



THE SPARK

ECAA E-Newsletter

January 10, 2014

Issue 36

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www.ecaa.ab.ca

Calendar of Events

**Edmonton Chapter
President's Ball**
Saturday, January 25th, 2014
Chateau Lacombe
Edmonton

**Upcoming CEC Code
Changes Seminars:**
January 28th, 2014
8:30 am - 12:30 pm
Keyano College
Fort McMurray

March 11th, 2014
8:30 am - 12:30 pm
Lethbridge Construction
Association
Lethbridge

March 12th, 2014

JANUARY/2014

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

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

President's Message

Happy New Year everyone, hope you all had a nice restful holiday. Looks like 2014 is going to be another busy year in Alberta, so plan your business life as best as you can and try not to have unforeseen things pop up and take you off course. Planning your upcoming year is always a bit of a challenge when you have so many variables to think of, but write them down and go over every detail. Things that have to be done, and dreams that you would like to do, maybe one of the dreams may be on your bucket list. Don't wait to do the things that are in your bucket till you retire, you may not get it all accomplished. Don't take your dreams with you to the cemetery and let them lie there.



Les Dzwonkiewicz,
PEC

The budget for 2013 is looking very good, no red in site. Thank you to Keven Lefebvre, our committee chairs and great office staff for watching that we spend our member's money wisely. We will have the complete numbers at the January 24th board meeting. The Board went through the Public Member resumes that were submitted to the Government for the two positions and put forward two names we thought would fit the job description for their consideration.

The Board approved six PEC applications in December, congratulations to the new Professional Electrical Contractors. Thanks Clem our PEC chair for doing a great job.

I would like to congratulate my executive and all the board members and chapter presidents for doing a great job in 2013 and look forward to working with you all in 2014.

The convention to South America is getting close to departing on February 10th, and I am looking forward to the networking, education and social times we will have together as a group.

Please don't forget the Edmonton Chapter President's Ball on the 25th of January,

8:30 am - 12:30 pm
Medicine Hat Lodge
Medicine Hat

March 17th, 2014
10:00 am - 2:30 pm
(lunch included)
Red Deer College
Red Deer

March 19th, 2014
8:30 am - 12:30 pm
Location TBA
Grande Prairie

To register for the Code Seminars please fill out the following form and send it to the ECAA Provincial Office.

Please note that confirmation notices will be sent out.

[Code Seminar Registration Form](#)

These courses approved by Electrical Technical Council to meet re-certification requirements for Master Electricians and Safety Codes Officers

****Please note that all Master Electrician's and Safety Codes Officers must have their code updating completed prior to October 1st, 2014****

Upcoming PEC Courses
Legal Implications
February 6th & 7th, 2014
(Edmonton)

Basic Electrical Estimating (BEE)
February 20th & 21st, 2014
(Edmonton)

Tradeshows

Keep checking in for future participation and involvement in industry related career & trade fairs.

Join Our List

it's always a great time.

So I will leave you with this; **"KINDNESS. IT DOESN'T COST A DAMN THING. SPRINKLE THAT SPICE EVERYWHERE "**

Your President,
Les Dzwonkiewicz PEC

Testimonials Requested

Membership Chair Steve Warholik is requesting testimonials from ECAA members to include in a marketing brochure. Testimonials can reference

Why you joined ECAA? or How has being a member benefited you? or Most memorable ECAA moment.

Thank you to those who have already submitted your testimonials. Let's keep them coming!

Please email chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca. **A \$100 KEG gift certificate will be drawn from those who reply.**

Industry News

ECAA partnering with Skills Canada Alberta (SCA) to share our industry and organization with students, and we need buy-in from our Associate and Contractor members. **What are the Benefits to Participating?** Opportunity to talk about your industry and organization; Showcase your organization: future workers, apprentices and customers; Students are exposed to new career alternatives. **What is the Cost to Participate?** Time: 1-3 hours to tour your facility and provide students with an interactive, fun experience; duration will depend on location constraints; No financial expense: Transportation expenses are typically \$150-\$300/class/visit and will be covered by Skills Canada Alberta. **We are Interested. What are the Next Steps?** SCA will work together with us to see how we can collaborate and make a field trip to your facility that is a truly memorable event for all involved. SCA will learn to what extent your organization will be willing to participate in terms of? Time commitment duration (how long) and frequency (how often); Timing: when can tours begin at your facility? **Are you interested in this opportunity? Is your facility conducive for touring students?** If so, please email smclean@ecaa.ab.ca and we will be happy to introduce you to the program coordinator, Gord King, for you to learn a bit more.

Annual Construction Owners Association of Alberta Best Practices Conference.

Please mark your calendars for the Best Practices Conference to be held at the Shaw Conference Centre in Edmonton on **May 13 and 14, 2014**. It will feature discussions and workshops on some of the most important issues facing the construction industry today. Registration for the Best Practices Conference will be done electronically again, **starting in March 2014**. Watch for further details and announcements regarding the 2014 Best Practices Conference via e-mail or at the COAA website at www.coaa.ab.ca.

Coping with Workplace Conflict Symposium. (Coping with workplace violence, bullying, harassment and discrimination on the job.) **March 21, 2014 Edmonton, Alberta.** Presented by Worksite NEWS, Canada's premier occupational health, Safety and environment E-Magazine. **WHERE:** Delta Edmonton South Hotel and Conference Centre 4404 Gateway Boulevard, Edmonton AB T6H5C2 Toll Free: 1-800-661-1122 EMail: deltaedmonton@deltahotel.com **WHO WILL ATTEND:** Attendees will include Safety Supervisors, Human Resources

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Professionals, Business/Labour Leaders, Health Care Workers, Public Sector Workers, General Workforce **TIME:** Registration 8:00 am, **Presentations Start** 8:45 am - 5:00 pm. **Keynote Speaker: Valerie "Bully Free Work"**. Valerie gives participants the full awareness, hope and implementation to help stop workplace bullying both personally and organizationally. She restores hope and gives inspiration to create a respectful workplace with sustainability. **She'll answer these key questions:** What is Workplace Bullying exactly? How is workplace bullying different from working with a difficult person? What approach should I take with a difficult person vs. a bully? Are they different? What motivates a bully? Types of workplace bullies and how to recognize behaviors, so you know you are not crazy? The facts you need to know about workplace bullying. Common bullying tactics used and how you can recognize them? What to do if you are a target? Specific steps to gain your confidence back. What to do if you have a difficult situation at work that you don't know how to address? What to do if someone is coming to you for advice to stop the bullying (and you're not too sure what to do)? **Other Presenters Include: Dick Bevan, Alberta WCB:** Establishing a Workplace Violence Program. **Laurie Young, Alberta Health Services:** Mental Health Awareness for the bullied/harassed worker. **Alberta Human Rights Commission:** Discrimination and Worker Rights in the Workplace. **COST:** \$325 + GST per person including lunch All prepaid Registrations! Sponsorship and display tables are available. For more information please call 1-888-430-6405 or [REGISTER ONLINE](#).

The Crisis & Trauma Resource Institute Inc. is offering the following workshop in Alberta in January. Early rate deadline this week and save 10% **DE-ESCALATING POTENTIALLY VIOLENT SITUATIONS™** Edmonton: Jan 28, 2014 (early rate deadline Tuesday, Jan 7) Banff: Jan 29, 2014 (early rate deadline Wednesday, Jan 8) For those who work in an environment where there is potential for violence, it is important to develop the skills needed to defuse dangerous situations. This workshop is designed to teach people to de-escalate potentially violent situations through assertiveness and interpersonal communication. The training will explore how anger and violence interplay, including opportunities for self-assessment of personal styles. Participants will develop a clear understanding of how to assess the potential for violence and respond with a diverse set of interpersonal tools and strategies designed to defuse potentially violent situations. **More workshops coming to Alberta: ADDICTIONS AND MENTAL ILLNESS** - Working with Co-occurring Disorders Calgary: Feb 11, Edmonton: Feb 12 **SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND YOUTH**- Creating Opportunities for Change Calgary: Feb 21 **Workshop Fees:** One-day fee: Early rate: \$170; Regular rate: \$190. To register [click here](#)

ECAA Alberta Construction Association Sub-Committee position (Research & Technology) volunteer required. Contact Sheri McLean (smclean@ecaa.ab.ca) for more information.

From Alberta Construction Association (ACA) website: The Alberta government has released a new Health and Safety Bulletin [Lead at The Work Site](#). The bulletin addresses common sources of lead exposure, methods of controlling exposure in the work site, and legislation requirements under the Alberta Occupational Health and Safety Code. **Thanks to all who wrote letters supporting ACA's position that Apprenticeship remain with Innovation and Advanced Education. Our efforts have been successful!**

Oil & Gas and Utility Regulations adopted October 1st, 2013 and are now available for purchase through the ECAA.

Electrical Inspectors Association of Alberta (EIAA) Annual Technical Conference February 6th & 7th at the Chateau Louis Hotel in Edmonton.

Registrations available through EIAA [website](#)

The Edmonton Journal is hosting their **Bi-Annual Employment Job Fair** at the Northlands Expo Center. This job fair covers the Trades, Career Planning/Job Find (Retail, Finance, Hospitality, Education, General & more) and Health Industry categories. **Early bird registration is January 15th, 2014.** To register for this career fair contact Gul Saleh gxsaleh@edmontonjournal.com or (780) 429-5446

We would like to wish **Dwight Hunter** a happy retirement! Enjoy this next chapter in your life. Dwight has been an active member of the ECAA Edmonton Chapter and industry. Best of luck Dwight!

Please note that Mike Gardner, Administrator of the Master Electrician Program has resigned. Posting for this position can be found on the [ECAA](#) website or the [Safety Codes Council](#) website. We wish Mike all the best.

Our sincerest condolences go out to the family and friends of **John Biollo** who passed in December. John was involved in the Electrical industry for many years and most recently was one of our Code Update seminar instructors.

Willing to take on a starter? The ECAA has received many inquires about starter positions available. Contact the ECAA Provincial Office if your company is looking.

Mark your calendars for the following CREC social events: Curling Bonspiel March 7th, 2014; Poker Tournaments (TBA), Spring Golf Tournament June 18th, 2014.

Board of Directors Update

Provincial Board of Directors will meet January 24th, 2014.

Mr. Ron Mackenzie resigned as Director-At-Large South. Anyone interested in sitting on the Provincial Board in this position asked to contact Doug Miller (d.miller@customelectric.com) or Darrell Castor (dcastor@wemfmc.com). For more detailed information contact Sheri McLean (smclean@ecaa.ab.ca)

Open door policy: ECAA Board of Directors invites those interested in sitting in on a Provincial Board meeting and bring forth ideas or just to gain a little perspective. Please contact Sheri McLean (smclean@ecaa.ab.ca) to sit it on a future meeting. Members also encouraged to attend a Chapter Executive meeting to gain more insight into what your volunteers do.

Have something to say?

ECAA is currently looking for guest writers for the Spark. Contact Les or Sheri.

Local Chapter Activity

CALGARY: Industry Night February 13th Best Western Port O'Call, members encouraged to bring non-members. Looking for prizes as this will be a **Casino Night** as well. Contact Hilary Zorn (hilary.zorn@sonepar.ca) or Cindy Cameron (Cindy.Cameron@sonepar.ca) from GESCAN. The purpose of this event is to introduce a non-member to the Calgary Chapter of the ECAA. **Calgary Christmas Social** was very successful raising \$5000 for the food bank and two bins of food! Thank you to the members who donated the 40 silent auction items and the to the 79 people that participated. **CCA Construction Expo April 16, 2014 -Volunteers and contractors who have responded to the requests will be contacted prior to the end of January.**

EDMONTON: January 20th Chapter Meeting Guest Speaker: Myron Vogt, Barkman Concrete **Topic of Discussion:** Trenching - Protecting Electrical Cable in a Precast Concrete Trench. **RSVP to** carnett@ecaa.ab.ca. Edmonton Chapter's **President's Ball** taking place on **Saturday, January 25, 2014**. Contact Christine Hryniw to purchase tickets (chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca) Over 140 tickets sold! (chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca) **Thank you to the following WINE SPONSORS** that have generously donated: Barkman Concrete Ltd.; Chemco Electrical Contractors; CMN Electrical Systems Ltd.; Edmonton Electric; EWEL; Federated Insurance; High Line Electrical; Laird Electric Inc.; Prolux Lighting; Provincial Electrical Services; Thomas & Betts; Wesco Distribution.

[PRESIDENT'S BALL TICKET ORDER FORM](#)

FORT MCMURRAY: Chapter Meeting **January 14th** at the Chateau Nova, Airport location. Meeting start time 6:00 pm. For more information and to rsvp contact carnett@ecaa.ab.ca.

Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) News

From the Desk of the PEC Education Chair

PEC Annual Professional Development Requirements Many professions have annual professional development (APD) requirements. In 2013 the APD requirements for PEC's were created. Before any of you go into shock you must realize that the APD requirements for PEC's are strictly voluntary. That said, with so many changes happening in our industry in areas such as technology, codes, and many others, obtaining the minimum number of APD points on an annual basis is highly recommended. It is worth noting that your APD points are tracked on a self-reporting basis.

Without going into every detail I will attempt to provide a snapshot of the APD requirements. The minimum number of APD points for a PEC is 20 points per year or 60 points per cycle. A cycle begins the year following the year that an individual received his/her PEC designation. APD points are divided into two categories:

- Education employment related and
- Professionalism- contributing to the PEC profession/electrical industry in Alberta.

Some examples of the points which can be obtained for APD events are:

- Attending a 4 hour course at a college/ private training institute- 4 points
- Attending the ECAA training day - 8 points
- Attending the PEC AGM- 3 points
- Volunteering at a trade show for ECAA- 1 point

A complete breakdown of the APD point structure and a form for keeping track of your APD points is available at the ECAA office and will also be available at the ECAA annual training day being held May 23rd at Fantasyland Hotel at West Edmonton Mall. In keeping with the idea that technologies are ever-changing the theme for training day 2014 is 'Keeping up With the Changes in Technology'. I hope to have an overview of training day 2014 for the next issue of The Spark. See you there.

Larry Cantelo PEC, SCO

Chair PEC Education Committee

Continuing Education

Registrations are being accepted for all courses scheduled in 2014 form on ECAAwebsite under PEC section and in Calendar of Events:

[2013/2014 PEC COURSE REGISTRATION FORM](#)

Legal Implications, February 6th & 7th, 2014 (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. *(Please note that this course is only offered once a year in Edmonton only)*

Basic Electrical Estimating (BEE), February 20th & 21st, 2014 (Edmonton) 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.

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 Christine (chryniw@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 smclean@ecaa.ab.ca.

The next issue of The Spark will be emailed Friday, February 7th, 2014.



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