



member owned. member driven.

# Creating Partnerships and Opportunities

Introduction to Sturgeon County Council

May 22, 2018



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# Who we are

## Our History

- Local Member Owned Utility
- Initially formed to bring rural power to farms
- Promotes social and economic advantages
- Stimulates rural based employment and support to local economy
- NPP formed through amalgamation of four smaller REA's in 2000

# Our Structure

## What we look like

- Own and maintain power poles and lines in operating area
  - Morinville to Lac La Biche
  - ~2,200 miles of line and over 40,000 power poles
- Self-operating REA
  - Board of Directors (8)
  - Staff members (13)
- Wholly owned and partially owned subsidiaries
  - Northern Lights Energy & Power
  - Alberta Cooperative Energy (ACE)

# Self Operating REA

## Prudent Management

- Board authority or governance
- Standards Bylaw & Terms & Conditions of Service (as approved by Rural Utilities)
- Strategic plan
- Policies
- Operating standards
- Safety standards
- Competitive rate design
- Trained staff (including 7 Journeyman Power Lineman)
- Reserves for emergent and capital needs
- Asset management framework and supporting capital plans
- Code of conduct compliance and annual filing
- Loyalty program

# Our members investment... ...re-invested in 2017

## Sponsorships

- Annual contributions provided to community groups
- **\$13,285 re-invested in the community**



- TEAM
- Stars Radway
- Redwater Library
- Thorhild Library
- Lac La Biche Safety Awareness
- Town of Gibbons programs
- Newbrook Ag & Rec Society
- Newbrook Range Riders
- The Lunch Box Café (school)
- Town of Bon Accord Equinox
- Sturgeon Unity Singers
- Mark Spector Tournament – kids sports equipment
- Thorhild Arena
- ACCA Youth Leadership

# Investing in the Community



- Parade participation in Thorhild, Morinville and Lac La Biche
- Seniors appreciation in Gibbons and Bon Accord
- Thorhild Legion Remembrance Day
- Graduate recognition in newsprint
- Member Appreciation BBQ's – Thorhild and Lac La Biche
- Loyalty program discounts – coops and retailers

# How are we alike?

## Similarities

- Not for profit
- Municipal Government Act – Rural Utilities Act
- Reeve & Councillors – Chairman & Board of Directors
- Taxpayers – Members Owners
- Services provided for the benefit of residents/members
- Cost accountability

# It makes sense to consider partnering

## Opportunity exploration

- Loyalty program – current arrangement
- Solar development
  - Municipal – provincial grant program for small-scale community generation, energy-efficiency upgrades for buildings, etc.
  - Partnering with local businesses
  - Design, build and service
  - Grant writing support
- Broadband
- Enhancing existing projects
  - Waste heat, solar farms, etc.
- Emergency management response and training





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# Other discussion items

- Linear assessment
- Impact of Solar on assessment
- Capacity Market potential impact
- Grants for new services