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MEMBER OWNED • COMMUNITY POWERED

Thunderstorm Safety

During lightning and thunderstorms, it is essential to prioritize safety around power poles and power lines to minimize the risk of accidents and electrical hazards. Here are some guidelines to follow during storm season in Alberta:

- **1. Stay informed:** Pay attention to weather forecasts and warnings issued by local authorities. This will help you anticipate and prepare for storms in advance.
- **2. Stay indoors:** Seek shelter in a sturdy building or a vehicle during thunderstorms. Avoid being outside in open areas, especially near power poles and overhead power lines.
- **3. Keep a safe distance:** Maintain a safe distance from power poles and power lines at all times. The minimum recommended distance is 10 meters. Never touch or go near a downed power line, as it may still be energized and pose a significant danger.
- **4. Avoid contact:** Do not touch any part of a power pole, including metal guy wires or any equipment attached to it. Lightning can strike the pole, and the electrical current can travel through conductive objects, potentially causing electric shocks.
- 5. Don't climb or hang objects: Never climb or hang objects, such as signs or decorations, on power poles or near power lines. These can become conductors during a lightning strike and increase the risk of electrical accidents.

- 6. Report hazards: If you notice any damaged or leaning power poles, sagging power lines, or vegetation in close proximity to power lines, report them immediately to Battle River Power Coop to address the issue promptly and ensure public safety.
- **7. Stay away from water:** During thunderstorms, avoid activities near bodies of water, such as lakes, rivers, or pools, as water is an excellent conductor of electricity.
- 8. Be cautious when using electronic devices: Unplug sensitive electronic devices or use surge protectors to safeguard them from power surges caused by lightning strikes.
- **9. Teach children about safety:** Educate children about the dangers of power poles and power lines during storms. Instruct them to stay away from these structures and seek shelter indoors.

Remember

During severe storms, it is crucial to prioritize personal safety. If you encounter a hazardous situation involving power poles or power lines, contact your local utility company or emergency services for assistance.

Box 1420 Camrose, AB T4V 1X3 North of Junction, Highways 13 & 21 www.brpower.coop | brpc@brpower.coop 24 Hour Toll-free: 1.877.428.3972 | Local: 780.672.7738 | Fax: 780.672.7969

Chairman's Message to the Battle River Power Coop Membership



Another year has passed, and Battle River Power Coop continues "**Riding the Waves of Affordability**" for the membership. It is my honour, on behalf of the Battle River Power Coop Board of Directors, to welcome members, special guests and staff to the 2023 Annual General Meeting.

I'm proud to say that our member-owners are always at the forefront of our decision-making process. The Board of Directors are delegates for the entire membership, and we encourage our membership to reach out and speak with us throughout the year. We are constantly seeking feedback and input from our members, and we're committed to providing them with the best possible service at the lowest possible cost.

Two years ago, Battle River Power Coop embarked on providing distribution system operations and billing to other Rural Electrification Associations. This endeavour supports all the Cooperative Principles of working together, while providing us the opportunity to achieve economies of scale. Cresting the 'top of the wave' strategy supports affordable prices, while still providing reliable service that our members expect.

With growth in services, comes organizational growth. The Board of Directors recognize that our current location is constrained. We have developed a Building Committee to look at opportunities to allow for future expansion, with a lens on practicality in the current economic environment.

Lately, everything in Canada is seemingly more expensive. Inflation and high interest rates are making life difficult for rural Albertans. The reality is that the cost of energy in Alberta can be amongst the highest in the country, and rural communities are often hit the hardest. Like the 'trough' at the front of a wave, many members may feel they are 'underwater' in many aspects of their life. As an electric cooperative, we leverage our not-for profit, member-ownership structure to maintain low costs, and invest in the infrastructure needed to provide reliable service to our membership.

Consumer affordability is strained daily with evolving policy decisions on national and provincial infrastructure, grid modernization and the scaling of renewable energy generation. Sourcing and supply chain disruptions will escalate materials costs as many participants compete for similar resources to meet the goal of net zero by 2050. Each ideological decision has a negative cost impact to rural Albertan's, farmers and small businesses. Battle River Power Coop is not immune to future changes to the power grid and looks forward to developing sensible approaches to system improvements that match existing legislation.

Dan Astner, Chairman

A Warm Thank You

Thank you to everyone who attended our Annual General Meeting on June 15th at the Norsemen Inn. We had such an amazing turnout of member-owners that we are overwhelmed with the support of our membership.

A special shoutout to The Norsemen Inn for creating a beautiful atmosphere with a delicious meal.

Furthermore, we would like to send a thank you to E Sound Pro Audio & Lights for their technical savvy throughout the night, making everything run smoothly.

A final thank you to all of the businesses who donated door prizes to our AGM. We appreciate your support throughout the year and for providing amazing gifts for our members.



New MVP Business



Battle River Power Coop is proud to support local businesses through our Member Value Program (MVP)!

This month's MVP business spotlight is Drever Agencies.

With summer here, get your propane tanks filled for this BBQ season!

Drever Agencies offers 10% discount on all propane bottle fills at Petro-Canada (Drever Agencies) bulk plant locations in Camrose, Wetaskiwin, Hardisty, and Vegreville to members who show their MVP Card.

Visit them today and make sure to mention you are a member of Battle River Power Coop!

Thank you to all the businesses who have offered savings to our members! Keep an eye on our website under Community as we continue to add businesses as they join.

Carbon Tax and You

The upcoming carbon tax hike in Alberta is expected to impact energy prices and affordability for consumers throughout the province. At Battle River Power Coop, we understand the importance of affordable energy and the challenges that rising costs can bring. Despite these changes, we remain steadfast in our commitment to our member-owners by providing cost-effective energy solutions. As a cooperative, our focus on member-ownership allows us to prioritize affordability while delivering reliable service. We are dedicated to finding innovative ways to mitigate the impact of increased energy prices, ensuring that our members can continue to access affordable and sustainable energy options. Your financial well-being is important to us, and we are here to support you through these changes, striving to meet your energy needs efficiently and affordably. Together, we can navigate the evolving energy landscape and maintain the affordability that our members deserve.

Revised Member Terms & Conditions

The updated terms and conditions are available for members to review. To view the revised terms and conditions of Battle River Power Coop <u>https://www.brpower.coop/members/electrical-service-contract/</u>.



CALL CONTROL

Do you have Call Control set up on your phone? You might be missing important information from Battle River Power Coop!

Add our number to your safe calls list by contacting your service provider. Unsure how? Check our social media or our website to find links to instructions.

Message from the Board of Directors

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Battle River Power Coop, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for your exceptional turnout and active participation at our Annual General Meeting on June 15. The energy and enthusiasm displayed by our members made it a truly remarkable event, and we thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to meet and mingle with each and every one of you.

We would also like to extend our sincere appreciation to the Norsemen Inn for their outstanding hospitality, providing us with a delicious meal and a beautifully arranged setup for the Annual General Meeting. Their attention to detail contributed to the overall success of the event.

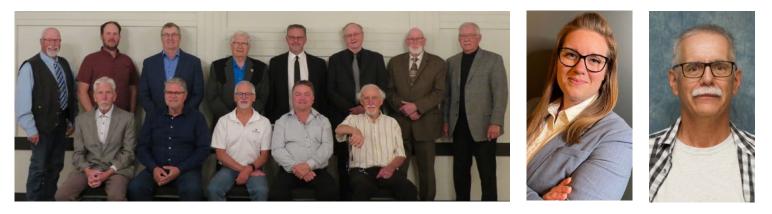
Furthermore, we want to acknowledge the invaluable contribution of E Sound Pro Audio & Lights. Their technical expertise and behind-the-scenes work ensured a seamless and engaging experience for all attendees.

To our dedicated Board of Directors, we commend your unwavering commitment to serving our member-owners and steering Battle River Power Coop towards "**Riding the Waves of Affordability.**" We also extend our congratulations to the incumbents who are returning for another term on the board. Your expertise and dedication will continue to guide us in fulfilling our mission.

A special note of appreciation goes out to our exceptional managers and staff at Battle River Power Coop. Your hard work and preparation leading up to the Annual General Meeting, as well as your ongoing commitment to providing reliable power and exceptional service to our members throughout the year, is truly commendable. We are grateful for your efforts and the positive impact you have on our cooperative.

As we reflect on the success of this year's meeting, we eagerly anticipate our next Annual General Meeting. It is an opportunity to come together once again, celebrate our achievements, and chart the course for the future of Battle River Power Coop.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement. We are honored to serve you and look forward to working together towards a bright and prosperous future.



REGULATED RATE OPTION



The RRO may increase or decrease from month to month as it is priced on the open market and subject to many factors relating to supply and demand. It is not a 'regulated' rate, rather it is a default rate. If you do not have an energy contract, then you are on the RRO.

For June 2023, the RRO is priced at \$0.18689 per kWh, reflected on your enclosed blue bill. For July 2023, the REA monthly rate as calculated under the RRO regulation is \$0.28826. Detailed information on the monthly RRO is available on: <u>www.brpower.coop</u>.

Members are free to purchase natural gas services or electricity services from a retailer of their choice. For a list of retailers, visit ucahelps.alberta.ca or call 310-4822 (toll free in Alberta). *Code of Conduct Regulation: Advertising Section 7(1).*

BATTLE RIVER POWER COOP IS AVAILABLE FOR POWER TROUBLE CALLS 24/7/365 **CALL TOLL-FREE: 1.877.428.3972**