Doctor’s/Medical Professionals Residence

CONTACT
Towns of Rosthern, Duck Lake, Waldheim, Hague, RMs of Duck Lake No 463, Rosthern No 403, Laird No 404, Villages of Hepburn and Laird
P. 306.232-4826
E-mail. townofrosthern@sasktel.net
Mail. Box 416 Rosthern, SK S0K 3R0
Project Date: 2011

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 refurnished. 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.