

YMCA Nanook House



After nearly three decades of operating in a portable Quonset hut, the YMCA Nanook House daycare center in Vancouver, British Columbia, is moving into a new building. For parents of special needs children, the Nanook House has provided critical childcare, meals, and family counseling services for children between the ages of three and five.

The goal of a new facility got a boost when the late Bob Ackles, a former B.C. Lions CEO and Vancouver YMCA Board Member, took over fundraising for the Nanook House. Ackles successfully raised over \$2 million, with municipal and provincial governments contributing an additional \$1.3 million.

The new 6,000 sq. ft. Bob and Kay Ackles Nanook House designed by Walter Francl Architecture will allow the YMCA to add much-needed child care spaces and expand counseling services, as well as health and educational support for families.

Insulspan dealer Alfred Horie Construction (AHC) was awarded the job of constructing the new facility. AHC has been in the construction business for over 100 years and offers contracting services for both residential and commercial projects.

When faced with constructing a unique roof with long overhangs, AHC Partner John Paone came up with a creative idea to simplify the roof construction and save money. He specified the **Insulspan Structural Insulating Panel (SIP)** system in place of a conventional wood framed roof.

"We recommended using structural insulated panels for the roof assembly because it would save us time and money, and it would give us a higher R-value than conventional insulation methods" said Paone.

Paone's suggestion paid off when Insulspan's **ready-to-assemble** SIPs arrived at the jobsite and were quickly installed, saving an estimated \$20,000 - \$30,000 in labor and materials.

In addition to saving money on the jobsite, Insulspan SIPs provide excellent thermal performance with minimal air leakage. Working on a wide variety of projects, including those with AHC's residential development business, Paone sees Insulspan SIPs as a green solution for a range of different applications.

"SIPs are easy to work with and there are no limitations to what you can do with them," he said. "The insulating quality and air tightness are second to none; and if you look at the green side of things, SIPs are a green product because they use less wood."

With the energy efficiency and resource saving benefits, Paone is on the lookout for new ways to incorporate Insulspan SIPs into his projects.