

HOT SWAP SUCCESS STORY: Gas heater warms the whole house



Asher and Ruthanne Nikora upgraded their wood fire to an efficient gas heater with the Bay of Plenty Regional Council's Rotorua Hot Swap loan.



When the Nikoras embarked on renovations of their home, upgrading their heating was a priority. They were able to upgrade their open fire to a brand new gas heater with the Rotorua Hot Swap.

"We used to have an old open fire and no insulation so even if it had been on all day, it didn't heat up the room," said Asher.

"We also used old gas heaters for the hallway and bedrooms, but because of the insulation issue, we of course had the same problem." This meant the Nikoras were spending a considerable amount of money on wood and gas every winter but weren't getting any warmth in their home.

During the renovations, the Nikoras first insulated their home and then upgraded to a new gas heater which they chose because of the convenience.

"I like that with one flick of a button, I have instant heat. It's so handy," said Asher. "I'm on the road with my job a lot, so chopping wood, stacking it and stoking it along just isn't an option."

The Nikoras said their new heater produced much warmer heat than what the fire used to give out and they like that it doesn't cause any pollution. As well as the extra warmth, the Nikora family have noticed an improvement in their health. "None of us have been sick this year," said Ruthanne.

They just use the one gas heater for heating the whole house and find that it does the job quickly. The Nikoras have already recommended the Hot Swap loan to friends. They said without it, they would have taken much longer to upgrade their heating.

FLUED GAS FIRES

Flued gas fires give off a lot of heat and have real flames, leaving you with the feel and ambience of a wood fire. Natural gas and LPG are clean-burning, making gas fires an environmentally friendly heating option.

PROS:

- Ambience and feel of a real fire
- Easy to use
- Quickly warms a room and maintains a comfortable temperature
- Doesn't take up much space as it can be built into the wall.

WHAT IS THE ROTORUA HOT SWAP?

The Rotorua Hot Swap is an interest-free home heating assessment and loan of up to \$4000 + GST offered to Rotorua ratepayers in the loan zone, to convert old wood burners and open fires to a clean heat appliance. A clean heat appliance is an energy star heat pump, AGA rated flued gas heater, pellet fire or approved wood burner.



For more information please visit www.boprc.govt.nz

