

USING PURCHASING POWER TO AID DECARBONIZATION

How can organizations heat their buildings without carbon? Bow Valley College negotiated a short-term contract amendment with their district energy provider to purchase carbon neutral heat in exchange for a green fee. The funds that previously went to the federal carbon tax could now be used to invest in local decarbonization solutions at the district energy plant, supporting all organizations on the district energy system.

Learn more about this project by [clicking here](#)

ORIGINAL CONTRACT



Greenhouse Gas Pricing Act



Carbon tax

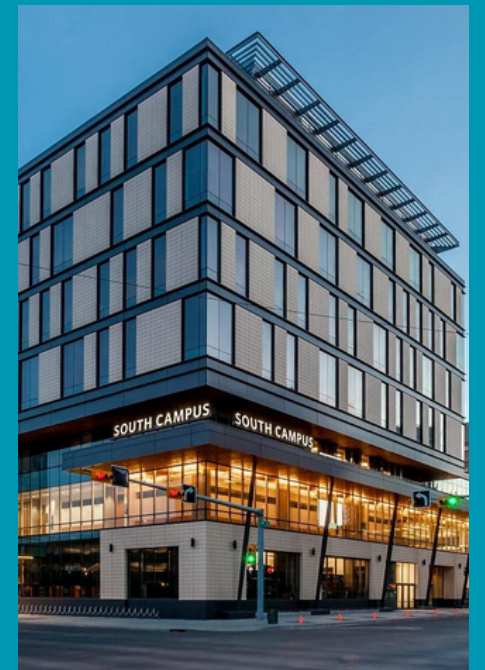


District energy centre

Heat from natural gas



Monthly energy charge & carbon tax



Bow Valley College

AMENDED CONTRACT



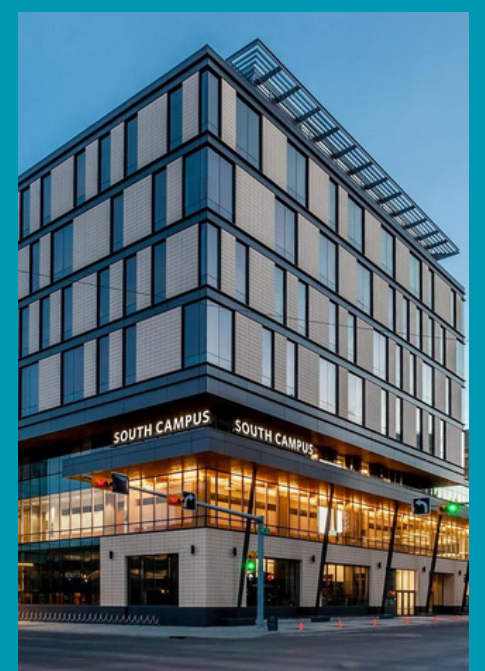
Funds stay in Calgary to aid the transition (no carbon tax)



Carbon neutral heat & environmental attributes



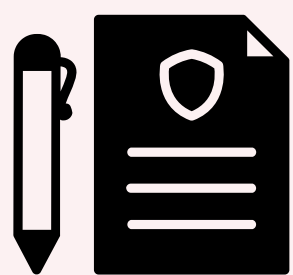
Monthly energy charge & green fee



COURSES THAT SUPPORTED THIS WORK

LEGAL ASPECTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Supported my understanding of federal and provincial jurisdiction, and Alberta's unique regulation landscape (e.g. deregulated energy market)



CLIMATE POLICY AND GOVERNANCE

Helped me recognize and take advantage of the shifting nature of climate policy in Canada, and the concept of polycentricity (governance from many levels)

BUILDING A BUSINESS CASE FOR CLIMATE ACTION

Helped me draft a business case to build support for the project internally at Bow Valley College, and understand how to invest cost savings into continued decarbonization

