

What's Your REA Story?

We are celebrating our 70th anniversary this year, and would like you and your family to join us at special events in a town near you.

This year marks a very exciting milestone for EQUS – our 70th anniversary! While EQUS has grown over the years with the amalgamations of numerous other Rural Electrification Associations (REAs), the original REA that started our remarkable success was the Blackfalds REA, incorporated in 1947. As Canada's largest member-owned utility, 2017 will mark 70 years of co-operative success! In order to thank our members and celebrate our continued success, we will be holding celebratory events starting this June with our Historical Pancake Breakfasts, coming to a town near you. Enjoy pancakes, sausages, juice and coffee with fellow members. There will also be a gluten-free option available.

We would also love to hear your REA story. What does that mean, exactly? If you or one of your family members was involved in helping bring power to rural Alberta, we want to hear about your experiences at our Pancake Breakfasts. All breakfasts will be held from 9 until 11 a.m. while the BBQ at the AT Walk for a Cure in Fort Macleod will take place from 11:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. These events will be held on the following dates, in a town near you:



Join us for pancakes, sausages, coffee and more at a pancake breakfast near you this June!

- **Wednesday, June 7, 2017 at the Busby Hall in Busby;**
- **Thursday, June 8, 2017 at the Darwell Centennial Hall in Darwell;**
- **Thursday, June 15, 2017 at the PasKaPoo Park Historical Museum in Rimbey;**
- **Friday, June 16, 2017 at the Sundre West Country Centre in Sundre; and**
- **Saturday, June 17, 2017 at the AT Walk for a Cure at Hilltop Dairy in Fort Macleod.**

We will also be holding events at local corn mazes and farms in the fall for your whole family to enjoy. For more information on 70th anniversary events, visit: www.equs.ca/members/events/.



Join us in Celebrating
70 Years

Submit Your Meter Read... Whenever, Wherever

EQUS members are able to submit their meter reads 24/7, 365 thanks to Big Sky, our after-hours answering service.

Members who call after-hours to submit their meter reads will automatically be connected to Big Sky, EQUS' after-hours answering service. Big Sky is able to take meter reads after regular business hours on weekdays, weekends and statutory holidays. Just like EQUS, Big Sky is an Alberta-based company. Members are able to provide their reading just like when they call EQUS during regular business hours: by entering the numbers onto the keypad, or by speaking to a representative directly.

Big Sky's commitment to customer service directly mirrors EQUS' commitment to our members' satisfaction. If a member has any concerns regarding the service they receive after-hours, they can call EQUS directly.

EQUS members also have designated Member Service Administrators (MSAs) who are dedicated to providing personalized service.

What are your other options for submitting meter reads? In addition to over-the-phone, members can submit their meter reads by mail, fax, email, submission via our website or in-person at your Area Office.



Introducing Energy Efficiency Alberta

Energy Efficiency Alberta, the new Government of Alberta agency, is dedicated to helping the province save energy. Read an overview below of their residential programs designed to make it easy to conserve energy. Visit www.energycanada.ca for more information.

Home Improvement Rebate Program

This option offers performance-based rebates on the following: insulation, windows and tankless hot water heaters. The website offers a list of registered contractors to choose from. Your chosen contractor will provide more details and an estimate of your rebate. The more energy your home-improvement project saves, the more money you'll get back in rebates.

The Residential No-Charge Energy Savings Program

This program offers direct, no-charge installation of energy efficient products and is available to all Albertans. The program, managed/delivered by Ecofitt, replaces eligible products at no charge to residents including lightbulbs, programmable thermostats and advanced power bars.

Instant Savings Program

Shop at any one of the 570 participating Alberta retailers and receive the rebate instantly at check-out. Stores will have identified the rebate eligible products which include water measures, timers, smart bars, thermostats, dimmers and LED lights.

Online Savings Rebate Program

To take part in the Online Saving Rebates Program, you would first purchase the eligible rebate product noted on the website (smart thermostats, clothes washers, or refrigerators). When your approved product purchase is complete, simply download an application form from the Efficiency Alberta website and follow the instructions to receive the rebate.



Operation Round Up

The Operation Round Up Committee recently awarded 14 organizations with funding for projects that support children, youth and seniors in our Service Area.

EQUS is pleased to announce the 14 successful recipients of the second quarter of funding for Operation Round Up. The Operation Round Up Committee allocated a total of \$41,980 for this quarter of applications. The funded projects range from a Robotics Engineering program at the Innisfail Public Library to the installation of two fitness parks in Claresholm. These projects support the program's mission, which is to support children, youth and seniors in our Service Area. Congratulations to the following recipients:



- Rimbe Family Community Support Services;
- Onoway Golden Club;
- Dunstable School Council Society;
- Dare to Care;
- Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society Southern Alberta;
- Innisfail Public Library;
- Raymond and District Futures Society;
- The Lending Cupboard;
- Rowan House Society;
- Taber Child Care Society;
- Claresholm and District Chamber of Commerce Society;
- Boys and Girls Club of Airdrie;
- Sheep River Health Trust; and
- Calgary Reads.

Funding for the Operation Round Up program is provided by members who have opted to have their electric bills 'rounded up' to the next highest dollar. Those interested in applying for the next round of Operation Round Up funding should do so before June 30. Funding applications and guidelines are available on our website:

<https://www.equs.ca/community/operation-round-up/>.



An EQUS History Moment

Did you know that prior to electricity, heat levels were controlled on wood-burning stoves by counting pieces of wood as they were being placed into the fire? For example, more wood would be required for boiling or canning foods, as this made for a hotter stove.

In addition to cooking, many household tasks were made easier with the advent of electricity in rural areas.



Be Prepared When Mother Nature Strikes

Summer storm season is upon us, and although we offer our members a 99.9% reliability rating, we cannot control what happens when Mother Nature strikes.

As part of your family's emergency preparedness plan, take advantage of the great product offering that EQUS offers member-owners at cost.

These products include the GenerLink system, an interconnection device that acts as a transfer switch enabling the member to connect a portable generator, such as the Generac Generator, directly to the home's wiring system. Products like these can act as a backup source of electricity during emergencies, ensuring you and your family are comfortable while power is restored.

For more information about these products, including financing options, please call your Area Office.

Time Is Running out... Tee off for Charity!

The 11th Annual EQUUS Charity Golf Tournament has been sold out the last three years, so do not delay, register today.

The 11th Annual EQUUS Charity Golf Tournament is getting set to tee off! We would like to invite you to enjoy a round of golf and help raise funds for our charity-of-choice.

The Tournament will take place on Wednesday, July 19, 2017 at Gleniffer Lake Resort and Country Club. Tickets

are \$90 per person, or \$350 per foursome. All funds raised from the EQUUS Charity Golf Tournament will go to food banks within the EQUUS Service Area.

Enjoy nine holes of golf, team prizes, a steak lunch and the opportunity to socialize and network with colleagues and friends. For more information on how to register, please contact Valdene Callin at vcallin@equus.ca or 403.227.7541.

Celebrating Academic Accomplishments

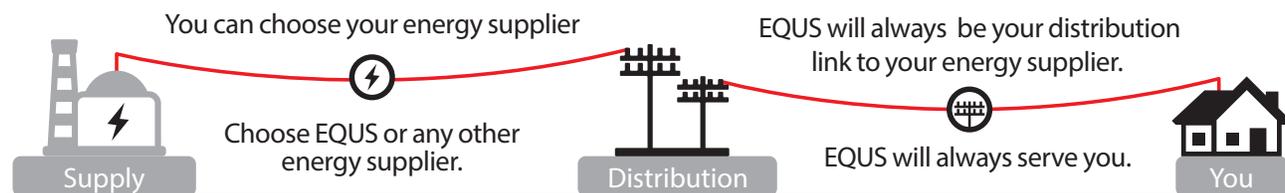
EQUUS offers scholarships to children of our membership on a yearly basis.

EQUUS is offering two \$1,000 scholarships to graduating high school students entering their first year of college or university in the fall of 2017.

The EQUUS Scholarship Program recognizes the academic accomplishments of the children of members and assists the students with their post-secondary education pursuits.

Each year, two \$1,000 scholarships are awarded, one to the top male and one to the top female applicant. Scholarships are awarded on a combination of an applicant's accomplishments, including academic, non-academic, volunteerism and personal endeavours.

For the application guidelines and an application form, visit www.equs.ca/community/scholarships/. If you have any questions, please contact Valdene Callin at 403.227.7541. **The application deadline is August 1, 2017.**



All members are free to purchase electricity services through EQUUS' regulated rate tariff or from a retailer of their choice. 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 EQUUS. For a current list of retailers you may choose from, visit www.ucahelps.alberta.ca or call 310.4822 (toll free in Alberta).

Power Out?

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

North Area Office
1.888.627.4011

Central Area Office
1.877.527.4011

South Area Office
1.888.565.5445

Main Office
1.888.211.4011

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