



ECAA

Electrical Contractors
Association of Alberta

THE SPARK

ECAA NEWSLETTER

January 8, 2016

Issue 59

In This Issue

[President's Message](#)

[PEC News](#)

[Industry News](#)

[ACA News](#)

[Coming Soon](#)

[Apprenticeship Update](#)

[Board of Directors Update](#)

[Chapter Activity](#)

[New Members](#)

[Continuing Education](#)

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

Happy new year.... Really? 2016 already? That makes me how old? Yikes!



As we come to the end of the first week of January, I know that the Provincial office is absolutely busting with prep work. Edmonton Chapter President Ball in 2 weeks, upcoming code courses are very popular, annual renewals are now due, AGM & Training Day prep is in full swing, wow!

As has been said before, the huge amount of work the Provincial office, staff and volunteers are doing is all due to the huge support of our membership and let's face it, busy is good and it's all in support of you!

Continuing with my never a dull moment message, we are about to research the potential of developing a new opportunity which, if successful, will add even more value from the ECAA to the membership and our industry. Intrigued? I will tell you more once approvals & details are finalized.

See you at the Edmonton Chapter President's Ball on January 23rd.

Keven Lefebvre PEC

Calendar of Events

CE Code Seminar Dates

EDMONTON

February 3rd, 2016

March 5th, 2016

March 21st, 2016

April 18th, 2016

May 16th, 2016

June 20th, 2016

CALGARY

March 10th, 2016

March 11th, 2016
May 12th, 2016
September 8th, 2016
November 10th, 2016

RED DEER

March 9th, 2016

LLOYDMINSTER

March 16th, 2016

MEDICINE HAT:

April 12th, 2016

[CE Code Registration Form](#)

EVENTS

Edmonton Chapter

President's Ball

Saturday, January 23rd, 2016

Industry Night

Thursday, February 11th, 2016

Calgary, AB

MEETINGS

Fort McMurray Chapter

Tuesday, January 12th, 2016

Chateau Nova Airport

Lethbridge Chapter

Wednesday, January 13th, 2016

Lethbridge Lodge, AB

Calgary Chapter

Thursday, January 14th, 2016

Best Western Port O'Call

Calgary, AB

Edmonton Chapter

Monday, January 18th, 2016

Chateau Louis Hotel

Edmonton, AB

Upcoming Trade Shows

Fort Saskatchewan Career Fair

February 17th, 2016

Provincial President

Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) News

Congratulations New PEC's! Darren Brezinski, PEC #296; Christopher Bryson, #297; Billy Williams, #298

Hooray, the PEC web site will be on line very shortly! Keep an eye on the log in www.pecprogram.ca. After a lot of work from our marketing partners, our marketing committee, web site sub committee, and Christine and Sheri from the ECAA office we are live and open for business. These people did a ton of work viewing, analyzing, and editing content for many versions, because they cared about getting as right as they could before opening. I thank you all for your very hard work.

That being said even with eyes on this for a great long time, there may still be some glitches that we might not have caught or might not have presented in the working version. Please do not hesitate to let us know if you spot something so that we may correct as quickly as possible. Not all aspects may be fully complete. Feedback from our membership may be needed to be able to have it functioning as we envisioned. So more to come, but pretty darn close to the final look.

On another very important note: Our first 3 year term for the APD program has come to its closing date December 31, 2015. This has been advised in previous emails, Sparks, Contactors and numerous chapter, and AGM presentations. Because the program was just closing its first term, the date to enter these first 3 years of APD points was extended to January 31st, 2016. Now because of the web site's, both ECAA and PEC being changed over, and causing a limited amount of down time where PEC's could access their APD forms. We are going to extend this first deadline to February 28th, 2016.

(A one time only offer) This will give you all an extra month plus to get in there and get those back dated APD points registered. Note that log in is still available on the ECAA web site (if the log in access is not quite completed through the PEC web site.) Please make sure you have a look there for the new adopted policy for APD Points. The carry over possibility is for the entire 3 year cycle, so you can accumulate points over the whole 3 years as opposed to the original intent of only points over 20 per single year. This way if you are more active in 1 year and are away or unable in other years then that would make it much easier to accumulate the 60 APD points for the full 3 year cycle total.

If you have not hit your totals as you had thought, with this new change in the policy you may have. If you have questions please do not hesitate to call the office to clarify and as always if you need help entering they can walk you through the process. If you have not hit your totals do not despair, we are here to help you and work with you to get on track, and for some, even help you get started. It will be our mandate to get you on track, and to get this part of our Professional mandate on track, as per the memberships vote from Waterton AGM. Please call the office and get started on your plan.

Clem Gratton

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Clem Gratton, PEC, CME
Chairman

AEL Electrical Learning Expo

March 23rd, 2016

PEC Orders

The original style PEC Ring will no longer be available to order after December 31, 2016. As this ring will become a legacy piece in the Professional Electrical Contractor history, it will be retired. If you currently have the original style ring, or plan to order it within this year, it will still be available to re-order if lost or for warranty purposes.

The PEC Marketing Committee will be finalizing new designs to order so stay tuned!

Promotional items for PEC's are available to order. ECAA has partnered with Sunshine Promotions to offer affordable personalized apparel and accessories.

For more information or to place your order click on the following forms:

[PEC Ring, Stamp & Seal Order Form](#)

[PEC Promotional Materials Order Form](#)

Industry News

Edmonton Chapter Annual President's Ball is taking place on Saturday, January 23rd, 2016, Chateau Lacombe Hotel. Tickets are still available ([click here to purchase](#)). On behalf of Chapter President John Knoll, thank you to the following sponsors for contributing to our event:

Edmonton Electric; Eecol Electric; Electri-Can Installations Ltd.; Chemco Electrical Contractors; Guillevin International; JLE Electrical Ltd.; K&L Electric Inc.; Prolux Lighting; Provincial Electrical Services; Richard McDonadl & Associates; Schneider Electric; Thomas & Betts Inc.; Tyco Integrated Fire & Security; Western Electrical Management. If you would like to sponsor the event please fill out the following form ([Sponsor Request](#)).

Canadian Electrical Code Seminar Dates.

We encourage you to register early as the seminars are filling up quickly. As January dates are now full new dates have been added. For a full list of dates where the code seminars will be held refer to the [Canadian Electrical Code Seminar Registration Form](#). These courses are approved by Safety Codes Council for Master Electricians and Safety Codes Officers in the Alberta. Copies of attendee certificates will be sent directly to Safety Codes Council following each code seminar. To pre-order a copy of the CE Code Book click [here](#).

Membership Renewals have been mailed out and are due January 29th, 2016. If you have not received your renewal notice or have any questions about your membership contact the ECAA Provincial Office.

A Continuing Education Survey was sent out. This survey will help us meet the training needs of our membership and we appreciate those who have taken the time to respond. Survey response deadline is January 22nd, 2016.

Electrical Inspectors Association of Alberta (EIAA) 20th Anniversary Annual Technical Conference February 12 & 13, 2016. For more information click on the following links [2016 EIAA Conference Registration](#) and [EIAA Full Conference Agenda](#).

Lakeland College offering Master Electrician Certification Course. January 9th, 10th, 23rd & 24th; February 6th, 7th, 20th, 21st and March 5th, 6th, 19th and 20th. For more information or to register, please call: Phone: 780-853-8407 Toll Free 1-800-661-6490 ext 8407.

Alberta Chamber of Resource's 80th Anniversary Banquet. Tickets available on ACR website www.acr-alberta.com. The event will be held on **Friday, February 19, 2016** at the Shaw Conference Centre in Edmonton. The banquet this year is shaping up to be an anniversary we won't soon forget. We invite you to join us in celebrating Alberta's past challenges and achievements in resource development, and share with us your inspirations for the future. While we won't be giving awards this year, we will take this opportunity to acknowledge our past award winners and those individuals in the industry who have played key roles in developing the resource industry in Alberta. We are also encouraging the younger generation to join us. If you are mentoring any individuals in your organization or in the industry, we encourage you to invite them. The banquet provides a great opportunity to network and share our vision for resource development in the province. To finish the evening with a bang, we have Patrick Kiernan joining us as our keynote speaker for the night. Patrick is the morning business and news anchor for New York 1 and is one of New York's most recognizable faces. However, he was born and raised in Alberta and we are proud to be bringing him home to help us celebrate our 80th Anniversary Banquet. You can meet Patrick Kiernan at the following link: <http://www.acr-alberta.com/ConferencesEvents/Banquet/Video/tabid/349/Default.aspx> (39 seconds long) We hope you will join us. Tickets are \$195 + GST per person or \$1400 + GST for a table (8 seats). To register visit www.acr-alberta.com. The deadline to register is February 12, 2016. If you have any questions, please contact Thea Hawryluk at (780) 420-1030 ext.: 222 or by e-mail at thea@acr-alberta.com

Alberta Municipal Affairs Public Safety Division is currently recruiting a Code Advisor. Reporting to the Director, Standards Development, Building/Fire, Energy & Accessibility, the Code Advisor will participate in the development, interpretation and application of appropriate safety codes and standards to mitigate the risk to persons and property in the built environment. This role may also be required to participate in provincial/national code committees for the development of national codes & standards adopted in Alberta. For full details on this position, including how to apply, view the [Full Job Posting](#). **Closing Date: January 15, 2016.**

Edmonton Construction Association Builders Connect Luncheon 2016, Friday, February 5th, Edmonton Expo Center. Registration is now open for Edmonton Construction Association Annual General Meeting and Infrastructure Productivity Forum (IPF). For more information [click here](#).

The Alberta Electrical League is hosting its 22nd Annual Electrical Learning Expo on March 23, 2016, Westerner Park Prairie Pavillion in Red Deer, AB. Seminars will take place from 9:00 am - 4: 30 pm; Tradeshow from 11:00 am - 5:00 pm. For more information on registering as an exhibitor refer to the [Exhibitor Information Package](#). [REGISTER ONLINE](#) or Contact Tara Ternes 1-800-642-5088 info@elecleague.ab.ca for more information.

News from Alberta Construction Association

[CCDC Working Towards Standard Contract for IPD](#)

A task force of the Canadian Construction Documents Committee (CCDC) is drafting a standard contract for projects undertaken using the Integrated Project Delivery (IPD) model.

The task force began work on the ground breaking initiative about two years ago. A consultation draft is expected to be complete by early to mid-2016. The document will then be circulated to the CCDC's constituent associations as well as some owners for review prior to being finalized, said task force member Serge Massicotte.

You can read more about this on the [Daily Commerce News](#).

[WCB Premium Set to Rise for 2016](#)

The Alberta WCB have announced that rates will be rising for 2016. You can view the Construction industry increases [here](#).

2016 annual premium rate statements will only be available online. Your 2016 employer premium rate statement will be available electronically on December 4, 2015. Sign up for [myWCB](#) to access your online 2016 rate statement.

You can find out further details from the [WCB website](#).

[AB Climate Change Recommendations Released](#)

The Alberta Government released November 22nd a wide-ranging set of recommendations to address climate change ([see report here](#)).

Of greatest significance for business opportunities for ACA members is the section regarding energy use in buildings and communities (pages 72-79). ACA will monitor and seek opportunities for input to shape initiatives to address the report recommendations in this regard.

Visit <http://albertaconstruction.net/> for more news and information.

Coming Soon!

The ECAA is proud to announce a partnership with ESPS Electrical Safety Program Solutions INC. to bring ECAA Member Company's a

comprehensive Electrical Safety Program based on the CSA Z462 Workplace electrical safety Standard, to be utilized for sustainable and measurable performance in mitigating exposure or reducing risk of exposure to arc flash and shock hazards for their workers. Combined with your COR Occupational Health & Safety Management system the Electrical Safety Program will ensure you have in place adequate due diligence to OH&S Regulations.

The Electrical Safety Program will be a valuable resource for Owners, Supervisors and Qualified Electrical Workers in the field, providing access to information when it is needed.

The Electrical Safety Program can be used complimentary to the Electrical Safety Training System (ESTS) Electrical Worker Canada 2015 e-Learning based training that the ECAA currently has available for ECAA Member companies (www.ecaatraining.com).

You are encouraged to attend Chapter Meetings and find out more information. You can contact Terry Becker, P.Eng. with ESPS directly (terry.becker@esps.ca, or 1-403-465-3777) and ask questions about the Electrical Safety Program and how it can help your company.

Apprenticeship Update

Hello all industry members,

There have been a number of questions surrounding the status of Apprenticeship Training and the training institute's position on incorporating the new CEC. Therefore I thought it would be good to send out a quick update and some explanation as to the current training process.

The new code has been adopted as of January 1, 2016. The training institutes are not teaching the new code in this current training term. The current training term ends June 2016. The new code will be incorporated for the new Term starting in September 2016. Due to the new code being adopted half way through the Institutes Training Term it is difficult to implement a different curriculum in mid stream. There are many factors that impact these time lines, including the drafting of training modules, exams and the time frame available to achieve these items. In short I believe that the coordination of these items has been impacted more recently by the new and very short code cycles. This has now reduced how much time the training institutes and AIT have to redevelop the curriculum and exams. This is a simple explanation and there is always much more to it, but that is essentially the situation. There have been comments about the new JM not being up to date when they come out of school and although that may be accurate, it is not necessarily critical. Depending on when a new code cycle is adopted all JM, new and aged, will not be current unless they take a Code upgrade course. I would guess that the majority of JM in this province are not up to date on current code and previous code cycles. The reality is that this has always been the case; however it is more punctuated now that the code cycles are every 3 years. As for the Apprentices currently attending this term, the only ones somewhat impacted are the 1st year apprentices who will need to purchase or acquire a book that is technically out of date. However the reality is that this does not make all of the rules out of date. The code book changes but all the rules do not. Apprentices are instructed, not only, how to apply and navigate the code book but also to understand that as they complete their apprenticeship they will need to keep up with new codes and practices. Also it should be noted, the old code

still applies to ongoing projects that have been active during the old code cycle and therefore it is not necessarily redundant material. There are many levels of bureaucracy that contribute to this situation as it is now but until a number of issues get addressed this process will remain the same.

I will be attending several AIT, PAC and LAC meetings over the next few months with one coming up on January 20th. I would say that this will be a topic of discussion and further updates will come. Of course by the AGM there will be a full report on the state of the APP program. I hope this provides enough clarification to the current circumstances and some understanding of the training processes.

Sincerely,

Chris Rauschning, PEC
Provincial Apprenticeship Chairman

Board of Directors Update

A Provincial Board meeting was held in Calgary on Friday, December 11th. Agenda items included discussion on the 2016 budget, recently emailed Continuing Education survey, Mr. Dzwonkiewicz's resignation as ECAA's CECA representative (and appointment of Mr. Terry Milot), letters of support for Mr. Davis and Mr. Teichroeb to continue as ECAA's Fire and Electrical Sub-Council representatives, respectively, and a thank you from Mr. John Robinson for his retirement gift from ECAA. Membership and PEC applications were approved. Detailed committee and chapter reports were included in the December Contactor.

Thank you to our members and Past Presidents who attended the retirement of the ECAA logo in Edmonton and launch of new logo in Calgary. The rationale behind the new logo: *Clean, bold, modern, clever, professional; *The crest in the middle mimics the Alberta crest and at its heart is the circuit symbol for a wire coil, to depict the letter "E"; *Utilizes a friendly green and black, that is welcoming, strong, trustworthy, and ties nicely back to the industry. An electronic version of the logo will be emailed to our members upon request.

Next Board meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 22nd in Edmonton.

ECAA values our members for their continued support in providing direction and growth to the Association. Concerns? Questions? Please contact a Board member or your Executive Director.

Local Chapter Activity

CALGARY: Next Meeting Thursday, January 14th, **Guest Speakers:** Amanda Haley, Alberta 1st Call; Lori Burchell, Allstate Insurance. Meeting Sponsor: Barry Wentz, BDW Electrical Installations. **INDUSTRY NIGHT:** Thursday, February 11th, 2016, Members are encouraged to invite a non-member Journeyperson, Contractor or Associate, spouses and co-workers. As a meal will be served please rsvp by January 29th to carnett@ecaa.ab.ca

EDMONTON: Next Meeting Monday, January 18th, **Guest Speakers:** Craig Levitt, Pace Technologies; **Topic of Discussion:** Arc Flash; Gerry Wiles, City of Edmonton and Tim Rosky, Inspections Group; **Topic of Discussion:** Addressing Code Questions. Meeting Sponsor: Rudi Schimmel, Pace Technologies.

FORT MCMURRAY: Next Meeting Tuesday, January 12th, **Guest Speaker:** Terry Becker, ESPS; **Topic of Discussion:** Electrical Safety Program. Meeting Sponsor: Dwayne Blanchard, Gescan.

LETHBRIDGE: Next Meeting Wednesday, January 13th, **Guest Speaker:** Terry Becker, ESPS; **Topic of Discussion:** Electrical Safety Program. Meeting Sponsor: Joe Rougeau, Westburne Electric.

New Members

Contractor Members: CBS Electrical (Blackfalds); Muth Electric (Edmonton);

Associate: Marsh Canada Limited (Edmonton); John Mathews (Journeyman Associate Member)

Continuing Education

Registrations are being accepted for all courses scheduled in 2016.

[2016 PEC Course Schedule and Registration](#)

Legal Implications (February 4th & 5th, 2016) Edmonton.

This course will increase your awareness and understanding of legal issues and pitfalls common to electrical contractors. The course will also address incorporation, income tax and GST, construction contracts, subcontracts and liability thereunder as well as how to ensure payment for your work - including remedies available under The Builders' Lien Act.

ONLINE TRAINING AVAILABLE THROUGH ECAA.

www.eaatraining.com

Arc Flash & Shock Electrical Safety Training based on CSA Z462-2015 Developed for workers that perform energized electrical work. The course curriculum is based on the 3rd edition of CSA Z462, published in 2015. The overall course content was developed using industry accepted best practice standards as the under pinning in support of meeting Provincial or Federal regulatory due diligence for arc flash and shock.

ESTS Electrical Worker training is focused on the practical application of CSA Z462 within the workplace and providing documentation tools in support of the Employer's overall Occupational Health & Safety Management System and an Electrical Safety Program. Employers are

required to have an updated Electrical Safety Program that incorporates the new requirements from CSA Z462-2015 for workers to receive the most benefit from this course.

The ESTS Electrical Worker course is broken down into five sections for ease of use. Workers should self-pace themselves based on their understanding of the subject matter. All workers are encouraged to stop and start their course by saving their progress before exiting. At any time during the course workers can ask questions to an Instructor and follow along using a comprehensive Student Workbook as a training aid.

Students who score 80% or greater earn their training certificate and can apply for 0.6 Continuing Education Units (CEU's). Final assessment questions are fully randomized so Workers never have the same exact questions.

Electrical Worker Training Modules:

1. Introduction
2. Regulations, Consensus-based Standards and Best Practices
3. Understanding Electricity in the Workplace
4. Electrical Hazards: Understanding the Potential for Harm
5. Risk Assessment Procedure
6. Establishing an Electrically Safe Work Condition
7. Engineering and Administrative Controls
8. Electrical Specific PPE, Tools and Equipment
9. Emergency Response, Incident Reporting and Program Maintenance
10. Final Assessment & Work Task Scenarios

Learning Objectives for Qualified Electrical Workers:

1. Explain the Regulations and Standards applicable to their role and responsibilities.
2. Identify and understand electrical hazards and risk assessment.
3. Effectively manage electrical hazards by following the Work Flow Process to safely execute energized electrical work.
4. Learn how to complete an Arc Flash Risk Assessment and Shock Risk Assessment as part of an overall Risk Assessment Procedure (RAP).
5. Apply preventive and protective control measures to reduce risk.
6. Understand electrical incident emergency response and incident reporting requirements

The ESTS Electrical Worker training course was developed by Terry Becker, P.Eng., ESPS Electrical Safety Program Solutions INC. and ESPS is partnering with the ECAA to bring this training to Members.

To purchase this training course visit www.ecaatraining.com

FIRST LEVEL SUPERVISOR TRAINING PROGRAM

This course offers the critical basic skills and concepts needed to supervise a crew in the residential, institutional, commercial, industrial and civil construction sectors. For more information click on the following link [First Level Supervisor Training Program](#) . Course is complimentary to all unionized electrical contractors and their employees that have a bargaining

relationship with the IBEW Local 424.

Course cost is \$400 and to enroll contact Christine chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca

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.ecaatraining.com (Ethics course).

Contact Us

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 its important to us. Please submit any comments to smclean@ecaa.ab.ca

The next issue of The Spark will be emailed on February 5th, 2016.



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