



**ZERO CARBON
BUILDING STANDARD**
Canada Green Building Council®

MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT, WILLIAMS LAKE, BC

The transformation of a 16,000 sq. ft. retail space in Williams Lake into a sustainable office building represents a significant achievement. Situated on the traditional lands of the Secwepemc, T'ixelcenc, and Xat'súll First Nations, this project stands as a testament to Canada's commitment to emission reduction goals.

Originally housing Sears and Fabricland stores, the building now serves as the Ministry for Children and Families' headquarters, showcasing pioneering sustainability efforts. PassivHaus design techniques were implemented, such as high-efficiency windows, enhanced thermal insulation, and thermal bridging avoidance. The project foresees a net positive energy return to the system's grid through highly efficient systems and geothermal heating and cooling capabilities. Up to an 80% reduction in energy consumption compared to the baseline building's energy consumption was achieved.

Photovoltaic panels covering the roof offset the remaining 20% energy consumption, contributing to carbon neutrality and net-zero energy status. Notable upgrades include improved insulation and exterior cladding, ensuring both energy efficiency and aesthetic appeal. The building's interiors, inspired by LEED and WELL criteria, prioritize occupants' health and inclusivity. This project stands as a beacon of sustainability, inclusivity, and respect for Indigenous cultures and the environment, serving as a model for future developments striving towards similar goals.



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