

Register for EQUS' Charity Golf Tournament

The 10th annual EQUS Charity Golf Tournament is filling up quickly, so make sure to get your registration in as soon as possible for this sought-after event.

Join us and enjoy nine holes of golf, team prizes, door prizes, a steak lunch and the opportunity to socialize and network with colleagues and friends.

When: Wednesday, July 20, 2016

Where: Gleniffer Lake Resort and Country Club

Cost: \$80 per player or \$300 per foursome

All funds raised from the EQUS Charity Golf Tournament will go to food banks within the EQUS Service Area.

For more information on how to register, please contact Valdene Callin at vcallin@equs.ca or 403.227.7541.



Don't let these teams have all the fun - register your team today!

Annually, EQUS sponsors two individuals (one male and one female) from its membership to attend the Alberta Community and Co-operative Association's (ACCA) Co-operative Youth Leadership Program. EQUS covers the full cost of attending the program for the chosen individuals.

Last summer, EQUS sponsored Tyren Chessor's attendance at the camp.

From the supportive and open relationships developed with fellow campers to the support of the counsellors, Tyren's favourite part of the camp was the positive environment.

"The atmosphere and camaraderie of the camp helped me to come out of my shell and grow," said Tyren. "I became more self-confident and was able to open up and share."

As a veteran attendee of the ACCA camp (Tyren has attended the camp over six summers), he advised that future campers should expect "lots of smiles and

A Summer Tale

memories". This year, Tyren will attend the camp as a first year counsellor and is looking forward to sharing the ACCA camp spirit with campers to ensure they have a positive, supportive and fun camp experience.

The ACCA Co-operative Youth Leadership Program is so much more than a summer camp. It is designed to give youth independence and confidence in their abilities while creating lasting friendships. Tyren remarked, "right when you get off the bus, it's a different world. It is an opportunity to discover and be yourself."

The Co-operative Youth Leadership Program provides an opportunity for youth, ages 11 to 18, to develop their communication, leadership and teamwork skills. These seven day programs take place at Goldeye Centre, located near Nordegg, Alberta.

If you would like an application form for this program, please go to the ACCA website (acca.coop) or contact Valdene Callin at 403.227.7541. **Deadline for sponsorship applications is Wednesday, May 11, 2016.**

Members Matter First Quarter Winner

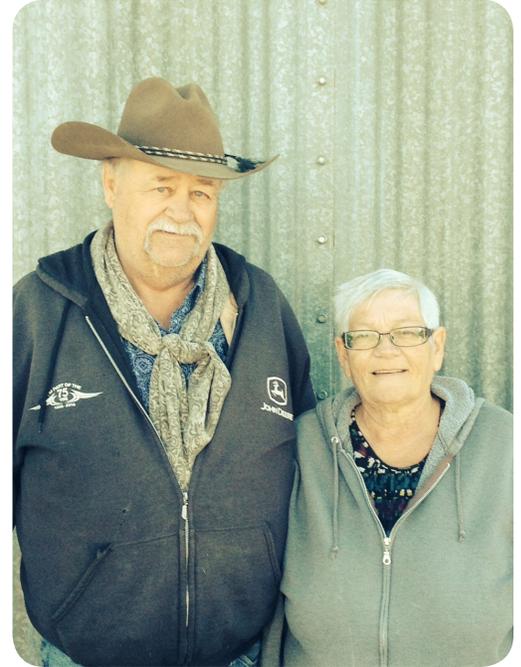
Congratulations to new EQUS members, Dwight and Mary Jean Popson, who are the winners of the Members Matter draw for the first quarter of 2016.

Following their new service construction, the Popsons provided their feedback to EQUS through the Members Matter program. They stated that they appreciated the “efficient and friendly office staff who always took the time to answer our questions”. The Popsons also shared that the crew that built their service were professional and, in the words of Mary Jean, “fabulous”.

You too can be a winner like the Popsons by sharing your feedback with EQUS following a service request or new construction. When EQUS members share their feedback with us they have a chance to win a \$250 power credit, which is drawn quarterly. Any EQUS member who has a service request, construction project or requested vegetation management service completed is eligible for the quarterly draw.

Upon completion of the service, EQUS staff will contact you for your feedback. Member feedback takes just a couple of minutes and provides valuable information to ensure continued member satisfaction and quality of service.

Feedback can be provided over the phone, email, online, fax or by mail. Please ensure that EQUS has the most convenient way to contact you on file. The next Members Matter quarterly draw for a \$250 power credit is June 30.



Above: Congratulations to the Popsons who won a \$250 power credit through EQUS' Members Matter program

Operation Round Up

EQUS is proud to be the first Canadian organization to be granted permission to implement the Operation Round Up program. **On your billing for service to April 15, your Distribution Tariff (distribution plus transmission) is now 'rounded up' to the next dollar. The Operation Round Up amount shows as a separate line item on your bill.**

If you are an EQUS member, no action is required on your part to participate in the Operation Round Up program. If you decide that you wish to be excluded from participation in Operation Round Up, simply contact our Main Office (mail, email or toll-free 1.888.211.4011) and let us know.

On average the contribution by an EQUS member to the Operation Round Up program is about \$6.00 per year. While it is technically 'small change', it can and does build a funding program that can give back to the communities we all call home. If all EQUS members participate in Operation Round Up, we have the potential to contribute over \$65,000 annually to rural initiatives that help seniors and youth!

If you are interested in applying as an Operation Round Up Committee member, please email communications@equs.ca for an application form or call 403.227.3542 ext. 158. **Deadline for applications for the Committee is May 13, 2016.** We will announce the Operation Round Up Committee members in the July newsletter.



Once the Committee is formed, they will meet to determine the funding timelines and a call for applications will occur across EQUS' Service Area to disperse funds to senior and youth initiatives and programs in EQUS' Service Area.

If you have any questions about Operation Round Up, please call the Main Office toll-free at 1.888.211.4011.

EQUS Rate Comparison

EQUS Rural Business (includes farm) vs FortisAlberta Farm Service (Rate 21)

kVA	FortisAlberta	EQUS	Annual Savings with EQUS
5 kVA	\$77.14	\$70.21	\$83.12
7.5 kVA	\$109.20	\$82.60	\$319.24
10 kVA	\$141.27	\$91.18	\$601.08
15 kVA	\$205.40	\$112.05	\$1,120.25
25 kVA	\$333.67	\$151.76	\$2,182.93
50 kVA	\$429.87	\$184.31	\$2,946.73
75 kVA	\$638.31	\$254.84	\$4,601.64
100 kVA	\$846.74	\$325.36	\$6,256.55
150 kVA	\$1,263.61	\$466.41	\$9,566.37
300 kVA	\$2,514.21	\$889.56	\$19,495.82
500 kVA	\$4,181.68	\$1,453.76	\$32,735.08

Note: Farm billing analysis based on 2016 rates. Demand services 50 kVA and above are calculated based on 65% minimum demand. EQUS rates don't include capital investment for new construction.

Highlights from the Annual General Meetings

Thank you to all the members that attended our Annual General Meetings (AGMs) in Lethbridge, Red Deer and Stony Plain. Our AGMs provide us the opportunity to connect with our members and for members to participate in the democratic structure that makes EQUS a power co-operative.

During this year's AGMs, Wanda Okamura, Sid Doornbos and Allan Nimmo were acclaimed to Director positions on EQUS' Board of Directors.

The 2016 Annual General Meeting booklet is available to pick up at the EQUS Area Offices and in the member section of www.equs.ca. EQUS' complete financial statement for 2015 are available for viewing at the Area Offices. To access the member section of www.equs.ca, please contact your Member Services Administrator at 1.888.211.4011 to set up your online access. In the booklet you can find information on EQUS' 2015 financials, a year in review from the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Patricia Bourne and a letter from the Board Chairman Glen Fox.

Photos

Top: On March 30, EQUS Board Chairman Glen Fox presented his Chairman's Report to over 100 EQUS members in attendance at the Red Deer AGM

Middle: On March 29, we recognized Board Member Evert Vandenberg (left) for 10 years of service with the EQUS Board and acknowledged the support from his wife, Wilma (right)

Bottom: Members talk with staff prior to the AGM on March 31 in Stony Plain. At each AGM staff were on hand to talk to members about EQUS various services and initiatives



EQUS' Introduction in the Legislature

Over the past year, EQUS has been working diligently to improve our relationships with the provincial government. We have built relationships with MLAs throughout our Service Area and hosted receptions to increase the awareness of EQUS at the provincial government level. We were very fortunate to have been invited as guests to the Legislature on April 13, where the MLA for Red Deer-North Kim Schreiner introduced EQUS. Below is the introduction that Mrs. Schreiner gave EQUS in the Legislature (from page 540 of the Alberta Hansard from the morning of April 13, 2016).

Introduction of Guests

The Chair: The hon. Member for Red Deer-North.

Mrs. Schreiner: Thank you, Madam Chair, and thank you to the House. It is my pleasure to rise today and introduce to you and through you some of the leadership of the EQUS rural electrification association. EQUS REA provides safe and reliable electric distribution services to commercial and industrial developments, production facilities, and farms throughout 26 Alberta municipal districts and counties and is the largest member-owned utility in Canada. Here today are Glen Fox, board chair; board directors Ed Beniuk, Allan Nimmo, Doug Drozd, Dave Wigmore, Wanda Okamura, Ben Vanden Brink; and CEO Pat Bourne. In my constituency and in many across this province EQUS contributing to a stronger, more diverse, and more prosperous economy, and I thank them for their work. I'd ask them to now stand and receive the traditional warm welcome.

Thank you.

Save the Date - Eco-Solar Tour 2016

This year's Eco-Solar Home Tour will run for two days on the weekend of June 4 and 5, 2016. There are 18 homes (sites) open over the two days participating in the tour. During the tour, you will be able to soak up the first-hand experience of homeowners and other experts with a wide variety of energy and water resource-saving technologies in new construction and retrofit applications.

EQUS members Tim and Lucie Hiens are one of the participating homes and encourage their fellow EQUS members to stop by and see their energy efficient home in Lac Ste Anne County on June 4, which was the winner of the Alberta Home Builders Green Home Award in 2015.

If you are interested in viewing the Hiens' efficient home, details are as follows:

When: Saturday, June 4, 2016

Time: 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Place: 54230 Range Road 40, Lac Ste Anne County

For more information on dates and the complete list of homes participating in the tour, visit www.ecosolar.ca.



Above: Last year, over 100 people toured the Hiens' efficient home during the Eco-Solar Home Tour

It is very important to note that your electrical distribution system provider will always be EQUS, regardless of who supplies your energy. Members who choose to obtain electricity (retail electricity services) from a party other than EQUS will not be disadvantaged or in any way be treated differently by EQUS. For a list of energy retailers, visit www.ucahelps.alberta.ca.

Mailing address: Box 6199, 5803 42 Street, Innisfail, AB T4G 1S8

To report a power outage in your area, or for other services such as construction or vegetation management, please call your local Area Office.

Main Office
Phone: 403.227.4011
Toll-free: 1.888.211.4011
Fax: 403.227.1007

North Area Office
Phone: 780.967.3340
Toll-free: 1.888.627.4011
Fax: 780.967.3018

Central Area Office
Phone: 403.227.7535
Toll-free: 1.877.527.4011
Fax: 403.227.7540

South Area Office
Phone: 403.625.4154
Toll-free: 1.888.565.5445
Fax: 403.625.3569



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