

Communication – the Bruderheim Telephone Exchange

Telephone services became available to Bruderheim residents around 1910. The provincial government established rural lines across the province, the charge being fifteen dollars per year, per service, plus a toll charge per call. Twelve subscribers were on one line, with three lines servicing the Bruderheim area. Day service was from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm, Monday through Saturday; Sundays and holidays from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon. The operator was on 24 hour call in case of an emergency. The initial exchange was in Freifeld's store with Pearl Freifeld as the first operator. Many of the families and businesses in the village had telephones at that time. With the onset of the depression years, many subscribers discontinued use of their telephones, and with too few supporters, the Bruderheim Exchange was closed in 1935. The exchange board was transferred to the Fort Saskatchewan exchange.



Lydia (Rosnau) Kupsch in the telephone exchange, 1915.