



# THE SPARK

## ECAA E-Newsletter

July 3, 2015

Issue 53

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

### Calendar of Events

**September 9th, 2015**  
**Bob Carson Classic**

#### Upcoming Code Seminars

September 10th, 2015  
(Calgary)

September 21st, 2015  
(Edmonton)

October 1st, 2015  
(Grande Prairie)

October 8th & 9th, 2015  
(Calgary)

**JULY/2015**

### 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

The ECAA Convention & AGM held in Invermere BC, May 21-23 2015, was a huge success and saw membership attendance to the point where we somewhat overloaded the hotel. With all hands on deck, the hotel staff worked their feet off tending to our many needs and with this, I know that a great time was had by all. Golf was raved about, and training day was again extremely well supported and very informative. Many thanks go out to Darcy Teichroeb and special thanks to his wife Barb who put a huge effort into even the finest details making the weekend that much more enjoyable. The traditional passing of the hat saw me receive my first ever cowboy hat and is it ever comfortable. Thanks to all involved in convention.



Keven Lefebvre,  
PEC

Elections at AGM saw some familiar faces assuming roles in new areas with many members remaining in their seats for the next year. I also saw many new faces at AGM this year and I encourage you to stay involved as I look forward to getting to know you and seeing some of you getting even more involved as we keep on top of the work of representing Electrical Contractors and the Electrical Industry. Thanks go out to the many various chairs for running their meetings as part of AGM, including AGM itself and the Nominating Committee of past presidents.

A big welcome and introduction to my Executive who I look forward to working with over the next year: Darrell Castor, Vice President; Eric Fadden, Treasurer; Tim Tarita, Secretary.

I have truly appreciated the efforts of Darcy Teichroeb over the past year; Darcy's hard work and dedication have definitely moved our association forward as he now joins the ranks of a select few ECAA members as Past President. The huge amount of time you have devoted to the ECAA over the past many years does not go unnoticed Darcy. Congratulations as the Award of Merit recipient.

Sheri and the staff at the Provincial office had their hands full as they returned from AGM to the ECAA website & email getting a bug and us being "offline" for over a month, but they saw through with little interruption in business seen by us. Great effort ladies, I know it was a heap of additional work for all of you.

As I take over the reins, I assume the responsibility of a role which has oversight of the ECAA but a role which also heavily supports the membership at large. I will continue to move the ECAA forward, banking on the energy and enthusiasm which has grown over the past years, and will be looking to the membership to join in as well, as we prepare for the many events occurring over the next months, I want to

October 19th, 2015  
(Edmonton)

October 21st, 2015  
(Bonnyville)

November 14, 2015  
(Edmonton)

[Code Seminar Registration](#)

**Upcoming PEC Courses**  
*Safety Principles*  
**September 17th & 18, 2015**  
(Edmonton)

*Basic Electric Estimating*  
**September 25th & 26th, 2015**  
(Calgary)

[PEC Course List & Dates](#)

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thank you again for your support; I am truly passionate about our association and know that this will be another great year for the ECAA.

The 2016 Convention plans have been unveiled, and while you read this article, we have ½ of the anticipated numbers signed up already. It looks to be a "bucket list" trip of a lifetime and yet another successful ECAA Convention. April 2016 is just on the horizon, so sign up soon if you want to take advantage of this opportunity and join us. Thanks.

Keven Lefebvre PEC  
Provincial President

### Getting To Know Your ACA WCB/SAFETY Representative

*We thought our readers would like to know more about the volunteers who make up the ECAA Board of Directors and have added this feature into the Spark.*

**Getting to Know Your Alberta Construction Association WCB/Safety Representative Dave Hagen;**

**Company:** Chemco Electrical Contractors Ltd.

**Family Members:** Wife Caroline Hagen; Daughter Jacklyn Hagen and Son Jeffery Hagen.

**When and how did you start in the industry:** Started in the electrical industry in 1979 with Hammond Electric, completed apprenticeship with State Electric. Moved to Ontario worked for State Electric in Oshawa at the GM car and truck plants and then 3 years at Darlington Nuclear station. Moved back to Alberta and started with Chemco at Slake Lake Pulp mill. After that went to the Lloydminster upgrader as a safety person and have been working with Chemco in that capacity every since.

**Favorite Hobbies:** Wood working

**Favorite TV show:** Comedies

**Favorite Sports Team:** Oilers

**Most memorable vacation:** South America - All ECAA Conventions

**Affiliations with other associations:** ACSA, SCSA, COAA, Better Supervision Advisor Board, IEEE, CSSE

**Any word of advice to new electrical apprentices:** Go to school, never stop learning.

**Favorite ECAA memory:** Every event that helps move the industry closer together.

**Best part of ECAA is:** The collaboration.

### Getting to Know Your Associates

**FEDERATED INSURANCE** is a proud sponsor and recommended supplier of ECAA.

As a Canadian-owned direct writer insurer with a long history of affiliation with the electrical contractor industry, our Risk Services Coordinators are committed to creating customized insurance solutions for you, your business, and your employees.

Our belief in "knowing your business matters" is demonstrated through the development and delivery of programs that address the unique risks to electrical contractors. When you work with Federated Insurance, you get a direct

connection to the people focussed on protecting your business - risk management, loss prevention, and claims.

And, be sure to ask about our solutions for Group Benefits, Life and Personal Lines insurance for business owners and employees.

Visit [www.federated.ca](http://www.federated.ca) to learn more or contact us directly:  
Northern Alberta: Simon Rinaldi [simon.rinaldi@federated.ca](mailto:simon.rinaldi@federated.ca) 780-435-3064  
Southern Alberta: Brad Olson [brad.olson@federated.ca](mailto:brad.olson@federated.ca) 403-254-8500

## Industry News

**ECAA is still experience server issues and our website is still down. We apologize for the inconvenience and appreciate your patience. Our web service providers are working hard to get us up and running as quickly as possible.**

**23rd Edition of the Canadian Electrical Code. ECAA has been notified by Municipal Affairs that the coming into force date for the Electrical Code Regulation will be January 1, 2016 instead of September 1, 2015. Target cabinet date for approval will be September.**

**Implementation of Re-Inspection Fees.** It was brought to our attention in the [Building Permit and Inspection Services Audit Report](#) (January 2014) that re-inspection fees were not being charged consistently or according to the [Safety Codes Permit Bylaw](#), which indicates that a fee of \$240 should be charged for all re-inspections. In order to comply with the existing bylaw, we will begin charging re-inspection fees starting on September 30, 2015. The process for rebooking inspections has not changed. This information can also be found on the [Current Planning Industry Resources](#) page under Process Improvements. For any questions, please contact the Chief in your respective trade area:

[Linda Girard](#), Chief Mechanical Inspector  
[Mark Brodgesell](#), Chief Building Inspector  
[Gerry Wiles](#), Chief Electrical Inspector  
[Chad Rich](#), Chief Building Systems Inspector

### **NEW FIRE CODE APPROVED GUIDELINE STANDATA**

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

[Approved Guideline for Senior Citizen's Lodge Fire Safety Upgrading - June 2015](#)

**NTCCC Prompt Payment Petition.** ECAA members encouraged to please obtain signatures on the petition forwarded by ECAA. Delayed payments are a harmful practice in Canada's construction industry. They are a significant problem for small businesses, their employees and families, and taxpayers. Canada's trade contractors continue to incur significant costs when payments are delayed from general contractors; they must continue to pay staff, taxes, benefits, and maintain equipment when waiting to receive their remittances. This leads to fewer bids on projects, higher costs for developers, businesses, and government, which costs taxpayers money and creates the bottlenecks that lead to construction delays. The UK, Australia, New Zealand and Ireland have all addressed the payment delays issue by implementing prompt payment legislation, along with 49 of 50 U.S. states.

**Please return all completed petitions to: Rob LeForte , Manager, Government Affairs Impact Public Affairs (300 - 66 Queen Street, Ottawa, ON K1P 5C6)**

### **Alberta WCB taking new view on modified work**

Written by Maurice Dransfeld . A modified work program has long been a very useful tool for employers to reduce the impact of workplace injuries on operations and to limit the occurrence of lost-time injuries. An injured worker who is unable to return to his previous tasks can commence duties that are consistent with any medical restrictions. Often, it is also beneficial to the worker because he is fully

compensated instead of receiving a reduced economic loss payment (ELP) from the workers' compensation board (WCB).

But problems can arise where the modified work program comes to an end while the injured worker is still engaged in it. When an employer stops being able to offer modified work, the WCB will assess the worker for temporary disability benefits and some sort of ELP will be issued. Things become less clear in circumstances where the modified work ceases to be available because of the actions of the employee.

For example, a fairly common side effect of modified work programs is that they encourage a certain "relaxed" work ethic that would otherwise be unacceptable in the worker's normal position. Employers often complain that workers engaged in modified work will not do a good job, work slowly, complain too often, take too many breaks or simply fail to show up at all. This may result in termination of the employment relationship for just cause.

It is at this conflict point, where the Alberta WCB is now starting to re-interpret its policies, which will undoubtedly have a significant impact and may affect how other provinces' WCB regimes will start administering their benefits.

The WCB's past approach to this issue was as follows: First, the WCB would consider the reason for why the modified work program came to an end. In the event that the employee removed himself from modified work, either as a result of a resignation or termination, the WCB would cease payment of any sort of ELP on the basis that the modified work came to an end due to "circumstances within the employee's control."

Such an interpretation flows naturally from the provisions of the Workers' Compensation Act, which state, in part, where a worker refuses modified work, the WCB would assess his compensation entitlement under the act as though the worker had accepted the modified work.

As such, the WCB considered it fair that a worker who could mitigate claims cost by accepting reasonable modified work could not unilaterally choose to forego that work and collect WCB benefits instead. For example, an employee who, as a result of her own misconduct (such as failing to show up for modified work or acting unsafely) was removed from modified work is disentitled to WCB benefits - presumably, the idea being that the employee has, by virtue of her misconduct, "refused" the modified work.

This interpretation resulted in a long line of WCB Appeals Commission cases where no further claims costs as a result of ELPs were allowed under this interpretation. This, in turn, allowed employers the relative freedom to make termination decisions where significant performance concerns arose, without regard to what impact this would have on their WCB experience rating.

'No fault' principle

This "worker accountability" approach is no longer the WCB's preferred interpretation. Employers are now faced with WCB decisions at the case management level and with the Dispute Resolution and Decision Review Body, which impart the "no-fault" principle underlying the workers' compensation regime.

The WCB's position on these claims now is that when the employer has severed the employer-employee relationship, the modified work program is no longer available due to the termination of employment, rather than due to the worker refusing to participate in the program. As a result, ELPs continue to be payable as long as the employee remains willing to engage in modified work (notwithstanding its availability).

This means that where an employee is at fault for the cessation of modified work,

the no-fault scheme of the act will come to his aid and the employer is left collecting the claims costs on its experience rating.

It is noteworthy that the WCB has not expressly changed its policies in this regard - this is merely a shift in interpretation. But it is one that is fraught with difficulty. Primarily, it is questionable whether the no-fault principle is properly imported into the administration of benefits at all. Historically, the concept of no fault was used to address issues of access to the regime, such as to decide who was a "worker" under the act.

No definitive answer to this question is yet available, but proceedings are underway at the Alberta Court of Queen's Bench, which will hopefully provide clarity. Should the WCB's new interpretation be supported, WCB regimes in other provinces may take another look at how they administer benefits, and there is a risk that the no-fault principle may find its way into the administration of benefits as well.

In the meantime, employers need to be aware this new interpretation raises important considerations and issues with respect to their modified work programs.

For instance, the new interpretation forces employers to weigh the unacceptable consequences of incurring a lost-time claim, or other WCB account cost consequences, against the prospect of continuing the employment of a worker who may present a safety risk or who has undermined the employment relationship through other misconduct.

One also has to question whether this interpretation ultimately provides an incentive to workers to terminate their modified work assignments since there appears to be no real consequences to doing so.

*Maurice Dransfeld is a lawyer in the Edmonton office of McLennan Ross who provides advice to employers on a variety of labour and employment issues. He can be reached at [mdransfeld@mross.com](mailto:mdransfeld@mross.com). This email address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it. or (780) 482-9223.*

*This article originally appeared in the [April/May](#) issue of COS (Canadian Occupational Safety).*

**ECAA 2016 Convention Cruise** Registration available [HERE](#) and for more information [Convention and Cruise Package](#). Limited spots available so book now. For more information contact Yumi at Uniglobe Travel ([YumiM@uniglobeone.com](mailto:YumiM@uniglobeone.com)) or Sheri McLean ([smclean@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:smclean@ecaa.ab.ca))

**Arc Flash & Shock Electrical Safety Training based on CSA Z462-2015** Developed for workers that perform energized electrical work. The course curriculum is based on the 3rd edition of CSA Z462, published in 2015. The overall course content was developed using industry accepted best practice standards as the underpinning in support of meeting Provincial or Federal regulatory due diligence for arc flash and shock. **For more information and to register online visit [www.ecaatraining.com](http://www.ecaatraining.com)**

**"What's New In the 2015 Canadian Electrical Code" Seminars have been scheduled.** Click on the following [REGISTRATION FORM](#) to sign up. This course is approved for CME's and PEC's. Code Books also available for sale. Click on the following order form to get your copy today. [2015 CODE BOOK ORDER FORM](#)

Canadian Electrical Contractors Association (CECA) **2015 NATIONAL INDUSTRY CONFERENCE** is taking place September 16 -20, 2015 in St. Andrews-By-The-Sea, New Brunswick. Click the following link to view the complete [CONFERENCE PACKAGE](#).

**Canada-Alberta Job Grant opportunities.** You can bundle staff to meet the 23 hours required for training. There is \$17 million to access for this initiative. For

more information visit [www.albertacanada.com/jobgrant](http://www.albertacanada.com/jobgrant) Click [here](#) to view a PDF outlining the Canada Alberta Job Grant

CSA is currently offering the following course: **Fundamentals of the 2015 Canadian Electrical Code for Engineers and Technologists**. August 11-13, 2015 Four Points by Sheraton Hotel Edmonton South. **Course Overview:** Designed to give participants a solid foundation with which to effectively navigate, interpret and apply the rules and requirements of the Canadian Electrical Code, Part I. This course will be of particular interest to engineers, technologists and other electrical industry professionals who have limited familiarity with the Code. Outlining specific made-in-Canada requirements, and referencing the substantial changes and updates to the 2015 edition of the Canadian Electrical Code, the course provides detailed instruction on the influence of the CE Code on the design, inspection, installation or maintenance of electrical systems and equipment. **Learning Objectives:** - Understand key design considerations, applications, calculations, and interpretations of the rules and requirements in the Canadian Electrical Code. - Discover how the appropriate application of Code requirements to installation procedures can help reduce potential regulatory compliance issues - Gain a fundamental understanding of key sections as they relate to existing and new technologies - Understand the relationship between design and installation in accordance with CE Code and requirements for certifying products for Canadian installations - Learn about the Canadian Electrical Safety system and how the various components work together to help promote electrical safety. [Click here for more information or to register.](#)

**Register Now for the Eric Newell "Kidz in Careers" Golf Classic.** [Register your spot now](#) in the **7th annual Eric Newell "Kidz in Careers" Golf Classic**. New this year, you can head to our website to easily register your team or individual golfer(s) online! **September 24, 2015 - Heritage Pointe Golf Club, Calgary, AB** This event is named to honour Eric Newell, the founder of CAREERS: The Next Generation, Chair of its Board of Directors, and a champion of education for youth. Our goal is to highlight the importance of maintaining a long-term investment in workforce and career path development for Alberta in both times of prosperity and constraint. The golf tournament is a fun way to support CAREERS programs, meet friends and make new friends. It all begins with a shotgun start and includes many contests, student guests, and barbecue. Included with each golfer registration: (One 18 hole round of golf with cart, shotgun start (9am); One ticket per golfer to the Builders of Alberta: [THE upRAISING event](#) Hot breakfast buffet (7:30 am); BBQ dinner and awards ceremony following the golf tournament; "Kidz in Careers" First Tee Golfer GiftChance to win prizes

**Edmonton Chapter Bob Carson Classic Golf Tournament Registration is now open.** To register for the tournament [click here](#). Contact us today to book your team or spot. For sponsorship opportunities available please email [ecaa@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:ecaa@ecaa.ab.ca)

**On behalf of the Alberta Construction Industry and the Shock Trauma Air Rescue Society (STARS)** we invite you to join with us in an unprecedented opportunity to support our shared initiative of education, safety and saving lives at our annual fundraising gala in support of STARS. The 5th annual Building Magic in the Air Gala is your company's opportunity to give back to the community and to ensure that the construction industry workers and residents of Alberta continue to have access to quality medical attention when and where it's required. There are several ways that you can support the Building Magic in the Air Gala: Become a sponsor as outlined in the enclosed sponsorship package  
Purchase event tickets (individually or by the table). Each table holds a maximum of 10 people. Donate towards the auction (live and silent) and/or the raffle  
Cash/Gift-in-kind Donations. **The Building Magic in the Air Gala is being held on Saturday, October 24th** at the Chateau Lacombe Hotel in Edmonton. The gala will include a sponsor reception, cocktails, followed by a buffet dinner, silent and live auction, raffles and live entertainment. Tickets and prize donations can also be donated using this form. You can also go online to the Building Magic in the Air

Gala event website at <http://foundation.stars.ca/buildingmagicintheairgala> to register and become a sponsor, make a donation, purchase your tickets and get all the details on the event. [STARS Gala Sponsorship Package](#)

## News from Alberta Construction Association

### **Highlight from the Alberta Safety Code Council Annual General Meeting.**

Lee Phillips from Scott Builders attended the Alberta Safety Code Council AGM. While in attendance he was able to take several interesting notes. ATB Financial chief Economist [Todd Hirsch](#) was much more positive about Alberta's Economy than many previous predictions.

You can read Lee's notes from the meeting below as well as the presentations given by each of the participants.

[Click here](#) for meeting notes.

[Click here](#) for the presentations.

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### **Social Media Russian Roulette.** Grant Ainsley - Special for the ACA Newsletter

*Grant Ainsley provides media relations training to ACA & ECAA*

For years I've been talking about the need for every organization, large or small, to have a social media policy. The good news is a higher percentage of organizations now seem to have either a social media policy or at least guidelines for the company and their employees to follow. The bad news is, the majority of companies still have nothing to protect themselves from things their employees do and say in social media. So the situation is getting better, but not quickly enough in my opinion.

Although there's no way of measuring it, I also sense the link between what a person does in their private social media life and the organization they work for is becoming more connected. There's very little doubt that what somebody does in social media can and does have an impact on the organization that employs them.

Two excellent examples come to mind immediately. There was the case of Deborah Drever, the MLA who was elected in the May 5 Alberta election as an NDP candidate from Calgary. 17 days after getting elected, she was kicked out of the governing NDP caucus because of offensive social media posts she had made. Then there was the story of the young man from Toronto who was confronted by a female TV reporter after he used profane language as she was trying to do her job. He was identified through social media and because of the negative impact surrounding the story; Ontario Hydro fired him. I'll leave it to the courts to decide if companies are able to fire employees based on their behavior outside of work, but there's no doubt the connection between something a person does away from work and their employer is very much there. That's why I still chuckle when somebody's social media profile says their comments are theirs and theirs alone and have nothing to do with their employer. Save your breath.

For construction companies this can be especially concerning. Keep in mind that virtually everybody employed these days is on social media, but yet a large majority of the companies they work for don't give them any rules to follow.

There was the case of a construction company worker who took pictures of a crane collapse in Halifax and then posted the photos on Facebook. Within a matter of minutes his posts had reached the media in Halifax and a reporter was on the phone to his General Manager looking for a comment about the crane collapse. The GM had just been told of this development and certainly wasn't prepared to speak to the media about it.

The question then becomes, would a policy have made any difference? One can only hope that the employee would have taken the photos and then decided to hand them over to his safety manager as part of the investigation into the accident, rather than posting them on Facebook. Due to the fact he didn't, a

human resources-type discussion would have taken place with the employee and it would have gone something like this - "We have a social media policy, you signed to say you understood it and now you have contravened it". At that point you would then make a decision about consequences for the employee's actions, the same as any other HR issue.

Virtually every construction project done these days has some impact on the public and it's watching what's taking place. Whether it's a school, a commercial building, a medical center or some other project, people are watching and following on social media. They're also making comments on social media about the work of your company and your employees. Workers saying embarrassing things about the company on social media simply can't be tolerated today because there are too many people watching and too much is on the line.

If construction companies are truly concerned about their corporate brand and reputation they should have a social media policy to try to ensure embarrassing things don't happen to them and if they do there are consequences.

I'm not a lawyer, but do know that if you have not instructed an employee to do something or have given the proper direction, it's very difficult to find clear and total fault with the employee for doing something wrong. What employees are saying about your company on social media is important and how they are acting in social media on their own time has also become something to pay attention to.

Do you know what your employees are saying on social media? If the answer is no I suggest you implement a social media policy to make sure you're not facing the news media for all the wrong reasons.

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Grant Ainsley is a media trainer and speaker from Edmonton. He's also the author of the book *The Honest Spin Doctor*. More information can be found at [www.grantainsley.com](http://www.grantainsley.com) and he can be reached at [grant@grantainsley.com](mailto:grant@grantainsley.com).

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### **ACA Board Agrees To Push For Prompt Payment Solutions**

**The ACA board on Friday June 12 agreed on the following recommendations for prompt payment:**

1. 1. ACA initiate collaborative industry dialogue to develop a voluntary industry solution (voluntary code of practice) to demonstrate willingness to lead even before legislation is developed.
1. 2. ACA advocate a legislative solution to remedy the issue of late payments that are not in compliance with the payment provisions of the construction contract, using CCDC contract language. Further, that ACA seek a solution that:

a) Accommodates payment provisions in alternate financing contracts and;

b) Reduces the potential for harming contractor's reputations in securing repeat business from owners.

In reaching its decision, the Board acknowledged that legislating behaviour is never an easy task, and that both voluntary and legislative solutions will have greater success if they recognize and address the legitimate concerns of all stakeholders in the construction payment process.

ACA thanks the ad hoc committee members for contributing their expertise to the committee, which now winds up with the delivery of the recommendations.

Going forward, ACA will be fleshing out and executing a proposed work plan of research, consultation, and coalition building to advance both these recommendations.

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### Leading Indicators for Workplace Health and Safety

Alberta Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) has published their latest Leading Indicators user guide as a new resource. Leading indicators are aspects of workplace activities that can be used to improve OHS outcomes prior to an unwanted outcome occurring.

A familiar example of a leading indicator might be the legislated hazard assessment and control process: a preventative approach to reducing the risk of workplace injury and illness. If changed, leading indicators are expected to change related outcomes. That makes them an important tool for managing health and safety at work.

You can download the guide [here](#).

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*For more information and news from Alberta Construction Association visit <http://albertaconstruction.net/>*

### Board of Directors Update

Next board meeting will be held on September 4, 2015.

### Have something to say?

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

### New Members

**Welcome new Members: Blue Arc Electric (County of Grande Prairie); C.A.P. Congtrolls & Power (County of Grande Prairie); Gray Electric (2013) Ltd. (Grande Prairie); Main-Way Electrical & Instrumentation (Peace River); Full Draw Electric (Grande Prairie); Moreau Industrial (Edmonton); Total Integration Inc. (Edmonton); Western Auto & Security (Grande Prairie). Richardson Electric Ltd. (St. Albert); Majak Electric Ltd. (Three Hills); Excalibur Systems Group Ltd. (Calgary)**

### Local Chapter Activity

#### **CALGARY:**

Next meeting Thursday, September 10th, Best Western Port of Call. Code seminar that day.

**EDMONTON:** Next meeting Monday, September 21st. Guest speaker from Chromalox. Code seminar that day.

**26th Annual Bob Carson Classic Golf Tournament** Wednesday, September 9, 2015 at the Highlands Golfcourse. Registration now open! To register click [here](#).

**Tuesday, September 22nd, Lunch and Learn**, ECAA Boardroom. Gabriella Klosak Anti-Counterfeiting & IP Investigator, Global Brand Protection CSA Group

**Wednesday, September 23rd**, join the Edmonton chapter at **Northlands Park for a night at the races**. To purchase tickets for the Horse Races please fill out the following [registration and ticket order form](#) and email to [carnett@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:carnett@ecaa.ab.ca)

**FORT MCMURRAY:** Very successful 2nd annual Wood Buffalo Apprenticeship Classic. Thank you to Chapter President Tim Brundage and Dwayne Blanchard, Gescan for all their assistance in organizing the event and to all the participants in making this event so successful.

**NORTH EAST:** Code seminar moved to Portage College, Bonnyville on October 21st due to logistics.

**NORTH WEST:** Thank you to Chapter President Tim Tarita and Membership Chair Steve Warholik for the successful membership drive in the North West Chapter. We welcome all the new members who joined this growing Chapter. Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 30th at the Pomeroy Hotel at 6:00 pm. Code Seminar following on October 1st.

### Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) News

**CALL FOR SPEAKERS!** ECAA Technical Training Day 2016 planning is underway! We are looking for speakers on the following topics: Alternative Energy (wind turbines, energy storage, Geothermal and electrical vehicle information); new Technology (Smart Grid, Journeyman Mentoring, LED Advancement, Micro grid); and Codes & Standards (Understanding Standata, Section 10 & 14, Selective Coordination, and Counterfeiting). If you would like to present or have a suggestion for a speaker on any of the above, please email PEC Education Committee Chair Larry Cantelo ([lcantelo55@gmail.com](mailto:lcantelo55@gmail.com)) or Sheri McLean ([smclean@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:smclean@ecaa.ab.ca))

**Save the Date: Friday, May 27, 2016** River Cree Resort, Edmonton, Alberta

We hope to have the ECAA website up and running as soon as possible. In the mean time please hold onto your APD points sheets until the site is repaired and the APD online system is running. Thank you for your patience.

### Continuing Education

**Registrations are being accepted for all courses scheduled in 2015 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.**

#### [2015 PEC COURSE REGISTRATION FORM](#)

***Safety Principles, September 17th & 18th, 2015 (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.

#### ***Basic Electrical Estimating (BEE) September 25th & 26th, 2015 (Calgary)***

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 or materials using the NECA Manual of Labour Units, labour costs, special overheads, general overheads and profit (contingencies).

**ONLINE TRAINING AVAILABLE THROUGH ECAA.**

[www.ecaatraining.com](http://www.ecaatraining.com)

**Arc Flash & Shock Electrical Safety Training based on CSA Z462-2015** Developed for workers that perform energized electrical work. The course curriculum is based on the 3rd edition of CSA Z462, published in 2015. The overall course content was developed using industry accepted best practice standards as the underpinning in support of meeting Provincial or Federal regulatory due diligence for arc flash and shock.

ESTS Electrical Worker training is focused on the practical application of CSA Z462 within the workplace and providing documentation tools in support of the Employer's overall Occupational Health & Safety Management System and an Electrical Safety Program. Employers are required to have an updated Electrical Safety Program that incorporates the new requirements from CSA Z462-2015 for workers to receive the most benefit from this course.

The ESTS Electrical Worker course is broken down into five sections for ease of use. Workers should self-pace themselves based on their understanding of the subject matter. All workers are encouraged to stop and start their course by saving their progress before exiting. At any time during the course workers can ask questions to an Instructor and follow along using a comprehensive Student Workbook as a training aid.

Students who score 80% or greater earn their training certificate and can apply for 0.6 Continuing Education Units (CEU's). Final assessment questions are fully randomized so Workers never have the same exact questions.

Electrical Worker Training Modules:

1. Introduction
2. Regulations, Consensus-based Standards and Best Practices
3. Understanding Electricity in the Workplace
4. Electrical Hazards: Understanding the Potential for Harm
5. Risk Assessment Procedure
6. Establishing an Electrically Safe Work Condition
7. Engineering and Administrative Controls
8. Electrical Specific PPE, Tools and Equipment
9. Emergency Response, Incident Reporting and Program Maintenance
10. Final Assessment & Work Task Scenarios

Learning Objectives for Qualified Electrical Workers:

1. Explain the Regulations and Standards applicable to their role and responsibilities.
2. Identify and understand electrical hazards and risk assessment.
3. Effectively manage electrical hazards by following the Work Flow Process to safely execute energized electrical work.
4. Learn how to complete an Arc Flash Risk Assessment and Shock Risk Assessment as part of an overall Risk Assessment Procedure (RAP).
5. Apply preventive and protective control measures to reduce risk.
6. Understand electrical incident emergency response and incident reporting requirements

The ESTS Electrical Worker training course was developed by Terry Becker, P.Eng., ESPS Electrical Safety Program Solutions INC. and ESPS is partnering with the ECAA to bring this training to Members.

To purchase this training course visit [www.ecaatraining.com](http://www.ecaatraining.com)

**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 is complimentary to all unionized electrical contractors and their employees that have a bargaining relationship with the IBEW Local 424. **Course cost is \$400 and to enroll contact Christine [chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca)**

**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.ecaatraining.com](http://www.ecaatraining.com) (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, July 31st, 2015.**



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