

Karen Hearn is Executive Director of Facilities Services for Kwantlen Polytechnic University with responsibility for the planning, design, construction and operation of Kwantlen's four campuses.

Over the past five years Karen and her team have overseen construction projects resulting in 30% of the University's facilities having been completed since September 2006. Each of the new projects has been constructed to a minimum of LEED gold and incorporates innovative sustainability measures such as intelligent building systems, natural ventilation, radiant slabs and geo-exchange. The recently completed Library expansion is predicted to be 74% more energy efficient than the MNEBC.

In addition to constructing environmentally responsible buildings Kwantlen has been a long time leader in energy and environmental management. Through an energy management program focused on continuous improvement strategies energy consumption has been reduced by over 33% per square meter in the past ten years. Kwantlen is the only post secondary institution in British Columbia to have received the prestigious Excellence in Energy Management award from BC Hydro and the BC Power Smart Leader Award.

With a background in library science and teaching prior to over twenty years in the field of Facilities Management including a Masters of Arts in Leadership and a LEED AP Karen brings the unique perspective of teacher, student and administrator to her projects.