



This year Canadians will celebrate Co-op Week from October 11th - 16th and this year's theme is *Rebounding with Co-operative Values*.

At the end of last year, Abacus Data conducted a national survey of Canadian adults for Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada. The survey explored attitudes of respondents about the economic system and various broad public concerns (e.g. income and wealth inequality, decline of rural and small communities, powerful special interest controlling government, to name a few) to determine what role co-operatives could play in alleviating uneasiness as identified by the survey.

FENN REA is proud to be a successful co-operative Rural Electrification Association; a member-owned, not-for-profit utility that is democratically controlled by our members.

FENN REA believes in the values of the co-op principles. These values originated with farmers in the 1940s that cooperatively brought electricity to rural Alberta. These values are demonstrated today in our governance which reflects the best interests of the REA, our members and our community – in other words, the co-operative way.



The survey provided some interesting insight as follows.

47% of Canadians are familiar with co-operatives and interestingly almost half of respondents think Canada would be better off with more co-ops.

30% of Canadians are members of a co-operative – that's about 9 million Canadian adults.

A slightly greater number of co-op members are located in rural areas versus urban (34% to 29% respectively).

Furthermore, of the 6 key reasons cited for joining a co-op, shared values (70%) and supporting the local community (69%) were very important.

Generally speaking many see co-ops, with their guiding principles, as a solution to uncertainty.

Co-operative values are informed by seven guiding principles as follows:

- Voluntary and open membership
- Democratic member control
- Member economic participation
- Autonomy and independence
- Education, training, and information
- Co-operation among co-operatives
- Concern for Community

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
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Phone: c/o Philip Jarmin,
1-403-740-9384
Email: fennrea@gmail.com
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Member Care & Billing
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Look Up And Around This Harvest Season

FENN REA would like to remind all farmers as you head out for harvest to be sure to look up and around your work area to identify where the power poles and powerlines are located.

Farm machinery/equipment has increased in size over the years, while powerlines remained a constant height. This translates to a change in distance that an operator must allow between machines and electrical structures.

Additionally, remember that GPS does not always indicate the position or the height of power poles.

FENN REA encourages members to check your surroundings all day/every day and be certain that you can safely navigate around the power poles, power lines and guy-wires.

If you have any doubts or questions about clearance, you can connect with our distribution system operator ATCO at 1-800-668-2248 or via email www.atco.com/en-ca/contact-us/electricity-canada.html. They can provide information about the height of specific lines and safe clearance distances.

Stay safe this harvest season and watch out for power lines and poles.

Make It Safe, Make It Visible

As a farmer sometimes you have to travel between fields, necessitating driving on public roads and highways throughout Alberta. Oversized and slow farm machinery, mixed with traditional highway traffic, can result in collisions and other accidents. You can prevent farm machinery incidents on public roads by focusing on three main areas.

- **Make your machinery and equipment safe and visible:** follow regulated requirements for lighting and signage including a clean slow moving vehicle (SMV) sign as appropriate. Complete a safety check of any vehicles that will be travelling on public highways (hitch pins, tire condition, etc.)
- **Follow safe driving tips:** travel at a speed that will ensure you can maintain vehicle control, observe road precautions, avoid busy roads/travel times if possible, always stop and make sure the way is clear, and ensure all drivers have a valid driver's license.
- **Drive defensively:** stay alert for hazards and if traffic is lined up behind you, be sure the shoulder width is sufficient and solid enough to support your equipment before you move over.



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 August 2020, the RRO is priced at \$0.07042 per kWh, which is reflected on your enclosed bill. For September 2020, the Battle River Power Coop monthly RRO billing rate for FENN REA members is \$0.07830. The RRO rate is also listed on www.fennrea.com.

Members are free to purchase 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).

Information on FENN REA's Code of Conduct Compliance Plan can be found on our website: www.fennrea.com