10.0 Utility & Infrastructure

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10.1 | Systems and Locations

It is recommended that an audit of campus infrastructure and utilities take place -- asserting key recommendations, which are aligned with the objectives of this Campus Master Plan. A number of measures will help to reduce infrastructure costs and facilitate the shift to a more energy and water efficient campus. Using existing easements and service loops should reduce the future costs of moving underground utilities. Incrementally and consistently relocating utility corridors under roadways and sidewalks as new development occurs is preferred.

There is a benefit in developing a compact campus. Focusing new development in infill locations will maximize the environmental and economic benefits of shared infrastructure and allow opportunities for heat and energy sharing amongst facilities. Energy management studies should be undertaken as part of the design process for every proposed building -- exploring the feasibility of reducing fossil fuel use through heat sharing and utilizing low carbon energy sources. Storm water management strategies should take a “natural systems approach” to manage runoff volume and quality within the constraints of University of Lethbridge’s unique hydrogeology and concerns with coulee erosion.

New buildings should be designed and constructed to higher sustainability standards to reduce emissions; energy and water consumption; maintenance requirements; and improve livability. Proposed buildings, landscape and infrastructure should work closely with an energy and water management system -- ideally one that is integrated into the surrounding landscape.