

### Long Term Member Spotlight



#### Elvin and Jan Kopp

Elvin and Jan Kopp moved to That'll Do Ranch in the Battle River Valley in December, 1981. The Kopp family has lived on the same ranch ever since, and have been West Wetaskiwin REA members for 44 years.

Elvin and Jan have two children. Graham and his wife Zoe reside in Red Deer, Lindsey, her husband Wyatt and their four children, also live in the Battle Lake area.

Over the years, Elvin and Jan have embraced several agricultural related activities. In addition to breeding and selling purebred Angus cattle for 20 years, Elvin and Jan currently maintain a rotational grazing operation, including owned and custom fed grass cattle. They also supply cattle for the Black Elk Cutting Horse competition at the Calnash Ag Event Center in Ponoka.

In 1982, Elvin started raising, training and selling purebred Border Collie's, which continues now under the watchful eye of daughter Lindsey. Elvin's proficiency and expertise has led him to participate in many competitions in Canada and the United States. From that proficiency, Elvin has also judged many competitions and has produced a series of training videos together with Olds College. He currently conducts seminars at his ranch for anyone wishing to perfect their skills in stock dog training and handling.

Elvin and Jan, together with Lindsey and Wyatt, also raise and train purebred Quarter Horses. Elvin's focus is on raising and training cutting horses, while Lindsey's focus is on barrel racing horses.

The West Wetaskiwin REA is grateful for their longstanding membership.



#### Gary & Julie Schmidt

Gary and Julie moved to the Mulhurst area as young children together with their families. Gary arrived from Saskatchewan, Julie from British Columbia. They later married and have lived on their current farm since 1967. Four

generations of the Schmidt family have been REA members since 1953, the year electricity came to their area.

They have two sons, Ian married to Corei, and Doug married to Shannon, and they enjoy five grandchildren all of whom live close by. As Gary and Julie near retirement, their son Ian has taken over the family farm and business operation.

In addition to farming with his father, the earlier years saw Gary working on seismic crews in Northern Alberta in the winter. From 1972 through 1990, Gary worked for Texaco/Imperial Oil in the Bonnie Glan plant and field in different capacities. After leaving Texaco in 1990, Gary farmed full time and continued to work in the oilfield. In addition, Gary and Julie started Schmidt Oilfield Lease Maintenance, now operated by Ian.

Gary has served as a volunteer on the Mulhurst Fire Department for 30 years beginning in 1994. For five of his 30 years with the department, he was Deputy Fire Chief. Gary also committed many volunteer hours to the Lakedell Ag Society in planning and working at events for a significant number of years.

While all of this was going on, Julie worked as a Lab Technician at the Wetaskiwin General Hospital for 43 years.

In the summer, Gary and Julie enjoy golfing, gardening, and maintaining their flower beds and yard. Gary continues to help in the farming operation and works in the oilfield for Petrus.

The West Wetaskiwin REA is grateful to the Schmidt family for their longstanding membership.

#### For Power Troubles:

Battle River Power Coop (our distribution system operator)  
Toll-free: 1-877-428-3972

#### For RRO Billing and Account Inquiries:

Battle River Power Coop | Box 1420 Camrose, Alberta T4V 1X3  
Toll-free: 1-877-428-3972  
E-mail: brpc@brpower.coop | Website: www.brpower.coop

#### For REA Inquiries, New Service and Service Change Requests:

Contact West Wetaskiwin REA, RR #1  
Station Main, Wetaskiwin, Alberta T9A 1W8  
Tel: 780-335-9378 (WEST)

E-mail: westwet@telus.net | Website: [www.westwetaskiwinrea.com](http://www.westwetaskiwinrea.com)

For service requests: go to [www.westwetaskiwinrea.com/new-or-changes-to-services.html](http://www.westwetaskiwinrea.com/new-or-changes-to-services.html)

# Protecting Our Members: March is Fraud Prevention Month

West Wetaskiwin REA stands vigilant in safeguarding our members against fraudulent activities. With March being recognized as Fraud Prevention Month, it's crucial to reinforce our commitment to your security.

We want to remind all our valued members that we will only reach out to you through official channels. This includes our verified phone numbers and email addresses. Any unsolicited communication claiming to be from us, especially those requesting personal or financial information, should be treated with caution.

It's essential to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity to us immediately. By staying informed and proactive, we can work together to keep our community safe from fraud.

At West Wetaskiwin REA, your security is our top priority. Let's continue to stand united in protecting each other against fraud. Together, we can create a safer and more secure environment for all.



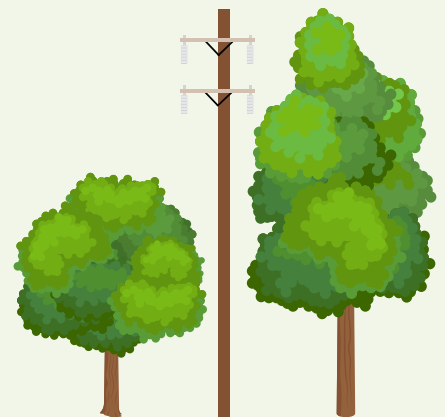
## Updated Electric Service Contract Coming

Our ever changing industry has revealed gaps in our current Electric Service Contract (ESC) which need to be rectified. The ESC has been revised over the last year, and we will be sending out new contracts with the intent to have every member sign an up-to-date ESC.



## Reminder:

When planting vegetation, please do not plant large trees, such as spruce trees, underneath power lines. Spruce trees can reach heights of 60 to over 100 feet. This poses a significant risk of interference with power lines, leading to potential hazards and power outages.



Rate  
of Last  
Resort  
(RoLR)



The Rate of Last Resort (RoLR) is a fixed monthly rate set at \$0.13500 per kWh until the end of December 2026. Detailed information on the RoLR is available on: [www.westwetaskiwinrea.com](http://www.westwetaskiwinrea.com).

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).