



St. James United Church receives Small Business Lighting Incentive to upgrade lighting in multi-use building and save \$851 annually

CASE STUDY

St. James United Church Project Stats:

- Interior lighting retrofit
- Savings \$851 annually
- SBL Incentive \$2,887

PROJECT

Reduce energy consumption by 10,326 kilowatt-hours per year, with annual savings of \$851, at St. James United Church's multi-use facility, through installation of energy-efficient lighting.

BACKGROUND

St. James United Church on Romaine Street has been serving the Peterborough community since 1908. A multi-purpose building, adjacent to the sanctuary, is a three-level facility that includes a 3,058 sq. ft. gymnasium, a 900 sq. ft. kitchen, a common room, meeting rooms and administrative offices. The building is home to a variety of Christian fellowship clubs and community groups. The facilities are regularly used by the community for special events, recreational activities, and social activities including birthday and funeral receptions, banquets and presentations.

An energy audit of the facility, conducted by Peterborough Green-Up, recognized interior lighting as an opportunity for improvement that would lead to a reduction in energy consumption and commensurate electricity bill savings. The Small Business Lighting program, offered locally by Peterborough Distribution Inc., and administered by Peterborough Green-Up, was identified as an appropriate source of funding and installation assistance.

The annual electricity bill for St. James United was about \$9,400, with lighting accounting for an estimated 75 per cent. With two separate billing meters, St. James was eligible to apply for two lighting projects.

The Ontario Power Authority, through Peterborough Distribution Inc., provided a total of \$2,887 under the Small Business Lighting program. The total cost of the project was \$7,042.

IMPLEMENTATION

A local contractor, Sparkies Electric, was engaged to undertake the retrofit. Peterborough Green-Up assisted with project administration.

All of the T-12 fluorescent lighting fixtures in the gym, kitchen, main and basement hallways, and the church office, were replaced with energy-efficient T-8 systems.

Sparkies scheduled its work around the different events at the facility, so that there was no disruption to normal activities. The entire job took four days.

The entire process was smooth and seamless, with all necessary paperwork handled by Peterborough Green-Up.



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Discover the Many Benefits of the **SMALL BUSINESS LIGHTING** Program



“We were motivated by the projected electricity bill savings and by the chance to improve the quality of our lighting,” said Dale White, chairman of property and finance for St. James United. **“But we also wanted to help the environment by reducing our energy consumption.”**

FINANCING

The total cost of the lighting conversion project was \$7,042. The Small Business Lighting program contributed \$2,887 towards the project costs. The net cost to St. James United Church was \$4,154.

The financial incentives reduced the payback period from 99 months to 59 months.

RESULTS

The projected annual bill savings from reduced electricity consumption is \$851. This will result in a pay-back of just less than five years.

The yearly reduction in electricity consumption of 10,326 kilowatt-hours will result in annual greenhouse gas savings of more than 1.75 tonnes.

“We immediately noticed an improvement in the quality of our lighting, especially in the gym and kitchen” said Mr. White, **“Prior to the retrofit, these spaces were poorly lit, the lighting was noisy and some fixtures needed repairing. Now everyone is commenting on how much quieter and brighter the rooms are.”**

LESSONS LEARNED

Mr. White pointed out that process went smoothly thanks to Peterborough Green-Up, who facilitated the paperwork. The contractor, Sparkies Electric, quickly and efficient carried out the retrofit with no disruption to the activities at the facility.

“This has been an easy program for us to work through that is providing big benefits to the church,” said Mr. White, **“I would encourage other churches and organizations to consider participating,”**



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