

Commitment to Energy Reduction Creates Big Savings for Confederation Inn

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(Brian Sawatzky, owner of Confederation Inn, Saskatoon)

“We don’t just talk about saving money, we do it. We are very proud of the initiatives we have taken to make our hotel as environmentally friendly as possible.”

Since purchasing Confederation Inn in October of 2006, Brian Sawatzky has steadily reduced energy and water consumption, and waste production at his facility.

Sawatzky started with low and no cost projects, such as programming thermostats to reduce heating in unused spaces; converting incandescent lighting to compact fluorescent; and installing low flow showerheads in guest rooms. He then invested in an air-cooled refrigeration system to replace the water-cooled one on his walk-in beer fridge.

After reducing his utility costs by 30%, he was unstoppable. Sawatzky now has solar panels producing heat and electricity for his building, triple pane windows, LED lighting, upgraded insulation, and a comprehensive recycling program. He continues to look for ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

For his efforts, he is rewarded with huge reductions in his utility costs. Overall he is saving \$130,000 per year on his utility bills. A 58% reduction in cost. The environment is rewarded as well, since he has reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 460 tonnes CO_{2e} each year.

“We don’t just talk about saving money, we do it. We are very proud of the initiatives we have taken to make our hotel as environmentally friendly as possible,” said Sawatzky. Thinking green is not only good for Mother Nature, it’s good for business. By keeping our costs down we can keep our client costs down. We take sustainability very seriously. Confederation Inn has implemented numerous initiatives to reduce our greenhouse gas output.”

Confederation Inn is a hotel in Saskatoon with banquet and event facilities, a restaurant, pool, hair salon, nightclub, and cold beer store.

For more information on how your business or non-profit organization can save energy and water, contact SES Energy Conservation Coordinator Angie Bugg at angieb@environmentalsociety.ca or call 306.665.1915.



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