



THE SPARK

ECAA E-Newsletter

April 12, 2013

Issue 27

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www.ecaa.ab.ca

Calendar of Events

Upcoming CEC Code Changes Seminars

*June 21st
8:30 am - 12:30 pm
ECAA Office
Edmonton*

*September 21st
8:00 am - noon
ECAA Office
Edmonton*

APRIL/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 maybe we are finally getting spring. The snow is melting, it's still light out at 9 PM and even one of our outdoor driving ranges is open. Who knows maybe by May will have green grass. I'm sure our members in the southern parts of our Province are already getting close to the golf season but for us in the northern parts it will be a while.



Kelly Wilde

I recently attended another NE Chapter meeting where we had Phil Thebault from NEDCO talk about LED lighting solutions and the requirement to know ambient temperatures and the driving currents to establish the best results for LED life expectancies. Some interesting info and we thank NEDCO for the presentation and for sponsoring the bar.

I will be presenting the top Electrical Apprentice award at the Apprentice and Industry Training Awards night to Christian Jamila. Congratulations to our top apprentice. Then Sheri and I are attending a retirement party for Mr. John Paisley, President of Federated Insurance. Federated has been a huge supporter of our Association and we thank John for his contributions and wish him good health as he moves on. Then we will be off to Grand Prairie to their NW Chapter meeting where I will attend my first meeting there. I'm looking forward to meeting our members up in the NW.

Hope you got your room booked for Waterton as it looks like we could be running out of rooms soon. If you haven't sent in your registration forms please do so that we can confirm numbers and speakers for the event. Also we are still looking for sponsors to help us out for Waterton.

Nomination forms have been sent out for Board members and for the Life Time,

*October 10th
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Hotel Blackfoot
Calgary*

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

Upcoming PEC Courses

*April 19th & 20th
Business & Public
Relations
Hotel Blackfoot, Calgary*

*April 26th & 27th
Assessing & Finalizing the
Tender
Hotel Blackfoot, Calgary*

*May 9th & 10th
Accounting Principles
ECAA Office, Edmonton*

*May 16th & 17th
Design Build
ECAA Office, Edmonton*

Tradeshows

*Come visit us or join us
by volunteering*

**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

Award of Merit and Honorary member awards. Please let us know if you have anyone in mind for any of these positions or awards as soon as you can.

Thanks to Pat Barnes and Ron MacKenzie for their hard work in doing our internal audit for our financial year end statements.

Edmonton Chapter and the Provincial Board will be having a Spring Social BBQ and open house on May 6 for everyone to come and view the new digs. I believe we are starting around 5:00 pm hope to see you there.

Getting to Know Your Membership

Want to show case your company -- contact smclean@ecaa.ab.ca

Industry News

Annual Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Code Review.

Enacted in 2003, the OHS Code continues to guide Alberta workplaces by establishing minimum standards for safe and healthy practices. As part of the government's continued commitment to workplace health and safety, and in accord with a revised process for changing content of the Code, updates will now be made on a five-year cycle. Previously, changes were made every two to three years. As a result, the process will now see focused annual reviews of specific parts of the Code.

For the 2013-2014 period, the OHS Policy and Program Development Branch will be reviewing the following:

- Part 10 - Fire and Explosion Hazards
- Part 16 - Noise Exposure
- Part 18 - Personal Protective Equipment
- Part 32 - Excavating and Tunneling
- Part 36 - Mining
- Part 37 - Oil and Gas Wells

These reviews will continue to reflect input from individual workers and employers; industry, labour, and health and safety associations; and members of the public, and will allow participants to focus on specific areas of the Code.

The views and input of affected stakeholders are important to ensure that the Code remains timely and relevant. All interested parties are invited to participate by providing suggestions for change to any of the Parts being reviewed. An internal working group of OHS staff will review all submissions and develop a formal proposal outlining any recommendations for revisions to these Parts of the Code. All submissions will be considered in the development of those draft recommendations. A future consultation, which will take place in 2014, will provide a further opportunity to comment on them.

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Social Networking



Find us on Facebook 

The target for release of the next revised Code is 2015.

For information on the current review and to submit suggestions, please visit the Alberta Human Services website at <http://humanservices.alberta.ca/working-in-alberta/14571.html>.

Suggestions for changes to other Parts of the Code are welcomed and will be retained for consideration in future review projects.

NEW FIRE CODE STANDATA .

The following STANDATA has been released and is now available on the Alberta Municipal Affairs website. To view or print a copy go to www.municipalaffairsgov.ab.ca.

Fire Code Joint Interpretation

FCI-13-01- Existing Elevator Modernization/Fire Alarm Interface

Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters - Let's Talk Exports!

Plan to attend the Edmonton Let's Talk Exports!

Don't miss Edmonton Let's Talk Exports: the economic update everyone's talking about. EDC and Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME) are pleased to bring you Let's Talk Exports, the annual cross-Canada tour that Canadian businesses are talking about, to Edmonton on May 15, 2013 at the Westin Edmonton (10135 - 100 Street) Edmonton, Alberta.

Let's Talk Exports is your best opportunity to get the latest information on the global economy and the impact it will have on Canadian businesses like yours. Join Peter Hall, Vice-President and Chief Economist at Export Development Canada, for this worthwhile and insightful presentation that will show Canadian companies of all sizes what to expect in the year ahead.

Get the information you need to plan ahead and grow your business:

- Find out about the unique opportunities and risks surfacing in 2013-2014;
- Learn about the export outlook for your particular industry sector;
- Discover which provinces will see greater opportunities;
- Get valuable information on how to succeed in today's global marketplace. Be one of the first to access EDC's sought-after Global Export Forecast, 2013 Spring Edition.

This opportunity to find out what you need to know before making critical business decisions will be time well spent!

Date: Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Time: 11:30 am Registration

12:00 Noon Lunch Served

12:30 pm Keynote

Place: The Westin Edmonton; Cost \$65 + GST

Contact Linda Withers (780) 426-6622 or linda.withers@cme-mec.ca.

2013 GIRLS EXPLORING TRADE AND TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE - MENTORS NEEDED

The GETT Conference is sold-out but mentors are needed. Held in conjunction with the 2013 Provincial Skills Canada Competition, GETT highlights endless career opportunities in the trades and technologies.

Journeywomen, female apprentices, and women working in the trade and technology sectors are encouraged to become a Mentor for the exciting event.

We are looking for five additional energetic trade and technology specialists to share their experience, knowledge and enthusiasm for their career choice.

Contact Kari Zral, Event & Competitor Coordinator with any questions about becoming a mentor.

Email kariz@skillscanada.com Phone: 780-809-1369

2013 AWARDS CEREMONY LIVE ONLINE

Remember to mark your calendar to watch the Provincial Skills Canada Competition Awards Ceremony live at Skillsalberta.com at 5:30pm on May 16, 2013.

ELECTRICAL WIRING SKILLS COMPETITIONS looking for **3 or 4 judges** for the competition. Competition dates May 15th and 16th. Contact John Sumner (jsumner@nait.ca) if able to assist.

ACA Responds to Proposed Elimination of Safety Codes Levy Cap

Government Advocacy (ECAA's representative on this committee is Mr. Marv Green)

ACA was invited to provide input to the Safety Codes Council on their proposal to eliminate the \$560 levy cap presently applied to building, plumbing, electrical and gas permits valued over \$14,000. The levy on permits funds the Safety Codes Council, the agency responsible for all aspects of the safety system, including accrediting the municipalities, corporations and agencies that sell permits and inspect the work carried out under these permits; certifying and training Safety Codes Officers who do the inspections; administering the Alberta Master Electrician Program, developing, enhancing and supporting Information Technology safety system applications. The current levy is 4% of the permit value, with a cap in place on permits valued at over \$14,000. Removal of the cap

could raise approximately \$1 million a year, roughly 16% of the SCC budget.

ACA's feedback included the following points:

1. ensure the consultation includes owners as the ultimate payers
2. provide more evidence that larger permit holders impose a greater potential risk on the safety system and hence require more safety services
3. provide more evidence of the costs and benefits of investing among the various proposed alternatives. Priority investments include: increasing the number, quality, education and mentoring of safety codes officers
4. provide up to 2 years notice to stakeholders of the change

Women Building Futures: Enrollment in Journeywoman Start begins June 3rd, 2013. Start building your future today! Get the hands-on training you need to get into the trades. Not only will you be apprentice-ready, you'll have *seven* safety certificates under your belt - exceeding industry expectations. Next class starts June 3rd. Secure your place by registering today!

Spaces available -- Grants available. Contact

www.womenbuildingfutures.com.

The 21st Best Practices Conference, to be held in Edmonton on May 14th and 15th, is shaping up to be another great session.

On Tuesday afternoon and evening:

- * Panel Discussion - "What Owners Really Want"
- * Supper and evening reception - a great chance to catch up
- * Keynote Speaker - Tom Sexton, of Enbridge Pipelines USA - a global perspective on the energy marketplace in North America
- * COAA Awards - the 2013 theme is Construction Performance
- * Booth displays and R&D poster session - a million-dollar idea is waiting for you!

On Wednesday:

- * Best Practices Committee report - achievement and plans
- * Workforce Forecast - the ever-popular presentation on Workforce Forecast - this year we have both the Construction Sector Council Forecast plus the roll out of the new COAA projection by Herb Holmes and Douglas Akhimienmhanon
- * Sixteen workshops presented in three tracks - up from two tracks of previous years, to help you get the most out of these sessions

The conference agenda can be found at the registration page on the COAA website at www.coaa.ab.ca.

Register now to take advantage of the early-bird conference registration price of \$400 plus GST; after April 12 until the final deadline on May 7, 2013, registration for the conference will be \$450 plus GST.

If you have any questions concerning electronic registration, please contact the COAA office at 780 420-1145 or by email at

kasia@coaa.ab.ca.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR OWN ART GOULD, recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal. Art formed the Alberta Construction Safety Association in 1989 with only three other people. Art developed and was the first instructor of the PEC Safety Principles course. In a letter from Art he states, "***The Electrical Contractors Association of Alberta is in my opinion, one the best managed, safety oriented and forward looking organizations it has been my pleasure to be associated with.***" Thank you for those kind words Art, and on behalf of the members of ECAA, congratulations!!

ECAA is pleased to congratulate **JOHN MORLEY PAISLEY**, on his upcoming retirement, after 37 years of service with Federated Insurance Company of Canada. ECAA very proud to be invited to join in John's retirement celebration.

We Moved March 1st, 2013 to 17725- 103 Avenue, Edmonton, T5S 1N8 (phones and fax remain the same). Reminder: ***Open House May 6th***, 5:00 pm -7:00 pm. Please RSVP if planning on attending BBQ.

Board of Directors Update

Board Meeting March 20th, 2013.

Year-end audit completed by Mr. Pat Barnes and Mr. Ron Mackenzie. Presentation on 2012 financial review made to Board by Mr. Kim Wallin, BDO accounting firm.

Letter received from Deputy Minister David Morhart updating ECAA on the recruitment and appointment of public members. Board identified competencies they would like to see in ECAA's public member as: construction experience; not-for-profit experience; knowledge of current legislative issues; past board experience; knowledge of the electrical industry; construction or trade-related. (*See complete article in Contactor*).

Thank you to Mr. Dave Hagen who will continue to represent ECAA on the Alberta Construction Safety Association (ACSA) board.

Thank you letter received from Mr. David Dorwod, MLA Edmonton-Gold Barr for ECAA's participation in the 10th anniversary AIT Scholarship program.

Mr. Ron Taylor expressed interest in replacing Mr. Earl Sloan on Code Advisory Committee -- thank you to Earl for his volunteer hours on this committee and to Ron for taking his place.

Board discussed Government budget. Letter will sent to Minister of Infrastructure stating ECAA, on behalf of our members, are pleased to see infrastructure spending in the budget (e.g. Calgary Cancer Center, the

Grande Prairie hospital, the High Level hospital).

Agenda items included increase in CECA dues, membership in AEL, membership in the Solar Energy Society of Alberta, residential service load calculations, and updates from the chapter and committee chairs.

Resignation received from Mr. Peter Wemyss, ECAA Fire Technical Council representative. Thank you extended to Peter for his time on the Council.

CONVENTION 2013 - Third hotel secured for Waterton convention. Contact ECAA for convention rate at Waterton Lakes Lodge Resort.

Labour Update

No update this month.

Local Chapter Activity

CALGARY - Calgary Chapter had successful meeting last night. Next meeting Thursday, May 9th. Elections will be held and Past President Scott White acknowledged. Contractors able to take on a RAP student are asked to please contact Dan Olesen at Careers the Next Generation at dolesen@nextgen.org.

EDMONTON - Next meeting is Monday, April 18th. Guest Speaker Dave Bentley, HUB International, *Construction Trends and Risk Management Tools*. Elections will be held. Shani Ahmad has been nominated as incoming Secretary. Quorum required so members encouraged to attend the meeting and honor out-going chapter president, Tom Morin, PEC.

FORT McMURRAY - Code seminar scheduled for April 27th. Seminar will be cancelled if minimum numbers are not met. Contact Camille at ECAA to register. Chapter meeting held April 9th. Excellent turn-out. Thank you to Wesco for the evening refreshments and to Damon McGillivray, local inspector for bringing members up-to-date on local industry issues. Presentation made to Past President Gord Stuve. Discussion on possible summer social.

NORTH EAST - Chapter meeting held Tuesday, March 26th. Thirteen members and guests in attendance. Thank you to Nedco for sponsoring refreshments, to Phil Thebault for the very educational presentation on LED Lighting and Energy Solutions, and for the gracious \$500 donation towards the NE Chapter Neil Olsen Memorial scholarship presented to a 2nd or 3rd year electrical apprentice at Lakeland College. Discussion items included non-Alberta contractors importing

materials, Convention and Training Day; permits and regulations and a provincial board update.

NORTH WEST -Chapter breakfast meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 25th. Members encouraged to come meet Provincial President, Kelly Wilde.

New Members

Applications approved were Crest Electric (Edmonton) and Con-West Electrical Contractors (St. Albert). Welcome to ECAA.

Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) News

Every PEC should be getting 20 points of Annual Professional Development (APD) credits annually and a minimum of 60 points by 2015. The Friday, May 24th Training Day has the potential for PEC's to get 8 APD if the PEC attends all training day sessions and the 8 am and noon Keynote speakers. Saturday, May 25th has 1 APD for the Breakfast speaker, 6 points for the PEC AGM and 6 points for the ECAA AGM. In two days at a great resort you can get your 20 APD credits and contribute to the progress of the electrical contracting industry in Alberta.

Mike Fleming PEC Education Chair email : mike_fleming07@yahoo.ca

CONGRATULATIONS NEW PROFESSIONAL ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS (PEC'S)

Mr. Teunis (Tony) Greeve, PEC #243 and Mr. Guy Chalifoux, PEC #244.

Continuing Education

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

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 contracting business. The course is taught by Mr. Grant Hammond.

Assessing & Finalizing the Tender, April 26th & 27th (Calgary). 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.

Accounting Principles, May 9th & 10th (Edmonton). This updated course taught by ECAA's new accounting firm, BDO will introduce you to terms and concepts of accounting and show you how to use them to attain goals and controls for future growth. You will learn practical skills to help you develop, interpret and use financial data, pin-point problem and profit areas, and focus your resources toward a successful electrical contracting business. Course open to your accounting staff person.

Design Build, May 16th & 17th (Edmonton). Design build has become a common place term in the engineering and construction industry in recent years and is prevalent for various building construction projects. The electrical contractor as a sub-trade is being asked to participate in the design build process. As a viable business opportunity, it is necessary for the electrical contractor to fully understand the concept of design build organization model, the laws and regulations pertaining to design build, design build methods, estimating techniques and risk management. The course will help project managers, engineers, executive and owners of electrical contracting firms to address opportunities in design build and expand their market profitability. Instructor for this course will be Mr. Larry Cantello.

Also Available through ECAA.

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

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

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

We value your feedback and it is important to us. Please submit any comments to ecaa@ecaa.ab.ca

The next issue of The Spark will be emailed Friday, May 3, 2013.



Electrical
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Alberta

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