



# THE SPARK

## ECAA E-Newsletter

February 6, 2014

Issue 37

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

Calendar of Events

#### **Upcoming CEC Code**

#### **Changes Seminars:**

*March 11th, 2014*

*8:30 am - 12:30 pm*

*Lethbridge Construction  
Association  
Lethbridge*

*March 12th, 2014*

*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  
Pomeroy Hotel*

**FEBRUARY/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

I have been thinking of why we can't seem to get it together with our health care system. We are in the computer age, accomplishing great things in the life time of the world and yet - why is it that we can't fix our health care system. PLEASE, SOMEONE TELL ME WHAT IS WRONG!! We are the second largest country in the world with a wealth most countries would love to have. Our natural resources are huge. Our people are hardworking and skilled, and we have everything you can think of. Our population is only 35 million and yet we have line ups at hospitals and inefficient use of our doctors. Why are some of our people in our great land on a waiting list to get a family doctor? WHERE IS THE MONEY!! Canada, with a population of 35 million, has a GDP of 1.6 Trillion Dollars.



Les Dzwonkiewicz,  
PEC

Now, take a look at Saudi Arabia with a population of 28 million with a GDP of 600 Billion Dollars and yet our health care is no better than Saudi Arabia. Out of the top 36 countries in the world we rank 30th. The country of Singapore has a ranking of number 6 in the world for the health care system they provide. The taxes people pay in Singapore are no more than ours. It's a real problem when our elected members of government first get into office thinking of how they will make a difference and change things for the better, only to get bogged down in the bureaucracy. By the time the ship can be turned, it has already hit the iceberg. These are only my opinions and I'm only 1 of 36 million.

Now getting to Association business - our Board meeting on the 24th was very productive with a great turn out. We reviewed the 2014 budget with a final number in the black and no red in sight. Mr. Wayne Budge gave us an update on Federated Insurance Programs endorsed by ECAA. Thanks Wayne. Following the Board meeting it was our pleasure to have Mr. Brian Alford, President and CEO of the Safety Codes Council and Mr. Gerald Baron, SCO, CTAJ Director of Operations with the Safety Codes Council to discuss ways where the Safety Codes Council and ECAA can work together for a safer electrical industry. Sheri, Clem, Darcy and myself had a fruitful meeting with Brian and Gerald.

Congratulations to our Edmonton Chapter President, Mr. Eric Fadden, PEC, for a very successful President's Ball on January 25th. It was an awesome turn out of more than 200 guests. In attendance were Mayor Don Iveson and his lovely wife Sarah Chan bringing greetings from the City of Edmonton and Dr Raj Sherman, MLA and leader of the Liberal Party bringing greetings to our Association. Great

*Grande Prairie*  
*\*Chapter meeting to follow*

*April 14th, 2014*  
*12:30 pm - 5:00 pm*  
*Chateau Louis Conference Center*  
*Edmonton*  
*\*Chapter meeting to follow*

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

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

*Safety Principles*  
*March 14th & 15th, 2014*  
*(Calgary)*

#### Tradeshows

Buildex, March 18th & 19th,  
2014  
Edmonton Expo Center, Northlands

**Alberta Electric League**  
**Learning Expo**  
March 19th  
Marriott River Cree, Edmonton

#### Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

#### Social Networking



Job Eric!!

We are growing leaps and bounds thanks to all our committee members, Sheri and our support partners in the office. Great job! It makes the position of being President a breeze and fun.

Just a note, our AGM is coming up in May and we are looking for sponsors. Looks like a super Training Day as well on Friday, May 23rd. We are having the AGM in Edmonton so please make sure to attend. The location is The Fantasyland Hotel at West Edmonton Mall, so lots to do when you have some spare time.

I'm going to start packing now for our trip to South America. The trip is like a movie about adventure, surprise, romance, networking, knowledge, great food and people. I'm taking the camera and hoping to catch some wonderful moments in time to bring back and reflect about this amazing trip that was put together. Thank you to John at Farlie Travel, Sheri and so many people that have worked so hard.

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.***

***The following email was sent on behalf a recent guest who attended our Calgary Chapter meeting and here is what he had to say:***

Dear Electrical Contractors Association of Alberta,  
I would like to thank you for inviting me to your Calgary chapter meeting on January 9, 2014. The meeting gave me great insight into becoming an electrician. I learned many things on what I was slowly getting into; whether I stay at a huge high rise, or go to individual houses and wire them individually. Each person there was helpful and open for conversation. It was definitely a new atmosphere to me, and talking to electrical professionals was definitely the most fun I have had in a while. I learned that being a good employee is a lot about having a good work ethic and to be the hardest worker on sight. I also learned about different pathways I can specialize in while being an electrician. Doug explained "you only get bored if you let it get boring."

It was a great experience for me and provided good lessons that I will remember, as I continue my search for a RAP position this semester.

Again, thank you for letting me attend.

Sincerely  
Cameron Schile

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

Please email [chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca). **A \$100 KEG gift certificate will be drawn from those who reply.**

#### Industry News

The **Welcome Reception following Training Day** will feature table top displays on new product to compliment the Training Day theme "**Keeping Up With Changes in Technology**" Members wishing to display or promote new product are welcome to participate. Dinner and drinks will be served from 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm giving participants an opportunity to mingle with presenters at their display tables.

Find us on Facebook 

Please contact [smclean@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:smclean@ecaa.ab.ca) or [chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca) to request a table. As tables may be limited to room size, please get your request in as soon as possible. We look forward to this event being a successful end to Training Day.

**Alberta Building Code, Alberta Fire Code and National Plumbing Code.**

Alberta Queen's Printer, Alberta Municipal Affairs and National Research Council Canada are focused on finalizing a distribution agreement for the Alberta Building Code, Alberta Fire Code and National Plumbing Code. We are working very hard to make these Codes available through Alberta Queen's Printer as soon as possible and sincerely appreciate your patience and understanding in the interim. Please continue to visit the Alberta Queen's Printer website for availability of the Codes.

**4th edition, 2013 Code for Electrical Installations at Oil & Gas Facilities and 4th edition, 2013 Alberta Electrical Utility Code** in effect and available through ECAA office. Order form available on [www.ecaa.ab.ca](http://www.ecaa.ab.ca)

**REVISED ELECTRICAL STANDATA.** The following STANDATA have been revised and are now available on the Alberta Municipal Affairs website. To view or print copies follow the links below.

[LEG-SCA-59 \[rev-2\]](#) Reporting of Electrical Incidents/Accidents

[CEC-g1 \[rev-7\]](#) Errata

[CEC-2 \[rev-8\]](#) Section 2 - General Rules

[CEC-32 \[rev-2\]](#) Section 32 - Fire Alarm Systems, Fire Pumps and Carbon Monoxide Alarms. To view all STANDATA that have been issued for the Electrical Code [click here](#)

**Notice - Building Collapse Reporting.** From Alberta Municipal Affairs: Excessive snowfall this winter has resulted in a number of structural collapses (such as full or partial roof collapses) in buildings across the province. The owner of a building for which the Safety Codes Act applies, who has experienced a structural collapse, is required to submit a report to the Chief Building Administrator for the Province of Alberta on the nature of the collapse and remedial action for building safety as described in the 2006 Alberta Building Code. To find out more about the requirements for Building Collapse Reporting [click here](#).

**Compassionate Care in Alberta. Effective February 1, 2014, Compassionate Care Leave will be available in Alberta under the Employment Standards Code and Regulation.** Similar to [Maternity and Parental Leave](#) and [Reservists Leave](#), Compassionate Care Leave provides an eligible employee with up to eight weeks' unpaid, job-protected leave from work to care for a seriously ill family member.

The Alberta government believes no one should suffer a job loss if they must leave work temporarily to care for a family member. All provinces in Canada have similar legislation. Employees taking Compassionate Care Leave may be eligible for up to six weeks' Employment Insurance while away. [More details are available from Service Canada](#).

Please direct any employee inquiring about taking time off to care for a family member to the [Compassionate Care Fact Sheet](#) or to the Employment Standards Contact Centre at 1-877-427-3731 (or 780-427-3731 in the Edmonton area) for more information and to discuss individual situations with an advisor. We appreciate your cooperation with this new leave program.

**Check out the February issue of Planning & Development Dispatch** - the Development & Building Approvals newsletter for the City of Calgary. Each edition will have updates on business - the use and development of land; the safety, health, occupancy, and use of buildings; and, the licensing of businesses and business activities. If you'd like to view past editions of the Dispatch, visit the [Planning & Development Dispatch page](#) on [www.calgary.ca](http://www.calgary.ca). To update your email address, or to be added or removed from the Planning & Development Dispatch distribution list, email your request to [DBA.Infoteam@calgary.ca](mailto:DBA.Infoteam@calgary.ca)

**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](http://www.coaa.ab.ca).

**From Alberta Construction Association (ACA) website:** ACA is pleased to announce publication of the **2014 Alberta Construction Trade Definitions**. ACA, its member local construction associations and the 3000 plus member firms endorse adoption of the 2014 Trade Definitions as a best practice. We encourage all tender authorities and their design consultants, specification writers, and contractors and suppliers to cite and utilize the 2014 Trade Definitions for their projects. We further encourage you to destroy previous versions including ACTS Trade Definitions.

Trade Definitions provide clarity to all construction project stakeholders as to the allocation of work to be bid and performed. This clarity in turn reduces confusion, error, disputes, and litigation.

The 2014 Trade Definitions represent a comprehensive update to reflect current technology and business practice, and are the consensus result of input from many industry volunteers.

The Trade Definitions are a living document and will continue to be periodically improved and updated. Stakeholders will be advised as updates are published.

[Download the 2014 Trade Definitions here](#)

**Congratulations to Scott White, PEC and Matthew Rogers.** Western Electrical Management is pleased to announce the following senior management appointments; Scott White, President and Matthew Rogers, Vice President Finance.

Due to the increase in demand **SAIT is currently looking for instructors for the Pre-employment Electrician Program.** The preferred instructor - she/he is a Master Electrician. We will also consider Journeyman electrician. Contact Natasha Doiron [natascha.doiron@sait.ca](mailto:natascha.doiron@sait.ca).

***Our sincerest condolences go out to the family and friends of A.T. Wigelsworth, who passed away in January. Al was ECAA's 5th Provincial president.***

**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 meeting January 24th, 2014.** Mr. Dave Hagen was reappointed ECAA's representative to Alberta Construction Safety Association (ASCA); Mr. Miller will attend Alberta Construction Association (ACA) Annual General Meeting on behalf of ECAA; 2014 budget was approved; Skills Connecting Students to Industry was discussed; new PEC and membership applications were approved; Committee and Chapter reports were presented; ACA Trade Definitions will be posted on ECAA website; Training Day & Welcome Reception discussed as well as availability and opportunity to apply for government grants. ECAA Legislation chair, Terry Milot responded to Joint Strategic Advisory Board Worksafe Alberta (WSA) Strategy questionnaire. ECAA asked to provide input on what career pathways in the trades Edmonton Public school board should pursue for the Edmonton area.

**Director-At-Large South.** Anyone interested in sitting on the Provincial Board in this position asked to contact Doug Miller ([d.miller@customelectric.com](mailto:d.miller@customelectric.com)) or Darrell Castor ([dcastor@wemfmc.com](mailto:dcastor@wemfmc.com)). For more detailed information about the

position and time commitment please contact Sheri McLean ([smclean@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:smclean@ecaa.ab.ca))

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

**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](mailto: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. Mr. Shani Ahmad joined the Provincial board January 24th - thank you Shani!

#### **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](mailto:hilary.zorn@sonepar.ca)) or Cindy Cameron ([Cindy.Cameron@sonepar.ca](mailto:Cindy.Cameron@sonepar.ca)) from GESCAN. The purpose of this event is to introduce a non-member to the Calgary Chapter of the ECAA.

Volunteers Required for school career days. Please contact Doug Miller ([d.miller@customelectric.com](mailto:d.miller@customelectric.com)) if you are able to assist at the following school: EP Scarlett (ongoing), J.D. Diefenbacher (March 7th) and James Fowler (March 12th)

**Calgary Chapter Communications person required** to assist Provincial Chair, Jeanette DeBruin. If interested please contact Chapter President Doug Miller [d.miller@customelectric.com](mailto:d.miller@customelectric.com)

**CENTRAL:** Next meeting: Tuesday, April 9th.

**EDMONTON:** Next meeting February 10th (note 2nd Monday due to Family Day). Speaker Terry Sawatzky, Schneider Electric Topic of Discussion: **Quote Fast System**. RSVP to [carnett@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:carnett@ecaa.ab.ca). Edmonton Chapter's **President's Ball** very successful. Thank you to Mayor Iveson and his lovely wife Sarah Chan for joining us, as well as Dr. Raj Sherman who along with Mayor Iveson, brought greetings from the City of Edmonton and Provincial government respectively.

**GRANDE PRAIRIE:** Next chapter meeting Wednesday, March 19th following code seminar.

**FORT MCMURRAY:** Congratulation to the following Chapter executive who join President Adam McNamara: Vice President, Paul Schmaltz (Laird Electric); Treasurer, Derk VanDerkolk (DC Wiring); Secretary, Derek Drews (Tracer); and Associate Liaison, Dwayne Blanchard (Gescan). Agenda included update from SCO Damon McGillivray; code update course; people doing work illegally in Alberta; ensuring tradespeople qualified re safety; ECAA Training Day; June golf tournament and a presentation on new products from Thomas & Betts. **Next meeting April 8th** at the Chateau Nova, Airport location. Meeting start time 6:00 pm. For more information and to RSVP contact [carnett@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:carnett@ecaa.ab.ca)

**LETHBRIDGE:** Chapter meeting Monday, March 10th at the Lethbridge Lodge.

#### Labour Update

The revised **Collective Agreement** has been emailed out to union contractors having a bargaining relationship with IBEW Local Union 424. The complete revision and important notice that includes all the changes can be found on the ECAA website ([www.ecaa.ab.ca](http://www.ecaa.ab.ca)) **Please note that the Collective Agreement is in effect**

May 4, 2014

## New Members

Welcome new **Associate** members:

**B.J. Electric Supplies Ltd.** (Leduc);

**The State Group** (Edmonton) and

**Mission LED Lighting Company** (Leduc)

## Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) News

**Congratulations new PEC's: Russell Daw #265; Boyd Shapansky #266; Brian Kushnerick #267 and Alex Stenner #268.**

### **ECAA Training Day, Friday, May 23rd & Fantasyland Hotel, Edmonton**

Program agenda finalized. We will feature 4 speakers in each of the next four issues of the Spark. Check ECAA website [www.ecaa.ab.ca](http://www.ecaa.ab.ca) for registration form and updated information.

Breakfast speaker: *Rob Feagan, Executive Director, Occupational Health & Safety (OH&S)* "**Ticketing, Administrative Penalties & Other Changes to OH&S in Alberta.**" This session will give you knowledge of recent changes to OH&S Legislation along with an understanding of how the two new compliance tools, tickets and administrative penalties, fit with other compliance tools used in Alberta. You will also gain an understanding of how OH&S in Alberta is going to focus resources using a risk based approach in relation to individual employers and industry sectors.

Residential speaker: *Shawn Rose & Todd Funk, Tradesman's Tools Inc.* "**Technology on the Job Site**". In this high-tech world there's a lot of confusing and useless technology out there, and yet we know that to continue doing things the way we've always done them just because that's how we've always done them can leave us in our competition's dust. What kinds of technology can actually make a real difference, make your work easier and faster, your customers happier, and ultimately make your business more profitable? This session will explore several field-tested options for using mobile technology as part of your regular workflow to help you manage the administration, information and organization of your business more productively.

Commercial speaker: *Steve Ericksen, McKenna Agencies* "**Lutron Commercial Lighting Control**" The lighting control market is changing daily, especially with the introduction of LED's. The session will begin with the products available for LED as well as how to properly choose dimming control for LED; then move on to the retrofit tools available and the challenges we can overcome with Radio Frequency technology; and finally, the available Lutron systems from single room control all the way through building automation systems.

Industrial speaker: *Bob Nelson, CSA* "**New CSA Z463 Guideline on Maintenance of Electrical Systems**" This guideline is a "best practices" document for the development of a maintenance program for electrical equipment. It is targeted at small to mid-size facilities where formalized approaches to maintenance are unlikely to exist. Unlike other guidelines, the Z463 has a large appendix with tools for contractors to use when selling their services, such as how to present a return on investment. Will also discuss the Z463 and its relationship to Z462, Z460 under Z1000.

General Interest speaker - *Pat DeMeester EKSIT Strategies Inc.* "**Succession Wise Transition**" Your takeaway from this session will be to understand succession and what it means. Find out why people ignore succession planning and what happens if you don't plan. When is the right time to begin planning? Where do I start? If these are questions you find yourself asking then this session is for you.

## Continuing Education

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

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

**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.

**Safety Principles, March 14th & 15th, 2014 (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 work site safety standards
- conducting effective site inspections - and developing appropriate recommendations
- investigating - the steps to follow and processes involved

### **ONLINE TRAINING AVAILABLE THROUGH ECAA.**

#### **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 cost is \$400 and to enroll contact Christine [chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca)**

**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](mailto: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](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 [smclean@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:smclean@ecaa.ab.ca).

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



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