

SUCCESS STORY:

Team Effort Saves Energy at North Central Family Centre

The North Central Family Centre (NCFC) in Regina works to provide programs, activities and services in a supportive and safe environment to children, families, and seniors; to build self-esteem and self-confidence, and enhance their quality of life. In 2018, the Saskatchewan Environmental Society (SES) conducted an energy audit on the NCFC facility and found a few opportunities to cut energy consumption. These included a mixture of operations and maintenance changes, and equipment upgrades.

- A member of the NCFC board works for an electrical contracting company, and took over maintenance of lighting, heating and cooling equipment.
- At the end of the workday, one person is tasked with checking the building to ensure lights, computers, and other equipment are turned off for the night and weekend.
- NCFC assessed how much refrigeration equipment they were using and took one fridge out of service. They also replaced an almond colored freezer (think 1970s) that was likely costing \$200/year more in electricity than their new one will.

All these changes have led to electricity savings of \$500/year. This is money that NCFC can redirect into their community programming. Sandy Wankel, Executive Director of NCFC says **“reducing our electricity cost by \$500/year is like getting a large new donation each year. We use these funds to provide tutoring, snacks, and cultural programming to children, and employment programming to adults.** For example, we can buy after school snacks for approximately 60 children daily with \$500.”



Since 2003, Affinity Credit Union has been providing funding to the SES to conduct energy audits for non-profit corporations. So far, approximately 90 buildings have been audited through this program.

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

