

TRIBAL COLLEGE RECEIVES NEW LIBRARY WITH USDA ASSISTANCE

Outline of Need:

If you would have visited the prior library for the Little Priest Tribal College (LPTC) in Winnebago, Neb. (Winnebago Reservation), you would have found 2,600 square feet of very crowded, several decades old space originally designed to serve as a laundry facility for the Mission School. This building also served briefly as a community canning center in the 1970s and then stood empty until 1994 when it was renovated into a library.

Inside the library was confining work and study spaces for the patrons and shelves overcrowded with books. The library's sagging ceiling (propped up with 2 X 6s), large ceiling hole and uneven floors reflected the five years of leaking and needed roof repairs. Additionally, high heating and cooling bills resulted from the structure not being energy efficient. Undependable furnace and cooling units were costly to operate and were in need of frequent repairs. The library was not compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and did not meet the standards for a community college library in terms of its collections, seating space, staff numbers or services.

How Rural Development Helped:

USDA Rural Development assisted the Tribe with a \$135,000 USDA Community Facility Grant in Fiscal Year 2001 and \$200,000 in Fiscal Year 2003 for the construction of a new library. The Lilly Foundation provided \$700,000 for this project, with the American Indian College Fund also contributing.

The Results:

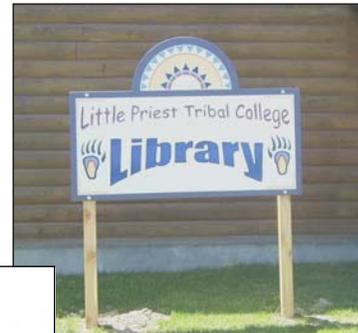
With USDA Rural Development's assistance, Little Priest Tribal College (LPTC) today has a new 8,400 square foot log cabin style library. The new ADA compliant structure features adequate space for work areas, staff members, seating space, private study rooms and computers. The library features a classroom/meeting room and ample space for its collections allowing it to meet the standards for a community college library.

Serving as both a community college library and a public library to over 1,100 patrons, the library is open to community students and residents to provide materials and services, which assists them in meeting their personal, educational and professional information needs. The new library is an asset to the college campus and an additional incentive for more people to enroll at LPTC.

Old Little
Priest Tribal
College
Library



(April 2004)



New Little Priest
Tribal College Library

