

# Best Practice

## Doctor's/Medical Professionals Residence

### CONTACT

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### THE PRACTICE

The need for a medical professional's residence was recognized when two practicing physicians from the community approached Town Council and asked that a residence be provided for medical students of various fields while they mentored for three weeks under practicing physicians. This residence has helped to maintain a 24 hour emergency medical service in the area.

Town Council formed a committee to address these issues, and it was decided that it would be most feasible to renovate the living quarters located above the post office. A meeting was held with the councils of the three RMs and five towns to discuss the proposed renovations and to solicit funds.

### THE PROCESS

There were a number of key steps in this process. They included:

- Clearly defining the need/issue (done by physicians)
- Town Council needed to understand the issue and demonstrate respectability
- Consultation took place with the Saskatoon Health Region and the Rosthern Hospital
- Broadening the responsibility base with other municipalities through communication, collaboration and commitment
- Informing citizens through newspaper coverage
- Upgrading and furnishing of the post office residence
- Formation of a district planning commission in the Twin Rivers Working Group

### THE RESULTS

The residence was completely renovated and refurbished. The costs of the renovations were shared equally by all municipalities on a per capita basis. To date, several nursing, lab tech and medical students and a practicing physician on his 24 on call rotation have utilized the residence. Overall, this project has helped to stabilize the medical and hospital services in the area.

### LESSONS LEARNED

Municipalities can accomplish positive results for the interests of their residents through collaboration.