



# THE SPARK

## ECAA E-Newsletter

July 3, 2014

Issue 42

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### Quick Links

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

### Calendar of Events

#### ***Upcoming CEC Code Changes Seminars:***

**Tuesday, August 26th**  
9:00 am - 3:00 pm  
ECAA Office, Edmonton

**Monday, September 29th**  
9:00 am - 3:00 pm  
ECAA Office, Edmonton

[REGISTRATION FORM](#)

*These courses are approved by  
Electrical Technical Council to meet*

**JULY & AUGUST/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

Hello everyone.

It looks like we can all breathe a sigh of relief and say goodbye to a long drawn out winter and welcome summer. It was evident in all sectors of Alberta the frustration of people with the relentless cold and snow. The ECAA office and members have had a very busy 3 months with events including our AGM at the Fantasyland Hotel in Edmonton, the second annual PEC training day in conjunction with the ECAA AGM, the Safety Codes Council AGM in Banff, the Deputy Ministers annual dinner in Edmonton, the ECAA open house and barbeque, along with continued planning of our upcoming post summer meetings.



Darcy Teichroeb, PEC

As I mentioned in the last SPARK the 2014 ECAA AGM and PEC Training event was an amazing success setting record numbers of attendees to both events which is attributed to the hard work and professional planning by Sheri and her office team. Ten days after the ECAA AGM the Safety Codes Council held their AGM in Banff, Alberta. Sheri and I attended the SCC AGM to participate in their Industry sponsored information sessions and support our positive growing relationship with the Safety Codes Council. The SCC honored the late Assistant Deputy Minister Ivan Moore at all the events and I would also like to extend our deepest condolences to Ivan's family.

I was unable to attend the annual Deputy Ministers dinner in Edmonton but the ECAA was very well represented by Terry Milot and Eric Fadden. Terry and Eric were able to gather valuable insight to our governments intended direction and they were also able to put forward a very strong message about our concern and support for the Prompt Payment Legislation. Thank you Terry and Eric for delivering this important message.

*re-certification requirements for  
Master Electricians and  
Safety Codes Officers*

#### Upcoming PEC Courses

*Project Management  
September 19th & 20th, 2014  
(Calgary)*

*Safety Principles  
September 25th & 26th, 2014  
(Edmonton)*

#### Tradeshows

**2014 Alberta Employment  
&  
Career Fair**  
October 3rd & 4th, 2014  
Edmonton Expo Center

#### Join Our List

Join Our Mailing List!

#### Social Networking



Find us on Facebook 

On June 11 the ECAA held an open house and barbeque at our new office location where we experienced great weather, large attendance, and strong networking with all our members, associates, and friends.

I look forward to traveling to our upcoming chapter meetings in the 3rd and 4th quarters to meet as many members and chapter volunteers as possible. As stated earlier the ECAA has had a very busy 2nd quarter and we will be continuing to focus our attention with ongoing issues and build on the association's value to our members.

I would like to wish everyone a great summer and look forward to working with our existing and new incoming board members starting at our first meeting in September.

Darcy Teichroeb, PEC

#### Industry News

We hope that you find ECAA invitations, publications and regulatory updates that we send you insightful and valuable. **Canada's anti-spam legislation (CASL)**, which comes into effect on July 1, 2014, requires us to obtain your consent to continue to receive electronic communication. Since our relationship is important to us, we would like to continue providing you with the information that is relevant to you and your business. If you no longer wish to receive emails, such as this e-newsletter The Spark, please unsubscribe by clicking on the link below. You may also request that we take you off all of our distribution lists by contacting us at [ecaa@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:ecaa@ecaa.ab.ca).

**LAST CHANCE! What's New in the 2012 Edition** of the Canadian Electrical Code Seminars scheduled for **Tuesday, August 26, 2014** (9:00am - 3:00pm), and **Monday, September 29th, 2014** (9:00am - 3:00pm). Click [here](#) to register for these code seminars.

**Interested in Solar PV Training?** GRIDWORKS ENERGY TRAINING CENTRE IS WESTERN CANADA'S ONLY ADVANCED SOLAR TRAINING INSTITUTE OFFERING TRAINING AND COURSES FOR EVERYONE. Whether you are an Engineering professional, Architect, Electrician, community leader, business owner, employer, or home owner, we understand your needs in this emerging industry by providing real world training from professionals who have been involved in this industry, in both design and installation capacities, for decades. **Randall Benson** recently presented at ECAA Technical Training Day on "*Residential Solar Photovoltaic Systems*". For more information on the training sessions available visit [www.gridworksenergy.com](http://www.gridworksenergy.com)

**Congratulations to Careers the Next Generation** on their Builders of the Future Reception and the Eric Newell "**Kidz In Careers Golf Classic**". ECAA was a proud sponsor of the successful evening, and Mr. Pat Barnes participated in the golf tournament on behalf of ECAA.

**2012 Canadian Electrician Study Guide.** Based on the Electrician Occupational Analysis, helps apprentices prepare for the **Red Seal Certification of Qualification (C of Q) Exam** This study guide is available for purchase on [shop.csa.ca](http://shop.csa.ca)

*Skills Canada National Competition 2014. Alberta returns with 26 Medals*

**9 Gold, 10 Silver and 7 Bronze! Automation & Control**, Post-Secondary **Brennan Roy-Bertin** from NAIT ranked 1st; **Electrical Installations** Post-Secondary **Jacob Fluker** from NAIT ranked 1st and Secondary **Mackenzie Nielsen** ranked 8th from Notre Dame. Congratulations!

**Workplace Wellness Summit and Awards - September 9, 2014.** Whether you have one or 2000 employees, working health and wellness into your workplace qualifies you to apply for the Premier's Award for Healthy Workplaces. The Premier's Award for Healthy Workplaces recognize employers in Alberta who support wellness. It recognizes comprehensive healthy workplace initiatives that consist of strategies, policies and programs that support and enhance a healthy workplace and the efforts of workers to remain healthy at work and beyond. More information on the criteria, categories and application process is available at [www.healthyalberta.com/885.htm](http://www.healthyalberta.com/885.htm) **Deadline for submission of applications is 4:00 pm on July 25, 2014.**

As a champion of workplace health and wellness we encourage you to save the date for the **2014 Alberta Workplace Wellness Summit and Awards** on Tuesday, September 9, 2014 at the Sheraton in Red Deer. The Summit and Awards celebration will be hosted by Honorable Dave Rodney, Associate Minister of Wellness.

- Learn practical tips for your workplace to create a healthier, happier more productive culture
- Learn how to support positive mental well-being so the workplace is an environment where everyone can flourish and reach their potential
- Learn best practices from award winning organizations in Alberta
- Make meaningful connections

Keynote speaker, Dr. Merv Gilbert will discuss how employees and employers can work together to create and sustain a psychologically safe and productive work environment where everyone can flourish and reach their potential. Watch for registration details to be posted on [www.healthyalberta.com](http://www.healthyalberta.com) and on the Alberta Workplace Wellness discussion group on LinkedIn.

***The Honest Spin Doctor*** is a tightly written book by **Mr. Grant Ainsley** that will give you what you need to know about media relations, crisis communications and the need for organizations to have policies that guide their behaviour when it comes to the media and social media. It's a must for anyone who deals with the media on either an occasional or daily basis, including CEO's, politicians, association leaders, managers, safety officials, communicators and public relations professionals.

To get more information and order your copy, please click [here](#). When you purchase a copy and click the check box, Grant can sign and personalize the book for you. (Grant was a presenter at ECAA's Training Day in May)

***News from Alberta Construction Association (ACA) Newsletter: PC Leadership Candidate Ric Mclver.*** ACA recently met with PC leadership candidate Ric Mclver. Mclver impressed as Infrastructure Minister with the schools consultations and he continues to demonstrate a good understanding of industry issues, as per his responses:

- 1) Government funding set aside specifically for investment in infrastructure and spent when private sector investment lags
- 2) the need to maintain a Temporary Foreign Worker Program to meet Alberta's unique needs and manage peak demand, and expanded pathways from temporary to permanent immigration

3) Reinvigorate the partnership with industry and act to ensure the public sector is a preferred client through for example adoption of industry standard contracts and consider using private sector Project Management services.

Mr. McIver would welcome the opportunity to meet with members. To learn more about Ric's platform, [info@ricmciver.com](mailto:info@ricmciver.com) or 587-333-8683

For more ACA news visit <http://albertaconstruction.net/>

### Labour Update

To: All Unionized Contractors

The Construction Collective Agreement Between Electrical Contractors Association of Alberta (ECAA) and Local Union 424 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Registration Certificate #52 comes to term April 30, 2015. Bargaining to renew the Agreement will begin in September 2014.

Any articles of Agreement you wish to have addressed by way of amendment, revision, deletion, new additions etc. Please forward them to Jim Bendfeld, ECAA's Labour Relations coordinator [jimbendfeld@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:jimbendfeld@ecaa.ab.ca)

### Board of Directors Update

Next meeting is September 18th & September 19th including Board Orientation.

ECAA received official notification from the Honorable Kyle Fawcett, Minister of Jobs, Skills, Training & Labour that two **public members** have been appointed to the Board of Directors, each for a two year term. Welcome **Mr. Dennis Horrigan** from Edmonton and **Mr. Hans Tiedemann** from Calgary.

**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 in 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 Darcy or Sheri.

### Local Chapter Activity

**CALGARY:** Next meeting **Thursday, September 11th** at the Best Western Port O'Call.

The Ministry of Justice and Solicitor General is preparing a list of contacts for consultations on new regulations around scrap metal theft. **Are you interested in being included on the list of stakeholder contacts on behalf of the Electrical Contractors Association of Alberta?** If so, please provide your titles with the Association and with you own company and email to President Doug Miller ([d.miller@customelectric.com](mailto:d.miller@customelectric.com)) who will be happy to pass the information onto the Ministry of Justice and Solicitor General.

**South Foothills - Alstom Request for Electrical Contractors.** The project is located 2km East of the Municipality of Stavely, Alberta. If you are interested in this job and for a complete project description click [here](#).

**EDMONTON:** Next chapter meeting **Monday, September 15th**, Chateau Louis Hotel & Conference Centre.

**FORT McMURRAY:** Next chapter meeting scheduled for **Tuesday, September 16th**, at the Chateau Nova.

**Fort McMurray chapter held a very successful golf tournament on Thursday, June 26th.** Proceeds from the tournament and silent auction were raised to support scholarships at Keyano College for 3rd year electrical apprentices. Thank you to the golfers who participated and all the vendors who contributed golf and auction items. **Special thanks to the tournament sponsors:** Laird Electric, Midlite, ECAA's Labour Relations Committee, Chemco Electrical Contractors, Westburne Electric, Thomas & Betts, Voice Construction, FMR, Pentair, Stuve Electrical, DC Wiring and Gescan. The winning team at the tournament consisted of Les Gill, Peter Lawlor, Craig Bussy and Shaq Bitar. Great job by the tournament organizers, Tim Brundage from Laird Electric and Dwayne Blanchard from Gescan - job well done!

**BOB CARSON CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT:** Edmonton Chapter 25th Annual Bob Carson Classic will take place on **Wednesday, September 10th, 2014** at the Highlands Golf Course. Registrations will go out in July. Need more information? Contact Christine. Registration form available on [www.ecaa.ab.ca](http://www.ecaa.ab.ca)

#### New Members

Welcome new Contractor Members: **Canonbie Contractors Limited** (Sherwood Park) **Watts Needed Inc.** (Tofield); **Gold Seal Electric Ltd.** (Calgary)

Associate Members: **Sigma Power Services** (Edmonton)

#### Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) News

**CONGRATULATIONS New PEC's: Terry Chisholm, PEC #281**

**545 DAYS until PEC's need 60 APD points.** If you were a PEC on Jan 1, 2013 by Dec 31 2015, or in 545 days, you will need to have earned 60 Annual Professional Development (APD) points. If you became a PEC after Jan 1, 2013 you do not need to get any points for the year you received your PEC. If you became a PEC in 2013 then for Dec 31, 2015 you would need only 40 points; 20 for 2014 and 20 for 2015. If you became a PEC in 2014 then for Dec 31, 2015 you would need only 20 points for 2015.

#### RECORDING AND TRACKING YOUR APD POINTS

To have your APD points counted you must enter online and send a written verification to the ECAA office.

**1. RECORDING APD POINTS ONLINE:** To assist you to enter your APD points online or to learn which categories are available and how to count your points we have provided step by step instructions. A 7 minute video has also been produced by the ECAA office to show you how to fill out the APD online form. **How to get to the APD online form:** Go to Annual Professional Development (APD) Form on the Electrical Contractors Association of Alberta website ([www.ecaa.ab.ca](http://www.ecaa.ab.ca))

1.1. Log in

1.2. Click on the PEC Annual Professional Development Form to get started, located on the lower left hand side under the grey navigator panel.

1.3. Select the year in which you are reporting your points .

Just above the year selection, you will see two lines in green that start with "click here"

One is for step by step instructions to complete the APD form and the other is the 7 minute video on how to fill out the form.

Note since this APD date entry requires your log in, ECAA office cannot enter the data for you. thy only see the points for each category and total for the year.

**2. TRACKING YOUR APD POINTS**

2.1 In addition to entering on line you must also submit a written confirmation of APD points to ECAA office. If the APD activity you are claiming points for issues a document (certificate or transcript of marks Training day sign off sheet, you can just photocopy this and submit). If no document available from your activity just print of the on line from your filled out to report the APD points date and sign the form and send it to ECAA office where it is put in your file. This written submission is to be done in the year you earned the points. Yes there will be spot audits and these written records will be the paper trail that will be audited.

**WHY DO WE HAVE APD POINTS:**

The P of PEC stands for Professional. As a professional designation we need to demonstrate that we are staying current in our trade. It is suggested that a PEC attain 20 points per year, but must reach 60 points in three years. See the "ECAA PEC Annual Professional Development Requirements draft 3-14 " located [here](#) or request the ECAA office to email you a copy. Remember you can get up to 18 of the 20 required points by attending the annual training day and PEC AGM and ECAA AGM. Also you can earn points by attending chapter meetings.

**FAQ:**

What happens if I do not get my 60 APD points by Dec 31, 2015? Refer to ECAA PEC Annual Professional Development Requirements which lists the process to accommodate exceptional individual circumstances.

For any questions please contact Christine at the ECAA office. [chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca)

Thank you,

*Mike Fleming PEC # 36.*

**INSTRUCTOR REQUIRED: ECAA PROJECT MANAGEMENT PEC COURSE**

is seeking a second instructor (eventual successor) for the "Project Management" course of the PEC program. Due to program growth and the need for course continuity ECAA intends to have additional instructional staff in place for all PEC courses. This individual would audit the September 19th & 20th, 2014 Calgary PEC Electrical Project Management course and then team teach as required for future courses. Preference will be given to individuals who have PEC certification and who have current experience in electrical project management. Preference

will also be given to those with formal project management training and instructional experience. Any questions contact Mike Fleming PEC (retired PMP and current instructor) at [mike.fleming07@gmail.com](mailto:mike.fleming07@gmail.com)

Applications for this position may be sent to ECAA 17725 - 103 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5S 1N8 Attention: Sheri McLean ([smclean@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:smclean@ecaa.ab.ca))

**SAVE THE DATE: ECAA Training Day, Friday, May 22nd, 2015 Copper Point Resort Invermere, BC.** This year's Training Day recently held in Edmonton proved to be successful and very well attended. Thank you to all the facilitators that helped facilitate each stream. We are currently looking for ideas and suggestions for themes and sessions to include in Training Day 2015. Any ideas can be emailed to [lcantelo55@gmail.com](mailto:lcantelo55@gmail.com) or [smclean@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:smclean@ecaa.ab.ca).

### Continuing Education

**Registrations are being accepted for all courses scheduled in 2014 form on ECAA website under PEC section and in Calendar of Events: Contact Christine Hryniw ([chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca)) to register or for more information on the program.**

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

***Project Management, September 19th & 20th, 2014 (Calgary)*** Increased competition is eroding profit margins across the board. To be successful in today's marketplace, electrical contractors need to work smarter - not harder. The Project Management course will teach you practical, hands-on skills to:

- identify and recover all costs to which you are entitled
- avoid paying for others' errors or omissions
- reduce project costs through effective purchasing and administration
- identify cost overruns - and take corrective action
- use effective record keeping systems to enhance project profitability

***Safety Principles, September 25th & 26th, 2014 (Edmonton)*** 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 - 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, September 5th, 2014.



Electrical Contractors  
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