



THE SPARK

ECAA E-Newsletter

December 7, 2012

Issue 23

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www.ecaa.ab.ca

Calendar of Events

*December 13th, 2012
Calgary Chapter
Christmas Social
Blackfoot Inn, Calgary*

*January 10th, 2013
Estimating & Invoicing
with the I-pad Quick Sale
course
Blackfoot Inn, Calgary*

*January 10th
Calgary Chapter Meeting
Blackfoot Inn, Calgary*

DECEMBER/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

Well so much for the snow leaving, looks like it's here to stay. A bit early for me but the skiers and snowmobilers are in their glory.

As mentioned last month I was off to Lethbrige to their Chapter meeting and they had a pretty good one. Near 20 people attended and I would like to thank Steve Warholik, Cathy Whyte and Rob Coleman for getting on the phone and getting people out to the meeting. We had one guest sign up that night and we think one or two more may join as well. Cathy Whyte from Sunlife was the guest speaker and she talked about the great benefit plan we have through the association as well as informing us of their ability to help with financial planning and succession planning. If you need any of these services please give Cathy a chance to show you what they can offer. She helped KELS Electric get set up with a new plan and it is very good.



Kelly Wilde

I got a letter of resignation from Earl Sloan who was our representative on the Provincial Code Advisory Committee. I want to thank Earl on behalf of the ECAA for being on this committee and being a valued member of our association. Obviously we are now actively looking for a replacement for Earl. If you know of anyone who would like to step up please contact the office.

Then I was off to a first Ministers Dinner put on by the Alberta Construction Association. This was a very well attended dinner and we got to get up close and personal with some of the Ministers to discuss our Apprenticeship program and who and where this program is going to be

January 19th, 2013

Edmonton Chapter
Presidents Gala
Chateau Crowne Plaza
Edmonton
Tickets on Sale Now

January 26th & 27th
CEC Code Changes
seminar
8:00 - 12:00
Edmonton

February 7th & 8th
Legal Implications Course
ECAA Boardroom

February 21st
CEC Code Changes
seminar
1:00 - 5:00 Blackfoot Inn,
Calgary

February 21st & 22nd
Basic Electrical
Estimating Course
ECAA Boardroom

Tradeshows

**AEL Eco Conference
January 2013**

**Lloydminster Try-A-
Trade
May 1st, Lloydminster**

**Provincial Skills
Competitions
May 15th & 16th
Edmonton**

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taught. Making sure that our training system does not get fragmented. We also discuss what the industry thinks that the government should be allocating to our infrastructure on an annual bases. This is another example of what your association is doing for you. Making sure that our industry has a voice in what the governments are doing.

Finally I went to the STARS Gala. This is truly a very special charity that exists in our province and relies on 80% of its funding from the public. Fantastic organization.

May I take this time to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and happy holiday season and a fantastic 2013.

Getting to Know Your Membership

We thought our readers would like to know more about the member companies who make up the ECAA. If you are interested in sharing this information with our readers, please email smclean@ecaa.ab.ca a company profile.

Bare Wire Recycling (new member of ECAA) is a leader in the Mobile Recycling industry since 2007. Bare Wire started as a wire recycling and has grown to become mobile and now are able to recycle 90% of materials encountered by electricians on a regular basis. With a team on call round the clock they are able to take care of any night work for companies that require wire pick ups at odd hours. Welcome Brandon Cooper (barewirerecycling@shaw.ca) and Bare Wire Recycling to ECAA's membership.

Industry News

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)

Update on CSA website and in **Keven's Corner** in this issue of the Contactor.

Very successful 2nd annual **Building Magic in the Air STARS Gala**. Thank you to all who donated auction items and participated in the event. Money was raised to purchase a Spyder Crane for STARS.

Alberta Apprenticeship & Industry Training Board awarded 760 scholarships to deserving apprentices. The generous contributions assist apprentices and trainees complete their apprentice or occupational training programs. ECAA donates to three scholarships. ECAA & NW Chapter AIT scholarship recipient is Skyler Kyriacou-Herman (Tri Star



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Controls); IBEW Local 424 & ECAA recipient is James Kurylo (Technology Transfer Inc); and ECAA scholarship recipient is Tyler Visser (Horizon North Power Systems). Recipients of ECAA's two RAP scholarships are Drew Duzio (Edmonton Electric) and Austin Swiniarski (Brymar Electric). Congratulations to all.

Trades Alberta project launch. CAREERS: The Next Generation and the Edmonton Journal are pleased to announce the commencement of a unique 36-week editorial partnership titled Trades Alberta series on industry news and trends on the trades in Alberta. The Edmonton Journal launch date is Thursday, November 8, 2012.

It's almost time again for the annual Construction Owners Association of Alberta Best Practices Conference. Mark your calendars for the Best Practices Conference to be held at the Shaw Conference Centre in Edmonton on May 14 and 15, 2013. It will feature discussions and workshops on some of the most important issues facing the construction industry today. Registration will be done electronically again, starting in March 2013.

NAIT launches Trades to Degrees initiative to meet Alberta's needs. NAIT has launched one of the first pathways in North America to allow certified tradespeople the opportunity to move directly from a trades certificate to the third year of a degree program. The pioneering Trades to Degrees pathway is a response to workforce demand for tradespeople with managerial, leadership and entrepreneurial skills. (Complete article on ECAA website www.ecaa.ab.ca)

Girls Exploring Trades and Technology Conference
Thursday, May 16, 2013, Edmonton Expo Centre, Edmonton. Journeywomen, female apprentices, and women working in the trade and technology sectors are encouraged to apply to be a Mentor for the exciting event. We are looking for energetic trade and technology specialist to share their experience, knowledge and enthusiasm for their career choice. Send us your mentor application and be part of a great day!

Alberta Human Services is looking at some changes to the employer review process for its certificate of recognition (COR) program in light of Alberta's move to implement an administrative penalty system and on-the-spot ticketing for occupational health and safety violations. At the recent Alberta Health and Safety Conference in Edmonton, Rob Feagan, director of Partnerships in Injury Reduction of the Alberta Human Services told conference attendees the province is looking into the process for employer review if an employer who holds a certificate of recognition is levied an administrative penalty or issued a ticket. "What should the consequences be?" What is certain is that if an employer who holds a COR is levied an administrative penalty or issued a ticket, or its employees are repeatedly ticketed, this will constitute an employer review. The process for this type of review and the consequences are still up for

discussion. An employer review could result in either the upholding of the COR - if the employer in question completes and passes certain requirements - or a revocation of the COR.

The COR program is part of Alberta's Partnerships in Injury Reduction (PIR) initiative, a program that promotes workplace health and safety through partnerships with various stakeholders that include safety associations, industry groups, employers, educational institutions and labour organizations. Partnerships in Injury Reduction recognizes employers for their health and safety management system through an audit and certification process that ultimately earns them the COR. Employers with valid COR are eligible to receive financial incentives from the Workers' Compensation Board through premium rebates, which range between five and 20 per cent. To maintain their CORs, employers undergo regular maintenance audits conducted by any of the certifying partners within the partnership program. As important as helping employers attain and maintain their CORs, it's also vital to ensure certifying partners are maintaining quality in the audit process. Many employers in Alberta also participate in the PIR as a way to boost their credibility with business partners, as construction project owners are now increasingly making COR a pre-requisite for contractor bidding.

Congratulations to Scott White, recently appointed as Vice President & General Manager of Western Electrical Management Ltd. Scott has been associated with Western Electrical for twenty years, is a Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) and current President of ECAA's Calgary Chapter. We wish Scott all the best in his new role.

[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 under the "Documents" tab.

Board of Directors Update

Board meeting held on Thursday, December 6th with 15 board members in attendance. Agenda included correspondence items; Cathodic Protection Technician; October financials; draft 2013 budget; update on Office relocation; Edmonton Chapter President's Ball; Convention 2013 and 2014; Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) program; adoption of the Canadian Electrical Code; updated reports from Chapter Presidents and Committee chairs. (Detailed reports in December issue of the Contactor)

Past President's meeting scheduled to discuss participation of electricians in our Association.

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

ECAA Christmas Open House - Thank you to all who joined us to share in

fellowship.

ECAA Office relocation - **call for electrical tender** will be on ECAA website Monday. If interested, please contact smclean@ecaa.ab.ca.

If interested in representing ECAA on the **Provincial Code Advisory Committee** please send an email to smclean@ecaa.ab.ca Committee meets one to two times per year and meetings last approximately 4 hours. Thank you.

Labour Update

Report in December issue of the Contactor. 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 - Christmas social Thursday, December 13th at the Blackfoot Inn. Tickets \$20. Remember food bank donation. Next Chapter meeting January 10th.

EDMONTON - Next meeting Monday, January 21st at the Chateau Louis Conference center. **Tickets on sale for: Edmonton Chapter President's Gala, January 19th, 2013 at Chateau Lacombe Crowne Plaza. Join us for a great meal, some fellowship and dance to the music of Dirty Rotten Scoundrels.**

Lethbridge - Very successful meeting held on November 21st. Thank you to Provincial President Kelly Wilde, Membership chair Steve Warholik, Brittany Smith (ECAA staff) and Cathy White (Sun Life Insurance) for attending.

New Members

Welcome new members approved at the December 6th board meeting: AirTech Heating & Air Conditioning (Lethbridge); Amac Electrical Services (Edmonton); Bare Wire Recycling (Calgary); Blue Electric (Edmonton); Collicut Energy Services (Red Deer); Luke's Electrical Service (Edmonton); Pre Tech Concrete Products (Stony Plain); SkyFire Energy (Calgary); TKS Controls (Stettler); Tristar Electric Inc (Calgary). Please contact Steve Warholik, Provincial membership chair, with membership leads or concerns (grover12@telus.net).

Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) News

PEC Courses Available to Spouses and Office Personnel

My name is Dianne Rinaldi. My husband and I have operated Rinaldi Electric Inc. in Calgary for the last 26 years and have been members of the ECAA for the last 23 of those years. I have always been interested in taking the PEC courses offered to Master Electricians in order for them to receive their designation as a PEC. At our September Chapter meeting, it was brought to my attention that these courses are open to anyone to take, including Spouses and Office Personnel. I think they have valuable information I can benefit from to assist me in performing my job better. Although I cannot receive the official PEC

designation as I do not possess a Master's Certificate, I can still attend the courses and benefit from the information they provide.

I recently had the opportunity to take the PEC Project Management Course offered on November 8 & 9, 2012. I began a bit overwhelmed - I was thinking I was a small contractor in a pond full of bigger contractors. That was short lived as it was easy to relate the information to my situation. I was welcomed by the other contractors and they seemed to appreciate my ideas and input during the small group projects and class discussions. I will be able to use the information provided in this course in my day to day job with a higher level of confidence and proficiency. Throughout this course, I felt on occasion, that it would have benefited me more had I taken one of the three Estimating courses offered by the ECAA before the Project Management course. My Instructor and several of the other contractors at this course suggested I take the BEE (basic electrical estimating) course before the PEC Assessing and Finalizing The Tender. I will be doing just that. I look forward to completing all the courses in the near future. I am 2 courses down, and 6 (including the BEE course) courses to go! Hopefully I will be able to share my educational journey with you as I go along. I'm looking forward to seeing more spouses and office personnel in the courses, I really don't believe that you will regret it. See you there!

Dianne Rinaldi
Rinaldi Electric Inc.

CONGRATULATIONS NEW PROFESSIONAL ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS (PEC'S)

The following individuals were awarded their PEC designation at the December 6th Board meeting: Edward Alisat (Calgary); Curtis Allum (Airdrie); Kirk Blake (Stettler); Matt Gowanlock (Airdrie); Greg Keith (Spruce Grove); Ryan Peterson (Calgary); Andrew Trifaux (Calgary); Brian Twa (Langdon); and Gary VanMoorsel (Athabasca). Congratulations on this achievement.

Continuing Education

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

Legal Implications, February 7th & 8th (Edmonton). The instructors for this course are from the legal firm of Fraser Milner Casgrain, LLP. This course will address such matters as incorporation, income tax and GST, construction contracts and subcontracts and liability there under, and perhaps most importantly, steps available to ensure payment, including remedies under the Builder's Lien Act. Liability in stamping and sealing drawings will also be addressed.

Basic Electrical Estimating, February 21st & 22nd (Edmonton). For small contractors who are not ready to make the investment in a computerized estimating system. Designed to teach new contractors the fundamentals of preparing an electrical estimate using the Elemental Format hands-on. The course will address material take-off, pricing of materials, labouring or materials using the NECA Manual of Labour Units, labour costs,

special overheads, general overheads and profit (contingencies). This course is taught by Mr. Pat Barnes.

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) 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 (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



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