

Construction Set to Begin on **EQUS' New Main Office**

Construction is about to begin on EQUS' new Main Office in Innisfail. The new building will be used by EQUS' Corporate staff, a team which currently consists of 35 employees. The new building is located on 2.5 acres with exposure to Highway 2 and, at double the size of the current building that houses both Corporate and Central Area staff, it has room for future growth.

"We are very excited to have our first real corporate office. As EQUS has grown over the years we have continued to add more people into the same space which has resulted in us separating staff and being unable to host meetings. Even the Board of Directors has to meet elsewhere.

We are looking forward to finally bringing our Corporate team together under one roof and giving our Central Area staff more space to meet and work in the current facility."

- Patricia Bourne, EQUS CEO

The new office is expected to be ready in the Spring of 2020 and will incorporate elements of EQUS' past, present and future.

Local general contractor Camdon Construction was selected to complete the build following a request for proposals that was issued earlier this year.

Join us for the Groundbreaking Ceremony!

EQUS invites members to join the Board of Directors as well as invited guests, including the Mayor of the Town of Innisfail, for a groundbreaking ceremony at the site of the new building.

Date: Friday May 24, 2019

Time: 10 a.m.

Location: 5120 40 Avenue, Innisfail
(lot immediately north of Innisfail Chrysler)





Pancake Breakfasts are back again!

We'll be coming to a community
near you in June

EQUS invites all of our members to join us at our Third Annual Pancake Breakfasts throughout the month of June. EQUS staff will be serving up pancakes, sausages, coffee and juice to EQUS members. EQUS Board of Directors and Area Office Staff will be available at each event to talk and answer any questions members may have.

The free pancake breakfasts will be served at several locations throughout the EQUS Service Area, so join us at whichever is most convenient for you.

- Evansburg: June 12, 8 until 10 a.m. at the Evansburg Legion (4823 50 Street)
- Darwell: June 13, 11 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at Darwell School (54229 Highway 765)
- Rimbey: June 18, 8 until 10 a.m. at PasKaPoo Park (5620 51 Street)
- Pine Lake: June 20, 8 until 10 a.m. at Crossroads Ag Park #10 (36366 RR252, Red Deer County)



South Area Members:

In lieu of a Pancake Breakfast, South Area EQUS members are invited to join us as we sponsor the AT Walk for a Cure and serve a free BBQ lunch to EQUS members and walk participants.

The 2019 AT Walk for a Cure will be happening rain or shine on Saturday, June 15 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at Hilltop Dairy near Fort Macleod. (TWP 94045 HWY 811)

All EQUS members are invited to participate in the walk or just join us for lunch which will be served from noon until 2 p.m.

Second Quarter Transmission Rate

Quarterly update on
transmission charges

Effective on your April 30 billing, your transmission rate increased. The FortisAlberta AUC approved rate, which is applicable for REAs, for Q2 of 2019 is 4.7397¢/kWh. Included in the calculation of this rate is:

- a 2019 Balancing Pool Allocation Rider (BPAR), which is a charge;
- a Transmission Adjustment Rider (TAR), which is a charge; and
- the Quarterly Transmission Adjustment Rider (QTAR), which is a charge.

This rate reflects a 2.44% increase from Q1 of 2019.



communications@equs.ca

2019 BOARD CHAIR REPORT



Glen Fox - Board of Directors Chair

As a co-operative, the involvement and participation of EQUUS' member-owners is what sets us apart and makes us stronger. The success of EQUUS is a direct reflection on our members and the shared values, vision and beliefs that drive our co-operative.

'Shaping the future' has been a recurring theme woven throughout much of the past year for EQUUS as we look ahead to 2019 and beyond with our strategic planning. The Board of Director's confidence in EQUUS' CEO, Patricia Bourne, the Executive Leadership team and staff will allow us to grow, to continue to challenge the status quo and to shape EQUUS' role in the economic future of rural Alberta.

The future of EQUUS involves the deployment of exciting new technology, an understanding of the unique challenges and opportunities that are part of life in rural Alberta and the willingness and expertise required to overcome those challenges while seeking out and capitalizing on opportunities. The confidence that you, our member-owners, have in us has enabled the development of a strategic plan that will continue to bring efficiencies to our co-operative and allow us to move forward with a vision that will secure our future.

After a successful pilot project in 2018 that saw the deployment of a unique ultra-rural mesh network and automated meters that were tested with several members, we are excited to share that EQUUS is moving ahead with the installation of automated metering infrastructure. This technology will allow for better outage management, distribution automation, improved system reliability, enable micro-generation and opens the door for exciting potential business opportunities in the future. The deployment of this system, and the innovative technology behind it, demonstrates our continued commitment to positioning EQUUS as Alberta's rural electrical distribution experts.

Throughout 2018 the Board of Directors has worked to actively engage government officials, sharing the issues that are important to us and to our future and advocating for consumer choice in distribution services. As part of our government relations strategy we hosted several events in 2018 for MLAs and for municipal and county officials where Directors were able to network, build relationships and inform on key issues that will affect EQUUS and its members. Further strategic development of our government relations will allow us to continue to advocate for our members and to ensure that we are able to compete fairly in our market now and in the years to come.

It's also important to remember that the value of our co-op is greater than just rates and providing consumer choice. Collectively we are providing funding and supporting development in the rural communities where we live and serve. In 2018, Operation Round Up contributed over \$48,000 to 17 organizations with programs that provide services to youth and seniors in our Service Area. Programs like the Onoway Golden Club's Generations Project, which brings school kids and seniors together to teach and learn skills like cooking, sewing and how to use tablets and other devices. The EQUUS Community Connection, which raises funds mostly through internal events, was able to provide \$30,000 to Kids Help Phone to launch a mental health support texting program and promote it in schools in EQUUS' Service Area, as well as collecting food bank donations and gifts for local families in need over the holidays.

Without the contributions of our members, staff, board, business and community partners we wouldn't be able to give this valuable support to organizations that provide services and create a positive impact in rural communities. I would also like to thank the EQUUS members who give their personal time to sit on the Operation Round Up and Scholarship committees. These volunteers ensure that EQUUS members' money is distributed responsibly and that it makes a difference in rural Alberta.

I had the great pleasure of meeting and talking with many EQUUS members over the past year at the Member Barbeques, Pancake Breakfasts, Family Fun Days, Member Input Sessions and at the grand opening of our new Medicine Hat Facility. The commitment and participation of our members inspires us, the Board of Directors, as well as EQUUS Leadership and employees to continue to strive to provide the high quality service and co-operative values that set us apart.

As we turn our focus to shaping EQUUS' future, I would like to leave you with this quote from author Catherine Pulsifer: *"You are the best author of your own future."*

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the EQUUS Board of Directors,

Glen Fox
EQUUS Board Chair

REMINDER: EQUUS GOLF TOURNAMENT



Join us at the 13th Annual Charity Golf Tournament

**72 GOLFERS - 18 TEAMS!
JULY 17, 2019, INNISFAIL GOLF CLUB**

EQUUS invites you to join us for the 13th Annual Charity Golf Tournament, benefitting mental health initiatives in our Service Area.

Enjoy nine holes of golf, a steak lunch, team prizes and the opportunity to socialize for a worthwhile cause. Be sure to register early as spots are limited, the 2018 tournament was sold out early!

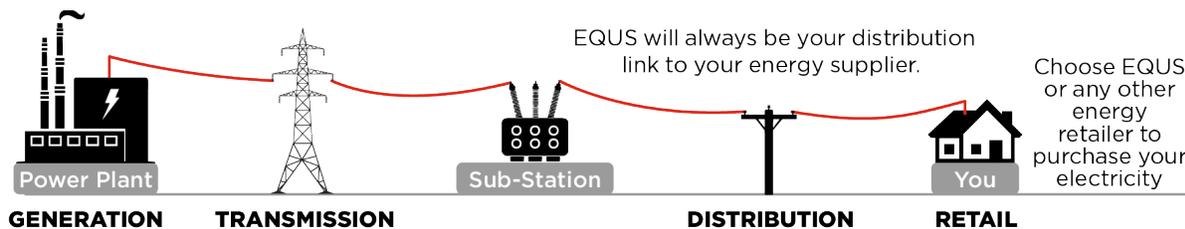
To register or for information on sponsorship opportunities contact Megan Hanson, Event Specialist at 403.506.5736 or email mhanson@equs.ca

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



EQUUS is proud to welcome Altec Industries Ltd. as our returning tournament title sponsor for 2019.

The EQUUS Annual Charity Golf Tournament has a variety of other sponsorships opportunities for you and your business to get involved and help support mental health initiatives in our Service Area.



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.

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

EQUUS

DELIVERING MORE THAN **POWER**