

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

February 2018

Announcing the 2018 West Wetaskiwin REA Annual General Meeting

Tuesday,
March 20,
2018

The Lakedell Ag Society & Community Center 461043 Range Road 12 Westerose, Alberta Tel:(780) 586-2505

Registration: 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Registration will recognize members and the voting process/ballots will be reviewed. This is also the perfect time to network with fellow members and connect with your Directors.

Dinner: 7:00 pm

Annual General Meeting: 8:00 pm

AGM Agenda Overview:

- i. Call to order/ affirmation of quorum
- ii. Introductions
- iii. Presentations
- iv. Minutes from the previous year
- v. Financial Report
- vi. President's Report
- vii. Budget
- viii. Election of Directors
- ix. Confirmation of Auditor

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for the AGM and dinner are \$15.00 per person.

Members are requested to confirm attendance and purchase tickets by Saturday, March 17, 2018.

For tickets or information, you may contact the Directors listed below or West Wetaskiwin Rea @ 780-335-WEST (9378).

Dean Knull	780-352-1348
Ron Midtdal	780-586-2389
Ken Adair	780-352-6318
Mike Wollin	780-352-9642
Ron Holmlund	780-352-4842
Bill Moure	780-586-2846
Ron Stevens	780-352-2681

*Note: The Annual General Meeting is open to West Wetaskiwin REA members in good standing. If you are unsure whether you have a current contract, please contact the REA.

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
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

www.brpower.coop

Making Farming

Safer for Senior Producers

Canadian Agricultural Safety Week (CASW) takes place March 11- 17 and is a public awareness campaign focussing on the importance of farm safety. Their website www.agsafetyweek.ca offers many resources on how to get started on a farm safety plan and in particular this year, they are addressing senior producers.

While in Canada the face of farming is changing and for the first time since 1991, the proportion of farmers under the age of 35 rose, there are still more farmers over the age of 70 than under the age of 35. The reality of Canadian agriculture is that older farmers are farming more acres and often farming well into their 70s and 80s.

These older farmers are vital to Canadian agriculture. With years of successful farming under their belts, older farmers offer wisdom, knowledge and experience. However, older farmers are also at risk for injury.

Canadian Agricultural Injury Reporting (CAIR) found that fatality rates are highest for older adults, aged 60 and over. In 2012, the fatality rate for older adults was 22.2% compared to adults in the 15-59 age range, which was only 4.2%. However, the good news for both groups, despite a sizable variation in fatality rates, is overall the sector is continuing to see fatality rates decrease at a 1.1% average each year.

Glen Blahey, Agriculture Health and Safety Specialist for the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association (CASA), states it is important for senior farmers and their families to have conversations about aging and discuss making modifications to daily routines to keep everyone safe.

He goes on to stress that as we age, our bodies change. The sense of smell, vision, hearing and touch are likely to experience some decrease in sensitivity. Health concerns like arthritis, low back pain and respiratory conditions can affect a person's ability to farm safely. Aging is not the only factor that can have an impact – other factors like disease, lifestyle and medication use can also influence a person's capability to farm safely.

However, these factors don't mean that a senior farmer is destined for a farm injury. Working smarter, not harder, is a key factor in keeping seniors safe. At any age, whether a young worker, an experienced producer or a senior farmer, working safely means identifying risks and potential hazards and developing a plan to lessen the risk of injury.

Take the time to evaluate your body, your mind and your farm. Take breaks, ask for help and consider slowing down. Be a part of the AgSafe Family. After all, staying safe will help protect you, your family, and your legacy.

For more information on webinars, job safety analysis, safety videos and more – visit www.agsafetyweek.ca.



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 February, 2018 RRO is priced at \$0.05081 per kWh, reflected on your enclosed orange bill. For March, 2018 the RRO is priced at \$0.04561 per kWh.

It is very important to note that your electrical distribution system provider will always be the West Wetaskiwin REA, regardless of who supplies your electricity. Members will not be disadvantaged in any way based on their retailer choice.

For a list of energy retailers, contact the Utilities Consumer Advocate: 310-4-UCA (310-4822) or www.ucahelps.alberta.ca. If you do not have a contract with an electricity retailer, then you are on the default Regulated Rate Option (RRO). The RRO rate is listed on www.westwetaskiwinrea.com

Information on West Wetaskiwin's Code of Conduct Regulation Compliance Plan can be found on our website: www.westwetaskiwinrea.com