

## 2018 Member Input Sessions

# Thank You For Attending

**We had over 75 members join us in Stony Plain, Lethbridge and Red Deer.**

As a co-operative, the input and feedback of our member-owners is always important to us, but it is especially so when it comes to developing the strategic plans and priorities that will guide the future of EQUS.

We held one session in each EQUS Service Area with over 75 members joining us for an evening of dinner and discussion. Attendees at these sessions were able to learn about EQUS' strategic plan for 2019 and the next five years from the CEO and Board Chair and were then able to share their feedback and thoughts on the plan directly with them and EQUS staff.

New this year, those who attended were able to participate in an interactive exercise designed to see how EQUS' values align with those of our members. We will share the results of the values exercise in our next newsletter, along with a summary of the feedback we received. We will also be posting the complete results of all the feedback received to the member portal section of our website.

We appreciate those who were able to attend and provided us with such valuable input.



If you were unable to attend this year, but would like to be contacted about the 2019 Member Input Sessions please contact Megan Hanson, Events Specialist at:  
Phone: 403.506.5736  
Email: [mhanson@equs.ca](mailto:mhanson@equs.ca)

**For information on EQUS events please visit:**  
[www.equs.ca/members/events](http://www.equs.ca/members/events)

Get your 2018  
**EQUS Christmas  
Cookie Cutter**

Keep reading to find out how!



Wishing you and yours a  
**Happy Holidays** from all of us at EQUS!



**Seasons Greetings from the festive crew in EQUS' Claresholm Office!**

The Board of Directors, CEO, leadership and staff at EQUS would like to wish you and yours a safe and happy holiday season.

In the co-op spirit of neighbours helping neighbours, EQUS will be accepting donations in the form of any non-perishable food item at all Area Offices this holiday season. Those that bring in donations will receive a 2018 EQUS Christmas cookie cutter and one of our favourite family cookie recipes to share with your family.

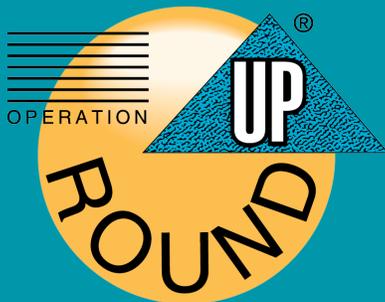
- Donations from the Central Area will go to the 17th Annual Innisfail Food Bank Drive.
- Donations from the North Area Office will go to the Lac St. Anne East Food Bank Society.
- Donations from the South Area Office will go to the County of 40 Mile Food Bank.

EQUS, as always, will be available 24/7 this holiday season and would like to remind members to contact your Area Office in the event of an outage. Updated outage information can be found at [EQUS.ca](http://EQUS.ca) as well as on our Facebook and Twitter.

## Operation Round Up(dates)

Congratulations to the recipients of funding from the third quarter Operation Round Up applications:

- **Youth Empowerment and Support (YES!) Program, Olds** - \$1,000 in funding to build mental health capacity in the community through Dot's Day, a womens empowerment conference focused on health, wellness and strong mother-daughter relationships.
- **Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, Southern Alberta Chapter** - Funding to deliver Nature Education program to rural youth. A \$2,500 donation will bring CPAWS youth education program to five classes, or 125 students, in EQUS' Service Area at no cost to the schools.
- **Olds High School, Olds** - \$1,500 in funding for the Peace Literacy event. The event, for grade 9 students, promotes the development of empathy and respect for themselves and others.



**The deadline for the final round of 2018 funding is December 31, 2018. Programs that benefit youth and seniors in EQUS' Service Area could be eligible to receive up to \$5,000. For more information visit: [equs.ca/community/operation-round-up](http://equs.ca/community/operation-round-up)**



**[communications@equs.ca](mailto:communications@equs.ca)**

# Green Your Energy Consumption With Renewable Energy Credits

Prairie Power Ltd., on behalf of EQUUS, is proud to continue to offer the Renewable Energy Credit program that allows members to 'green' their energy consumption.

## What is a Renewable Energy Credit?

A Renewable Energy Credit (REC) equals one megawatt hour (MWh) of renewable energy. It is generated from a renewable energy source such as wind, solar, geothermal, biomass and other energy sources. RECs are not typically generated from large-scale hydro or nuclear projects. Renewable energy has zero carbon emissions.

## How do RECs work?

Electricity cannot be differentiated by the generation source, so it all goes into a grid and is consumed without delineation. When electricity is generated by renewable resources, there is a Renewable Energy Credit associated with the electricity generation that does not go into the transmission grid, rather the REC is separated from the electricity and can be transacted separately. RECs can move freely to other entities within the geographical market established by the government. Regardless of geographical location, members can purchase RECs that are created anywhere in the province and apply it to green the effects of their electricity consumption. Through the two transactions, the electricity and the REC, the member is able to claim that the electricity they are consuming is from a renewable source.

## Why purchase a REC?

Purchasing a REC is a socially-responsible investment and demonstrates support of renewable energy projects.

## How much does a REC cost?

The price of a REC fluctuates up and down with market supply and demand. The current price for 2019 is \$20 per REC. One REC would provide green coverage for 1,000 kWh of consumption. The cost of the REC is in addition to the cost of electricity. You can green as much or as little of your electricity consumption as you choose to the nearest half of a REC. As an example, if you consume an average of 1,500 kWh in a month, you could "green" approximately 100% of your electricity consumption by purchasing 1.5 RECs, equating to about \$30 (REC price \$20 x 1.5 RECs). You can purchase RECs in increments of one half. The number of RECs you choose to purchase will remain constant for one year (January 2019 to December 2019).



*If you have further questions or have interest in greening your electricity consumption, please contact our Main Office at 403.227.4011. If you are interested in participating in the Prairie Power Ltd. REC Program, please complete the form below and return it to EQUUS by **January 15, 2019**.*

## RENEWABLE ENERGY CREDIT APPLICATION FORM

Member(s) name:	Date:
Account number:	Land location:
Desired volume of RECs per month:	Confirmed monthly volume of RECs:

Volume note: The desired volume of RECs can be any whole or half number (i.e. 0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5). There is no minimum or maximum requirement. The desired volume and resulting emission position of the member is at the sole discretion of the member.

**Price:**  
**\$20/REC**  
**(Canadian \$)**

# Agricultural Financial Services Corporation (AFSC) Expands Lending Program

At EQUS we know that many of our member-owners make their living on their land and we appreciate the hard work of our farmers. We also understand the challenges facing agricultural producers and are happy to share any information that could be helpful, such as the AFSC's October announcement of an increased lending limit for agricultural producers. AFSC's lending program previously provided up to \$5 million in loans to agricultural producers. Under the new, expanded program up to \$15 million will be available to help current producers expand or increase their agricultural operations and to help new producers access capital.

For more information visit [AFSC.ca](http://AFSC.ca), or call 1.877.899.2372.

Reminder:

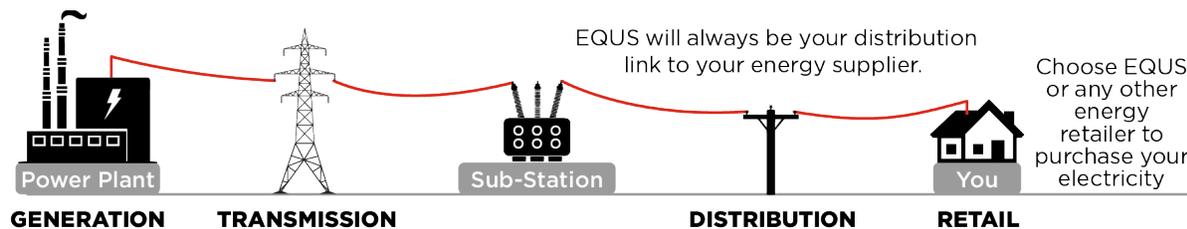
## Board of Director nomination packages are due December 15, 2018!

If you are interested in becoming an EQUS Director the deadline is approaching. Completed nomination packages must be received by December 15, 2018.

For more information contact Marie Grono, Executive Assistant:

Phone: 403.227.7538

Email: [mgrono@equs.ca](mailto:mgrono@equs.ca)



*All members are free to purchase electricity services through EQUS' 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 EQUS. For a current list of retailers you may choose from, visit [www.ucahelps.alberta.ca](http://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.

Main Office

1.888.211.4011

North Area Office

1.888.627.4011

Central Area Office

1.877.527.4011

South Area Office

1.888.565.5445

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

  
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