

FortisAlberta launches new ag safety video

Campaign to help address growing concern over agricultural power line contacts

In recent years, the height of new farm equipment has grown while many power lines have remained the same.

Because of this, farmers and ranchers need to be especially aware of clearances under power lines that run through, under and alongside their yards and fields.

FortisAlberta recently produced a power line safety video targeted to Alberta farmers and ranchers. The video shows a variety of common agricultural scenarios involving the potential for power line contacts, and what considerations and actions must be taken to ensure farmers' and ranchers' safety. This includes contacting Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation to get a permit for transporting loads more than 4.15 metres in height down any public road or highway.

"Many of our farm customers have been working the same piece of land for generations safely passing under power lines," said Doug Skippen, FortisAlberta's Manager of Health and Safety.

"As farmers upgrade their equipment they

sometimes forget to take into account the size of the new equipment and suddenly power lines that they have passed under with no problems for years now becomes a problem and contacts occur."

In 2010, there were 250 public contacts with FortisAlberta's power lines, 39 of which involved agricultural equipment such as air seeders, air sprayers and grain augers.

"We encourage farmers and ranchers to always contact FortisAlberta or their local electricity provider if they are not 100 per cent positive about specific power line clearances," said Skippen.

"It is better to take the extra time to ensure your safety rather than take unnecessary risks to get the job done quickly and endanger your life and the life of others."

The video also demonstrates proper safety procedures to take in the event of a power line contact to eliminate the potential for injury and death.

The video is currently available for viewing at fortisalberta.com: http://www.fortisalberta.com/data/1/rec_docs/FortisAg640x360.wmv

FortisAlberta is also producing DVD copies that will be distributed through Alberta agricultural societies and shown at Agri-Trade in Red Deer in November.

- SPECIAL TO THE CANADIAN



QMI AGENCY

FortisAlberta recently produced a power line safety video targeted to Alberta farmers and ranchers.



When you make influenza immunization an annual event, you protect yourself, your family, and our community.



Influenza Immunization

Fall into the routine

Influenza Immunization is now available, free of charge, for all Albertans 6 months of age and older.

Upcoming Clinics

Date/Time		Location
Wednesday, Oct. 26	1:00pm – 7:00pm	Camrose Regional Exhibition
Thursday, Oct. 27	1:00pm – 7:00pm	4250 Exhibition Drive (Camrose)
Wednesday, Oct. 26	1:00pm – 7:00pm	Daysland Community Hall 4602 – 51 Street (Daysland)
Saturday, Oct. 29 (By Appointment only)	9:00am – 3:30pm	Camrose Public Health
Saturday, Nov. 5 (Drop In Clinic)	9:30am – 3:30pm	5510 – 46 Avenue (Camrose)
Tuesday, Nov. 1	9:30am – 3:30pm	
Wednesday, Nov. 9	1:00pm – 7:00pm	Camrose Norseman Inn
Thursday, Nov. 10	1:00pm – 7:00pm	6505 – 48 Avenue (Camrose)
Tuesday, Nov. 15	9:30am – 3:30pm	
Thursday, Nov. 17	10:00am – 2:00pm	Bashaw Community Centre 5020 – 52 Street (Bashaw)

Please bring Alberta Health Care Card. Short sleeves recommended.

For more info, including local clinic details, visit www.albertahealthservices.ca or call HealthLink Alberta at 1.866.408.5465 (LINK).



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