



ECAA

Electrical Contractors
Association of Alberta

THE SPARK

ECAA NEWSLETTER

February 3rd, 2017

Issue 72

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EDMONTON

February 15, 2017

March 16, 2017

CALGARY

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

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

President's Message

2017 has begun. Your ECAA is hard at work. We are the "Voice of the Electrical Industry" and this title comes with a great responsibility to our province and to our members. Years of hard work and passion has brought us a long way and we have many more issues to resolve. Count on us to persevere.



Turbulence seems to be the normal south of the border. Let's hope Canada is not negatively affected. It seems we may get our Keystone pipeline, however I wonder, under what terms? I believe Canada should continue to pursue a "Made in Canada" solution. Energy East would allow us to be more independent of the whims of America.

Terry Milot, Eric Fadden and I met with Greg Bedard of the Calgary Electric Club and Bruce Mackay of the Alberta Electrical League. The Alberta Electrical League, Calgary Electric Club and the Capital Region Electric Club have joined to form Alberta Electrical Association (AEA). All parties have agreed in principal to draft a co-existence agreement. At this time, we understand that AEA will be providing a written response to the issues discussed at our meeting.

Some of the issues discussed include:

1. Their name change to Alberta Electrical Association. The ECAA feels that it is important to have only one electrical association in the province. Less confusion for all.
2. Education. We hope that each organization would focus their education offering so that we do not have overlap.
3. We feel the Trade show and industry social events are what AEL does best.
4. We feel that Tradesperson education and PEC style courses are what ECAA does best.
5. We asked that they reconsider starting parallel chapters throughout the

February 9, 2017

[Canadian Electrical Code Update Registration Form](#)

Minimum numbers required

PEC COURSES

[2017 PEC Registration Form](#)

COURSES

Blue Print Reading

March 10th & 11th, 2017
(Calgary)

Blue Print Reading

March 23rd & 24th, 2017
(Edmonton)

MEETINGS

Industry Night

February 9th, 2017
Calgary Chapter

Industry Night

February 27th, 2017
Edmonton Chapter

Upcoming Tradeshows

CAREER FAIR:

RAP & Skilled Trades 2017

CALGARY

February 22nd, 2017

Lord Beaverbrook High School

March 1st, 2017

James Fowler High School

March 22nd, 2017

Father Lacombe High School

AEL Learning Expo

March 2nd, 2017

Marriott River Cree, Edmonton

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province.

6. Both parties agreed to work to find ways of working together.

My wife and I were able to attend the Edmonton Chapters President Ball. Many thanks to Shani Ahmad the Edmonton Chapter President for the invitation. Eric Fadden did a wonderful job as MC for the event. A wonderful time was had by all.

The Calgary Chapter will be having their Industry Night on February 9th. Dave Smith from the Calgary Construction Association will be presenting. I know it will be worth your while.

Our next Provincial Board meeting will be held in Edmonton at the ECAA offices on March 17th. We have pressing matters to attend to.

I hope all of you can make it to our upcoming Electrical Contractors Association of Alberta Convention and Annual General Meeting. This event will be held in Banff at the Rimrock Resort May 25-28 2017. Golf on May 25th, Training Day on the 26th, AGMs on the 27th, Gala on the Saturday night and Sunday breakfast with a guest speaker. Mark your calendar's and I will see you there. Thank you to those who have remitted sponsorship and registration forms. Reminder early bird registration deadline March 31st.

ECAA Chapter meetings are being scheduled across the Province. Please make the effort to attend.

Thanks again to Sheri and her staff for all their hard work.

In conclusion I would like to quote: Helen Keller

"Alone we can do so little. Together we can do so much."

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Darrell Castor, CME, PEC.

Provincial President

Did you Know?

As an Associate member you have the opportunity to present or provide the guest speaker at any one of our 8 Chapters across the Province?

Have new technology, service, new staff person or opportunity for Contractors you want to share? Contact us to arrange Lunch and Learn or speaking opportunities.

Contact the ECAA office to get on any one of our Chapter's email distribution list for upcoming events in that Chapter.

ECAA Feature Benefit

NETWORKING. Our Associate members play a vital role in our Association. We are happy to provide networking opportunities with existing and potential new customers. Our Associate members are a valuable resource to the ECAA. Being connected with Contractors helps our industry succeed.

Electrical Safety Program "Product in a Box"

The Electrical Safety Program "Product in a Box" that is available to ECAA Member Companies applies the requirements of the CSA Z462 Workplace electrical safety Standard as the basis of due diligence to AB OH&S Part 2, Part 15 and Part 18. Arc flash is specifically identified in Part 18 PPE 232(1), appropriate PPE required. The electrical shock hazard is not directly identified in AB OH&S, but should be a priority and is required to be identified under Part 2.

For more information on how you can license the Electrical Safety Program "Product in a Box", please contact the ECAA office.

Industry News

ECAA's 55th Anniversary Convention early bird rates until March 31st, 2017. Thank you to the following companies that have sponsored:

PLATINUM: Chubb Edwards; Eecol Electric; Federated Insurance; PCL Industrial Constructors Inc.; Western Electrical Management; CECA **GOLD:** Eaton; Schneider Electric. **SILVER:** Ipex Electrical; Guillevin International; Thomas & Betts Inc. [CONVENTION REGISTRATION PACKAGE](#)

ECAA Membership renewals are due.

If you did not receive your 2017 invoice, please contact caustin@ecaa.ab.ca. We recognize the downturn in the economy and appreciate your continued support. Contact ECAA if you have any questions or concerns.

The City of Calgary Electrical Inspection will be mailing and emailing out letters to all master electricians that are on file and are listed with electrical companies that currently hold a valid City of Calgary business license. These master electricians are required to provide proof that they have completed an approved 2015 Canadian Electrical Code update course. Proof of completion is required by March 15th, 2017. Failure to provide proof of course completion will result in permit privileges being suspended in the City of Calgary. Here are the details that are contained in the letter: The 2015 Canadian Electrical Code 23rd Edition, Part 1 was adopted in Alberta Jan. 1, 2016. The Safety Codes Council allows one year from the adoption date for all Master Electricians to complete and approved course. **The City of Calgary requires all Master Electricians listed under companies that have an open City of Calgary business licence to provide proof of course completion by March 15th, 2017.** A course completion can be submitted by email to: trade.permits@calgary.ca or mailed Attn: Trades Desk P.O. Box 2100, Stn. M, #8108, Calgary, AB T2P 2M5. Failure to do so may result in permit privileges being suspended. The City of Calgary can only issue electrical permits to Master Electricians who hold a valid certification, as per the 2016 Alberta Permit Regulation, AR 204/2007. For more information on approved update courses, please refer to the Safety Codes Council website. For questions about this requirement in the City of Calgary email: electrical.TAC@calgary.ca

Dave Hagen recipient of the ACA Chair's Award. ECAA would like to congratulate Dave Hagen on receiving this award at ACA's AGM last Friday. (Excerpt below): This award recognizes exceptional volunteer commitment for the Alberta Construction Association. *"I am pleased to announce that the recipient of the 2016 ACA Chair's Award is Dave Hagen of Chemco Electric. Dave is a long-time volunteer serving on ACA's Safety / WCB Committee, providing insight and sound judgment on OHS and WCB issues. In 2016, Dave helped shape ACA's response on the WCB Policy Review, of critical importance to every member. Dave also led ACA's dialogue to analyze selected injuries for older workers to determine whether claims should be treated as an occupational disease with cost to the industry group. This work has been advanced as part of the WCB Review. In addition, Dave provided valuable input on the issue of the WCB's application of no-fault*

principles when a worker on modified duty is terminated with cause. Please join me in thanking Dave for his leadership and contributions."

EIAA Annual General Meeting March 4th, 2017. They are currently looking to fill positions on their Executive. Anyone welcome to join as a member. For more information visit www.eiaa.ca

The following information is provided by Safety Codes Council Partners Newsletter.

Fire Certification Survey Results. The Fire Certification and Training working group, on behalf of the fire sub-council, a working group made up of stakeholders representing fire officials, firefighters, the fire safety industry, municipalities, the provincial government and the Office of the Fire Commissioner, and others, reviewed the current status of training and certification of Fire Safety Codes Officers (SCOs). As a result, the Safety Codes Council sent an information booklet and survey to 1400 certified Fire SCOs and 400 accredited organizations including municipalities, corporations, and agencies to consult on a proposal to change the certification scope and training. We received a very strong response from Fire SCOs and hundreds of insightful comments.

The survey results and additional comments were carefully analyzed. Where there appeared to be opposition to the change, the working group assessed the proposed change in light of the comments and recommendations from the respondents.

The proposed changes were:

- Defining scopes of practice for each Group and Level;
- Aligning Group A as the entry requirement for Groups B and C;
- Introducing a new Level: Group E Petroleum Tanks;
- Phasing out Group D Level 1 and Level 2 certifications;
- Removing firefighter experience as a pre-requisite for any new Fire SCO certification; and
- Allowing a two-year transition period from 2017 - 2019 to move into the new structure.

Of those proposed changes, there were only two areas of significant concern. **The first relates to the newly defined scope of practice for Group A. Because Group A will now become the required entry for Groups B and C, the scopes of practice for those groups are also affected.** The proposed occupancy restriction of 60 people was felt to be too small. It will be increased to 150 people to accommodate most buildings in small communities. In addition, buildings meeting the size and occupancy restriction that have a special kitchen fire suppression system will be added to the scope of practice to allow inspection of more restaurants, community halls and so on. These occupancy limits are based on building code occupancy classifications and fire code requirements related to those classifications (whether fire alarms and emergency lighting are required, fire exits and so on).

The second area of concern was the removal of fire-fighting experience as an entry qualification to become a Fire SCO. There were valid concerns expressed and the working group discussed these concerns and the proposal at length. The result was that the proposed change will go ahead: fire-fighting experience will not be a requirement for Fire SCOs. The decision reflects NFPA requirements for Inspectors and Investigators where fire-fighting experience is not required. Other factors included the difficulty in obtaining fire experience, and whether fire experience is needed when inspecting a building according to code requirements. There is also difficulty in assessing fire "experience" in a meaningful way (number of fires vs. complexity of fires, length of time in a fire service vs. activity in the fire service etc.). Employers of Fire SCOs can make arrangements for fire training, if they want their SCOs to have this experience.

The survey focused on recommended changes to the certification structure

rather than the specific courses that would be taken at each level. More information on the training structure will be communicated in our next newsletter; however, all levels will align with the the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) job performance requirements (JPRs) as well as Alberta specific requirements. The new fire courses will be available starting May 2017.

Becoming a Master Electrician. For the last year, the Council has been distributing an information resource to prospective applicants, colleges, and other interested parties. It provides a good summary of what a Master Electrician does and how to become one. You can find it on our [website](#).

Meet Shaye Anderson the New Minister of Municipal Affairs. Danielle Larivee, the previous Minister of Municipal Affairs, has been appointed to serve as the Minister of Children's Services. Taking her place as Minister of Municipal Affairs, will be Shaye Anderson. Mr. Anderson was elected to the Legislative Assembly of Alberta as the Member for the constituency of Leduc-Beaumont on May 5, 2015. He has since served as the Vice Chair of the Public Accounts Committee, and a member of Alberta's Economic Future policy committee. He was also the co-sponsor of the Modernized Municipal Governance Act. He was appointed Minister of Municipal Affairs on 19 January 2017. Anderson moved to Edmonton in 2004 and shortly after put down roots in Beaumont with his wife, Kelly, and two boys.

The Malaspina University-College grad has a diploma in physical education and also attended the University of Victoria for the Bachelor of Education program. Before being elected, he worked with Telus as a telecommunications technician, installing and repairing residential and business services in the County of Leduc. For more information regarding these Minister appointments, please see this [press release](#) from the Alberta Government.

Medical Cannabis at work Conference on March 10th, 2017 in Edmonton. Live stream registration options available. Click on the following link for more information. [Cannabis at Work Conference](#)

Only 1 week left to Register for Edmonton Construction Association Infrastructure Productivity Forum & Builders Connect Luncheon on Friday, February 10th, 2017, Edmonton Expo Centre; 7:15 am: Registration / Breakfast 8 am - 11 am: Program. **The IPF** was launched last year by the ECA, in partnership with the Consulting Engineers of Alberta (CEA). Over 250 people from the Edmonton regional design and construction community were in attendance, including leading owners, designers, consultants and contractors. Our 2017 forum features presentations from award-winning urban designer Simon O'Byrne(Stantec), leadership strategist Tyler Waye (In Form), strategic & operational planning guru Michael Kulchisky (FMI), and project management specialist and professor Dr. George Jergeas (U of C), as they seek to engage listeners on the human dynamics related to productivity. Following each presentation, attendees will also be asked to collectively ponder a major question and provide feedback from their own experience. The IPF is an interactive event designed to disrupt old paradigms, challenge the status quo, and inspire innovative change within our industry. **To register for the IPF ONLY, please [CLICK HERE](#). To register for bothe the IPF and the BCL, please [CLICK HERE](#)**

Board of Directors Update

A Provincial Board of Directors meeting was held on Friday, January 20th in the ECAA Boardroom. President Darrell Castor PEC called the meeting to order at 10:30 am. In attendance were Mr. Shani Ahmad; Mr. Terry Barnett; Mr. Tim Brundage; Mr. Bob Clarke; Mr. Rob Coleman, PEC; Mr. Eric Fadden, PEC; Mr. Dennis Horrigan; Mr. Bob Maslanko, PEC; Mr. Terry Milot; Mr. Tim Tarita; Mr. Brandon Thoma, PEC; Mr. Hans Tiedemann; Mr. Steve Warholik; Mr. Keith Urlacher; Mr. Ray Wery, PEC and Mrs. Sheri McLean (Recording Secretary).

Agenda items included Approval of Minutes from December 15th, 2016. At the

request of Safety Codes Council, a letter was sent asking that Mr. Teichroeb, PEC be appointed as a liaison to Building Sub-Council. Thank you received for ECAA donation to Edmonton Food Bank. Discussion on certification for electricians not trained in Alberta obtaining a PIN number; promotional opportunities with Edmonton Fire; a lunch and learn on code requirements for installing solar; process on PEC Annual Professional Development with those in arrears; Electrical Trade Definitions; appointment of Mr. Dave Hagen as ECAA's representative on the ACSA Board of Directors; invitation to ECAA Board to participate in the Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters Association Deputy Ministers dinner scheduled for February 22nd. Treasurer Mr. Tim Tarita reviewed 60 day overdue invoices, November Pro Forma and Wood Gundy investments. Membership and PEC applications were approved (see welcome new members). Chapter and Committee reports were presented. Request made for delivery of PEC courses in rural Chapter. Discussion on Alberta Electrical League name change to Alberta Electrical Association and confusion this will cause in industry and to the public. Approval of ECAA's CECA membership dues. Concern, and possible solution, regarding quorum at the Annual General Meetings in May. Update provided on Prompt Payment initiative. Request made for list of Provincial and Local Apprenticeship committee members.

Notification received that Safety Codes Council seeking nominations for two Board members. Mr. Fadden, PEC updated Board on Convention 2018 (presentation will be made at Convention breakfast Sunday morning). Mr. Gord Sheppard spent an hour with Board on creating awesome meetings. Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Next Provincial Board of Directors meeting scheduled for Friday, March 17th, 2017.

New Members

Welcome new members! BHS Industries (Parkland County); Carvel Maintenance Services Ltd. (Parkland County); CaTech Systems Ltd. (Calgary); CaTech Systems Ltd. (Edmonton).

Associates: Mobile Mini (Calgary); Marex Canada Ltd. (Calgary)

Journey person Associate: Brad Callaghan

Retired PEC's: Earl Schmermund, Joe Welzbacher; Perry Schmatlz

Retired Members: Jan Sienkiewicz, Fred Hirschfeld

Communications Update

The ECAA has partnered with Del Communications and is gearing up to publish the 55th anniversary magazine with the importance of broadcasting and highlighting this Emerald anniversary to the local industry. In 2012 we released the 50th Anniversary commemorative publication and this special edition will continue to cover major issues, events and individuals who have impacted the industry and our association alike. Throughout the next few months, representatives from DEL Communications Inc. will be contacting all our members for purposes of participating in the publication with advertising opportunities.

Please consider allocating a portion of your marketing budget toward our exciting new endeavor - this special 55th Anniversary publication. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Communication Chair, Jeanette DeBruin or Sheri McLean in the ECAA office.

Labour Update

AUDIOMETRIC TESTING PROGRAM OVERVIEW

SERVICE PROVIDER: SUREHIRE OCCUPATIONAL TESTING

The SureAudio Program was established in 2009 in a joint effort by the Construction Labour Relations Alberta (CLRA), Electrical Contractors Association of Alberta (ECAA) & Boilermaker Contractors Association (BCA). This program is an efficient way to comply with Alberta's Occupational Health & Safety Legislation regarding your Noise Management Program testing. The SureAudio centralized database houses audiometric testing records for a largely transient workforce who may be employed by multiple contractors.

The responsibility to schedule required testing rests on the employer.

Baseline audiometric testing needs to be completed within 6 months of a worker being hired. The next test is required 12 months after the baseline test. Subsequent tests are required every 24 months thereafter.

How to utilize the SureAudio Program:

Eligibility: Contractors can contact SureHire Occupational Testing to determine which of their workers are eligible to be tested under the SureAudio Program.

- SureHire - Company Account Inquiries
 - ○ Ph: 1-866-944-4473 Selection 6
 - ○ Email: info@surehire.ca
 - ○ Website: www.surehire.ca
 - Select Contact, complete all the required fields and submit. SureHire will respond to your submission within 48 hours

Requesting an Audiometric Testing appointment:

- Contact SureHire (same information as above) and request an audiometric testing appointment.
- SureHire's Account Representative will ensure that you have a Company Account set up.
- You will be provided with a Mobile Testing Request form to complete and return to SureHire
 - ○ Obtains the details of your onsite testing request (date, time, site location, etc.)
 - Determining which workers require testing;
 - ○ You will receive our SureAudio Scrub Template (Excel Spreadsheet) and will be asked to populate your workers' information and send back to SureHire
 - ○ Your list will be scrubbed against the SureAudio database to determine;
 - Workers who are due for testing now
 - Workers who are due for testing within the next 30, 60 and 90 days
 - Workers who are not due for testing
 - SureHire's Mobile Testing Coordinator will contact you to set up your testing appointment
 - Please direct all questions related to billing

to SureHire prior to booking your appointment.

Contact Jim at 780-619-8843 with any questions.

Local Chapter Activity

CALGARY: Next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, February 9th**. Join us at **Industry Night** featuring table top displays, updates, reports, and a fun-money casino. **Guest Speaker Dave Smith, CCA. Topic of Discussion:** A Virtually New World for Construction - Calgary Construction Association President Dave Smith will address the seismic shift that the construction industry will experience over the coming decade. All members encouraged to invite non-ECAA Electrical Contractors to attend. **March 9th Special Presentation from 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm "Changes in 2014 Fire Code" Joe Davis;** chapter meeting to follow.

CENTRAL: Next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 15th. Holiday Inn South, Red Deer.**

EDMONTON: Next meeting is **Monday, February 27th**. Join us for **Industry Night** being held at NAIT with a tour of their Alternative Energy lab as part of the agenda.

FORT McMURRAY: Next Meeting **Wednesday, March 8th, 2017**, Best Western Sawridge Plus 6:00 pm dinner and meeting to follow.

NORTH EAST: Next Meeting **Wednesday, March 22nd, 2017**. Royal Hotel in Lloydminster. **Special Presentation Solar Energy Jaye Jonnson, Eecol Electric** 5:30 - 6:30 pm meeting and dinner to follow.

NORTH WEST: Next Meeting **Thursday, March 23rd, 2017**, Pomeroy Hotel in Grande Prairie. **Special Presentation NECB 2011 Energy Code Impacts on Industry: Dave Hiemstra, Optics Lighting** from 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm. Meeting and dinner to follow.

PEC Electrical Project Management has been scheduled for Wednesday, March 22nd & Thursday, March 23rd. Instructor: Rob Colclough, PEC. Students registered are welcome to attend the Chapter meeting following the course held on the 23rd.

Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) News

Recently approved Professional Electrical Contractors (PEC's)
Steven Almeida, PEC #320; Sean Rogan, PEC #321; Jack Wearmouth, PEC #322 and Kevin Zimmerman, PEC #323.

Congratulations!

Annual Professional Development (APD)

Upcoming APD Point Opportunities

EIAA Technical Conference held Friday, February 3rd & 4th at the Chateau Louis Hotel & Conference Centre, Edmonton. (12 APD points for attending the full conference)

CE Code Seminar - February 9th, Best Western Port O'Call, Calgary.

February 15th, ECAA Provincial Office, Edmonton (7 APD Points)

Calgary Chapter Industry Night - Thursday, February 9th, Best Western Port O'Call (2 APD Points)

Legal Implications - PEC Refresher Thursday, February 9th & Friday, February 10th, ECAA Provincial Office, Edmonton (12 APD Points)

Basic Electrical Estimating (BEE) - Thursday, February 23rd & Friday, February 24th, ECAA Provincial Office, Edmonton (12 APD Points)

Edmonton Chapter Industry Night - Monday, February 27th, NAIT Alternative Energy Lab (2 APD Points)

AEL Learning Expo - Thursday, March 2nd, River Cree, Edmonton (1-2 APD points per session attended) For more information visit

www.albertaelectricalleague.com

Need help?

Contact the ECAA office and we are more than happy to help by answering any questions you have with achieving and entering your APD points.

Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) Courses

Registrations are being accepted for all courses scheduled in 2017.

[2017 PEC Course Schedule and Registration](#)

****New PEC Course Dates Added****

Legal Implications (Dentons Law Firm) Thursday, February 9th & Friday, February 10th, 2017, (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.

Safety Principles (Instructor Clarke Gould) Friday, March 3rd & Saturday, March 4th, 2017 (Calgary). A well developed safety program can reduce costs resulting from injury and property damage, and is the hallmark of a quality electrical contracting firm.. The first day of the course shows you each step to develop and implement an effective safety program for your small to medium sized electrical contracting firm.

The next day is designed to help managers ensure construction supervisors fine-tune their safety skills by:

- clearly understanding what their safety roles and responsibilities are
- presenting and delivering effective training to workers and maintaining high worksite safety standards
- conducting effective site inspections - and developing appropriate recommendations
- investigating - the steps to follow and processes involved

Electrical Project Management (Instructor Rob Colclough, PEC) Wednesday, March 22nd & Thursday, March 23rd, 2017 (Grande Prairie). Practical hands-on skills to learn and apply project management

processes and knowledge areas, to reduce project cost through effective purchasing and administration; to avoid paying for others errors or omissions; to recover all costs which you are entitled; effective record keeping to enhance project profitability.

Objectives PEC Electrical PM:

1. List and apply Project Management processes (5) and knowledge areas (10).
2. Identify and recover all costs to which you are entitled.
3. Avoid paying for others' errors or omissions.
4. Reduce project costs through effective purchasing and administration.
5. Identify cost overruns - and take corrective action.
6. Use effective record keeping systems to enhance project profitability.

Assessing & Finalizing the Tender (Instructor Chris Reinert, PEC) Friday, March 24th & Saturday, March 25th, 2017 (Calgary). This course for the Professional Electrical Contractor courses covers organizing the estimate, finalizing the tender, and computer aid in estimating and finalizing the tender. Since the course is aimed at Professional Electrical Contractors, very little time is spent on basic take-offs. The course addresses calculations of various overheads, mark-up theories, labor factors, evaluating risk factors, and the like, all concerns that the active business manager meets up with every day. These three parts of this course are designed to create an awareness in the Professional Electrical Contractor of the various business principles involved in preparing his or her tenders.

Computer Estimating for Small Projects (Instructor Chris Reinert, PEC) Thursday, March 30th & Friday, March 31st, 2017 (Edmonton)

This course is designed to provide the new estimator or contractor with a basic understanding of how to prepare an estimate. It covers:

- Planning for the estimate
- Preparing counts, take-offs
- Preparing the Bill of material for supplier pricing and Review of the Bill of material
- Accubid "Bidwinner"
- Use of assemblies, where to enter miscellaneous costs, supplier pricing, overhead costs, and the final pricing sheet
- Use of Excel spreadsheets to assist with take-offs

****Reminder all PEC's retaking courses 12 APD points apply. Reduced course rate of \$60 per course.**

ECAA Courses

BLUE PRINT READING (Instructor Larry Cantelo, PEC)

Friday, March 10th & Saturday, March 12th, 2017 (Calgary)

[Blue Print Registration - CALGARY](#)

Thursday, March 23rd & Friday, March 24th, 2017 (Edmonton)

[Blue Print Registration - EDMONTON](#)

On many projects, especially large ones, many electricians and apprentices have very little opportunity to spend much time reading the blueprints. This, despite the fact that the ability to effectively navigate through a set of prints is an essential skill for any tradesperson. This twelve-hour course is intended for both people who have a limited amount of blueprint reading experience and for those who want to brush up on their skills. The bulk of the time in this course will be spent reading commercial blueprints and answering a series of quizzes pertaining to them. A series of short lectures will supplement the print-reading exercises. A brief introduction to specifications will also be provided as part of the course. At the end of the course participants

will have the option to purchase the textbooks and blueprints used throughout the course.

Online Training

ECAA has launched the following new courses to our training website.

Along with the Ethics and ESTS Electrical Worker Training on CSA Z462 we have added:

- ESTS Electrical Worker USA 2015
- ESTS Non-Electrical Worker Canada and USA 2015
- Bear Awareness Online Training
- Confined Space Pre-Entry Online Training
- Fire Safety Awareness
- Ground Disturbance Online Training - Supervisory 3.0
- H2S Awareness Online Training 2.0
- Hazard Awareness Online Training 2.0
- TDG Online Training 3.0
- WHMIS 2015 Online Training
- Defensive Driving - 3 Demerit Reduction Online Training (Alberta Only)
- Defensive Driving Condensed Online Training (CDN Version)
- Fatigue Management for Senior Administrators and Supervisors Online Training
- Fatigue Management: Driving Drowsy - Taking Responsibility Online Training
- Professional Drive Improvement Course Online Training - 3 Demerit Reduction (Alberta Only)

Start your training today on www.ecaatraining.com

ONLINE TRAINING

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).

News from Alberta Construction Association

[Employer Appeals Consulting \(EAC\) Service Reminder](#)

EAC service is available through the WCB to employers seeking advice or assistance in initiating a WCB claim decision appeal. There is no fee charged to employers for accessing this service.

The EAC provides information, analysis and advice to assist employers in understanding the policy and legislation related to specific issues of a claim and how the appeal process works. The EAC service will also assist in developing arguments for and against your position so you can make an informed decision on how you would like to proceed. Claim acceptance is the most common reason employers have accessed EAC services, but you can ask for advice or assistance regarding any claim decision you do not agree with. The EAC was introduced in 2012 as a direct result of advocacy by the ITF (Industry Task Force) Association. The WCB's Employer Fact Sheet is attached for your reference. Below is the link to the online form that must be completed to request EAC services.

https://www.wcb.ab.ca/claims/review-and-appeals/for-employers/emp_appeal.asp

Please note, the EAC is not an employer advocacy service. Staff will provide consultation but will not act on your behalf in the claim management or appeal process.

You can read further information [here](#).

[New Provincial Tax Credits Announced](#)

On January 12 the Government of Alberta announced two new tax credits.

The Capital Investment Tax Credit (CITC) will have three competitive application intake periods, with the first beginning Jan.16, 2017 and ending Feb. 15, 2017.

The Alberta Investor Tax Credit (AITC) will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Intake for the AITC will begin Jan. 16, 2017, remaining open until the annual funding for the program is fully allocated.

Legislation creating the two credits passed unanimously late last year. The credits are expected to support at least 9,000 jobs and add \$1.2 billion to Alberta's GDP.

You can read the government media release [here](#).

[Survey Reminder for Members](#)

Our member's survey is live on Survey Monkey and we could really use your input in the direction we are headed in 2017. If you could take a few minutes to review and respond it would be a tremendous help as we move into the new year and beyond. If you have not had the chance to do so, please take the opportunity.

You can fill out the survey [here](#).

[Stats Canada Releases Building Permit Update](#)

On January 11th Stats Canada released an update on the numbers for Building Permits for 2016. The Government of Alberta released this information on their economic dashboard.

In November 2016, Alberta municipalities issued \$1.1 billion in building permits, up 3.0% from November 2015.

Nationally, building permits increased 18.3% over the same time period. In Alberta, residential (+10.1%) and industrial (+35.6%) permits increased while commercial (-12.3%) and institutional (-5.5%) permits experienced declines.

You can read more about the historical numbers at the [Alberta Economic Dashboard](#).

[Calgary Construction Association is Seeking a New President and COO](#)

Hays Specialist Recruitment has partnered with the Calgary Construction Association in their search for a President and Chief Operating Officer. Founded in 1944, the CCA is a non-profit voluntary membership association which is involved in the fostering and advancement of the interests of those who are engaged in, or who are connected with the institutional, commercial, industrial (ICI) sectors of the construction industry in Calgary and the surrounding area. The CCA promotes excellence in the construction of buildings with its core values being to create opportunities, deliver the best leading edge services and be an effective voice for the local construction

industry. The Calgary Construction Association represents over 800 member companies.

As the President and COO, you will report directly to the Chair. You will be responsible for liaising with the association members, affiliated associations, and wider construction community and build solid relationships to ensure the organization provides an excellent membership experience. The role will also involve supervising all external communications as well as working collaboratively with the Chair and employees on media and PR strategies and initiatives with the objective of promoting the CCA. You will, along with the Treasurer, oversee all financial statements and investments as well as manage operations within the CCA's annual budget. A big part of the position will involve developing, implementing and overseeing new initiatives, as set out by the Board, including educational training and policies. Additionally, all operations of the Calgary Construction Association as well as all matters pertinent to association employees will be a responsibility of this position.

The successful candidate will have post-secondary education along with experience at an executive level sitting on or reporting into a Board, as well as experience with government relations. Previous experience working for a not for profit association or some construction related experience is preferred. You will have a strong background in developing long-term relationships and be a customer-focused individual. It is important that the CCA find a strategic leader with proven experience in an innovative and forward-thinking organization. You will have excellent communication and people skills that enable you to deal with the media, executive level individuals as well as the Board and be a self-motivated, collaborative person who will represent the association and its members to the highest standard.

If this position excites you and is a role you not only have the experience to do, but can see how you can add value to the organization, do not hesitate to apply using the link below:

[President and Chief Operating Officer](#)

*Please note that applications will only be considered by applying through this link.

[ACA 2017 AGM Report](#)

The Alberta Construction Association Annual General Meeting was held on Friday January 27th, in Edmonton. The meeting brought together the board, our associate members, and local construction associations from across Alberta and government representatives.

Paul Heyens is our new Chair, Paul is the CEO of Alberta Glass. Paul has served with ACA for a number of years. Paul Verhesen moves to Past Chair, Chris Ambrozic is now the Senior Vice Chair, and Ian Reid was named Vice Chair.

Dave Hagen for his tremendous work for ACA was also recognised with the ACA Chair's Award. Outgoing Chair Paul Verhesen was honoured for his contributions for the construction industry and ACA in particular.

ACA 2017 Executive:

Chair: Paul Heyens - Alberta Glass

Past Chair: Paul Verhesen - Clark Builders
Senior Vice Chair: Chris Ambrozic - Scorpio Masonry
Vice Chair: Ian Reid - Bird Construction

As well as these changes two representatives from the government appeared to speak to our AGM. Deputy Minister of Labour Jeff Parr and Alberta Instructure Assistant Deputy Minister Alan Humphries.

Highlights of comments from Jeff Parr:

- Government will strike the balance between fair workplaces and maintaining competitive industries
- They started with farm sector, then dealt with essential services, then minimum wage
- WCB review - greater focus and integration on workplace safety. Final report of Panel Spring 2017
- Employment Standards Code - make it more family friendly. Bring forward in a matter of weeks
- Labor Relations Code - CETA agreement with EU requires Canada and AB to adopt all 8 conventions of the International Labor Organization. Likely all stakeholder groups will find something that they dislike. In the next few weeks will begin consulting on a limited number of changes
- OHS Code - legislation has not been addressed since 1976. Across Canada, OHS has adopted internal responsibility system - ie. Right to know, right to participate, right to refuse unsafe work. He strongly favors joint worker employer safety committees, applying lean principles by bringing the worker into the decision-making. Will encourage partnerships with WCB and others to drive prevention. Will also foster harmonization across western Canada. Coming out in next few weeks.

Highlights of Alan Humphries comments:

- Capital spend this year and next year \$7B a year, capital budget to remain at \$35B over 5 years
- Procurement Policy Review - started summer 2016. In Fall, extended beyond construction. Focus is on promoting 1) opportunities for Albertans, 2) environmental sustainability, 3) procuring innovation. Currently 95+% AI spending is with AB firms
- Report going to Minister Mason next few weeks, then to Cabinet this Spring, to be followed by additional consultations

[ACA Seeks Relief on Carbon Levy for Existing Contracts](#)

On January 31 ACA sent a letter on behalf of the members who have expressed concern that the carbon levy will adversely affect their current contracts.

A number of Alberta contractors are parties to contracts in effect well before the carbon levy came in to effect January 1, 2017. These contracts involve various municipalities and other public entities which include contractual language to reimburse for a tax increase, where the impact of the tax can be clearly documented.

Suppliers and subcontractors are now passing along cost increases as a result of the imposition of the carbon levy, costs that were not possible to estimate at the time of bidding and subsequent contract award. Unfortunately, the rationale given is verbal but is not substantiated in writing. Anecdotal evidence suggests a cost increase on the order of 1-2% can be attributed to the carbon levy.

This situation should not apply to any contracts signed after January 1, 2017, indeed, the association prepared a bulletin in late 2016 advising members to

account for the levy in their bidding.

Alberta Construction Association urges the Alberta Government to develop a program to offset these cost impacts.

ACA would be pleased to meet with government to discuss the parameters of such a program.

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The full letter can be found [here](#).

For more news and events visit www.albertaconstruction.net

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 March 3rd, 2017.



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