

SUCCESS STORY:

Soul's Harbour Rescue Mission Reduces Utility Costs Through Maintenance

Soul's Harbour Rescue Mission's (SHRM) mandate is to offer emergency help, such as food, clothing, and shelter and recovery programs to people impacted by poverty and addiction. In 2018, SHRM participated in SES's Efficiency for Organizations program, in which SES provides a free energy audit for non-profit organizations and provides suggestions, tips, and tools for saving energy, water, and money.

Porter Place, in Regina, is one of SHRM's older buildings. When it was built in the 1960s, energy conservation was not something people thought about but SHRM staff work to keep the building operating as comfortably and efficiently as they can. They recently needed to repair portions of the roof and replace some windows and chose to include energy efficiency upgrades as part of these projects.

The windows they installed are ENERGY STAR® certified, and they made sure to install them well, to minimize air leakage around the windows, and through the frames. These windows cost a bit more than standard windows, but SHRM staff knew that they would pay off in energy savings and comfort over time.

While doing roof repairs, SHRM added insulation to the roof. Again, this added to the renovation costs, but has made the building more comfortable, and is bringing down energy costs. So far, gas costs are down almost \$400/year.

Leaking toilets have been an issue at Porter Place. This year, they replaced one toilet and one

toilet tank. With the leaks under control, water consumption had dropped by half, saving \$1500/year.

Kathy Ingram, SHRM Director of Operations and Business Development, says "Soul's Harbour Rescue Mission has an on-going maintenance program to keep our buildings comfortable and running well. In order to maximize energy savings, we try to include energy and water efficiency into all our maintenance projects."

SHRM recently built the Gerri Carroll Hope Center to Passive House standard. (Passive House is a very high standard for energy efficiency). So SHRM staff know the improved comfort, energy savings, and reduced maintenance of an efficient building. They are translating this knowledge into maintaining their other buildings and creating savings there too.



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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.



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