



# Battle River POWER COOP

MEMBER OWNED • COMMUNITY POWERED



## 2023 Annual General Meeting

You are invited to the Battle River Power Coop Annual General Meeting on Thursday, June 15, 2023 at the Norsemen Inn (6505 48 Avenue, Camrose).

Tickets for the AGM are \$5.00/person. Early registration will begin at 3:30 p.m. at the Norsemen Inn, with the banquet scheduled for 5:00 p.m., and the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

We encourage members wanting to attend to reserve tickets ahead of time by phoning 1.877.428.3972 or email [brpc@brpower.coop](mailto:brpc@brpower.coop).



### Government Energy Rebate Extension

The Government energy rebate program will have its final payment for 2023 for the April bill cycle. For April, 2023 the final rebate amount will be \$25.00.

### An Important Message from the Alberta Government

As of March 31, 2023, any costs above the 13.5 cent price ceiling that was offered between January and March 31, 2023 will be repaid over 21 months (April 2023 to December 2024).

For more information, visit <https://www.alberta.ca/affordability-programs.aspx>

## Call for Nominations

By statute, Battle River Power Coop is required to hold elections for five Director positions on the Board, annually. The incumbent Directors up for re-election in 2023 are letting their names stand, while supporting the democratic election process for all challengers.

Battle River Power Coop is calling YOUR name to join our Board!

Are you passionate about issues concerning rural Alberta? Are you interested in an opportunity to contribute to your community and your Coop?

If this sounds like you, call (780) 672-7738 today and we will send you the nomination package or find our nomination package on our website.

**Deadline for applications is Friday, April 28, 2023.**

# New Rules for Alberta Drivers to Take Effect in 2023

Starting in 2023, motorists will face stricter speed restrictions to better protect roadside workers in Alberta.

Amendments to the Traffic Safety Act passed last spring means that all motorists traveling in the same direction on multi-lane roads will have to slow down to 60 km/h, or the posted speed limit (whichever is lower), when passing any emergency vehicle, tow truck, road crew and snowplows operators with flashing lights.

Currently, the law only requires drivers in the lane adjacent to the roadside to slow to 60 km/h.

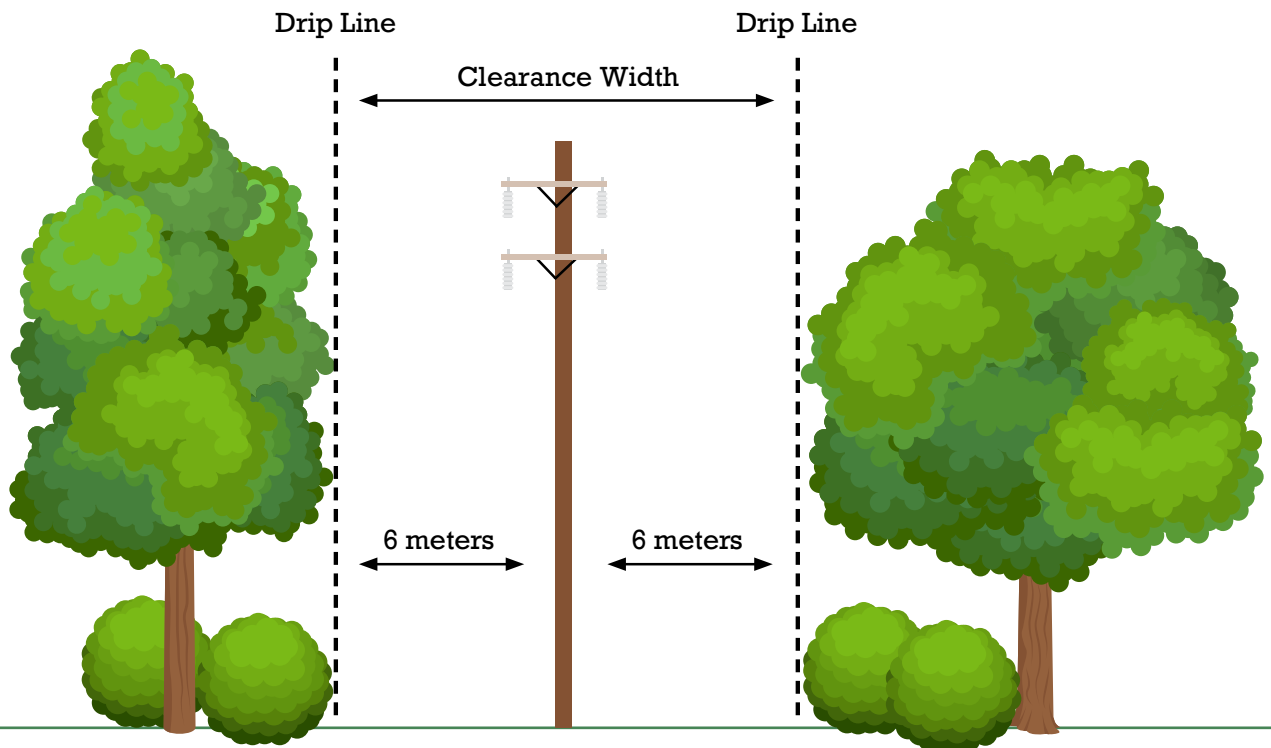
In 2022, fines for passing an emergency vehicle on the side of the road ranged from \$136 to \$826, depending on the speed.

Motorists traveling in either direction on single-lane roads will now also be required to slow down to 60 km/h, or the posted speed limit (whichever is lower), when passing workers with flashing lights.



- ▶ law enforcement
- ▶ ambulance
- ▶ fire
- ▶ towing
- ▶ passing workers with flashing lights

## Know Where To Plant | Utility Right of Way and Tree Planting



- A utility right of way (ROW) provides immediate service access to electrical equipment.
- For your safety and easy access to the equipment for utilities, do not build, change the grade of the land or plant trees within the ROW.
- The drip line is the area directly located under the outer circumference of the tree branches.
- The drip line is the guide measurement used to create access for utility companies to service their equipment. This is important for Powerline Technicians to be able to get their bucket trucks and diggers to be able to service power poles and lines for maintenance and planned and unplanned outages.

# New MVP Business



Battle River Power Coop is proud to support local businesses through our Member Value Program (MVP)!

This month's MVP business spotlight is Fountain Tire.

**Discount on tires: Passenger and Light Truck = 8%**

**Medium Truck = 6%**

**Retread, Farm or Specialty = 6%**

**Mechanical parts = 5%**

To access this discount, members must refer to account 004C00010955 and must present their Membership Benefit Card. Cash account – members pay as they go.

Thank you to all the businesses who have offered savings to our members! Keep an eye on our website under Community as we continue to add businesses as they join.

## Member Survey - Illumina Research Partners

Battle River Power Coop will be initiating a member survey once again in April 2023. The survey will be administered by phone and will take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete.

This survey is an important tool that helps us to ensure that the level of service we provide is meeting the needs and expectations of our member-owners. The information gathered will be an important tool for Battle River Power Coop to continue being the “smart choice for electricity delivery in rural Alberta.”

We appreciate the time you take to answer the survey. The personal information collected through the survey will be used to evaluate the quality of Battle River Power Coop's electric distribution to our member-owners and provide strategic planning initiatives. The collection of this information is authorized under the Personal Information Protection Act and in accordance with Battle River Power Coop's Code of Conduct.



# Tips from the Line

1

The drip line is the area located under the outer circumference of the tree branches.

2

This guideline is important for Powerline Technicians to be able to get their bucket trucks and diggers in to service power poles and lines for maintenance as well as planned and unplanned outages.

## Message from the Board of Directors

For the past 3 months, the Alberta Government implemented a price cap on regulated rate option (RRO) energy prices that saw energy prices frozen at 13.5 cents per kilowatt hour. As of March 31, 2023, this price cap will be removed and any forecasted costs above the 13.5 cent price ceiling that was offered between January and March 31, 2023 will be repaid by members on RRO over 21 months (April 2023 to December 2024).

On the heels of the energy cap being removed, the Alberta Government has announced a provincial review of the Regulated Rate Option (RRO) – the default electricity option for consumers who do not want, or are unable, to sign a contract to sign a fixed contract with a competitive retailer.

Premier Danielle Smith stated, “[w]e’ve got to do something more to make sure that they have a lot more price stability. So we’re going to be figuring out the best way to phase that rate out.”

“As part of this review, we will be working with industry and others to examine various options, including around the future of the RRO, to ensure the needs of Albertans are being met,” said Andrea Farmer, a spokesperson for the Ministry of Affordability and Utilities. So far, there has been no final decisions on the future of the Regulated Rate Option.\*

Battle River Power Coop has always had the interests of our members at the forefront of our business; therefore, any changes to the Regulated Rate Option will be communicated with our members through all of our media channels – our monthly newsletter and social media platforms, as the information becomes available.

\* Source: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/regulated-rate-option-electricity-alberta-1.6781057>

## Stay Up to Date with Battle River Power Coop

If you have had any changes to phone numbers, email addresses, mailing address or wish to add other contact details to your account, please connect with us toll-free at 1.877.428.3972 or email: [brpc@brpower.coop](mailto:brpc@brpower.coop) and we will ensure your account is updated.

Other ways you can stay in the loop with Battle River Power Coop:

- **Visit our website [www.brpower.coop](http://www.brpower.coop).** The website offers on-line account access for members to review their accounts.
- Battle River Power Coop also communicates on popular social media platforms – **Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube.**
- **Download our Outage App** from the Google Play or Apple Store. Our Outage App is updated with the most current information on outages in our service area.

### Want to help others learn about our Cooperative?

Scan the QR Code with your phone’s camera, click on the link, and leave us a review!



## REGULATED RATE OPTION



*The 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 it is a default rate. If you do not have an energy contract, then you are on the RRO.*

*For March 2023, the RRO is priced at \$0.13500 per kWh, reflected on your enclosed blue bill. For April 2023, the REA monthly rate as calculated under the RRO regulation is \$0.15083. Detailed information on the monthly RRO is available on: [www.brpower.coop](http://www.brpower.coop).*

**Members are free to purchase natural gas services or electricity services from a retailer of their choice. For a list of retailers, visit [ucahelps.alberta.ca](http://ucahelps.alberta.ca) or call 310-4822 (toll free in Alberta). Code of Conduct Regulation: Advertising Section 7(1).**

**BATTLE RIVER POWER COOP IS AVAILABLE FOR POWER TROUBLE CALLS 24/7/365 CALL TOLL-FREE: 1.877.428.3972**

