

# Customer Success Story

## *The Beagle Pub*

### VICTORIA PUB CUTS ITS LIGHTING ENERGY CONSUMPTION BY HALF



*With Files From Nina Winham*

When 110 people might pay you a visit for a West Coast Chowder or a classic Beagle Burger (upsized to a Great Dane for folks who are hungry) – you need more than a few lights. And if you open before lunch and stay open 'til late, it's nice if all those lights in your large serving room are

dimnable, so you can match the mood and keep the pub cozy.

That's why the owners of the Beagle Pub in Victoria were happily surprised when a BC Hydro specialist suggested that they could switch to energy efficient lighting.

"BC Hydro gave us some help knowing what was out there," says Neil Baird, one of the four owners of the Beagle. "I don't think any of us really knew what options we had. You see the twisty bulbs at the store, and that's all you know. I didn't realize there

are dimmable energy saver bulbs."

With an assessment from BC Hydro, the foursome decided to move ahead on a variety of lighting upgrades. They contacted Albrite Lighting who helped explain the technologies and put a competitive proposal together. The Beagle installed fully dimmable cold cathode lamps in the dining room, changed lighting in the bathrooms, switched to LED exit signs, changed their exterior lighting, and chose LED for their decorative holiday lighting.

Baird credits Albrite Lighting, for making the upgrade easy. "They filled in all the paperwork [for the BC Hydro Product Incentive Program]," he says. "It would have been a little more discouraging if I'd had to do all the paperwork myself, but I didn't. It was great."

Want to see what your business might save with a lighting retrofit? Check out BC Hydro online calculators according to your industry or manufacturer's calculators on [albritelighting.com](http://albritelighting.com).

### CUTTING ENERGY USE BY 50% AND MORE

#### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- **Take advantage of BC Hydro incentives to drastically reduce payback time!**
- **Cut your overall cost by reducing maintenance cycles and energy use**
- **Benefit from positive customer feedback about your environmentally responsible business practices**

Since the lighting upgrade about six months ago, Baird says the pub has cut its energy consumption by more than half. "We're spending less on electricity... we've gone from 380 kwh a month before [the upgrade] to about 160 now, so it's really cut us back quite a bit."

Baird says that with the Beagle's status as a neighbourhood pub, it made sense to get into conservation. (The owners

have taken steps to cut water consumption too.) "We're trying to do our best to save power," says Baird. "We all felt it would be a good thing for people to see we're making an effort, and some of the BC Hydro rebates were fantastic."

"We've had a few positive comments from customers – and I'm sure we would have had even more negative comments if we hadn't done anything. It's a bit hard for people to

understand, since the dimmable bulbs just look like a regular bulb, but people do comment; I think they notice."

If you're interested in some advice about how to get your business started on energy efficiency, check out [albritelighting.com](http://albritelighting.com), or call your local Albrite branch today. There are lots of easy steps you can take to cut your energy use, and save money too.