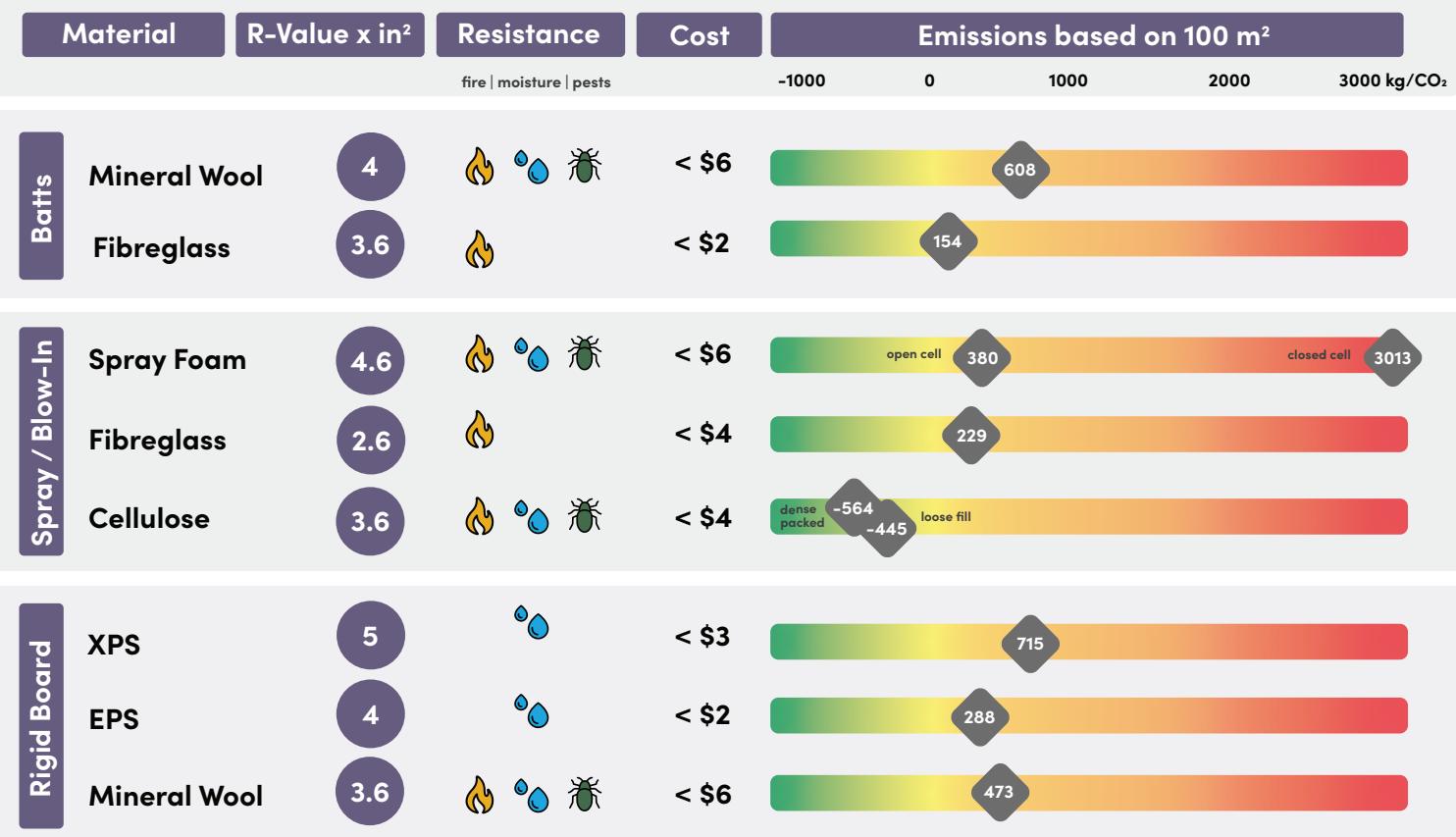
- Improve the building envelope, increase insulation, select appropriate building orientation and form
- MEPs can contribute 15-50% of embodied emissions. Right-size them for a more comfortable and efficient home



Building Material Consideration



8 Consider Alternative Insulation Materials



Manage Waste & Material Reuse

