



**ECAA**

Electrical Contractors  
Association of Alberta

# THE SPARK

ECAA NEWSLETTER

March 3rd, 2017

Issue 73

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EDMONTON

## 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.

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### President's Message

I would like to take this time to restate our ECAA mission...

The Electrical Contractors Association of Alberta is the voice and information centre of the electrical industry; a self-governing body working to ensure a professional membership through education, safety and strong stakeholder relationships.

We are the "Voice of the Electrical Industry in the Province of Alberta".

As the Provincial President, I take these two fundamental principles seriously. I think we all need to step back every now and again and read these items. We need to make sure our actions are consistent with our principles. I believe we are on track. I am proud to be member of this group and I hope you are too.

I would like to acknowledge the value and support of our partners... Suppliers, Manufacturers, Wholesalers and Agents. Every day we work with these people to build our projects in our Alberta. I would like to take this time to thank our associates for their support of the Electrical Contractors Association of Alberta. We cannot do what we do without your support. Thank you very much!



March 16, 2017

[Canadian Electrical Code Update Registration Form](#)

\*Minimum numbers required\*

**PEC COURSES**

**2017 PEC Registration Form**

**COURSES**

**Blue Print Reading**

**\*CANCELLED\***

(Calgary)

**Blue Print Reading**

March 23rd & 24th, 2017

(Edmonton)

**MEETINGS**

March 8th, 2017

Fort McMurray Chapter

March 9th, 2017

Calgary Chapter

March 15th, 2017

Central Chapter

Red Deer

March 20th, 2017

Edmonton Chapter

March 22nd, 2017

North East Chapter

Lloydminster

March 23rd, 2017

North West Chapter

Grande Prairie

**Upcoming Tradeshows**

**CAREER FAIR:**

**RAP & Skilled Trades 2017**

March 22nd, 2017

Father Lacombe High School

CALGARY

In the last month our Edmonton and Calgary chapters had their perspective "Industry Nights". Both were very successful. Again I would like to acknowledge the support of our Associates for their participation in the table top displays and the contractors who made the evenings so successful. Thanks again!

Sheri's staff have been hard at work preparing ECAA informative presentation folders featuring key membership benefits and membership stickers. You will be receiving these packages in the mail. Please have a look as membership has its benefits. Please consider displaying ECAA stickers on your company vehicles. Let's let everyone know how proud we are to be members of the ECAA.

We reached out to Environment Minister Shannon Phillips for clarification on the NDP LED Retro fit program and will be updating members as we receive detailed information.

Our next Provincial Board meeting will be held in Edmonton at the ECAA offices on March 17th.

I hope all of you can make it to our upcoming Electrical Contractors Association of Alberta Convention and Annual General Meeting. I would like to remind everyone that the early bird convention registration deadline is March 31st. Save some money and register early.

This event will be held in Banff at the Rimrock Resort May 25-28 2017. Golf on May 25th, Training Day on the 26th, AGMs on the 27th, Gala on the Saturday night and Sunday breakfast with a guest speaker. Mark your calendar's and I will see you there.

Please take the time to attend your local ECAA Chapter meetings. Come to be informed and to socialize.

I will be in Lloydminster on March 22nd and in Grande Prairie on March 23rd. I would like to meet you and listen to you.

Thanks again to Sheri and her staff for all their hard work.

In conclusion I would like to quote - Henry Ford

*"Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success."*

Sincerely,

Darrell Castor, PEC, CME

ECAA Provincial President

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**Getting to Know Your Executive**

St Joseph Highschool  
Career Fair  
April 5th, 2017

Jasper Place High School  
April 12th, 2017  
EDMONTON

Calgary Construction  
Association Career Expo  
April 12th, 2017  
CALGARY

Career Expo 2017  
April 27th, 2017  
Red Deer College  
RED DEER

2017 Skill City  
Provincial Skills Competition  
May 10th & 11th, 2017  
EDMONTON

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Join Our List

Join Our Mailing List!

**We thought our readers would like to know more about the volunteers who make up the ECAA Chapter Executives and added this section into the Spark.**

**Getting to your new Calgary Chapter Co-Membership Chair Atlee Ronald**

**Company:** Federated Insurance

**Family Members:** Myself and Fiancé

**When and how did you start in the industry:** I began attending meetings in November 2012, in which I attended a PEC meeting where my boss presented Professional liability and I was hooked.

**Favorite hobbies:** Golf, Mountain Biking and Photography (I actually have a Degree in Photography).

**Favorite TV show:** Breaking Bad

**Favourite Sports Team:** Flames

**Most memorable vacation:** Thailand and Vietnam

**Any word of advice to new electrical apprentices:** There are so many opportunities and directions to take; from running your own business, to office work, to traveling across the world consulting. I would have liked someone to explain to me, when I was young, that you don't always have to work with your hands (I was scared off because my hands are too clumsy and soft to be useful).

**Favorite ECAA memory:** This is a hard one, I have met some great people and learned more than I thought I could, but I would have to say my first Industry night. I brought my future fiancé, we had a cocktail or 5 and with "our" fun money she bid on an iPad for "us". It made me seem like I did interesting things. Little did she know, that insurance guys are a dime a dozen, or so my boss always tells me.

**Best part of ECAA is:** The people. I learn something new each meeting, usually from someone at my table at dinner.

### Did you Know?

In the past ten years, ECAA membership has increased from approximately 400 Contractors and Associates to us servicing a membership of over 1760. This includes Electrical Contractors, Associates, Professional Electrical Contractors (PEC's) and Regulatory members (Students, CME's and RME's), as well as our newly created Journeyman and Retired membership categories.

### ECAA Feature Benefit

As a member of ECAA you receive discounted rates for courses, products, training, insurance benefits and much more! Publications produced through the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) and the Canadian Electrical Contractors Association (CECA) are available to you at a discounted rate if ordered through ECAA.

Check out all available benefits through our Affinity Program Partners listed on the ECAA website.

### Electrical Safety Program "Product in a Box"

Electrical hazards and arc flash and shock are low frequency, **HIGH** impact/severity/harm hazards. That said, Journeyman Electricians have been shocked and may still be receiving electric shocks every day. Every shock is a reportable injury and could have resulted in an electrocution. Using an Electrical Safety Program provides a management system approach to ensuring arc flash and shock hazards are identified against a "Work Task", and appropriate preventive and protective controls are implemented to eliminate exposure or reduce risk to an acceptable level.

For more information on how you can license the Electrical Safety Program "Product in a Box", please contact the ECAA.

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### Industry News

**REMINDER Early Bird Registration Deadline is March 31st, 2017. ECAA's 55th Anniversary Convention. [CONVENTION REGISTRATION PACKAGE](#)**

#### "Lucky recipients of Training Day Registration Draws"

EIAA Conference - Michael Chledowsky

Calgary Industry Night - Carel Seyffert, Convergent Technology

Edmonton Industry Night - Jay Kuystermans, Jadrian Electric

***Thank you to all who visited the Associate display tables and returned the completed passports.***

**ECAA will be participating in multiple career fairs and are looking for volunteers to assist in manning the ECAA booth.** St. Joseph High School (2) April 5th; Jasper Place High (2) April 12th. Both high schools in Edmonton. Calgary Construction Association April 12th; Career Expo April 27th in Red Deer. Provincial Skills Competition May 10th & 11th, Edmonton. Contact the ECAA Provincial Office if you are interested in volunteering.

**Len Skoreyko, Regional Manager for the Alberta region, retired on February 28th after 40 years of dedicated service to Thomas & Betts/ABB.** Len has led the Alberta team for many years and has been instrumental in the success of this key region in Canada. "A well-known figure in the Alberta electrical industry, dedicated to his customers, channel partners and employees, Len will be missed." said John Sencich. Rob Ruys has been appointed Regional Manager for the Western Region. *Congratulations on your retirement Len!*

**Day of Mourning.** On April 28, people across Canada stop to remember workers killed, injured or disabled on the job. With deep sadness, Worker's

Compensation Board confirms Alberta lost 125 men and women to workplace injury or illness in 2015. Take time to remember them. If you'd like to commemorate this significant day with us, posters and stickers are available by contacting [corporate.communications@wcb.ab.ca](mailto:corporate.communications@wcb.ab.ca).

**VOLUNTEER ELECTRICIANS Needed!** (Qualifies for APD Points for PEC's) Camp Yowochas is need of upgrades to some fixtures, ventilation fans and appliances with the majority of them being lighting. The list of lighting includes 3 exterior lights 59 interior, 5 ceiling fans, 19 vanity lights and 51 wall lights. **Donated materials and donated labour very much appreciated.** If you are interested in helping or want more information **please contact Marty van Sloun with YWCA Edmonton 780-423-9922 [m.vansloun@ywcaedm.org](mailto:m.vansloun@ywcaedm.org)**

#### **New Efficiency requirements in Canada for Dry type**

**Transformers.** Please review the attached letter from Delta Transformer's that will impact your designs and Budgets in the future. As you may know, Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) and CSA, are in the process of harmonizing the efficiency levels of dry type transformers with the US standard, named DOE 2016. There are significant impacts on this change. This will affect all transformers that are shipped outside Quebec. Once the law is passed any Transformers being shipped will have to meet this standard regardless of when the Purchase order was placed. The added costs will be passed on and revised orders and drawings will have to be processed. Questions: Please contact Sam Culin, Principal, ElectriXwest Agencies Ltd. Calgary/Edmonton, Toll Free (855)205-4459; Calgary (403) 256-8649 EXT 105; Fax: (866)680-1948; email: [sculin@electrixwest.com](mailto:sculin@electrixwest.com) Attached Letter([Efficiency Requirements in Canada for Dry Type Transformers](#))

Alberta Construction Association (ACA) and the Alberta Roadbuilders & Heavy Construction Association (ARHCA) have put together "**Members WCB Review Toolkit**" to outline key issues discussed during the WCB review. This is not an exhaustive list and members should consider using only one or two of the subject headings when speaking with MLAs. This will allow you to speak to issues that affect you and easier for the MLA to grasp the issue. Click on the following link to review the "[Members WCB Review Toolkit](#)". On behalf of ECAA WCB/ACA representative, Dave Hagen thank you for reviewing this.

Registration for the **Alberta Chamber of Resources 2017 Environment Forum** is now open! This year's Environment Forum will have a theme of "**Climate Change & Adapting to the Challenges**". It will be held on **March 23rd, 2017** at the Radisson Hotel & Convention Centre in Edmonton. Tickets are \$65 + GST per person and includes breakfast and registration for the event. Agenda includes the following speakers: Dan Wicklum, Chief Executive of Canada's Oil Sands Innovation Alliance (COSIA) Bob Winship, Forest Resources Manager, Werhaeuser Company Ltd. Linda Coady, Director of CSR and Sustainability, Enbridge. [CLICK HERE](#) to register. Registration closes March 20th or earlier if room capacity is reached. This event is open to ACR members and friends.

**Construction Owners Association of Alberta** has officially flipped the switch - their new and improved website is now live at [www.coaa.ab.ca](http://www.coaa.ab.ca) Quick and easy to locate the 26 Best Practices along with the hundreds of relevant associated forms, checklists and presentations. Goal is to provide visitors with a user-friendly site and a

simpler way to find the documents they are looking for. The main feature is the Library, which now links Best Practices and associated documents, in addition to presentations from past conferences, workplace forecasts, and resources to help make Alberta projects safer and more productive. The new site is also mobile-friendly, which means that single forms or checklists can be located and downloaded with a phone or tablet - right in the field! We hope you find the new COAA website fresh and easily accessible - the gateway to the valuable information stewarded by COAA. For any questions or comments, please feel free to contact Amanda Rose, Communications Officer, at [amanda@coaa.ab.ca](mailto:amanda@coaa.ab.ca).

**ReTrain Now** - a new Fair in partnership with the Ministry of Labour for organizations and institutions who provide education and training opportunities, or for companies who provide pathways for Albertans to participate in new and emerging sectors of the economy - **April 27, 2017 from 9:00 - 4:30 during Alberta Works Week**. The Fair is also supported by the Career Development Association of Alberta and the Private Career Development Contractors Association of Alberta. The ReTrain Now Fair will focus on showcasing exhibitors who provide education and training opportunities, as well as organizations who provide pathways for Albertans to participate in new and emerging sectors of the economy, such as those entities within the Green Jobs sector. The primary target audience for the ReTrain Now Fair are Albertans who are presently unemployed or marginally employed and searching for retraining and additional education opportunities. Secondary target audiences will be groups underrepresented in the labour market such as Indigenous Albertans living off-reserve, Alberta's immigrant population and Alberta youth age 18-24. The ReTrain Now Fair will be free to attendees. ***ECAA will be participating and is asking our members who offer education and training opportunities in the Green Job sector to volunteer at the booth and advertise your company information.***

The Electrical Contractors Association of Alberta is a member of the Construction Owners Association of Alberta (COAA). **ECAA being a member of COAA brings certain benefits to your company:** a forum for the exchange of information by consumers of construction manpower and materials and to be a force for progress. **COAA's vision for the industry is to be "Twice as safe, twice as productive by 2020"**. A key element in this safety journey is to understand Alberta's safety culture and the level of safety maturity across the industry. We are asking our members to participate in the Safety Maturity Perception Survey. There are 32 questions that will take about 20 minutes to complete. These questions cover: personal views about commitment to safety, communication, workforce involvement, learning culture, management systems; knowledge base; and demographics.

**Benefits to your company:**

- This is a survey of perceptions from individuals in your organization (i.e., beliefs, based on experience) of your company's safety culture. At the end of the survey, respondents will get a summary of their answers.
- After the survey closes, your company's results will be reported back to your company prior to the COAA Best Practices Conference in May. With more employees (ideally more than 30 per company) responding, you'll have more actionable strategies. Topline results will include:

- descriptive statistics such as number of respondents, functional areas, levels, etc.;
  - measures of variance to understand how much individuals' perceptions converge or diverge with your company's safety culture; and
  - areas of strength and areas of opportunity.
- Based on the survey responses, you will know where your company is on the Safety Maturity Map (attached).
- Company results will be reported, in the aggregate, at COAA's May Best Practices Conference. Note - individual company results will be anonymous in the aggregated report.
- Participation amongst your company is vital in helping us enhance Best Practices, improve the safety for employees of your company, and make a step-change safety evolution in our industry. Your company is a leader in creating change in the industry. As such, we are asking your company to solicit as much participation as possible in this survey from across your organization.

Please participate in the following [SURVEY](#) .**Thank you in advance for partaking in COAA's Safety Committee Safety Maturity Perception Survey.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact:  
 Mark Mackay, P.Eng., President COAA; Vice President of Engineering and Construction, TransAlta Corporation Email:[Mark\\_Mackay@transalta.com](mailto:Mark_Mackay@transalta.com)  
 Lianne Lefsrud, PhD, Peng; Assistant Professor, Engineering Safety and Risk Management Email: [lefsrud@ualberta.ca](mailto:lefsrud@ualberta.ca)

**The 25th Annual Best Practices Conference** is approaching in just a couple of months and registration is filling up quickly, so be sure you have a spot reserved! Sponsorship opportunities still available. Twice as Safe, Twice as Productive | Moving Forward Together - Collaboration Builds Success. This year's conference builds on the success of previous years in providing up-to-date information and examples on how the construction industry in Alberta is advancing improvements in safety and productivity on the job site.

**Date: May 9-10, 2017**

**Location: Shaw Conference Centre, Edmonton AB**

**Cost: Early bird registration for this two-day event is \$450 (+ GST) until April 13th. The price will then go to a standard \$550 (+ GST).**

A few highlights of this year's lineup include: Keynote speaker, Kevin Nalley of ExxonMobil, will talk about how Advanced Work Packaging was applied successfully at their recent project in the USA. Industry Experts Panel to discuss the drive towards "Twice as Safe, Twice as Productive" and how companies are succeeding. 17 technical workshops featuring leading speakers in Safety, Productivity, Work Force Planning and Contract Management. Safety Awards and networking. **REGISTER**

**NOW:** By visiting <https://www.coaa.ab.ca/conferences/best-practice-conference-2017/> and click on the 'Register Now' button. Included on this webpage, is a copy of the agenda with workshop descriptions and sponsorship opportunities. Please note: You will need to have the agenda with you and/or review prior to registering as the workshop descriptions are not available on the registration page. If you have any questions regarding registration, please phone 780.450.1145 or email [thea@coaa.ab.ca](mailto:thea@coaa.ab.ca). **Workshop Descriptions Updated:** Recent Trends in Alberta Heavy Industrial Construction Productivity - IPA; Twice as Safe, Twice as Productive? Harness the Power of Managed

Competence; Collaborative Contracting Models: What are they, do they work and what more can be done?; Recent Project Experience: Using proactive, preventative and predictive leading indicators to drive improved safety performance at Suncor Energy.

**The 2014 Alberta Residential Cost Manual.** *Alberta Queen's Printer partnered with Alberta Municipal Affairs to publish the Alberta 2014 Residential Cost Manual.* The manual establishes typical replacement costs for residential buildings and properties based on 2014 replacement costs. Basic characteristics such as location, age, actual condition and depreciation can be analyzed, compared and verified. Normal physical/functional depreciation factors are applied using the Anticipated Age Life Table included in this manual. The implementation of the Alberta 2014 Residential Cost Manual is at the discretion of each municipal assessment jurisdiction. Until such time it is implemented and used in the production of property assessments assessors should continue to utilize whichever version of the cost manual is currently integrated in their mass appraisal environment. Copies of this resource can be placed online at [Alberta Queen's Printer](#) for \$95.00 each. Please ensure that your email address is provided to Alberta Queen's Printer when you place your order, annual updates to this resources will be provided for by email to clients at no charge. ***Any questions regarding purchasing the manual should be directed to the Queen's Printer; whereas questions on the manual itself and content should be directed to the Assessment and Property Tax Policy Unit of Assessment Services Branch at 780-422-1377, or toll-free in Alberta by dialing 310-0000.***

**Recruitment posting. Deadline extended to March 15th. Professional Regulatory Organizations (PROs) - Public Members.** Competition #: 388 Ministry: Labour Opening Date: 02/16/2017 Closing Date: 03/15/2017 **Role: Public Member** Role Required. *Are you interested in being the voice of the public in the governance of one of Alberta's Professional Regulatory Organizations (PROs)?* Honourable Christina Gray, Minister of Labour, is seeking applications from members of the general public to assist the governing bodies of Alberta Labour's PROs in ensuring the accountability of their registered members. Your application will be considered for appointment as a public member to any one of 22 PROs with public members established under eight governing legislations. For complete details of the skills and competencies required for the public member role, please refer to the Position Profile. The Link to the website follows; <https://www.alberta.ca/public-agency-opportunity.cfm?app=388>

**Spring Psychometric Webinar Series.** Yardstick is fired up to launch our next webinar series. Starting March 2017, industry regulators, training managers, educators, certification and credentialing specialists, professional association representatives and other testing and assessment enthusiasts are invited to join our team of in-house experts as they explore the latest trends in the world of professional testing. The series delivers new insights and plain language how-to's for designing defensible, high-stakes questions and exams. Attendees will engage with other learners, ask questions, and bring valuable tips and tricks back to their own organizations. Our first session features Senior Psychometrician Natasha Parfyonova, Ph. D on **How to Develop Good Multiple Choice Questions**, kicking off the series on Thursday, March 16th 2017 at 1:00 pm EDT.

**Join Mechanical Contractors Association March 30 & 31 - 8:30 am - 4:30 pm for Dispatcher Training. DISPATCHER TRAINING** A contracting firm's dispatchers serve as the nerve center of the entire company. The more knowledgeable and capable they are at serving customers and communicating with field personnel, the better they can contribute to the

success of the business. The training is designed to enhance your dispatcher's skill set through group exercises, self-assessment tools and discussion groups. WHAT WILL DISPATCHERS LEARN? The Dispatchers Influence in the Organization and their Impact on Profitability; Four Styles of Communication; Prioritizing Service Calls/Matching Technician Ability to Customer; What Technicians Need from their Dispatchers; The Art of Asking the Right Questions; Handling Difficult Customers/Steps to Rapid Service Recovery; Taking Charge of Your Job and Career; A Day in the life of a Dispatcher/Getting Rid of Stress /Personal Action Plan. Certificate and 2 Gold Seal credits. Register [HERE](#).

**Lloyd Saad Construction Conference 2017** Thursday, May 4th 2017, Edmonton Marriott River Cree 8 am - 4 pm featuring **Todd Hirsch** Chief Economist of ATB Financial; **Mike George** President & CEO of Trisura Guarantee Insurance Company; **Paul Douglas** Chairman of the Board PCL Construction Holdings Ltd.; **George Jergeas** Professor at the University of Calgary. Lloyd Saad Insurance is proud to hold this event for forward thinking owners and senior executives in Alberta's construction industry.

### **Canadian Manufacturers & Exporter Development Canada**

**presents:** Let's Talk Exports with EDC Vice President and Chief Economist Peter Hall.

Join CME for breakfast with Peter G. Hall. Peter will share his insights on a range of global economic trends - including the impact of the shifts in US trade policy, the political uncertainty in the developed world, the key risks facing the world economy and the impact on Canadian exporters. WHEN: Thursday, May 11th, 2017 Doors open at 7:30 am. WHERE: Chateau Lacombe Hotel 10111 Bellamy Hill, Edmonton. TICKETS: CME Members \$45 plus tax; Non Member \$55 plus tax; CME Table of 8 \$360 plus tax; Non Member Table of 8 \$440 plus tax. [Click Here to Register](#).

## **Board of Directors Update**

Next Provincial Board of Directors meeting scheduled for Friday, March 17th, 2017.

## **Communications Update**

The ECAA has been and continues to be the "Voice of the Electrical Industry in the Province of Alberta". So many accomplishments have taken place all for the benefit of the electrical industry. The reason we exist is to support and connect our industry. We do this on many levels which include:

**Government:** "We are the Voice in the Province of Alberta"

**Stakeholders:** Alberta Construction Association, Alberta Construction Safety Association, Apprenticeship & Industry Training, Alberta Trade Contractors Association, Building Trades of Alberta, Canadian Labour Relations-Alberta, Canadian and National Electrical Contractors Associations, Construction Owners Association of Alberta, Careers: The Next Generation, Safety Codes Council, Workers Compensation Board.

**Code:** Canadian Electrical Code changes and upgrading; Seminars on the National Energy and Fire Codes

**Training:** Solar, Wind, Masters, Safety, E-Learning, Training Days, Career Shows

**PEC/CME/RME:** Designation, Ethics, Education (Accounting, Business Development, Estimating, Legal, Electrical Project Management, Safety)

**Labour:** Union and Open Shop

**Benefits:** Various affinity programs offering discounts to all members  
**Chapter Meetings:** Calgary, Central, Edmonton, Fort McMurray, Medicine Hat, Lethbridge, North East and North West  
**Networking:** AGM, Industry Nights, President Ball, Convention, Golf Tournaments, Chapter Socials, STARS Gala

We proudly are the connection to the industry for 55 years!

It has been my pleasure to be your Communications chair for this association. We know "The Spark" has a very high read rate because it is packed with great information. Social Media will play a larger role in how we communicate - stay current and keep posting so we can all keep connected!

We have a strong Board working together for you, and encourage you to reach out anytime to your Chapter Presidents if you have any questions or concerns.

Very proud to represent the ECAA,

Jeanette DeBruin  
Communications Chair

## Local Chapter Activity

**CALGARY:** March 9th Special Presentation at 5:00 pm "Changes in 2014 Fire Code" Joe Davis; Chapter meeting and dinner to follow. **Meeting Sponsor:** High Line Electrical Constructors, Chris Jardine.

**Thank you to all the Associates who manned tables at the last Calgary Chapter Industry Night that saw 91 attendants.** Twilla Nicolson, Allstate Insurance; Justin Hammond, CaTech; Brian Thompson, ElectriXwest; Atlee Ronald, Federated Insurance; Mike Emmerson, Mobile Mini; James Medori, Thomas & Betts; Dale Hosea, Vipond; Katrina D'Haene, ESPS. Thank You!

**CENTRAL:** Next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 15th 5:00 pm.** Holiday Inn South, Red Deer. **Special Presentation NECB 2011 Energy Code Impacts on Industry: Dave Hiemstra, Optics Lighting.**  
**Meeting Sponsor:** Optics Lighting, Dave Hiemstra

**EDMONTON:** Next meeting is **Monday, March 20th,** Chateau Louis Hotel & Conference Center. **Guest Speaker Randy Singh,** HUB International. **Topic of Discussion:** Surety Bonds **Meeting Sponsor:** HUB International, Daniel McAllister.

**Thank you to all the Associates who manned tables at the last Edmonton Chapter Industry Night that saw 103 attendants.** Amanda Smith, Allstate Insurance; Barrie Watson, BHD Promotions; Scott Northfield, Arlene Lauer-Krueger, CAREERS; Kris Currier, CaTech Systems; Bob Holman, DAD Sales; Jason Ponto, EECOL Electric; Brian Thompson, ElectriXwest; Dwight Hunter, EWEL; Lowell Dalhman, Hoyme Manufacturing; Sarah Ouwendyk, LED Lights; Chris Branco, Prolux; Rob

Vandertas, Regional Safety; Daryl Schmidt, Schneider Electric; Ian McGuinness, Thomas & Betts; Jared Smerka, Texcan; Jerand Helfrich, The Cat Rental Store; Darryl McPhearson, Trinity Power; Megan Bates, WBF; Sheryl Turner, Metalmark Engraving. Thank You!

**FORT McMURRAY:** Next Meeting **Wednesday, March 8th, 2017**, Best Western Suites 6:00 pm dinner and meeting to follow. **Meeting Sponsor:** Wesco Distribution, Ron Warholik.

**NORTH EAST:** Next Meeting **Wednesday, March 22nd, 2017**. Royal Hotel in Lloydminster. **Special Presentation Solar Energy Jaye Jonnson, Eecol Electric** 5:30 pm; Chapter meeting and dinner to follow. **Meeting Sponsor:** EECOL Electric, Chad Oborowsky

**NORTH WEST:** Next Meeting **Thursday, March 23rd, 2017**, Pomeroy Hotel in Grande Prairie. **Special Presentation NECB 2011 Energy Code Impacts on Industry: Dave Hiemstra, Optics Lighting** from 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm. Meeting and dinner to follow. **Meeting Sponsor:** EECOL Electric, James Bast

**PEC COURSE: Electrical Project Management** has been scheduled for Wednesday, March 22nd & Thursday, March 23rd at the Pomeroy Hotel. Instructor: Rob Colclough, PEC. Attendees registered are welcome to attend the Chapter meeting following the course held on the 23rd.

## Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) News

**PEC Registration Committee** looking for two additional members to join the committee. Commitment involves reviewing completed student applications prior to them being submitted to ECAA Board of Directors for approval. Completed applications are sent by email to Committee members for review. Participation on a committee qualifies for 5 Annual Professional Development points per year. If you are a Professional Master Electrician and would like to participate on the Registration Committee please email [smclean@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:smclean@ecaa.ab.ca).

## Annual Professional Development (APD)

### Upcoming APD Point Opportunities

**Chapter Meetings** - See dates below in Chapter update (2 APD Points for each meeting attending adding 1 additional point for special presentations held prior to the Chapter meeting)

**PEC Courses** - See attached course schedule for upcoming courses. PEC Refresher awarded (12 APD Points) [PEC Course Schedule](#)

**Career Shows** - Volunteering at a Career Fair qualifies for APD points.

**Buildex EDMONTON - March 21st & 22nd** (Edmonton Expo Center). Excellent sessions and speakers being held. Each session attended qualifies for APD points. For more information about the show [CLICK HERE](#) Click on the following link for more information on the session

speakers <http://buildxedmonton.com/education/2017-program/day-1-tuesday-march-21-2017/>

#### **Need help?**

Contact the ECAA office and we are more than happy to help by answering any questions you have with achieving and entering your APD points.

### **Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) Courses**

Registrations are being accepted for all courses scheduled in 2017.

#### **2017 PEC Course Schedule and Registration**

**\*\*New PEC Course Dates Added\*\***

**Electrical Project Management (Instructor Rob Colclough, PEC) Wednesday, March 22nd & Thursday, March 23rd, 2017 (Grande Prairie).** 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.

**Assessing & Finalizing the Tender (Instructor Chris Reinert, PEC) Friday, March 24th & Saturday, March 25th, 2017 (Calgary).** This course for the Professional Electrical Contractor courses covers organizing the estimate, finalizing the tender, and computer aid in estimating and finalizing the tender. Since the course is aimed at Professional Electrical Contractors, very little time is spent on basic take-offs. The course addresses calculations of various overheads, mark-up theories, labor factors, evaluating risk factors, and the like, all concerns that the active business manager meets up with every day. These three parts of this course are designed to create an awareness in the Professional Electrical Contractor of the various business principles involved in preparing his or her tenders.

**Computer Estimating for Small Projects (Instructor Chris Reinert, PEC) Thursday, March 30th & Friday, March 31st, 2017 (Edmonton)**

This course is designed to provide the new estimator or contractor with a basic understanding of how to prepare an estimate. It covers:

- Planning for the estimate
- Preparing counts, take-offs
- Preparing the Bill of material for supplier pricing and Review of the Bill of material
- Accubid "Bidwinner"

- Use of assemblies, where to enter miscellaneous costs, supplier pricing, overhead costs, and the final pricing sheet
- Use of Excel spreadsheets to assist with take-offs

***\*\*Reminder all PEC's retaking courses 12 APD points apply. Reduced course rate of \$60 per course.***

## **ECAA Courses**

**BLUE PRINT READING (Instructor Larry Cantelo, PEC)**

**Friday, March 10th & Saturday, March 12th, 2017 (Calgary)**

**\*\*COURSE CANCELLED\*\***

**Thursday, March 23rd & Friday, March 24th, 2017 (Edmonton)**

**[Blue Print Registration - EDMONTON](#)**

On many projects, especially large ones, many electricians and apprentices have very little opportunity to spend much time reading the blueprints. This, despite the fact that the ability to effectively navigate through a set of prints is an essential skill for any tradesperson. This twelve-hour course is intended for both people who have a limited amount of blueprint reading experience and for those who want to brush up on their skills. The bulk of the time in this course will be spent reading commercial blueprints and answering a series of quizzes pertaining to them. A series of short lectures will supplement the print-reading exercises. A brief introduction to specifications will also be provided as part of the course. At the end of the course participants will have the option to purchase the textbooks and blueprints used throughout the course.

## **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](http://www.ecaatraining.com)

### **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](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).

### **News from Alberta Construction Association**

#### **[Alberta Government Predicts a Return to Growth](#)**

The Alberta government's 2016-17 Third Quarter Fiscal Update and Economic Statement was released Thursday February 23. They predict Alberta's economy will return to growth in 2017, following a prolonged downturn due to the oil price shock. While many Alberta families are still facing challenges due to the oil collapse, there continue to be green shoots in the economy:

- There were 199 rigs drilling in January 2017, the highest level since early 2015
- Alberta exports reached \$8 billion in December 2016, 47 per cent above the low point in April 2016
- Employment has grown by 18,000 since bottoming out in July 2016

Alberta's economy is expected to grow by 2.4 per cent in 2017, spurred by higher oil and manufacturing exports, a modest improvement in oil prices, continued public-sector infrastructure investment and continued reconstruction after the Fort McMurray wildfire.

However, the deficit continues to remain on track to reach 10.8 Billion.

For more information please read the government's release [here](#)

#### **[ACA Updates Public Policy on Warranties](#)**

ACA periodically updates its Public Policies to reflect current industry practice.ACA's Contracts Committee recommended a change to the existing Public Policy on Warranties.

In particular, the question was asked about the existing wording which spoke to the recognized warranty being 12 months after take-over of the project. The question was:

"I understand this, but the industry is changing. Why not offer a longer warranty if that is what the owner/client wants and if we have the opportunity to add it to the extra warranty price of the bid before close and all bidders understand what is required."

In its meeting of January 27, 2017, the Board agreed to amend the existing Public Policies on Warranties to reflect this change. The new Policy now reads as follows with the addition in red font:

7.WARRANTIES The recognized warranty provided by a general contractor in the construction industry is 12 months after take-over of the project. Any extended warranties should be handed over to the owner at the same time. Warranties for material and labour should not exceed these limits because those providing the warranties have no control over the end use and maintenance of the project by the owner. **Any extended warranties required beyond the one year warranty period shall be as specified in the tender documents prior to bidding.**

#### **Alberta Infrastructure's TRC Launches a Newsletter**

The Technical Resource Centre (TRC) has launched an email newsletter update service to alert users when new information is available. The service is available to both internal and external clients. The changes will be posted no more than once a week. The subscription link is on the main [TRC page here](#). The website will streamline a lot of the specifications, guidelines and standards, therefore some content may be moved and/or deleted from the site pages. Any questions please contact Cam Munro at 780-422-7456

#### **Canadian Construction Association Call for Affidavits**

During the fall meeting of the Canadian Construction Association in Fort McMurray, the CIC/CICC agreed to fund a court challenge of the City of Burnaby's use of reprisal clauses against a contractor. The basis of the challenge is the Constitutionality of these clauses, though to proceed, they need to provide affidavits from contractors that have chosen to abandon their claims (or settled for less) because of the chilling effect of being blacklisted pursuant to a Reprisal Clause in tender documents.

The matter is relatively urgent as their lawyers need to finalize our written arguments by March 24, 2017. To support this deadline, **we would need affidavits by no later than Monday, March 13, 2017.**

Please email [Bill Ferreira](#) if you know of any of your members that have been directly impacted by reprisal clauses and how we can be in touch with them to seek their cooperation in building the case.

#### **Survey Reminder for Members**

Our member's survey is live on Survey Monkey and we could really use your input in the direction we are headed in 2017. If you could take a few minutes to review and respond it would be a tremendous help as we move into the new year and beyond. If you have not had the chance to do so please take the opportunity.

You can fill out the survey [here](#).

**For more news and events visit [www.albertaconstruction.net](http://www.albertaconstruction.net)**

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

**The next issue of The Spark will be emailed on April 7th, 2017.**



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