



**ECAA**

Electrical Contractors  
Association of Alberta

# THE SPARK

ECAA NEWSLETTER

August 3rd, 2018

Issue 90

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## 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

Greetings to all,

It just seems as though spring was last week and its already August. Wow, how time flies. This will be just a brief message, as summer is upon us and Chapter activity has taken a well-deserved rest.



I am looking forward to spending some time in Fort McMurray on August 15th, as the ECAA crew assemble at the Wood Buffalo Apprenticeship Golf Tournament. Chapter President Tim Brundage always does a fantastic job as host. It promises to be a great time.

After a lengthy time, (we applied in 2016), the new ECAA logo, as well as the new PEC (Professional Electrical Contractor) logo have been trademarked. This is a great success; many thanks go out to our amazing staff for their diligence and perseverance.

As September nears, I would like to remind everyone that ECAA Chapter activity ramps back up. There are meetings scheduled around the province so check out the ECAA website to locate a place and time in your area. Please make plans to attend as these meetings have been known to carry some very valuable material and fantastic conversations. Our next Provincial Board Meeting is on September 11th and I anticipate a great turnout as always. It will be nice to connect with all of you again. The 29th

[Code Seminar Registration Form](#)

**MEETINGS**

September 13th, 2018  
CALGARY CHAPTER

September 17th, 2018  
EDMONTON CHAPTER

September 18th, 2018  
FORT McMURRAY CHAPTER

September 20th, 2018  
NORTH WEST CHAPTER  
Grande Prairie

September 26th, 2018  
CENTRAL CHAPTER  
Red Deer

**WOOD BUFFALO  
APPRENTICESHIP CLASSIC**

August 15th, 2018  
Miskinaw Golf Course  
Fort McMurray

**29th Annual Bob Carson  
Classic  
Golf Tournament**  
Wednesday, Sept. 12th, 2018  
Highlands Golf Course

[ECAA 2018-2019  
Board of Directors](#)

Click on the above link to  
meet our Provincial Board  
of Directors

**Join Our List**

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

**ECAA is Social  
Like us on**

Annual Bob Carson Classic will be held at the Highlands Golf Course on September 12th. Come out for a great day of golf and networking.

Again, I look forward to greeting acquaintances and meeting new people as I venture out to each Chapter this coming year as your Provincial President. Enjoy the rest of your summer.

Yours respectfully,  
Tim Tarita  
ECAA Provincial President

**Electrical Safety Program "Product in a Box"**

**Do you know the approved "mark" for an insulated hand tool for use in Canada and that would be required based on the CSA Z462 Workplace electrical safety Standard?** Most electricians do not know. We need to ensure that approved electrical specific PPE, tools & equipment are procured for your company and provided to Qualified Electrical Workers.

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

**Getting to Know Your Associates**

**FBC is the Tax Specialist for Electricians**

Between managing projects, organizing your crew, and finding new customers, you're left with little time to worry about your accounting and the paperwork that quickly piles up. FBC will ensure that you're compliant with the Canada Revenue Agency and that you pay the least amount of taxes now and over the long term.

FBC's slogan-and our sincere promise-is **"We make life less taxing."** Our slogan expresses the mission on which our company was founded more than 65 years ago: to help hard-working Canadian business owners pay the least tax possible. By expertly optimizing your tax returns, we'll minimize your taxes and maximize your benefits from government grants and subsidies to put more money in your pocket. Our relationship-based approach through a year-round Membership, gives us a rock-solid understanding of your business, allowing us to develop tax strategies to maximize your financial position over the long-term.

Over 2,500 trades business owners across Canada trust FBC to help them run a better business without all the paperwork and administrative headaches.

<https://electrical-contractors.fbc.ca/>

We offer a complimentary consultation to get started, it's a great way to compare services for no cost or obligation. Contact us today 780-229-0328 or [jcloutier@fbc.ca](mailto:jcloutier@fbc.ca)

**Did you Know?**



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The Getting to Know Your Associates article block above is an opportunity to tell our readers more about you and what your company has to offer. Is there a special offer or promotion available? Do our members know who you are and what your company offers? Let us help you share the information and spread the word.

For more information reach out to your Associate Liaison representative or contact to the ECAA Provincial Office.

(NORTH)

[Darrell Warholik](#)

(SOUTH)

[Rob Little](#)

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### Industry News

**STILL SPOTS AVAILABLE: Wood Buffalo Apprenticeship Golf Classic** in Fort McMurray Wednesday, August 15th at Miskinaw Golf Course. Proceeds to Keyano College scholarships assisting 2nd & 3rd year electrical apprentices. For sponsorship opportunities or to register players [Tournament Information](#) or [REGISTER ONLINE](#).

**29th Annual Bob Carson Classic** Wednesday, September 12th at the Highlands Golf Course. [Tournament Information](#) [REGISTER ONLINE](#)

Contact Christine ([chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca)) to sponsor a hole.

**The Board of the National Electrical Trade Council (NETCO) has elected Tom Reid to serve as President and as a Director of the Council.** Tom Reid is International Vice-President First District Canada of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW). He replaces Bill Daniels, whose retirement from both NETCO and the IBEW was effective July 1. *Best wishes to Bill Daniels on his retirement; Congratulations Tom Reid on this new position.* To read the full the media release [click here](#).

**[IMPORTANT NOTICE: THE BUSINESS ENERGY SAVINGS PROGRAM HAS RECENTLY CHANGED.](#)** Energy Efficiency Alberta's Business Energy Savings Program has been very popular, exceeding expectations for both participation and energy savings. As a result, Energy Efficiency Alberta has made several changes to the program, **effective July 10, 2018**.

1. Pre-approval is required for all new projects and will be subject to revised rebate values and program terms.
2. Post-installation applications will no longer be accepted for projects started on or after July 10, 2018. Post-installation applications with acceptable proof that the project has started (e.g., an invoice or purchase order) on or after April 11, 2018 and no later than July 9, 2018 will be accepted. Please submit all post-installation applications by August 7, 2018.

For details please see the updated [terms and conditions](#) and [eligibility](#) list or details.

### [Learn more about program changes.](#)

**The Breakfast Club:** ECAA has partnered with the Mechanical Contractors Association to offer the following educational seminars:

**Time & Priority Management:** September 25th, 2018  
**Interviewing & Selection Skills:** November 21st, 2018  
**Managing Change:** January 15th, 2019  
**Conducting Performance Reviews:** March 19th, 2019  
**Conflict Resolution:** May 1st, 2019

Sessions will take place at the ECAA Provincial Office in Edmonton and run from 8:30 am - 10:30 am. *Registration to follow shortly.*

**Alberta Chamber of Resources Fall Environmental Forum.** Save the Date: New Federal Environmental Assessment Process (Impact Assessment - Bill C69) September 26, 2018, 8:30 - 12:00 pm (Noon) Calgary, Alberta. [Click Here](#) for more details.

**Canadian Design Build Institute (CDBI) Conference** will take place October 11 - 12 in Halifax with the Fundamentals of Design-Build tutorial being run on the 10th. Tutorial program, conference program and speakers can be found here: <http://www.cdbi.org/conference/2018-conference/>

### Provincial Board of Directors Update

Next meeting: September 11th, 2018.

### PEC News

**ECAA is currently looking for an experienced Electrical Estimator to teach the Basic Electrical Estimating (BEE) course.** This course was developed for small contractors who are not ready to make the investment in a computerized estimating system and 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 of materials using the NECA Manual of Labour Units, labour costs, special overheads, general overheads and profit/contingencies.

For more information or to submit a resume please contact Sheri McLean [Smclean@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:Smclean@ecaa.ab.ca)

### Local Chapter Activity

**CALGARY:** Next meeting **Thursday, September 13th** Best Western Port O'Call Hotel.

**Pre-Meeting Presentation at 5:00 pm: Brad Barrett, PowerCo**

**Topic:** Cable Bus Applications

**Chapter Meeting & Dinner 6:00 pm**

**Guest Speaker: Tim Renaud, Convergent/Honeywell.**

**Topic:** Wireless Fire Alarms

**Join us for food, fun and football on the Telus Patio, Friday September 28, 2018** as the Calgary Stampeders take on the Toronto Argonauts,

McMahon Stadium. Tickets include game admission and food (beverages extra). [2018 Calgary Stampeders vs Toronto Argonauts](#)

- private field view
- delicious menu options
- all you can eat food
- tables of 6

**Tickets Still Available.** [Reserve Today Online!](#) or contact **Camille (caustin@ecaa.ab.ca)** McMahon Stadium: 1817 Crowchild Trail NW, Calgary, AB T2M 4R6.

**SAVE THE DATE: Calgary Chapter Christmas Gala** Saturday, November 24th, 2018, Fairmont Palliser Hotel, Calgary. Join President Andrew McGuire and the Chapter Executive for a holiday gala dinner with musical guests "**Five on the Side**". This live band kept members dancing all night at the ECAA AGM and will not disappoint. *Registration available in September.*

**CENTRAL:** Next Meeting **Wednesday, September 26th 5:30 pm** at the Holiday Inn South Red Deer. Guest Speaker TBA.

**EDMONTON:** Next Meeting **Monday, September 17th**, Chateau Louis Hotel & Conference Center.

**Pre-Meeting Presentation 5:00 pm: Brad Barrett, PowerCo**

**Topic:** Cable Bus Applications

**Chapter Meeting & Dinner 6:00 pm**

**Guest Speaker:** Tim Hydzik, Prolux

**Topic:** Lighting & Controls

**29th Annual Bob Carson Classic** will be held on **Wednesday, September 12th, 2018.** [Online Registration](#)

**FORT McMURRAY:** Next Meeting **Tuesday, September 18th 6:00 pm** at Laird/Stuart Olson Board Room (Bay 45 925 Memorial Drive).

**Guest Speaker:** Tim Hydzik, Prolux

**Topic:** Lighting & Controls

**Wood Buffalo Apprenticeship Golf Classic** [Wood Buffalo Apprenticeship Classic PACKAGE](#) Click on the following link to register your team or contribute as a sponsor. [Online Registration](#)

*"Good afternoon everyone, Just a quick reminder as President of the ECAA local chapter here in Fort McMurray, we will be holding our fifth annual Wood Buffalo Apprenticeship Classic golf tournament on Wednesday, August 15th. I have attached the Registration and Sponsorship forms for your review. This has always been a great time for our local businesses to come together to support our young electrical apprentices of the region, as all proceeds go towards \$1,500 dollar bursaries for those third and fourth year students with the top marks for each enrollment period as a means of covering the cost burdens that come by way of books and tuitions, etc. This is also a great time to network and share a few laughs with each other during the summer months. I certainly hope that everyone will be able to attend, and if not we would even be grateful for any prize donations or silent auction items as well. Please pass this along to anyone else that I may*

*have missed or perhaps someone that you feel would be interested in participating. Thank you again for your time as well as your ongoing support of our community and it's students! Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns."*

Sincerely,

Tim Brundage, General Manager  
[tim.brundage@stuartolson.com](mailto:tim.brundage@stuartolson.com)

**NORTH WEST:** Next meeting is **Thursday, September 20th 5:30 pm**, Pomeroy Hotel in Grande Prairie.

**Guest Speaker: Tim Hydzik, Prolux**  
**Topic:** Lighting & Controls

**Grande Prairie Area Solar Code Workshop for Electrical Inspectors.**

This 7 hour workshop will provide Group A Electrical Safety Codes Officers (Electrical Inspectors) with the 2015 and 2018 Canadian Electrical Code updates for solar electricity, and will include inspector's checklists, which address the most crucial inspection points of the four typical solar photovoltaic system types. Participants will receive a certification of completion upon passing a one hour exam at the end of the workshop.

**Free to Alberta Electrical Inspectors and includes lunch.** This workshop will take place on **Thursday, October 11th at the City of Grande Prairie Service Centre in room 101M.** [REGISTRATION LINK](#)

## Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) Courses

### [2018 PEC Course Schedule and Registration](#)

**Estimating & Finalizing the Tender with Computer Estimating Thursday, September 6th - Saturday, September 8th, 2018 (Edmonton) Instructor Chris Reinert.** This 3-day course will cover types of estimates, organizing the estimate, labor units, computer estimating and finalizing the tender. Goals of this course include how to do an estimate using a set of drawings and specs applying take off terms and procedures to finalize and submit tender documents and develop an estimate in a format that can be used as a Project Management Tool.

**Basic Electrical Estimating (BEE) Thursday, September 13th & Friday, September 14th, 2018 (Calgary) Instructor Pat Barnes.** 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 of materials using the NECA Manual of Labour Units, labour costs, special overheads, general overheads and profit/contingencies.

**Business & Public Relations Thursday, September 20th & Friday, September 21st, 2018 (Edmonton) Instructor Brian McCready.** 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.

**\*\*NEW COURSE DATE ADDED\*\***

**Legal Implications Thursday, October 25th & Friday, October 26th, 2018 (Calgary) Instructor Trevor Goulet.** 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.

**\*\*Reminder all PEC's retaking courses 12 APD points apply. Reduced course rate of \$60 per 2 day course; \$90 3 day course.**

### Online Training

**ESTS 2018 Update Available.** The newest version of our 2018 compliant ESTS course was developed for workers that perform energized electrical work. The overall course content was developed using industry accepted best practice standards as the underpinning in support of meeting Provincial or Federal regulatory due diligence for arc flash and shock.

#### Learning Objectives for Qualified Electrical Workers

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

**ONLINE TRAINING -- ECAA MEMBER DISCOUNT AVAILABLE!  
use Promo Code ECAA2018!**

#### E-Learning Courses Available:

- ESTS Electrical Worker Canada 2018
- ESTS Electrical Worker USA
- ESTS Non-Electrical Worker Canada and USA
- 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)

#### **FIRST LEVEL SUPERVISOR TRAINING PROGRAM \*\*5 Gold Seal**

**Credits** 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](mailto: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](http://www.ecaatraining.com) (Ethics course).

### **Alberta Construction Association Update**

#### **OHS Approvals Process Allows for Different Health and Safety Committee Approaches.**

There are significant updates to compliance requirements under the OHS Act that have come into effect starting June 1, 2018. Some employers have expressed uncertainty on how best to comply to provisions where they feel the definitions of what constitutes a construction work site, who is the prime contractor, or the make-up of a Joint Worksite Health and Safety Committee (JWSHSC) may be unclear. One frequent question is the need for individual employer as well as site JWSHSCs on the same site.

Section 56 of the new OHS Act provides the opportunity for prime contractors, employers, and other parties affected by the legislation to seek approval for an alternate approach. An approval allows for a statutory Director to approve a process, equipment, standard, course or training agency, or an alternative to strict compliance with a specific legislated provision.

You can find out more from OHS on health and safety committees at <https://www.alberta.ca/work-site-health-safety-committees.aspx>. This includes the link to the Self-Evaluation tool. Completion of the tool is required for all HSC approval applications. ACA recommends, and OHS requires, that applications contain sufficient information to address the primary intent of the legislated changes, namely, ensuring a safe worksite with:

- Workers having knowledge of the hazards and access to basic health and safety information,
- Worker participation in health and safety discussions and committees, and



- Workers having the right to refuse to perform dangerous work and be protected from reprisal for such refusal

ACA is working with OHS to share best practices based on the experiences of such approvals.

### 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](mailto:smclean@ecaa.ab.ca)

**The next issue of The Spark will be emailed on September 7th, 2018.**



# ECAA

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