



# THE SPARK

## ECAA E-Newsletter

November 2, 2012

Issue 22

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[www.ecaa.ab.ca](http://www.ecaa.ab.ca)

### Calendar of Events

*November 8th  
PEC Breakfast Meeting  
Code Seminar  
Calgary Chapter Meeting  
Blackfoot Inn*

*November 8th & 9th  
Revised Project  
Management Course  
Carriage House Inn*

*November 9th & 10th  
Accounting Principles*

### NOVEMBER/2012

#### Welcome to ECAA's E-Newsletter, The Spark!

This e-newsletter was created to keep members informed on the Association's activities and upcoming events in a timely manner.

#### President's Message

Snooow, shoot. Not ready for this. Looks like, white out there. Well I guess we were bound to get this sooner or later and hopefully it doesn't stay so life will go on.



Kelly Wilde

Had the opportunity to go to Lloydminster to their chapter meeting and had a chance to address a few of the concerns of the members there. I thought the meeting went quite well, but I guess there are still some misunderstandings with certain things. Let me reassure everyone in the chapter that the Board and I are listening and we are working to make sure all of your issues are addressed. Anything that may not have been understood will get rectified. I want to let all of the members know that we as a Board will do everything in our power to resolve issues. They may not always be the answers or results that we are looking for but we'll keep at it until it is or we absolutely can't do any more. Should you have concerns please feel free to contact me so that we can discuss them and try to get them resolved.

Also went to the Careers the Next Generations' 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala in Fort McMurray. Was very well attended and got to meet a couple of the members there. Was a pleasure to meet incoming Chapter President, Joe MacNeil from Laird Electric, and Curtis Williams from Quality Electric and his wife, Adrianna. Hope I get to meet a few more members and perhaps attend a chapter meeting in the new year.

Next we met with POARA and a few representatives from Municipality Associations and the City of Edmonton to discuss section 40 of the POARA

*Carriage House Inn*

*November 19th  
PEC Breakfast Meeting  
Code Seminar  
Chateau Nova*

*November 19th  
Edmonton Chapter  
Meeting  
Chateau Louis*

*November 21st  
Lethbridge Chapter  
Meeting  
Lethbridge Lodge*

*November 24th  
STARS Gala  
Chateau Crowne Plaza*

*November 29th & 30th  
Business & Public  
Relations course  
ECAA Boardroom*

*December 6th  
ECAA Xmas Open House  
ECAA Office*

*December 7th  
CREC Xmas Luncheon  
Marriott River Cree,  
Edmonton*

## Tradeshows

***Thank you to Gordon  
Badach, PEC for  
volunteering at the  
Career Fair in Fort  
Saskatchewan***

## Join Our List

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## Social Networking

legislation. This Act states that if you meet the requirements of a member under the Professional Electrical Contractors and Master Electricians Regulation that no municipality has the right to charge that member for a business license for the field of work that that member engages in. That's not the exact wording but you get the idea. This was a very good meeting that saw all sides walk away with a better understanding of the Act and how it works. It is very good for our PEC members who do work as a sole proprietor. If you would like more information contact myself or Sheri and we will explain it to you properly.

Signed the lease this week for our new offices which we hope to be in to by March 1<sup>st</sup>. Lots of work to do and I will be calling on some of you to help us out.

I will be off later in the month to Lethbridge for their chapter meeting. Hope to see all the members and hope that if you know any of the contractors around there that you tell them to come out for the evening to meet one of theirs, as I took my apprenticeship there and grew up in the southern Alberta area it would be fun to meet them.

Don't forget that the ECAA Christmas open house is coming up and I hope to see you there.

## Getting to Know Your Staff

***We thought our readers would like to know more about the volunteers who make up the ECAA Board of Directors and the staff so have added this feature into the Spark.***

### ***Getting to Know ECAA's Executive Assistant: Brittany Smith***

Company: I have worked for ECAA for 2 and a half years. Before working for ECAA I was in school finishing my Accounting Diploma and working for Wawanesa Insurance.

Family: My mom, dad, younger brother and boyfriend.

Hobbies: Reading, painting, baking and figure skating.

TV Shows: I watch quite a bit of TV show and movies. My favorite TV shows are Dexter, The Walking Dead, Raising Hope, Big Bang Theory and Modern Family.

Sports: Soccer

Most memorable vacation: Most of my vacations have been trips to Prince Edward Island to visit family but I would have to say that the most memorable vacation would be the family vacation to Florida that we took 5



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years ago.

Affiliations with other Associations: Took CAE Course regarding Membership

Favorite ECAA memory: Trip to Grande Prairie with Steve and Clem.

Best part of ECAA: All of the wonderful people that I have gotten to know over the past 2 and a half years.

### Industry News

IMPORTANT NOTICE; On September 12, 2012, Draka was formally advised that **UL and ULC will no longer be able to offer certification to the currently existing programs for the UL 2196 and ULC S-139 standards.** Therefore, ***all fire resistive cable manufacturers are no longer authorized to place the UL mark or ULC mark on the following products.***

\* UL Classified Fire Resistive Cable (FHJR)

\* ULC Listed Fire Resistant Cable (FHJRC)

\* UL Listed cable with "-CI" suffix (Circuit Integrity)

See detailed notice on ECAA website: [www.ecaa.ab.ca](http://www.ecaa.ab.ca).

Capital Region Electric Club (CREC) **Electrical Industry Christmas luncheon**, December 7th, Marriott at the River Cree. Call for tickets: 1-800-642-5508.

### 2013 Alberta Export Awards - Nominations are now open

Recognize an Alberta Exporter with notable achievements. CME-Alberta is looking for Alberta's top exporters from amongst the province's diverse export industry. The Alberta Export Awards recognizes the innovative approaches, milestone achievements and unique contributions of companies as well as the people who lead them. The award categories include: Technology & Media, Manufactured Products, Emerging Exporter, Services (professional, financial, engineering or design) and Agricultural & Consumer Products. Additional Awards for Leadership and International Business Studies are granted to individuals demonstrating significant contributions to the export community in Alberta. Anyone may nominate an Alberta exporter for these awards and Alberta exporters, themselves are encouraged to apply. Go to [www.albertaexportawards.ca](http://www.albertaexportawards.ca) download an application or nomination form. The deadline to nominate a deserving company is November 30, 2012. Those who are nominated and those companies who nominate themselves have until December 7, 2012 to submit their completed 2013 Alberta Export Award Application.

Habitat for Humanity Edmonton **hopes to engage employees and members to volunteer on their build sites.** To address the affordable housing crisis, Habitat for Humanity Edmonton will be building 100

homes over the next year. This is a huge endeavor to which they rely on support such as yours.

**REMINDER; SUBSTANCE ABUSE IN THE WORKPLACE SEMINAR.** NOVEMBER 29TH, 2012. *Presented by Worksite NEWS, Canada's premier occupational health, Safety and environment E-Magazine;* Delta Edmonton South Hotel and Conference Centre; 4404 Gateway Boulevard. . Register online: [www.worksite-news.com/default.cmf?pageid=388003](http://www.worksite-news.com/default.cmf?pageid=388003)

**TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR STARS Gala.** The 2nd annual Building Magic in the Air Gala, in partnership with the construction industry and STARS, is going to take place on **Saturday, November 24, 2012** at the Crowne Plaza Chateau Lacombe in Edmonton. Join us in making this a successful event.

**PUBLIC MEMBER for ECAA Board of Directors.** Thank you to those who have expressed an interest.

**DO YOU HAVE OIL KING TICKETS YOU WANT TO DONATE? STARS Gala** interested in these for silent auction items for November 24th Gala. Other items welcome. Contact [smclean@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:smclean@ecaa.ab.ca)

**Nominations are now open for the 2013 COAA Awards**, this year on the theme of leadership in Construction Performance. The nomination process and forms have been simplified; the deadline is 12:00 noon on Wednesday, November 28th. These awards recognize companies and organizations who have provided outstanding leadership to implement, improve and share industry best practices, which have led to measurable advances in project, company or industry performance. The awards are presented annually at the COAA Best Practices Conference in May, to celebrate industry leaders and to provide inspiring role models for COAA members and the industry at large. If you know of a firm or an individual who deserves such recognition by their peers, download the nomination forms on the COAA website: [www.coaa.ab.ca](http://www.coaa.ab.ca).

CDC Supplementary Conditions for Alberta Now Available on ACA Website. CCDC Supplementary General Conditions for use in Alberta for the various CCDC documents are now available on the ACA website: [www.albertaconstruction.net](http://www.albertaconstruction.net) under the "Documents" tab.

### Board of Directors Update

Board meeting held on Tuesday, October 30th with 13 board members in attendance. Agenda included AIT scholarships; Cathodic protection; Public member position; Del Communications; September financials; Office relocation; ECAA Open House; STARS Gala; Edmonton Chapter President's Ball; Convention 2013 and 2014; updated reports from Chapter Presidents and Committee chairs.

Bill 6: Amendments to Alberta's OHS and Safety Codes Act received. Mr. Hagen is soliciting a speaker on this topic for the Annual General Meeting, May 24th in

Waterton.

Discussion on feasibility of journeymen electricians becoming individual members of ECAA. Will be turned over to ECAA Past Presidents.

**ECAA proud gold sponsor** of Careers: The Next Generation's Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) scholarship reception on November 16th.

Did you miss ECAA's 50th anniversary gala? Great video available [www.EBMag.com](http://www.EBMag.com), under videos. Thank you to A. Dalton, Electrical Business and A Capkun, Editor for sharing this with us.

ECAA has recently been notified that honorary member, **Mr. Harvey Williamson** has passed away. Harvey was a long-standing member, volunteer on the labour relations committee, membership chair for many years and one of the founding fathers of the PEC program. Our deepest condolences go out to Harvey's family and his wife, Jan.

**ECAA Christmas Open House** - Join the ECAA Provincial Board of Directors on December 6th from 3:00 - 6:00 for an opportunity to discuss issues and share in some fellowship with other chapter members and their invited guests.

### Labour Update

For unionized contractors wishing any information contact Jim Bendfeld, Labour Relations Coordinator at 780-619-8843 or the ECAA office 780-451-2412.

### Local Chapter Activity

**CALGARY** - Next Chapter meeting November 8th. Guest speakers Shawn Rose and Todd Funk, Tradesman's Tools Inc on the use of ***i-pad on the Job site.***

Calgary Chapter ***Christmas social Thursday, December 8th*** at the Blackfoot Inn. Tickets \$20. Bring silent auction items to November meeting or contact Dianne Rinaldi for pick-up. Food bank donations welcome.

**Chapter Treasurer needed** -- if you are interested, please contact Chapter President, Scott White.

**CENTRAL** - Meeting held October 17th following the code seminar. Discussions included all the current Safety Codes Council matters, the status of the incoming new code book, updates about the ULC Certification changes with fire resistant cables, and the upcoming PEC breakfast meetings. Joined by Brad Dreschler with Careers who spoke of the RAP program process and offered his assistance to all contractors that may need more information about the program. Participation in open discussion was very successful and initiated productive networking between members and attending guests.

**EDMONTON** - Next meeting Monday, November 19th. Guest speaker Duane Piercey, Eaton Corporation, ***"Basic Electrical***

***Commissioning - what a contractor should be doing when they receive equipment on site".***

***Tickets on sale for: Edmonton Chapter President's Gala, January 19th, 2013 at Chateau Crowne Plaza. Join us for a great meal, some fellowship and dance to the music of Dirty Rotten Scoundrels.***

**FORT McMURRAY** - Congratulations to Careers: The Next Generation on their very successful 15th Anniversary celebration in Fort McMurray.

**NORTH WEST** - Trades are very busy -- looking for labour.

**NORTH EAST** - Chapter meeting held October 16th. Agenda items included 2013 Try-A-Trade; SunLife benefit plan; Permit and inspection concerns; Lakeland Scholarship. Still have issues with Master's signing for multiple companies - are they aware of their exposure to additional risk?

### **New Members**

No new members were approved at this meeting. Please contact Steve Warholik, Provincial membership chair, with membership leads or concerns ([grover12@telus.net](mailto:grover12@telus.net)).

### **Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) News**

**BREAKFAST MEETINGS** for PEC's and PEC Students scheduled for November 8th in Calgary and November 19th in Edmonton. Seminar presentations in Calgary on Residential Solar Installations; Introduction to PEC Mentoring; and Liability costs for PEC's. Presentations in Edmonton on Electric Vehicle Charging, Introduction to PEC Mentoring and PEC Liability costs. You MUST pre-register for these breakfast meetings. Email questions on solar installations and meeting confirmations to [smclean@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:smclean@ecaa.ab.ca).

**PEC Education Committee seeks student member volunteer.** Contact Mr. Mike Fleming PEC Education Chair email : [PEC\\_Edchair@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:PEC_Edchair@ecaa.ab.ca)

### **Volunteers Needed**

Thank you to Gordon Badach, PEC for volunteering at the Fort Saskatchewan Career Fair.

### **Continuing Education**

***Registrations are being accepted for all courses scheduled in 2012 (2013 form on ECAA website under PEC section and in Calendar of Events):***

**Project Management, November 9th & 10th (Calgary).** This revised course will now be taught by Mr. Mike Fleming, PEC.. You will learn practical hands-on skills to identify and recover all costs to which you are

entitled; avoid paying for others' errors or omissions; reduce project costs through effective purchasing and administration; identify cost overruns - and take correction action; use effective record keeping systems to enhance project profitability.

**Accounting Principles November 22nd & 23rd (Calgary).** This updated course taught by ECAA's new accounting firm, BDO will introduce you to terms and concepts of accounting and show you how to use them to attain goals and controls for future growth. You will learn practical skills to help you develop, interpret and use financial data, pin-point problem and profit areas, and focus your resources toward a successful electrical contracting business. Course open to your accounting staff person.

**Business & Public Relations, November 29th & 30th (Edmonton).** A series of five modules designed to give you essential and proven management concepts in the areas of Managing: Credit & Collections; Business promotion; Sales management; Business management and Human Resource management. Each module will teach you hands-on management strategies to immediately begin improving the performance and profitability of your electrical contracting business. This course taught by Mr. Grant Hammond.

**Also Available through ECAA.**

**ELECTRICAL SAFETY TRAINING SYSTEM (ESTS)** is a computer based, distance delivered program that recognizes Provincial & Federal Occupational Health & Safety Regulations. The program promotes a "Plan, Do, Check, Act" philosophy applying CSA Z462, based on CSA Z1000 Occupational Health & Safety Management System Standard. ***Course is complimentary to all unionized electrical contractors and their employees that have a bargaining relationship with the IBEW Local 424.*** Contact Brittany ([bsmith@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:bsmith@ecaa.ab.ca)) to sign up.

**ON-LINE ETHICS COURSE.** This course is designed for the Certified Master Electrician (CME) that desires to maintain that designation and for any Registered Master Electrician (RME) or Master electrician that desires to become a CME Information at [www.ecaa.ab.ca](http://www.ecaa.ab.ca) (Ethics course).

If you are an ECAA Contractor or Associate member and would like us to help promote an industry or company event please contact us directly at 1-800-252-9375.

We value your feedback and it is important to us. Please submit any comments to [ecaa@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:ecaa@ecaa.ab.ca)



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