



## Co-op Week 2018 will take place from October 14-20 and this year's theme is *'Solving Challenges Together'*

While Co-op Week has been celebrated by various entities in Canada since 1958, the event went national in 1982. In Canada, cooperatives are represented nationally by Cooperatives and Mutuals Canada and within Alberta, the Alberta Community and Cooperative Association (ACCA) is the representative body.

### So, what is a cooperative?

A co-operative is an organization owned by the members who use its services. Co-operatives exist in every sector of the economy, can touch every aspect of our lives and provide consumers with a distinct values-based and community-owned and controlled alternative.

Unlike the private, public, or voluntary sectors, all co-operatives around the world are guided by the same seven principles:

1. Voluntary and open membership
2. Democratic member control
3. Member economic participation
4. Autonomy and independence
5. Education, training, and information
6. Co-operation among co-operatives
7. Concern for Community



### Canada Coop Facts

There are over 9,000 Co-operatives and Credit Unions and Mutuals in Canada.

*Cooperatives in Canada* reports that co-ops are strongly supported by Canadians with 83% of them indicating they would rather buy their products at a co-operative than a private business.

Canadian co-operatives have over 18 million members and employ more than 150,000 people.

### Rural Electric Cooperatives (REC) in the United States

In the U.S., RECs provide rural power distribution service to residents, farms and businesses in their respective areas. With these designated service areas, RECs flourish in the U.S. and currently own 42 percent of America's distribution lines in 47 states and serve 40 million people. The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association reports they account for \$97B in assets and employ 67,000 people nationwide, contributing indirect and induced positive community economic impacts in excess \$45B.

For power outages, emergency power troubles and service requests, contact the distribution system operator for FENN REA: **ATCO Electric**  
Phone toll-free: 1-800-668-2248

**FENN REA**  
Box 31, Fenn, Alberta T0J 1K0  
Phone: c/o Philip Jarmin,  
1-403-740-9384  
Email: fennrea@gmail.com  
www.fennrea.com

**Battle River Power Coop**  
Member Care & Billing  
Box 1420, Camrose AB T4V 1X3  
Phone toll-free: 1-877-428-3972  
Email: brpc@brpower.coop  
www.brpower.coop

# Electric Coops Solving Florence Challenges Together

We celebrate the 'spirit of cooperation' of our Coop counterparts in the U.S. as so many RECs came together to help each other battle the devastation of hurricane Florence. Hundreds of crews and pieces of equipment, some from as far away as Alabama, Florida, Indiana and Minnesota, rallied with mutual aid support to assist the North Carolina electric co-ops to form teams to restore power as quickly as possible.

*Pictured right: Tennessee Sequachee Valley Electric Coop (7 trucks and 10 men) heading to assist the Four County Electric Membership Corp.*



## ARREARS POLICY CHANGE For Members on the RRO\*

Effective October 1, 2018, the arrears policy for members receiving the Regulated Rate Option (RRO) is being modified. This modification is comparable with industry standards and is as follows:

- FENN REA members on the RRO will continue to receive three monthly invoices and, as applicable, two arrears notification statements: a [31-60 day] and [61-90 day and over].
- Previously at the [61-90 day and over] arrears stage, a courtesy phone call was made to the member to arrange a payment and/or a doorknocker was hand delivered to the member site. This portion of the process has been eliminated.
- Replacing this process is the addition of a prominent **FINAL NOTICE** stamp on the [61-90 day and over] statement. A further notification, the word '**URGENT**', will be printed clearly on the outside of the envelope to ensure the member is aware of the importance of the documents within.
- If no payment is received by the due date printed on the [61-90 day and over] statement, non-payment will trigger a caveat being applied against the land

title (and may include a service disconnect) until the account returns to good standing.

FENN REA recognizes economic times may negatively impact individuals, but believe compensation for services rendered to our members by third parties, and on behalf of the FENN REA, merit timely payment.



*\*Please note that each electricity retailer/RRO provider may have different arrears policies and we encourage members to be aware of them.*

### Regulated Rate Option (RRO)

The RRO rate 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. If you do not have a contract with an electricity retailer, then you receive the default RRO rate.

For September 2018, the RRO is priced at \$0.06800 per kWh, which is reflected on your enclosed bill. For October 2018, the Battle River Power Coop monthly rate as calculated under the RRO regulation is \$0.05966; the billing rate charged to FENN REA members is \$0.05966. The RRO rate is also listed on [www.fennrea.com](http://www.fennrea.com).

**The delivery of electricity to you is not affected by your choice. If you change who you purchase electricity services from, you will continue receiving electricity from the distribution company in your service area.**

For information about the electricity industry and for a list of Alberta licensed retailers, visit the Utilities Consumer Advocate at [www.ucahelps.alberta.ca](http://www.ucahelps.alberta.ca) or call toll free 310-4822. For a list of retailers registered within the FENN REA area visit: [www.fennrea.com](http://www.fennrea.com).

Information on **FENN REA's Code of Conduct Compliance Plan** can be found on our website: [www.fennrea.com](http://www.fennrea.com)