



ECAA

Electrical Contractors
Association of Alberta

THE SPARK

ECAA NEWSLETTER

July 8, 2016

Issue 65

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EDMONTON

September 19, 2016

November 21, 2016

CALGARY

September 8th, 2016

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

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

President's Message

It is official, the Fort McMurray fire will be the costliest event ever for Canadian insurers. Hold on tight for insurance premiums are going to rise for us all. From another point of view, it is great that we live in a country where we are able to protect ourselves from having these kinds of disasters completely bankrupt us. Our hopes and prayers go out to all those affected by this historic disaster.



The word on the street seems to be that 2017 may be the slowest year for electrical work in Alberta. Most feel that 2018 will be when we climb out of our slowdown. We remain optimistic.

Sheri McLean, Clem Gratton, Darcy Teichroeb, Joe Davis and I attended the Safety Codes Council AGM at the start of June. Some of the topics discussed included Food Truck regulations, Safety Codes Law and Economic Forecasting. The ECAA was represented at the Fire Technical, Electrical Technical and Building Technical sessions. Our perspectives are warmly received at all of the sessions.

I am looking forward to meeting all our new and returning Board members in September. I am confident that this year will prove to be a fruitful and productive year for our ECAA.

I hope everyone is enjoying our summer as short as it is. Please take the

PEC COURSES

SAFETY PRINCIPLES

September 22nd & 23rd, 2016
Edmonton, AB

BASIC ELECTRICAL ESTIMATING (BEE)

September 23rd & 24th, 2016
Calgary, AB

ELECTRICAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT

September 30th &
October 1st, 2016
Calgary, AB

MEETINGS

CALGARY

September 8, 2016

EDMONTON

September 19, 2016

SOCIALS

Wood Buffalo Apprenticeship Classic Golf Tournament

August 17th, 2016

Miskinaw Golf Course

Fort McMurray

27th Annual Bob

Carson Classic

Golf Tournament

September 14th, 2016
Highlands Golf Club

Upcoming Trade Shows

20th Annual Alberta Employment & Career Fair

September 30th &
October 1st, 2016

Edmonton Expo Center

Volunteers Needed!

time to include balance in your life. A well balanced person has a far greater ability to focus attention and energy on attaining their goals.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Darrell Castor, CME, PEC.

Provincial President

Getting to know your Executive

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

Getting to Know Your Provincial President Darrell Castor, PEC

Company: Western Electrical Management Ltd for the last 35 years

Family Members: My wife Elsie and one son Jason and his wife Kelly

When and how did you start in the industry: In 1974 I started with Bob Light Electric in Red Deer straight out of high school. I was taking an electricity class and Bob Light hired me during a work experience program. I have never looked back.

Favourite hobbies: Travel/Golf/Gardening

Favourite TV show: Game of Thrones

Favourite Sports Team: Toronto Blue Jays

Most memorable vacation: Elsie and I traveled from Amman, Jordan to Cairo, Egypt. We traveled using planes, trains, horses, bus, donkey, camel and four wheel drive. We climbed Mount Sinai, visited Jerash and Petra and staying in the Wadi Rum desert with the Bedouin.

Affiliations with other associations: Canadian Healthcare Engineering Society.

Any word of advice to new electrical apprentices: Come to work on time every day, pay attention to your Journeyman and have a good attitude and you will become an Electrician. Say what you are going to do and do what you say. Be accountable for your actions.

Favorite ECAA memory: The privilege of having Keven pass me the hat at the 2016 AGM Gala.

Best part of ECAA is: I have found myself surrounded by successful, passionate and intelligent people from across this great province of Alberta. For everything I give I get back 10 fold.

Industry News

Attached please find a registration form for the [Fort McMurray Wood Buffalo Apprenticeship Classic](#) taking place on **Wednesday, August 17th, 2016**. This year profits from the golf tournament will go towards the Fort McMurray Fire Relief efforts. On behalf of Chapter President Tim Brundage, thank you in advance for making this event a success!

27th Annual Bob Carson Classic Registration is now open! Wednesday, September 14th, 2016 at the Highlands Golf Course. Reserve your spot or book your team early so you don't miss out. Sponsorship opportunities are limited and will be reserved on a first come, first served basis. Please contact chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca or smclean@ecaa.ab.ca. [Bob Carson Registration Form](#)

Despite some unforeseen challenges, **Skills Canada Alberta** had a very successful year. Here is a quick overview of some highlights from 2016. [Skills Canada Alberta 2016 Year in Review](#)

University of Calgary Engineering Internship Program. The University of Calgary has a number of very bright, enthusiastic electrical engineering students available for immediate internship placement.

- Students have completed their third year of studies, and hence are operating at a junior engineer level
- Placements are 12-16 months in duration enabling interns to become fully integrated within your team with the same responsibilities and commitment as any fulltime employee
- Placements are not "matched" by the University; you choose the best candidate for your business
- Students are willing to relocate

Contact Candice Menger at 403.606.7290 or candice.menger@ucalgary.ca for more information.

SAVE THE DATE: ECAA Annual Convention hosted by Provincial President Darrell & Elsie Castor May 25-28, 2017, at the Rimrock Hotel in Banff.

A Message from Your PEC Chair

The ECAA AGM was recently held in late May in Edmonton and along with the AGM, the PEC's held their Annual Training Day on May 27th and we held our PEC AGM the following morning. Both events were well attended and I would like to personally thank the efforts of Larry Cantelo, Mike Fleming and the ECAA staff especially Sheri McLean and Christine Hryniw for their help in putting on this annual event. There was a fine list of presenters assembled with some very interesting topics, I personally like to thank each and every one of them for their presentations some of which I



attended and very much enjoyed. It was a great way to pick up your yearly APD points along with gaining knowledge from the different presenters.

The PEC AGM saw Clem Gratton step down after being the PEC Chairman for the past 3 years, I would like to thank him for his hard work and his service over the past three years as he now mentors me as his replacement. Clem's list of his accomplishments are well documented in our AGM minutes.

I also would like to welcome Darcy Teichroeb who was appointed by the ECAA Board of Directors as my Vice-Chair, he is fresh from his role as the Past ECAA President and his help and guidance will surely help better our program in the coming year as we continue to implement the initiatives started by our different committees. For those who have been on our committees and for those of you who recently joined a PEC Committee, thank you. Your input will help us continue to make our program better. Sheri is going to put out another request for volunteers to sit on the various PEC Committees; so look for an e-mail in the coming weeks from her, or better yet pick up the phone and call her or Christine at the ECAA Provincial office to sign up. It's your program and we can all make it better if we work together.

The PEC program classes are wrapping up for the summer and over the past year they were well attended. At the end of June we held a Project Management Course at the Provincial office and we were maxed out as it had 27 students enrolled and several were turned away due to a lack of space. So with that being said, upcoming classes scheduled for September and October are filling up fast, so we are encouraging our PEC Student's and others wishing to take our classes to enroll early to avoid being disappointed.

I hope everyone is able to take a vacation this summer and if you do please make it a safe one.

Regards,

Bob Maslanko, PEC
PEC Chairman

Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) News

The interactive map on the PEC website is live! Currently displayed are the names of PEC's only. Company information is being uploaded for PEC's whose company is an ECAA Member in good standing.

Just a reminder that you need to fill out the following [CONSENT FORM](#) in order for us to display your information accordingly. This form was sent out with your PEC renewal card and receipt. The onus is on the PEC to obtain permission from their employer to list the ECAA Member company they work for on our website.

For more information please contact the ECAA Provincial Office directly.

News from Alberta Construction Association

[ACA Creates Silica Guidelines](#) In the fall of 2013 Occupational Health and Safety presented to the ACA Safety WCB Committee on Silica exposure sampling. OHS worksite sampling found that many vertical sites and workers across numerous occupations had exposure higher than the limit. Awareness was low and in many instances safe procedures were not in use. With that in mind the Alberta Construction Association began in 2014 to look to create a best practice for our members. Through the hard work of a number of volunteers we have created a best practice guideline.

Alberta's construction industry has a statutory obligation to minimize harm to their workers from occupational exposure to crystalline silica and related products, with a statutory occupational exposure limit of .025 grams per cubic metre air per 8 hour working day.

Silica and related products are found in numerous construction materials, and testing of Alberta commercial construction sites has found that the dust and debris created through numerous construction tasks (eg. concrete coring, sanding of drywall) has the potential to expose all trades on a site to the hazard.

The Alberta Construction Association has developed the attached documents for your use. While these practices are not mandatory, they provide guidance to assist members in assessing and minimizing exposure to site specific silica hazards. The Association strongly urges your firm to make use of these documents and work to achieve best practices to safeguard your employees and achieve regulatory compliance.

ACA thanks the approximately three dozen industry volunteers that created these documents. The practices are living documents and will improve with continued member input.

ACA is working with the Alberta Construction Safety Association to develop awareness and supervisor training for 2017. Once these practices are well established on Alberta jobsites, ACA plans to test with OHS to obtain hard evidence to confirm whether the current statutory limit is technically and economically feasible.

[ACA Silica Best Practices 2016](#)

[ACA Silica Protection Operating Procedure 2016](#)

[OH&S original presentation November 7, 2013](#)

[Scholarships Application Deadline Extended](#) The Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training Scholarship Program has been extended to July 15, 2016 for all Apprentices. The program provides more than 370 annual scholarships of \$1,000 each.

The extension was made due to the Fort McMurray wildfires and extended to all Albertans considering applications.

[Click here](#) to access the application.

WCB Review Guide Book. Previously, we asked our members to take some time to fill out the survey for the WCB Review which can be [found here](#).

Alberta Construction Association has created a guide for members to consider while filling out the survey. It is important to fill out as soon as possible as the first step in the consultation. The deadline is July 15, 2016. Please take advantage of your opportunity to speak to the government.

If you do not have a copy of the guidebook please contact Ken.Gibson@albertaconstruction.net and we will email you the pdf.

For more news and events visit www.albertaconstruction.net

Board of Directors Update

Next Provincial Board of Directors Meeting September 15, 2016.

Local Chapter Activity

CALGARY: Next meeting Thursday, September 8th, 2016.

EDMONTON: Next meeting Monday, September 19th, 2016. **Meeting Sponsor:** Canem Systems. **Guest Speaker:** Mike Gardiner. **Topic of Discussion:** Wind Generation & Safety When Working on These Units.

27th Annual Bob Carson Classic Wednesday, September 14, 2016. [Bob Carson Classic Registration](#)

FORT McMURRAY: Tuesday, September 20th location to be determined. Fort McMurray Wood Buffalo Apprenticeship Golf Classic August 17th, 2016. [Wood Buffalo Apprenticeship Classic Golf Tournament Package](#)

North East, North West, Lethbridge: Meeting dates to be determined.

New Members

Contractor Members: BA Brooks Electrical & Consulting (Edmonton); JTB Electric Ltd. (Camrose); Sirrom Electric (Spruce Grove); Helmer Electric Co. Ltd. (Lloydminster).

Welcome!

Online Training

ECAA has launched the following new courses to our training website. Along with the Ethics and ESTS Electrical Worker Training on CSA Z462 we have added:

- ESTS Electrical Worker USA 2015

- ESTS Non-Electrical Worker Canada and USA 2015
- Bear Awareness Online Training
- Confined Space Pre-Entry Online Training
- Fire Safety Awareness
- Ground Disturbance Online Training - Supervisory 3.0
- H2S Awareness Online Training 2.0
- Hazard Awareness Online Training 2.0
- TDG Online Training 3.0
- WHMIS 2015 Online Training
- Defensive Driving - 3 Demerit Reduction Online Training (Alberta Only)
- Defensive Driving Condensed Online Training (CDN Version)
- Fatigue Management for Senior Administrators and Supervisors Online Training
- Fatigue Management: Driving Drowsy - Taking Responsibility Online Training
- Professional Drive Improvement Course Online Training - 3 Demerit Reduction (Alberta Only)

Start your training today on www.ecaatraining.com

Continuing Education

Registrations are being accepted for all courses scheduled in 2016.

[2016 PEC Course Schedule and Registration](#)

SAFETY PRINCIPLES (Instructor Clarke Gould) Thursday, September 22nd & Friday, September 23rd, 2016 (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) (Instructor Pat Barnes) Friday, September 23rd & Saturday, September 24th, 2016, (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 of materials using the NECA Manual of Labour Units, labour costs, special overheads, general overheads and profit/contingencies.

ELECTRICAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT (Instructor Mike Fleming, PEC)

Friday, September 30th & Saturday, October 1st, 2016, (Calgary)

Practical hands-on skills to learn and apply project management processes and knowledge areas, to reduce project cost through effective purchasing and administration; to avoid paying for others errors or omissions; to recover all costs which you are entitled; effective record keeping to enhance project profitability.

Objectives PEC Electrical PM:

1. List and apply Project Management processes (5) and knowledge areas (10).
2. Identify and recover all costs to which you are entitled.
3. Avoid paying for others' errors or omissions.
4. Reduce project costs through effective purchasing and administration.
5. Identify cost overruns - and take corrective action.
6. Use effective record keeping systems to enhance project profitability.

ONLINE TRAINING

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 under pinning 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

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

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 (Ethics course).

Contact Us

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 its important to us. Please submit any comments to smclean@ecaa.ab.ca

The next issue of The Spark will be emailed on August 5th, 2016.



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