

Bulletin 2026-04

April 21, 2026

Updates to Indigenous honoraria in Rule 009

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) has finalized the Indigenous honoraria table introduced on an interim basis in [Rule 009: Rules on Intervener Costs](#), Appendix A: Scale of costs, with minor updates.

The AUC is committed to ensuring that Indigenous groups, whose constitutionally protected rights may be directly and adversely affected by proposed developments, have their concerns heard, considered, understood and accommodated (if required). In support of these goals, the AUC issued [Bulletin 2025-16](#) establishing a consultation and engagement process on interim amendments to Appendix A: Scale of costs to introduce Indigenous honoraria to clarify the availability of cost recovery for Elders and Knowledge Holders who provide expert evidence on traditional land use, environmental studies or participate in oral Indigenous knowledge sessions. These amendments also include professional fees for consultation coordinators and staff who support Indigenous groups' involvement in AUC proceedings.

Between November 2025 and January 2026, the AUC held an in-person workshop with First Nations, conducted one-on-one virtual sessions with two Métis groups and provided an opportunity for written feedback both through the completion of an online questionnaire and submission of letters. Feedback was received from six First Nations, two Métis groups, ENMAX, the Alberta Electric System Operator and two general public respondents.

Feedback was largely supportive of the interim amendments with several Indigenous groups indicating that the eligible amounts were an improvement and will enable them to participate in the AUC's regulatory process. In some cases, specific changes were proposed to enhance clarity and expand the types of personnel eligible for cost recovery. Some of the submissions also suggest that the AUC could do more to ensure that its cost recovery process is well understood by all participants. The AUC will contact those groups to provide additional information on the AUC's cost recovery process and offer training opportunities.

Based on the feedback received, the AUC has finalized the Indigenous honoraria introduced in Appendix A: Scale of costs, with the following minor updates:

Indigenous honoraria	
Elders and knowledge holders providing expert evidence during a proceeding (i.e., e.g., Traditional Land Use and/or environmental studies, participation in Oral Indigenous Knowledge sessions and hearings, etc)	\$500 each per day or part thereof
Consultation coordinators, and technical staff and language experts providing expertise to facilitate the Indigenous groups' participation in the proceeding	Professional fees table above applies

The AUC thanks parties for their participation in the consultation process. The feedback received was valuable and helped shape the final amendments.

Any questions related to this bulletin may be directed to info@auc.ab.ca.

Alberta Utilities Commission