February 2024 - Issue 276



MEMBER OWNED • COMMUNITY POWERED



## **Savings in your Pocket!**

Starting this April, we're excited to offer you a special opportunity to save. If you sign up to or already receive your bills electronically, you'll save \$1.00 per month in administration fees! It's easy to make the switch and keep more money in your pocket.

Give us a call at 1.877.428.3972 to make the switch and start saving!



## Member Testimonial

To the guys who changed my transformer pole: thank you for being very pleasant and professional.

Member-Owner Steven C.



#### Save the Date

Battle River Power Coop will be hosting their Annual General Meeting on

#### **Tuesday, June 25, 2024**

at the Days Inn & Conference Centre by Wyndham Camrose Norsemen (formerly the Norsemen Inn).

Keep an eye on your monthly newsletters, our website, and our social media platforms as more details are shared.



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24	25		27	28	29

# **Call for Nominations**

Battle River Power Coop is calling YOUR name to join our Board!



By statute, Battle River Power Coop is required to hold elections for Director positions on the Board.

There are several positions up for nomination this year. Some of the incumbent Directors that are up for re-election in 2024 are letting their names stand, while supporting the democratic election process for all challengers.

Deadline for nominations is Tuesday, April 30, 2024.

Are you passionate about issues concerning rural Alberta?

Are you interested in an opportunity to contribute to your community and your Coop?

To be a member of our Board of Directors:

- Must be 18 years of age or older
- Must be a member in good standing

If this sounds like you, find our nomination package at www.brpower.coop or by calling (780) 672-7738.



#### **MVP** Businesses



Thinking ahead to the spring and summer sports? **Coach's Source for Sports** in Wetaskiwin has Battle
River Power Coop members covered!

When you show your Member Value Program (MVP) Card, you receive 10% off regular priced merchandise.

Cherry Grove Florist has all your Easter floral needs!

Show your MVP Card and receive 10% off all in-store products and flowers (excluding special orders).

Didn't receive your MVP Card or did you misplace it somewhere? No worries! Give Battle River Power Coop a call at 1.877.428.3972 or email brpc@brpower.coop to get your card sent to you.

If you are a Battle River Power Coop member with a business or know a business that would like to benefit from some free publicity to our member-owners, we would like to chat with you!

Send an email to nansee.hughes@brpower.coop with your

name, business name, and any details you would like shared with our members for our "Member Corner."



# Tips from the Line

When using tall equipment like tractors, cranes, or boom lifts, be cautious of overhead power lines. Contact with power lines can be fatal, so it's crucial to be vigilant and have a spotter to ensure safe clearance.

If you need assistance, please call 1.877.428.3972.

#### **Evaluating Solar Generation**

As Alberta charts its course toward sustainable energy, solar generation emerges as a pivotal player, offering a mix of promise and complexity. Recognizing both the advantages and drawbacks is critical to effectively leveraging solar power.

Positively, solar energy epitomizes clean, renewable power, aligning closely with Alberta's green energy goals. By curbing greenhouse gas emissions and lessening environmental impact, solar initiatives bolster ecological resilience and combat climate change. Moreover, they foster energy autonomy, empowering communities served by cooperatives like Battle River Power Coop with decentralized and resilient energy sources.

Economically, solar projects stimulate job growth and local investment, driving innovation in Alberta's renewable sector. Efforts like those of Battle River Power Coop, which assist members with paperwork and installation, catalyze economic development, particularly in rural areas. With incentives and subsidies, solar power becomes more accessible, benefiting consumers and the economy alike.

However, solar generation grapples with challenges, notably its intermittency tied to daylight availability. While Alberta enjoys ample sunlight for much of the year, winter's shorter days present hurdles. Solar panels operate solely during daylight hours, complicating efforts to achieve net-zero energy targets and necessitating alternative storage solutions.

Standard solar systems require panels and inverters for energy conversion but lack backup capabilities during utility disruptions. To address this, batteries and transfer systems are essential, albeit costly additions. Moreover, upfront installation expenses remain prohibitive for many, despite decreasing technology costs. While government incentives exist, they often exclude components like batteries or off-grid systems, limiting accessibility.

In navigating these challenges, collaborative efforts between solar companies and power distributors, exemplified by Battle River Power Coop, are crucial. By addressing intermittency concerns, improving affordability, and enhancing accessibility, Alberta can unlock the full potential of solar power in its journey toward a cleaner, more resilient energy landscape.

# Stay Up to Date with Battle River Power Coop

If you have had any changes to phone numbers, email addresses, mailing address or wish to add other contact details to your account, please connect with us toll-free at 1.877.428.3972 or email: <a href="mailto:brpc@brpower.coop">brpower.coop</a> and we will ensure your account is updated.

Other ways you can stay in the loop with Battle River Power Coop:

- Visit our website www.brpower.coop.
   The website offers on-line account access for members to review their accounts.
- Battle River Power Coop also communicates on popular social media platforms – Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube.
- Download our Outage App from the Google Play or Apple Store. Our Outage App is updated with the most current information on outages in our service area.

#### 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 February 2024, the RRO is priced at \$0.14807 per kWh, reflected on your enclosed blue bill. For March 2024, the REA monthly rate as calculated under the RRO regulation is \$0.09860. Detailed information on the monthly RRO is available on: <a href="https://www.brpower.coop">www.brpower.coop</a>.

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).