



## Notice of Annual General Meeting

The West Wetaskiwin REA will be holding its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on  
**Thursday, March 26, 2020.**

**Location:** Lone Ridge Community Hall  
263001 – Highway 13  
County Wetaskiwin, Alberta

**Tel:** 780-352-0213 (during AGM only)

**6:00pm:** Registration & Meet Your Directors

**7:00pm:** Dinner

**8:00pm:** AGM\*

*\*Note: The AGM is open to West Wetaskiwin REA members in good standing. If you are unsure whether you have a current contract, please contact the REA-see details below.*

To ensure adequate seating and food, **members are requested to confirm attendance and purchase tickets by Wednesday, March 18, 2020.**

The AGM is the perfect time for members to connect with fellow members, Directors and to get information about the West Wetaskiwin REA issues and successes. Agenda items will include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ Annual Financial Report
- ▶ Annual Chair Report
- ▶ Overview of the 2020/21 Operating Budget
- ▶ Nomination and election of Directors

## Ticket Information

Tickets for the AGM and dinner are \$20.00 per person and may be purchased through the REA office (Tel: 780-335-9378) or by contacting any Director (see Director contact information below).



Dean Knull, Chair	780.352.1348
Ron Holmlund, Vice Chair	780.352.4842
Ken Adair	780.352.6318
Bill Moure	780.586.2846
Ron Stevens	780.352.2681
Neil Stone	780.586.2106
Mike Wollin	780.361.9642

## Call Out for Directors

For members who may be interested in standing as a Director (3 positions available this year), details on the nomination process and the role of a West Wetaskiwin REA Director can be found on our website or you may contact one of the current Directors for information.

To be eligible for election as a Director of West Wetaskiwin REA, a member:

1. must be 18 years of age;
2. have an interest in land; and
3. be a member in good standing.

For power troubles or service requests, contact: FortisAlberta (the distribution system operator for West Wetaskiwin REA): Toll-free: 1-855-333-9473 or 780-310-9473

For REA inquiries contact:  
West Wetaskiwin REA  
R.R. #1 Station Main,  
Wetaskiwin, Alberta T9A 1W8  
Phone: 780-335-9378 (WEST)  
E-mail: [westwet@telus.net](mailto:westwet@telus.net)  
[www.westwetaskiwinrea.com](http://www.westwetaskiwinrea.com)

For billing or account inquiries contact:  
Battle River Power Coop  
Box 1420  
Camrose, Alberta T4V 1X3  
Toll-free: 1-877-428-3972  
E-mail: [brpc@brpower.coop](mailto:brpc@brpower.coop)  
[www.brpower.coop](http://www.brpower.coop)

# Cyber Crime Sets its Sights on Agriculture

Cybercrime is a serious problem for all industries and sectors and as digital transformation sweeps across the agricultural industry, agribusiness is a ripe target.

In January, a Saskatchewan farmer had hundreds of thousands of dollars stolen from the family farm's bank account. The fraud appears to have started with the theft of a SaskTel phone number and email. The family was a victim of a port-out fraud — where a fraudster collects personal information about an individual and then uses that information to open a new account with a new carrier. They then transfer the account over, and proceed to steal whatever information contained therein.

The Edmonton Journal recently reported comments from a security expert at the FarmTech Conference who stated all facets of a farm business, from automated dairy operations, combine GPS, automated water and feed systems to farm financials, are subject to hacking and/or ransom schemes.

In North America, farmers have reported they were being targeted by several main types of fraud.

- **Business email:** By impersonating a person the farmer may know and trust the fraudsters try to email farm accounts and convince them to make an urgent payment or to change their account details.
- **Text and phone scams:** Phishing calls and scam texts are easy and cheap for cybercriminals. They attempt to trick targets into divulging personal information or selecting a link which then downloads malware.
- **Phishing emails:** A phishing email is designed to look real but trick you into entering your account details or downloading malicious software. Many of these emails are relatively easy to spot, but more recently attacks have become more convincing. Fraudsters can now convincingly mimic the branding and content of well-known organizations which means many people will trust them.

Some simple steps to guard the farm include:

- **Secure mobile devices:** Telephones aren't just for talking any more, and farmers' phones probably carry as much data as a desktop computer, so a farm's mobile devices need to be secure. Make sure these devices have the latest in security protections to avoid malware, viruses, or hacking.
- **Secure the farm's Wi-Fi network:** Given the rural nature of most North American farms, computers might be hooked to a satellite internet provider and use modems inside the house. Make sure an encrypted code is in place so only authorized personnel can access it. The same goes for the router if multiple locations on the farm share the same service.
- **Back up all data:** Properly backing up data will stave off a disaster such as a virus-related crash that erases all records. Read up on what a "cloud system" is, and determine if that or a separate server would be best for your operation.
- **Keep workers informed:** Depending on how your operation is set up, employees and vendors might be sharing your Wi-Fi or bringing laptop computers onto the site. Zip discs and other shared storage devices bring the potential of viruses as well as other security risks.



*Remember --  
manage your  
digital security  
just like regular  
equipment  
checks and  
physical farm  
security.*

Regulated  
Rate  
Option



The Regulated Rate Option (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 is a default rate. If you do not have a contract with an electricity retailer, then you are on the RRO. For January 2020, the RRO is priced at \$0.07100 per kWh, reflected on your enclosed orange bill. For February 2020, the Battle River Power Coop monthly rate as calculated under the RRO regulation is \$0.08306; the billing rate charged to WW REA members is \$0.08306.

Members are free to purchase electricity services from a retailer of their choice. For a list of retailers, visit [ucahelps.alberta.ca](http://ucahelps.alberta.ca) or call 310-4822 (toll free in Alberta).

Information on West Wetaskiwin REA's Code of Conduct Regulation Compliance Plan can be found on our website: [www.westwetaskiwinrea.com](http://www.westwetaskiwinrea.com)