

LIVESMART BC: SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAM TESTIMONIAL – THE BEAR COUNTRY INN, TERRACE BC

The Bear Country Inn is a successful business in Terrace, BC, with a newly modernized lobby, meeting room, restaurant and restrooms. Jacquie Munson, owner and manager of the motel and restaurant, knows the benefits new technology and energy efficient products provide. LED lighting, occupancy sensors and mini-split heat pumps for efficient heating and cooling, offer superior comfort to her guests that rival some of Vancouver's best accommodations.

A visit and assessment from the Skeena-North Coast area's LiveSmart Business Energy Advisor, Gary Rysavy, proved timely. The free assessment and report provided Ms. Munson with useful recommendations, including what BC Hydro incentives she could apply for to reduce her capital outlay, allowing her to continue upgrades on the Bear Country to lower the company's energy bills.

"He was very helpful in advising me on changes we could make to save on our energy costs" Jacquie Munson said. "The report he provided recommended what we could do, the incentive amounts we could get back and how much we could expect to save."

The LiveSmart BC Business Energy Report helped Jacquie select changes that worked best for her business. It identified energy efficient products, estimated costs, energy savings, and the approximate time it would take for the new products to be paid for through the rebates and energy savings.

With incentives that assist in the cost of switching existing lighting to more efficient products, over 250 incandescent bulbs were replaced with LED's in the restaurant, the lobby, the outside awning and in the rooms. With the efficiency and longevity of the LED's, the Bear Country Inn stands to see significant savings over the next several years.

"Our exact savings are difficult to determine as increased occupancy due to the new decor and improving economy do not allow for a static comparison. " says Jacquie, "We know we are saving money and will continue to use energy saving technologies in our ongoing upgrades."

For more information on the LiveSmart BC: Small Business Program, or to see if your business is eligible for a free assessment, call Gary Rysavy at 250.641.1553, or visit www.livesmartbc.ca/green_business.