



# THE SPARK

## ECAA E-Newsletter

March 8, 2013

Issue 26

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### Quick Links

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

### Calendar of Events

*Upcoming CEC Code Changes Seminars*

*March 23rd  
1:00 - 5:00  
Black Knight Inn  
Red Deer*

&

*April 27th  
Keyano College  
Fort McMurray*

### MARCH/2013

#### 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 I hope you're all surviving our long winter. Seems everywhere you go winter has been a little tougher than normal. I tried to get away from it for a couple of weeks in Phoenix and although the weather was mostly decent it wasn't hot and in fact it snowed one day while I was there. Anyway lets hope that we get a great Spring and Summer. I attended the Electrical Inspectors Association of Alberta (EIAA) conference in Edmonton in February after not being there for a few years and now I know why I should have kept going. The information presented and the code issues and changes dealt with were great. You definitely came away with a good understanding of the topics. If you have never been I would highly recommend that you make a note to attend next year.



Kelly Wilde

The new ECAA offices are done and we are moved in. If you get a chance you should stop by and have a look. Our new address is 17725 - 103 Ave. Please make sure you at least make the change in your contact info. So that you don't go to the wrong place next time you need to go to the offices. I would really, really like to thank all of the companies and people who helped with, or donated to the new offices, your dedication to our Association is greatly appreciated.

Our first Board Meeting at the new offices will be coming up this month and final preparation have been completed for the Waterton AGM. Your packages will be out right away and I quick reply and confirmation will be required as we need to hear back from you by March 22nd. That's it for now talk to you in April.

Kelly Wilde

#### Getting to Know Your Membership

*(These courses approved by Electrical Technical Council to meet recertification requirements for Master Electricians and Safety Codes officers)*

*March 22nd & 23rd  
Safety Principles Course  
Blackfoot Inn, Calgary*

### Tradeshows

**AEL ELECTRICAL  
LEARNING EXPO  
March 21st, 2013  
Lethbridge Lodge**

**Calgary Construction  
Association Tradeshow  
BMO Center Hall B  
Stampede Park  
April 24th, 2013**

**Residential  
Construction Industry  
Conference  
Hall F  
Edmonton EXPO Centre  
April 30 - May 1, 2013**

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

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

### Join Our List

Join Our Mailing List!

### Social Networking



Find us on Facebook

***(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](mailto:smclean@ecaa.ab.ca) a company profile)***

**PreTech Concrete Products Ltd** is a manufacturer and supplier of precast concrete products to the underground electrical & communication industry, commercial, industrial and energy markets.

After working more than a quarter century in the precast concrete world, many spent in the development of standard utility products, it was time for a company, focused on this market, to help contractors by providing quality products in a timely fashion as well as providing both feedback and ideas that come with experience in the industry. To help with this goal we are now members of the ECAA as well as the ECA.

We welcome custom or one-of-a-kind products as well as standards for Alberta Transportation, Atco Electric, City of Edmonton, EPCOR and Fortis.

Please feel free to visit our web site, [www.pretechcpl.com](http://www.pretechcpl.com), or email us at

We look forward to working with our fellow ECAA members so please feel free to call with any questions or projects you may have on the go.

Regards,

Graham Brett, President  
PreTech Concrete Products Ltd.  
Bus: (780) 963 1867  
Cell: (587) 983 5622

### Industry News

**REVISED ELECTRICAL STANDATA.** The following STANDATA has been revised and is now available on the Alberta Municipal Affairs website. To view or print a copy follow the link below.

LEG-ECR-2 [rev 21]- Electrical Systems Equipment

To view all STANDATA that have been issued for the Electrical Code go to [www.municipalaffairs.alberta.ca](http://www.municipalaffairs.alberta.ca)

**Good day to you.** For those who don't know me that well, I'm both born and raised in Calgary and currently hold the position of Senior Estimator with Canem Systems Ltd, a company that I have worked with for almost 20 years. As a result of being voted in, participating and winning the Last Shooter Standing Competition (going undefeated 10-0), that ran during the intermissions of Calgary Flames games in 2010, I was awarded a trip to Philadelphia (from Vision 2000

Travel) for Space Training at the NASTAR Centre, which went very well (as I finished top in our class and the oldest recipient in that class, to boot). I am ready for this!!

This is what it comes down to. If you, or someone you know is on Facebook (which unfortunately I am not), please please please, take a moment click on the link below (either one), login in and vote for me. I am candidate # 1070 on the list of potential Astronauts. I have somewhat of an advantage as I have been through extensive training with NASTAR in Philadelphia (this past year). There are thousands of people trying to win this competition and I would Love nothing more than to represent Calgary, Alberta, and Canada, the way it should be represented, with Pride and Honor. I am ready for this!!

[https://www2.axeapollo.com/en\\_PH](https://www2.axeapollo.com/en_PH)

If you are a Facebook user, please do forward this email to any and everybody you know, get on board in helping me climb aboard the SXC, travelling 103KM into space. I greatly appreciate anything and everything you can to do make this dream become a reality.....

And again, I am ready for this!!

Sincerely,  
Andrew Trifaux  
[https://www2.axeapollo.com/en\\_PH](https://www2.axeapollo.com/en_PH)

***Standards Council Accredits New SDOs  
FEBRUARY 20, 2013***

On Monday, February 4th, 2013, the Standards Council of Canada (SCC) issued a news release announcing accreditation of ASTM International and UL to develop national standards in Canada.

We were informed by the SCC in mid-2012 that it intended to pursue increased standards harmonization with the U.S., and the accreditation of U.S. Standards Development Organizations (SDOs) to operate in Canada.

CSA welcomes new SDOs in Canada to participate in setting standards in areas where gaps exist and under policies that ensure new SDOs are adding value to the existing system. However, within harmonization, Canadians must continue to have a voice in the development of standards for Canadians. In addition, it is important that any harmonization policies simplify, not complicate, the development and administration of these important standards for Canadians.

Thanks to you, the current standards system in Canada is strong. As the leading standards development organization in Canada, we rely on your knowledge and expertise to continue developing groundbreaking standards that help enhance public safety, sustainability and social good. We will continue to function as a neutral third party, building consensus through our balanced-matrix structure and providing a forum for developing leading standards in Canada and around the world.

We will be engaging stakeholders to work together and seek clarification from the SCC to better clarify the rules under which these changes will occur. Only through

further dialogue and clarity can we ensure there is no risk of duplication or contradictory standards; which would undermine policy efforts to reduce regulatory burden while at the same time potentially increasing threats to public and consumer safety. We will keep you informed and if you have any further questions, please contact Bob Main, Director, Health & Safety and Membership at 416-747-2651 or by email at [bob.main@csagroup.org](mailto:bob.main@csagroup.org).

***NEW COUNTERFEIT PRODUCTS ACT.  
Federal Government Announces Protection for Canadians  
New Legislation Introduces Strong New Protections.***

Ottawa, March 1, 2013-The Honourable Christian Paradis, Minister of Industry, and the Honourable Vic Toews, Minister of Public Safety, today introduced the Combating Counterfeit Products Act. This new legislation will protect Canadian consumers, Canadian manufacturers and retailers as well as the Canadian economy from the health and economic threats presented by counterfeit goods coming into Canada.

The *Combating Counterfeit Products Act* will provide the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) with the authority to take action against the commercial movement of counterfeit goods at the border, and will also include new criminal offences for commercial trademark counterfeiting.

It will also allow Canadian businesses to file a request for assistance with the CBSA, in turn, enabling border officers to share information with them regarding suspect shipments.

On Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013 the Edmonton Journal will once again be hosting their bi-annual Employment Job Fair at the **Commonwealth Field House** (please note the change in venue - a larger 40,000 sq ft space). This Job Fair covers the Trades, Career Planning/Job Find (Retail, Finance, Hospitality, Education, General & much more) and Health Industry categories. Contact [dgawron@edmontonjournal.com](mailto:dgawron@edmontonjournal.com)

**Occupational Health & Safety Act Amended in 2012 - Bill**

6, *Protection and Compliance Statutes Amendment Act* received Royal Assent on December 10, 2012. The amendment changes the OH&S Act in six major ways. All changes are effective on that date except changes related to administrative penalties, which come into force upon proclamation.

(1) Department a levy administrative penalties for OHS violations - with maximum administrative penalty of \$10,000 per contravention per day.

(2) Authority of OHS officers enhanced - now have the authority to request person at worksites to identify themselves; and employers are required to identify their workers to the officers request. Any person interfering with an officer exercising his/her power under the Act is an offence under the Act.

(3) Prime contractor requirement clarified - A prime contractor is required at a worksite whenever there are two or more employers whose activities have a health and safety impact on each others or are interrelated. The two employers and their workers do not have to be working at the site at the same time to meet the requirements

(4) The duties of the OHS Council expanded to include hearing appeals to administrative penalties - The OHS body is the appeal body for hearing penalty administrative appeals.

(See ECAA website [www.ecaa.ab.ca](http://www.ecaa.ab.ca) for complete bulletin)

**DEEPEST CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF Terry Rausch**, Federated Insurance, who passed away Febuary 14th, 2013 and **Clifford White**, who passed away Febuary 8th. Terry was a strong supporter of the ECAA. Cliff was very familiar with the electrical contractors in his successful career at the Alberta Electrical Protection Branch.

**We Moved March 1st, 2013** to 17725- 103 Avenue, Edmonton, T5S 1N8 (phones and fax remain the same).

### Board of Directors Update

Next board meeting is scheduled for March 20th. Chapter, Provincial and PEC Nominations Committees looking for volunteers for board and committee positions. Please contact [smclean@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:smclean@ecaa.ab.ca) or your nominations committee if you are interested in having your name forwarded to one of the nominations committees or you would like more information on positions available.

**CONVENTION 2013** - Registration forms out for Waterton. Please contact the office or check our website if you have not received your's. Reminder: Rooms at the Bayshore will be released March 22nd. Reservations can be made at (403) 859-2211 or on-line at [www.bayshoreinn.com](http://www.bayshoreinn.com).

**CONVENTION 2014** - South America confirmed. Tentative dates January 29 - February 12, 2014. Email survey will be sent shortly.

### Labour Update

**No update this month.**

### Local Chapter Activity

**CALGARY** - Calgary Industry Night was a HUGE success. Thank you to Cindy Cameron and Hilary Zorn, as well as all the companies who donated prizes for the evening, and the members who supported the event. Next meeting is Thursday, March 14th. Guest Speaker Dan Olesen, Careers the Next Generation. Topic: A Future Worth Working For.

**CENTRAL** - Code course scheduled for Saturday, March 23rd, Black Knight Inn.

**EDMONTON** - Next meeting is Monday, March 18th. Guest Speaker Frank H. Mussche, Libramation. Topic: RFDI 101 (what is RFDI; How does an RFDI sytem work; How will I benefit from using RFDI?)

**FORT McMURRAY** - Code seminar scheduled for April 27th. Minimum numbers must be met so register early.

**NORTH EAST** - Chapter meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 26th, Spiros Restaurant @ 5:30 pm.

### New Members

Applications approved via email were Dylan Oudshoorn Electric (Fort McLeod); HMI Hoyme Manufacturing (Camrose); Hady Electric (Sherwood Park); R.E. Taylor & Associates (Leduc); Secure Plumbing, Heating & Electrical (Calgary); Unitech Electrical (Calgary). Welcome to ECAA.

### Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) News

**Mentors Available Need Mentees.** Moving forward mainly by trial and error as an electrical contractor can have results which are deadly to have little or no progress. Mentoring is one way to get away from a lot trial and error and learn from others who have gone down this road before. Daniel R. Tobin , <http://www.tobincls.com/mentoring.htm>, uses the following definition "The mentor acts as your counselor, providing advice on career paths, development opportunities, and an overview of what it takes to become a leader in the company."

Presently ECAA has a surplus of mentors and is looking for mentees (those who want to be mentored). Commitment for mentor / mentee is 2 one hour discussions per month (face to face or phone call) with mentee sending agenda to mentor at least 2 days before discussion.

Here are some of the mentors (NOT JOB COACHES) currently available:

1. Ft McMurray /Edmonton area

P. Eng., PEC, PMP

25 years experience in engineering and construction. Construction manager on oil sands major projects

Experience as owner in the role of engineering manager on oil sands major projects Former partner in a engineering design firm doing industrial design Experience in cement industry, oil industry, gas processing, power, and air navigation. Standards development with IEEE US and Canadian construction experience

2. Edmonton area

PEC

For 34 years owned and operated 10 man commercial electrical contracting company specialized in wiring banks.

Prefers face to face mentoring rather than telephone.

3. Calgary area

PEC, ESCO

Built up and divested a 16-electrician (union) enterprise specializing in data/electrical turnkey solutions for technology-dependent enterprise for 21 years . Also experience as SCO, project manager, electrical manager and electrician instructor.

4. Calgary area

PEC, Solar Photovoltaic Systems Installer

Last 7 years operated 1 man electrical contracting company in small town. Sixteen years employed in city based commercial electrical contracting company.

To get matched with a mentor, complete the form at :

[http://www.ecaa.ab.ca/Attachments/PEC/Forms/ECAA\\_Mentor-Mentee\\_Application\\_Form.pdf](http://www.ecaa.ab.ca/Attachments/PEC/Forms/ECAA_Mentor-Mentee_Application_Form.pdf)

and send into ECAA office.

Any comments or questions are welcome.

**Mike Fleming PEC Education Chair email : [mike\\_fleming07@yahoo.ca](mailto:mike_fleming07@yahoo.ca)**

### **PEC Courses Available to Spouses and Office Personnel**

I recently had the opportunity to take the Basic Electrical Estimating Course offered by the ECAA on February 21 and 22, 2013 in Edmonton. I was looking forward to getting some real insight into Electrical Estimating and I was not disappointed. I found that our instructor, Pat Barnes was extremely knowledgeable and he was easy to understand and follow. The processes we went through were easily relatable to my current situation. I will be able to use what I learned in the execution of my job. I will be purchasing some other reference books that were made note of throughout the course - These will be a valuable resource for me as I am not an Electrician and my knowledge of certain aspects of the trade is not as extensive as..... well you know.

I again felt very welcome by the other contractors in attendance. The other students were all understanding and willing to help me with some of the terms used as well as very patient when I was unsure as to the actual name of an item and the commonly used "trade" name. I'm sorry I kept spilling my coffee all over! I am continuing to look forward to completing all the courses. I am 2 PEC courses down, 5 PEC courses to go! I will be continuing to share my educational journey with you as I go along. I am intending to take the Business and Public Relations course in April. I'm looking forward to seeing more 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)

Mr. Trent Ambroch (#247); Mr Cory Hegseth (#248); Mr. Justin McIntosh (#239); Mr. Brian Schlachter (#240); Mr. Sean Ziegler (#242) and Mr. Trent Rondeau (#242).

## Continuing Education

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

***Safety Principles, March 22nd & 23rd (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 (steps to follow and processes involved).

***Business & Public Relations, April 19th & 20th (Calgary).*** A series of five modules designed to give you essential and proven management concepts in the areas of Management; 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 performance and profitability of your electrical contacting business. The course is taught by Mr. Grant Hammond.

***Assessing & Finalizing the Tender, April 26th & 2th (Calary).*** This course covers organizing the estimate, finalizing the tender add computer aid in estimating and finalizing the tender. Very little time is spent on basic take-offs. The course addresses calculations of various overheads, mark-up theories, labour factor, evaluation risk factors and the like -- all



concerns that the active business manager meets everyday. The three parts of this course are designed to create an awareness of the various business principles involved in preparing his or her tenders. Mr. Pat Barnes is the instructor for this course.

**Also Available through ECAA.**

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

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

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

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

**The next issue of The Spark will be emailed Friday, April 12, 2013.**



Electrical  
Contractors  
Association of  
Alberta

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