

Case study

Regina Catholic Schools

Regina, Saskatchewan



Facility renewal program pays for itself through lower energy costs

Regina Catholic Schools (RCS) is dedicated to working with the community and the local church to provide a quality Catholic education that fosters academic excellence and the development of informed, responsible citizens. RCS serves more than 10,000 students in 24 elementary schools, four high schools, and one Kindergarten to Grade 12 alternative school.

Regina Catholic Schools faced rising energy costs and a maintenance backlog, which was affecting comfort conditions in several school buildings. RCS partnered with Johnson Controls in 2002 to implement a facility renewal program at nine schools that would pay for itself through energy savings generated by the improvements. The program proved so successful that RCS expanded the program to 19 additional schools the following year.

Challenges

- Improve the learning environment.
- Reduce energy consumption within school buildings.
- Reduce deferred maintenance backlog.

Johnson Controls solutions

- Upgrade lighting systems to more efficient compact fluorescent technology, install Metasys® building management systems to control energy usage, and provide carbon dioxide monitoring equipment.
- Apply the performance contracting financing method, which enables the project's energy savings to pay for \$3 million in building improvements.
- Work with Natural Resources Canada to obtain a \$144,000 grant for implementing energy efficiency projects.

Results

- Improved comfort for occupants of 28 school buildings involved in the Phase 1 and Phase 2 performance contracting projects.
- Guaranteed energy savings of more than \$340,000 per year. Actual savings have exceeded the guaranteed amount in the first three years of the program.
- Funded costly maintenance items that Regina Catholic Schools could not otherwise afford.