

Friendship Inn Reduces Utility Costs

By ANGIE BUGG

SES ENERGY CONSERVATION COORDINATOR

By upgrading a piece of equipment, and improving operating procedures, Friendship Inn has reduced their utility cost by 18%, saving almost \$10,000 per year. Executive Director Sandra Stack said, "SES has helped us reduce our utility costs and greenhouse gas emissions while continuing to meet our clients' needs."

During an Energy Assessment in January 2013, Energy Consultant Rob Howse realized that much of the heating at Friendship Inn is provided by electric heaters. Electricity costs three to five times as much for heating as gas does. He also noted that one of the refrigerators used a water-cooled compressor. Water-cooled compressors use a huge amount of treated potable water. Replacing a water-cooled compressor with an air-cooled one is an investment with a very quick payback.

"SES and our mechanical contractors helped us to learn how our heating, cooling, and ventilation systems work," said Sam Haffner, Friendship Inn's maintenance manager. "SES emphasized the importance of setting our systems to use the gas-fired heat as much as possible, and the electric heat as little as possible. We now keep our staff and clients comfortable while reducing our energy costs and environmental impact."

Friendship Inn has reduced their heating cost by \$3000 per year. They have reduced their water consumption by an outstanding \$7000 per year.



(From left to right: Angie Bugg, Sandra Stack, and Lynn Scarf, Friendship Inn's office manager)

"SES emphasized the importance of setting our systems to use the gas-fired heat as much as possible, and the electric heat as little as possible. We now keep our staff and clients comfortable while reducing our energy costs and environmental impact."



The energy assessment was made possible thanks to Affinity Credit Union who provides a grant to the Saskatchewan Environmental Society to conduct energy assessments for non-profit organizations.

Friendship Inn is a non-profit organization committed to individual and group services and programs for children, youth, and adults who experience poverty, in order to help themselves and each other.

For more information on how your non-profit can get involved, contact Angie Bugg, SES Energy Conservation Coordinator: angieb@environmentalsociety.ca or call 306.665.1915.



**Saskatchewan
Environmental
Society**