

Wahnapiatae First Nation Centre of Excellence

FUTURE
EXPANSION

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Larocque Elder Architects takes great pride in creating and developing environmentally and economically responsible designs, without compromising design excellence.

In keeping with our design philosophy, our approach to planning and facility design rests on the three-fold principles of sustainability: Environmental, Social and Economic responsibility. Our projects typically incorporate such innovative environmental initiatives as passive solar heating, earth-integrated architecture, geothermal technology, maximization of indoor air quality, the use of recycled and 'green' building products, energy conservation, construction waste management plans and audits, low-impact storm water management, and naturalized, low maintenance landscaping. High-efficiency heat recovery systems, low consumption plumbing fixtures and energy-efficient motion detection lighting are specified where feasible and applicable.



All of our projects are distinguished by the various ways in which they interact with their natural context. From the initial planning stages of each project, we carefully determine the least intrusive way to incorporate the design into its natural setting. Depending on a project's design criteria, this may be achieved by any of the following:

- accounting for prevailing winds and solar orientation;
- accounting for snow accumulation, storage and removal;
- conducting plant and animal inventories to protect (and increase if possible) on site habitat and biodiversity;
- performing cut and fill calculations
- minimizing rock removal and exportation of other site materials
- rehabilitating all disturbed natural areas
- selecting hardy indigenous plant species in our landscape designs; and
- favouring naturalized storm water management solutions and enhancing natural site hydrology.








Green Initiatives

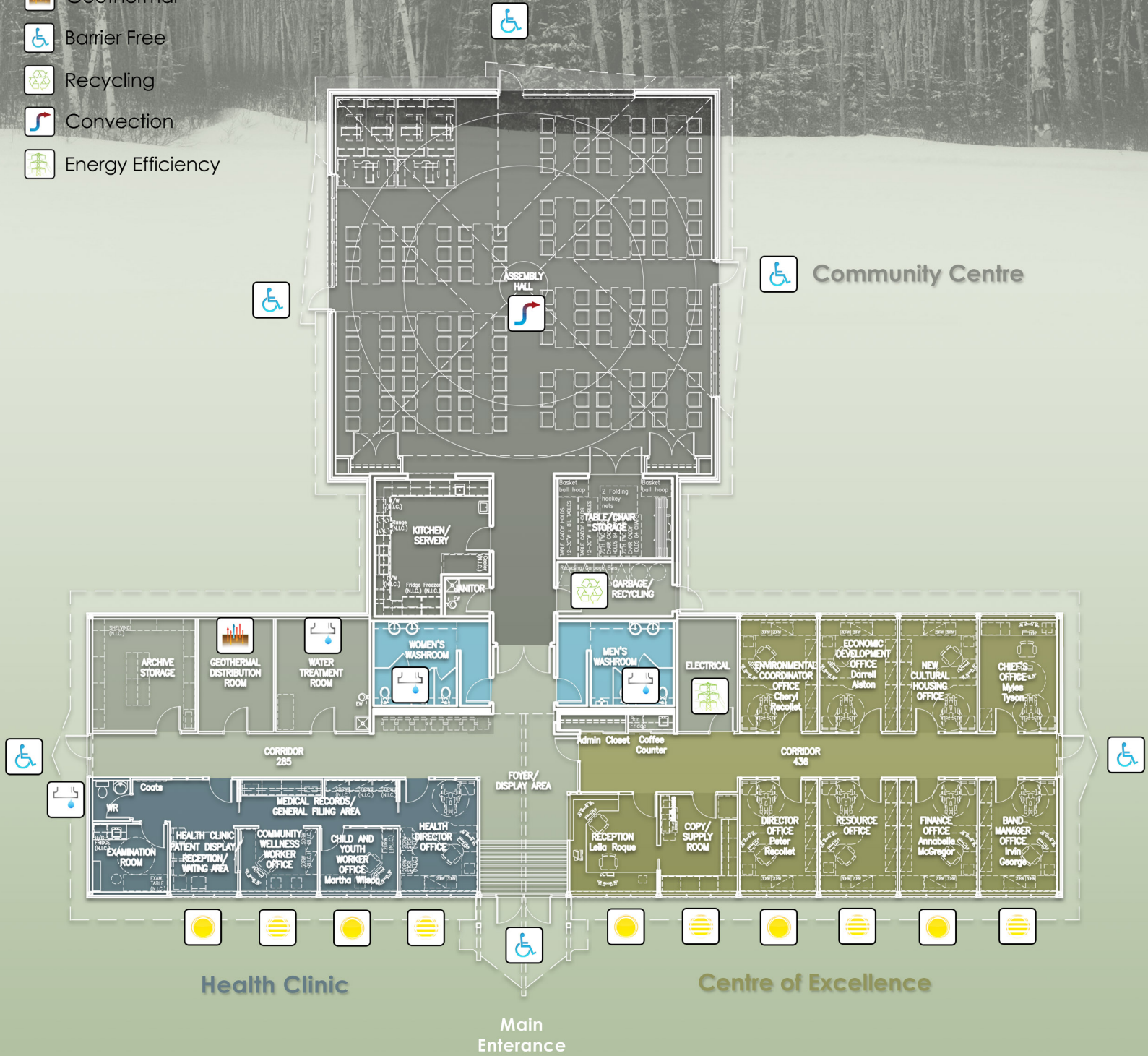
-  Reflective Roof
-  Native Plants
-  Rain Harvesting
-  Geothermal
-  Barrier Free
-  Medicinal Plants
-  Argiculture
-  Butterfly Attracting Plants
-  Bird Attracting Plants



Site Plan

Green Initiatives

-  Water Conservation
-  Sun Louvers
-  Solar Passive
-  Geothermal
-  Barrier Free
-  Recycling
-  Convection
-  Energy Efficiency





Also included in our design process is an in-depth review of all proposed building materials, and mechanical and electrical systems in terms of their energy efficiency, toxicity, pollutant and waste discharges, and life-cycle costs.

We strive to broaden the limits of sustainable design beyond simply reducing the negative impacts of our developments, to improving the health of the users and their surrounding air, water and land. Many of the energy saving measures we incorporate in our designs involve little or no additional implementation costs. Our goal is to present state of the art design solutions to our clients that result in reduced energy and maintenance requirements, thereby lowering ongoing operating costs and offsetting the capital costs often associated with innovative technologies and products.

