



CASE STUDY: UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

“There is no doubt that this partnership means millions of dollars in energy savings for the University. What makes it unique in Canada is the integration of energy, research and direct support for students and their academic programs.”



Dr. Harvey Weingarten
President and Vice-Chancellor

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ENERGIZING BUSINESS

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University of Calgary

Situated on 213 hectares, the University of Calgary is Alberta's second largest public university with almost 28,000 graduate and undergraduate students. With its park-like campus, the University of Calgary is one of Canada's leading research universities (ranked in the top 10) offering over 100 programs at the Bachelors, Masters and Doctorate levels as well as professional programs in architecture, education, engineering, law, medicine and nursing.

The University of Calgary is recognized as a forerunner in academics and research among post-secondary institutions in Canada. The University has 16 faculties, 53 departments and 30 research institutions. With almost 2,500 teaching and research faculty and 2,500 support staff, the University is the City of Calgary's fourth largest employer.

CHALLENGE

In mid 2004, the University of Calgary sought an innovative energy solutions partner with a holistic approach to help manage their energy requirements. Their goal was to become an economically viable and environmentally and socially sustainable institution as outlined in the University's Sustainability Initiative. A critical component of this goal concentrates on energy sustainability and building technologies, and aims to:

- Reduce operating costs
- Improve building efficiencies
- Reduce natural resource consumption
- Adhere to sustainability standards e.g. LEED, Energy Star, ISO 14001
- Improve operating processes
- Utilize alternative energy sources

SOLUTION

Direct Energy Business Services is pleased to have been chosen as the University of Calgary's energy partner of choice and recognizes the opportunity to support the University in achieving their energy sustainability goals. In April 2005, a seven-year master partnership agreement was announced. The partnership has been appropriately named *evolve* as it signifies the team's dedication to change and improvement through innovative solutions. It also reflects the commitment to achieving *evolve*'s mandate which is to continually propose new and original ways to ensure a reliable energy supply and to minimize or lower costs while providing better control of energy and energy related resources. *evolve* brings new levels of collaboration and innovative thinking to every phase of the partnership. As the challenges evolve, so will the solutions.



evolve illustrates Direct Energy Business Services' commitment to the Total Energy Solutions approach, which focuses on assisting customers in achieving their goals for energy use, cost control and efficiency by offering a comprehensive portfolio of energy and energy related services.

RESULTS

This unprecedented partnership will see the implementation of significant energy projects tailored to the specific needs of the University of Calgary. By implementing this integrated energy-management solution, the partnership has committed to the goal of reducing the University's energy costs by more than \$30M over the seven-year term and reducing CO₂ emissions by 14,500 tonnes or the equivalent of taking 2,960 vehicles off the road. Education and research will also benefit from the partnership. Direct Energy Business Services is funding \$3.5M for student scholarships, \$3M for sustainable energy education and research and \$1.75M will go towards a Research Chair in Sustainable Energy.

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