## **Building the Future: Net Zero & Net Zero Ready**

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- $\rightarrow$  What is net zero and net zero ready?
- → Case study: Net Zero
- → Case study: Passive House
- → Case study: Net Zero Ready Strategy Development



### Net Zero and the Climate Leadership Plan

- → "Promote more energy efficient buildings", "developing requirements to encourage net zero ready buildings"
- → Accelerating increased energy requirements in the BC Building Code by taking incremental steps to make buildings ready to be net zero by 2032;
- → Developing energy efficiency requirements for new buildings that go beyond those in the BC Building Code, called Stretch Codes, that interested local governments could implement in their communities





### What is Net Zero? Net Zero Ready?

- → Net Zero: Facility generates *on-site* all the energy required to power its functioning through the course of the year
- $\rightarrow$  Any project can be Net Zero
  - $\rightarrow$  Provided you have enough \$\$\$



→ Or modest expectations for comfort, environmental quality, amenities, etc.





#### **Toward Net Zero the "Right Way"**





### **Toward Net Zero the "Right Way"**



#### **Net Zero Rules of Thumb**

 $\rightarrow$ Achieve Base building less than 100 ekWh/m<sup>2</sup>-year



|             | Single Floor                                   | 2 Floors  | 4 Floors  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------------|--|-----------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|             | Number of Flat or Sloped Roofs Required for PV |           |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 100 ekWh/m² | 1.4 flat /<br>1.2 shed                         | 2.8 / 2.4 | 5.6 / 4.8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 70 ekWh/m²  | 1.0 / 0.8                                      | 1.9 / 1.7 | 3.9 / 3.4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 50 ekWh/m²  | 0.7 / 0.6                                      | 1.4 / 1.2 | 2.8 / 2.4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |



#### **Net Zero Rules of Thumb**





### Mohawk College Net Zero: Joyce Centre for Partnership and Innovation

- → Client: Mohawk College
- → Architects: B+H Architects, McCallum Sather (joint venture)
- $\rightarrow$  Energy and Enclosure Consultant: RDH
- $\rightarrow$  Mechanical: The Mitchell Partnership
- $\rightarrow$  Electrical: Mulvey and Banani International Inc.

mcCallumSather

→ CaGBC Pilot Project for "Zero Carbon Buildings Initiative"





## The Building

- → 90,000 sqft
- $\rightarrow$  4 storeys
- $\rightarrow$  2 large lecture theatres
- $\rightarrow$  8 electronics labs
- → Commons/ collaboration space
- $\rightarrow$  Café space





### **Mission: Net Zero**

- $\rightarrow$  Definition: Net zero energy on annual basis
  - $\rightarrow$  Roof top generation will equal consumption
    - Solar PV (~550 kW)
    - > Solar thermal for domestic hot water
  - $\rightarrow$  (No Renewable Energy Credits or offsets purchased)

## **The Process**

- → Preliminary exercise to define an "Energy Budget" (75 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>)
- $\rightarrow$  Preliminary energy models, conceptual design
- $\rightarrow$  Pushed the envelope
- $\rightarrow$  Energy efficient HVAC



|   | Preliminary Energy Budget Estimates |           |       |           |         | Curren   | nt Modelled |            |    |                    |
|---|-------------------------------------|-----------|-------|-----------|---------|----------|-------------|------------|----|--------------------|
|   |                                     | 3         |       | 4         |         | 7        |             | 4          |    |                    |
|   |                                     | 5         | Wate  | er Source | Air Sou | rce VRF  | Water       | Source VRF |    |                    |
|   | Wate                                | er Source | VRF   | + GHSP +  | Hea     | ting /   | + GH        | SP + Solar |    |                    |
| End Use   | VRF                                 | + GHSP    | Solar | Thermal   | Co      | oling    | Т           | hermal     |    |                    |
| Interior Lighting                               |                                     | 10.7      |       | 10.7      |         | 10.7     |             | 12.4       |    |                    |
| Receptacle and Process                          |                                     | 19.3      |       | 19.3      |         | 19.3     |             | 18.9       |    |                    |
| Space Heating - Heat pumps                      |                                     | 13.7      |       | 9.6       |         | 21.4     |             | 13.0       |    |                    |
| Space Cooling - Heat pumps                      |                                     | 6.4       |       | 6.4       |         | 8.7      |             | 1.5        |    |                    |
| Pumps and Aux                                   |                                     | 6.7       |       | 8.2       |         | 0.0      |             | 8.8        |    |                    |
| Fans  |                                     | 11.3      |       | 11.3      |         | 11.3     |             | 12.5       |    |                    |
| DHW   |                                     | 4.5       |       | 2.3       |         | 4.5      |             | 1.2        |    |                    |
| Boiler  |                                     | 0.0       |       | 0.0       |         | 0.0      |             | 0.0        |    |                    |
| Elevator Estimate                               |                                     |           |       |           |         |          |             | 0.8        |    |                    |
| Microgrid Losses                                |                                     |           |       |           |         |          |             | 0.3        |    |                    |
| Exterior Lighting                               |                                     |           |       |           |         |          |             | 1.0        |    | <b>F</b> 111       |
| Total (ekWh/m²)                                 |                                     | 72.5      |       | 67.6      |         | 75.9     |             | 70.5       |    | EUI                |
| Rank (lowest to highest)                        | +                                   | 3         |       | 2         |         | 4        |             |            | ┛╵ | Estimates          |
| Net Solar Thermal Effect (ekWh/m <sup>2</sup> ) |                                     |           |       | -4.9      |         |          |             | -0.9       |    |                    |
| Total ol/Wh                                     |                                     | 624.000   |       | 592.000   |         | 652.000  |             | 607 000    |    |                    |
| Appual Eportu Cost                              | e (                                 | 74 990    | ć     | 60 940    | ć       | 79 260   | ć           | 72 840     |    |                    |
| Annual Energy Cost                              | 2                                   | /4,000    | ş     | 03,840    | Ŷ       | 76,500   | , ,         | 12,040     |    |                    |
| Size of PV Array (kWp)                          |                                     | 567       |       | 529.09    |         | 594      |             | 545        |    |                    |
| Size of PV Array (m <sup>2</sup> )              |                                     | 4,727     |       | 4,409     |         | 4,947    |             | 4,542      |    |                    |
| Flat Roof Area (m <sup>2</sup> )                |                                     | 9,455     |       | 8,818     |         | 9,894    |             | 9,084      |    |                    |
| Cost of PV                                      | \$                                  | 1,420,000 | \$    | 1,330,000 | \$1     | ,490,000 | \$          | 1,370,000  |    |                    |
| NREL Recommended O&M / year                     | \$                                  | 10,650    | \$    | 9,975     | \$      | 11,175   | \$          | 10,275     |    | PV Costs           |
| Linear m of Borehole                            |                                     | 5.000     |       | 5.000     |         |          |             | 5.000      |    |                    |
| # of 600' boreholes                             |                                     | 27        |       | 27        |         |          |             | 27         |    |                    |
| m <sup>2</sup> Area of Field using 6 m spacing  |                                     | 984       |       | 984       |         |          |             | 984        |    |                    |
| Weeks to install                                |                                     | 2.3       |       | 2.3       |         |          |             | 2.3        |    | <b>Other Maior</b> |
| Cost of Borehole                                | \$                                  | 250,000   | \$    | 250,000   |         |          | \$          | 250,000    |    | System Costs       |

## The Design

Enclosure:

- $\rightarrow$  R-40 roof: 2-ply modbit, polyiso
- $\rightarrow$  R-10 overall for window + wall
  - $\rightarrow$  R-30 target for opaque wall elements
    - > Spandrel glass system with thermal clips, roxul, interior sprayfoam
    - > Precast sandwich panel with XPS; sprayfoam inboard
  - $\rightarrow$  Triple glazed windows with 3 low-e coatings
  - $\rightarrow$  ~40% window-wall ratio
- → Sensitivity analysis on nearly all aspects





## The Design

#### Mechanical:

- $\rightarrow$  Separate ventilation (DOAS) with ERV
- $\rightarrow$  Distributed heating/cooling VRF, zone-to-zone heat recovery

 $\rightarrow$  Connected to geoexchange field

→ Demand controlled systems (ventilation, heating/cooling) to handle variable occupancy

Electrical

 $\rightarrow$  LED lighting

- $\rightarrow$  Occupancy and daylight sensors
  - $\rightarrow$  Daylight glazing panels
- $\rightarrow$  Process loads?









## The Energy Step Code and Net Zero Ready

#### $\rightarrow$ Proposed step code introduces targets for

- $\rightarrow$  Thermal Energy Demand Intensity (TEDI)
- $\rightarrow$  Total Energy Use Intensity (EUI)
- $\rightarrow$  Airtightness



### **Passive House: Net Zero Ready?**

→ Step code's TEDI, EUI, airtightness requirements follow Passive House principles





### **Passive House: Net Zero Ready?**

- $\rightarrow$  Passive House as a path to Net Zero
- → ~90% reduction in heating energy compared to typical building, low annual energy consumption
- $\rightarrow$  Higher levels of certification include renewables













### **Passive House in North America**







## **Developing a Path to Net Zero**

- $\rightarrow$  Archetype energy modelling studies
- → Organizations setting strategic goals to achieve net zero energy & carbon in the next 5 to 15 years
- $\rightarrow$  Important to develop a road map to get there





## ECMs Using Readily Available Technology

→ Net Present Value (NPV) ranked from highest to lowest using utility energy prices



## **ECMs Using Readily Available Technology**

→ Net Present Value (NPV) ranked from highest to lowest using renewable energy prices





## **Combining Measures into Bundles**

#### $\rightarrow$ NPV using **utility** energy prices





## **Combining Measures into Bundles**

#### → NPV using **renewable** energy prices





### **Developing a Path to Net Zero**

- → Energy conservation is typically more cost effective than renewable supply
- $\rightarrow$  Economics are good for long term building owners/operators
- $\rightarrow$  Road map to zero energy & carbon new buildings
  - $\rightarrow$  Establish goals for 2020, 2025, 2030 and beyond
  - $\rightarrow$  Identify capacity building and market transformation needs



# **Discussion + Questions**

BCOUGHLIN@RDH.COM WWW.RDH.COM

