



THE SPARK

ECAA E-Newsletter

March 7, 2014

Issue 38

In This Issue

[President's Message](#)

[Testimonials Request](#)

[Industry News](#)

[Board of Directors Update](#)

[Chapter Activity](#)

[New Members](#)

[PEC News](#)

[Continuing Education](#)

Quick Links

www.ecaa.ab.ca

Calendar of Events

Upcoming CEC Code Changes Seminars:

*March 11th, 2014
8:30 am - 12:30 pm
Lethbridge Construction Association
Lethbridge*

*March 12th, 2014
8:30 am - 12:30 pm
Medicine Hat Lodge
Medicine Hat*

*March 17th, 2014
10:00 am - 2:30 pm
(lunch included)
Red Deer College
Red Deer*

*March 19th, 2014
8:30 am - 12:30 pm
Pomeroy Hotel*

MARCH/2014

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

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

President's Message

2014 South America Convention:

It was so wonderful landing in Edmonton on March 1st to -37C. Those are the joys of going somewhere warm in the middle of winter than coming back before spring has sprung. We were all hoping to be greeted by a little warmer weather on our return, but no such luck. Well just think, two more months and we will see the green grass and green leaves here at home.



Les Dzwonkiewicz,
PEC

To start the trip I was so bold as to ask the steward on the plane when we were taking off to Lima if I could speak on the PA system and welcome all our members to the start of the trip, and he agreed. So off I went with a few words, thank you for flying Se-nor Les Airlines to Lima, and I will buy the drinks ... with a quick follow up , I said, " when we get to South America". LOL The drinks on the plane are pricey. It was nice for Air Canada to allow me to give my little message to our members.

It was an 8 hour trip from Toronto to Lima but it went surprisingly fast. Upon landing we were greeted by the Gateway travel rep in Lima and the buses to take us to the hotel. We were happy to retire to our rooms for some shut eye and wakeup the next morning to a South America breakfast and a little rum. A great start to the Lima City Tour.

Our flight to Cusco from Lima the next day was short and smooth with another city tour the same day that included the ruins of the Inca Palace. When returning to the hotel, some of us took some oxygen right from the tank due to shortness of breath. Cusco being so high in the mountains with less oxygen it took some getting use to the high altitude.

Day 4 we were all up early -- 4AM for an early breakfast with a pickup at 5:15 am by bus to the train station for a guided tour to the ruins of Machu Picchu. The train is the only way of getting to Machu Picchu other than walking the Inca Trail. The train ride was awesome with some amazing scenery for all to see. Machu Picchu is amazing, the new 7th wonder of the world, this tour fulfilling many of members bucket list of things to do as a personal achievement. The hydro dam in Machu Picchu is also very interesting to see. Great way to use the raging river as a green resource, supplying power to the city of Cusco.

Grande Prairie
**Chapter meeting to follow*

April 14th, 2014
12:30 pm - 5:00 pm
Chateau Louis Conference Center
Edmonton

**Chapter meeting to follow*

To register for the Code Seminars please fill out the following form and send it to the ECAA Provincial Office. Confirmation notices will be sent out.

[Code Seminar Registration Form](#)

These courses approved by Electrical Technical Council to meet re-certification requirements for Master Electricians and Safety Codes Officers

****Please note that all Master Electrician's and Safety Codes Officers must have their code updating completed prior to October 1st, 2014****

Upcoming PEC Courses

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

Assessing & Finalizing the Tender
April 11th & 12th, 2014
(Calgary)

Business & Public Relations
April 25th & 26th, 2014
(Calgary)

Tradeshows

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

Calgary Construction Association
2014 Construction Career Expo
Wednesday, April 16th
BMO Centre, Hall B
Stampede Park

Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Day 6, off too Santiago Chile with a 9:00 am city tour the next day, than a 4pm flight to Mendoza in Argentina. The City of Mendoza is in the heart of the Wine Country of Argentina, very impressive vineyards producing some of the best wines in the world. Our welcome dinner at the Septima Winery at the foot of the Andes Mountains was magnificent, with a cocktail party on the huge terrace overlooking the vines with the mountains in the back ground. The drinks and hors d'oeuvres just kept coming with such great service food and wine. Than a sit down dinner with live music, and to the surprise of the band, our members went up to dance to some great tunes.

Day 10 off to Buenos Aires and check in at a great hotel, I just have to say how well organized all our tour guides have been, from train, plane and bus tickets to our hotel rooms being ready and 5 star. Day 11 the city tour of Buenos Aires was very informative with a diverse social population. That night we all took in a dinner and tango show, a little long for me and the theater was too warm, but that's only me.

Day 14 we flew to Iguazu Falls for a long day tour but worth seeing the largest falls in the world with our return that night.

Day 15 our group crossed the Rio de la Plata estuary between Buenos Aires and Montevideo Uruguay on a catamaran ferry, with lunch at the restaurant El Palenques in Montevideo. We were all ready for a nice lunch and some great wine.

Day 16 our first day in Punta del Este started with a city tour. We all enjoyed the stop at the beach with bare feet in the sand and the Atlantic ocean, a little more laid back and a very safe city.

Day 18, was a day of education with 3 presenters, speaking about great topic's of "The Changing Face of Contract Security" Dave Bentley, HUB International Phoenix Insurance Brokers, "What's New at IEEE & Electrical Safety", Dave Hagen, Chemco Electrical Contractors, "Nexus - Emergency Lighting Monitoring System which offers building owners control over their public safety", Bob Clarke, Guillevin International. Special thanks to Mr. Dave Bentley, Mr. Dave Hagen and Mr. Bob Clarke. That evening we completed the day with our farewell dinner at the Conrad Punta del Este Resort with some great farewell words from Mr. Brian Halina. The food and wine were amazing.

The next day back to Canada, that was a long trip, about 18 hours in the air. I had the pleasure of sitting next to Mr. Terry Milot and he did mention that I did some snoring, so I did get some sleep and I'm sorry about my sleeping habit, Terry. This was a longer and farther trip than most our association conventions have taken in the past, with a very busy agenda, but I would like to say thank you to all our great travelers for staying on a happy note all the time, even, when our group was tested a few times. The word on the street was, is this a vacation? or an endurance challenge, but we all did very well. I only gained 3 lb's !!! LOL

I did again get to speak a few words on the plane PA system back to Canada. Thank you to all the very special people that have become closer friends and put up with me on this trip. My partner Terry Fay looked after me in Cusco when I succumbed to tooo much of the drink, thanks honey!

Thank you to Mr. John Farlinger and Vision Farlie Travel, Gateway Travel in South America and all our sponsors for a wonderful convention. Without Sheri's hours of work over the last year it would not have been so smooth. Thanks Sheri

Your President,
Les Dzwonkiewicz PEC

Testimonials Requested

Special thank you to all of our members who submitted testimonials. Our winner of \$100 gift certificate is **Dan Olesen**, CAREERS: The Next Generation!

Social Networking



Find us on Facebook 

Keep them coming in, we are more than happy to do another draw!

Industry News

ECAA is pleased to forward this request onto our members.

Alberta Jobs, Skills, Training and Labour is conducting a review of Alberta's Employment Standards Code and we wish to ensure that your industry voice is heard. This legislation applies to the vast majority of employers and employees in the province as it sets out minimum standards for hours of work, overtime, minimum wage, general holidays, special leaves, rules for employing young workers, termination pay and more. The online consultation runs for the next six weeks. In the survey, participants are asked to weigh in on everything from whether 12-to 14-year-old should have the opportunity to work in a greater variety of job types; to whether Alberta should institute new forms of unpaid job protected leaves - perhaps for the parents of critically ill children or even employees who need recovery time after donating an organ. More information about the employment standards review and a link to the discussion guide/government survey is available at: <http://work.alberta.ca/employment-standards/talking-about-work.html>.

Provincial Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) Scholarship Celebration. On November 15, 2013, 58 student graduates from across the province were celebrated in front of approximately 400 guests at the Fantasyland Hotel in Edmonton. These individuals belonged to a group of high school graduates who were rewarded with a \$1,000 scholarship from the Government of Alberta to aid with their ongoing apprenticeship journey. CAREERS hosts the annual event (on behalf of Alberta Enterprise and Advanced Education and the Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training Board) in hopes to join students, employers, educators, and stakeholders together for an evening of recognition. Some attendees present that evening included government officials, parents, industry representatives, internship/apprenticeship employers, and association representatives. To browse photos from the event, visit Career's [Facebook page](#).

2014 Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training Board Awards. ECAA proud to sponsor Top Electrical Apprentice Award at the event on Friday, April 11th.

Alberta Skills Competitions - May 14-15, 2014 will attract over 10,000 people looking to learn about the endless opportunities in the trades and technologies. The Provincial Skills Competition will be welcoming 600 competitors and 150 attendees of the Young Women Exploring Trades and Technologies Conference. In addition, 600 volunteers, 100 judges, hundreds of teachers and students, educational advisors, VIP's, and the general public will be in attendance at this two day event. ECAA will once gain have a booth at the competitions are will be looking for volunteers to assist in manning the booth and conversing with future tradespeople. Contact chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca if able to assist.

The Eric Newell Kidz in Careers Golf Classic in support of CAREERS: Next Generation. Join them on **July 2nd & 3rd** for a fabulous evening reception and silent auction followed by a day of sun, golf and friends, with all proceeds supporting programming at CAREERS: The Next Generation. **Questions? Call CAREERS at 780.426.3414** or email golf@nextgen.org

Volunteers needed for the AEL Tradeshow on Wednesday, March 19th to assist in manning the ECAA booth from 11:00 am - 5:00 pm. Seminars that will be held at AEL's learning EXPO include: The Lighting Revolution; Alberta Electrical Codes 2014 - Clarify Issues...Get Answers; The Evolution of Electrical Safety & CSA Z462; Canada's Safety System, From Standards to Shelf; Don't Be a Solar Dummy. You must pre-register if you plan on attending these seminars, visit <http://albertaelectricalleague.com/learning-expo/> to pre register now. If you are able to assist please contact chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca

FROM ACA WEBSITE: Alberta Construction Association (ACA) Guide "Fleet Safety and Compliance" . A common frustration of many in the construction industry relates to the regulatory and safety requirements that are specific to commercial vehicle operation. On behalf of its membership, the Alberta Construction Association has produced a Plain Language Guide to Fleet Safety and Compliance. This guide clarifies and provides resource information to assist in satisfying these requirements.

It covers:

- * Responsibilities (employer, employee, due diligence, vicarious liability)
- * Operating Status (provincial and federal standards, changes to operating status)
- * Safety Fitness Rating (safety obligations, liability insurance, cargo insurance)
- * Regulatory Compliance (Alberta requirements, driver file requirements, retention of records, inspection programs, vehicle file requirements, trip inspections, hours of service requirements, dangerous goods, cargo securement)
- * National Safety Code
- * Carrier Information
- * Safety and Risk Management

Federal Budget Adds new Support for Apprenticeship. The 2014 Economic Action Plan has introduced the Canada Apprentice Loan, which will offer interest-free loans to help registered apprentices in Red Seal trades with the cost of their training. Apprentices registered in their first Red Seal trade apprenticeship will be eligible for loans of up to \$4,000 per period of training. The budget also proposed the Flexibility and Innovation in Apprenticeship Technical Training (FIATT) pilot project. It aims to support the development of innovative approaches to delivering apprenticeship technical training. Examples of the pilot could include using in-class simulators, e-learning modules, remote learning sites and video conference to supplement traditional in class teaching. Read more at [Daily Commercial News](#).

NEW FIRE CODE STANDATA The following STANDATA have been released and are now available on the Alberta Municipal Affairs website. To view or print copies follow the links below.

Fire Code Interpretation

[FCI-14-01](#) Use of Containers, Portable Tanks and Transportation Tanks for the Ongoing Storage and Dispensing of Flammable and Combustible Liquids

[FCI-14-02](#) Fixed Fire Suppression & Exhaust Systems - Cooking

[FCI-14-03](#) Sale and Use of Flying or Sky Lanterns

[FCI-14-04](#) Fixed Fire Suppression Systems Non-Cooking

Fire Code Variance

[AFC 4.2.6.3](#). Fire Safety and Hang Hygiene in Healthcare Facilities

To view all STANDATA that have been issued for the 2006 Alberta Fire Code [click here](#) .

EIAA Annual General Meeting - Saturday, March 22nd, 2014 at The Royal Canadian Legion, 2810 Bremmer Avenue Red Deer, AB. Please submit agenda items to michael@leduc-county.com or sherry.davis@calgary.ca

The **Welcome Reception following Training Day** will feature table top displays on new product to compliment the Training Day theme "**Keeping Up With Changes in Technology**" Members wishing to display or promote new product are welcome to participate. Dinner and drinks will be served from 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm giving participants an opportunity to mingle with presenters at their display tables. Please contact smclean@ecaa.ab.ca or chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca to request a table. As tables may be limited to room size, please get your request in as soon as possible. We look forward to this event being a successful end to Training Day.

Board of Directors Update

Next Provincial Board of Directors meeting scheduled for Friday, March 21st. Presentation on 2013 year end financials will be made by the accounting firm of BDO.

ECAA looking for Fire Technical Council (FTC) representative. Mr. Keven Lefebvre, PEC unfortunately has to step away from this position. Please contact smclean@ecaa.ab.ca if you are interested in being appointed to the FTC. You may contact Keven directly (millenniumelectric@hotmail.com) for detailed information regarding his position on this very important SCC Technical Council.

Director-At-Large South. Mr. Ray Wery, Pro-Fx Services, Calgary has been appointed Director-at-Large (S). Thank you and welcome Ray to the provincial Board.

PEC, Labour, Associates and AGM Annual General Meetings will take place on Saturday, May 24th, 2014. Just a reminder that ECAA membership dues need to be paid in full prior.

Alberta Construction Association Sub-Committee position (Research & Technology) volunteer required. If you are able to participate in conference call meetings and interested in research & technology, please contact Sheri McLean (smclean@ecaa.ab.ca) so ECAA can have representation and provide input on behalf of our members.

Open door policy: ECAA Board of Directors invites those interested in sitting in on a Provincial Board meeting and bring forth ideas or just to gain a little perspective. Please contact Sheri McLean (smclean@ecaa.ab.ca) to sit in on a future meeting. Members also encouraged to attend a Chapter Executive meeting to gain more insight into what your volunteers do.

Have something to say?

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

Local Chapter Activity

CALGARY: The Lord Beaverbrook Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) evening was a great success. Students were drawn to the young electricians that joined Chapter President Doug Miller for the evening. Doug spent time fielding questions/inquiries from parents and teachers, not just from Lord Beaverbrook but from other schools. This has apparently resulted in other schools asking for us to attend their RAP/Career events. Doug will expand further at the next chapter meeting.

Thank you to the following for their donations in making the Calgary Chapter Industry night so successful: RMA, Tyco/Simplex, Siemens, Guillevin, Optics Lighting, Canem, Westburne, Custom Electric, Leviton, McKenna Agencies, Gescan, AM Agencies, Prolux Lighting, Nedco, Bartle & Gibson, Graybar, RL Brews, Electrical Wholesalers, Greenan Elstead & Associates, and Texcan. A special thank you to Hilary Zorn and Cindy Cameron, Gescan for all their efforts in ensuring the evening was a success.

Next Meeting Thursday, March 13th at the Best Western Port o' Call. Joint presentation on the Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) and experience of a RAP student; as well as information on the Calgary Construction Association (CCA) Youth Employment Program.

Volunteers Needed: Jack James High School has extended an invitation for participation in a Career/Resource Fair on **Thursday, April 24th, 2014** in the gymnasium, at Jack James High School, from 12:45pm - 3:15pm. Contact Calgary Chapter president Doug Miller (d.miller@customelectric.com) if you are able to assist. Thanks.

Calgary Chapter Communications person required to assist Provincial Chair, Jeanette DeBruin. If interested please contact Chapter President Doug Miller d.miller@customelectric.com.

CENTRAL: Next meeting: Tuesday, April 9th at the Red Deer Lodge. Mark your calendars.

EDMONTON: Join The Electrical Contractors Association of Alberta and Peter Friesen-NAIT Chair, Electrical Apprenticeship Program for dinner at NAIT and a tour of all four periods of the Electrician Program including the PLC lab and the Fire Alarm lab on **Monday, March 17th**. We encourage everyone to bring a non-ECAA member guest! Thank you to Guillevin for sponsoring refreshments for the evening. Please RSVP with carnett@ecaa.ab.ca.

GRANDE PRAIRIE: Next chapter meeting has been moved to Thursday, April 24th.

FORT MCMURRAY: Next meeting Tuesday, April 8th. The Fort McMurray Chapter will be hosting a **Golf Tournament on June 26th at the Mac Island Golf Course**. More details to follow in the next few months. Mark your calendars!

LETHBRIDGE: Chapter meeting Monday, March 10th at the Lethbridge Lodge. Agenda has been emailed to Chapter members.

New Members

Welcome new **Associate** members: **Greenlee Textron (Edmonton); Ainsworth Inc. (Calgary); Optics Lighting (Calgary)**

Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) News

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

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

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

Residential speaker: *Randall Benson, Grid Works Energy* "**Residential Solar Power Photovoltaic Systems**" Alberta's solar resource is one of the best in the world! Grid-connected PV may already be the cheapest option for electrical generation in Alberta. PV economics makes sense on so many levels. When the inevitable (a supportive policy to incent consumers) happens the PV industry will be one of the biggest growth sectors for Electrical professions.

Commercial speaker: *Norm Kaiser, PEC NAIT* "**Code Section 4 Calculations & Overview of Major Changes in CE Code**" Identify and interpret the major changes in the 2012 Canadian Electrical Code focusing on Section 4. Understanding the impact of "termination temperature" and its impact on circuit ampacity calculations. Know how to apply the revised ampacities in tables 2 and 4.

Industrial speaker: *Robert Colclough, PEC* "**Quality Assurance and Quality Control**". Four key points covered in this session are: Why our current view of Quality is out dated. Find out what a good Quality Management System can do for your company. What your focus should be on in order to save your company time

and money. New technology being used.

General Interest speaker - *Jodie deMunnik, CI*

Investments "Guaranteeing Income in Retirement" Come to hear Jodie discuss: Market based investments with guaranteed principals; Market based investments with guaranteed payments; Preserve capital with the potential for capital appreciation; Tax efficient investing for non-registered money; How do payout annuities work?; How can you combine these different investments to secure your retirement?

From the Desk of the PEC Education Chair Larry Cantelo, PEC

Continuing Education

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

[2014 PEC COURSE REGISTRATION FORM](#)

Safety Principles, March 14th & 15th, 2014 (Calgary) A well developed safety program can reduce costs resulting from injury and property damage, and is the hallmark of a quality electrical contracting firm. The first day of the course shows you each step to develop and implement an effective safety program for your small to medium sized electrical contracting firm. The next day is designed to help managers ensure construction supervisors fine-tune their safety skills by:

- clearly understanding what their safety roles and responsibilities are
- presenting and delivering effective training to workers and maintaining high work site safety standards
- conducting effective site inspections - and developing appropriate recommendations
- investigating - the steps to follow and processes involved

Assessing & Finalizing the Tender, April 11th & 12th, 2014 (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.

Business & Public Relations, April 25th & 26th, 2014 (Calgary) A series of six modules designed to give you essential and proven management concepts in the areas of managing: Credit & Collections, Business Promotion, Sales Management, Business Management, Human Resource Management and Time Management . Each module will teach you hands-on management strategies to immediately begin improving the performance and profitability of your electrical contracting business.

ONLINE TRAINING AVAILABLE THROUGH ECAA.

FIRST LEVEL SUPERVISOR TRAINING PROGRAM

This course offers the critical basic skills and concepts needed to supervise a crew in the residential, institutional, commercial, industrial and civil construction sectors. For more information click on the following link [First Level Supervisor Training Program](#)

Course cost is \$400 and to enroll contact Christine chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca

ELECTRICAL SAFETY TRAINING SYSTEM (ESTS) is a computer based, distance delivered program that recognizes Provincial & Federal Occupational Health & Safety Regulations. The program promotes a "Plan, Do, Check, Act" philosophy applying CSA Z462, based on CSA Z1000 Occupational Health & Safety Management System Standard. *Course is complimentary to all unionized electrical contractors and their employees that have a bargaining relationship with the IBEW Local 424.* Contact Christine (chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca) to sign up.

ON-LINE ETHICS COURSE. This course is designed for the Certified Master Electrician (CME) that desires to maintain that designation and for any Registered Master Electrician (RME) or Master electrician that desires to become a CME Information at www.ecaa.ab.ca (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.

The next issue of The Spark will be emailed Friday, April 4th, 2014.



Electrical Contractors
Association of Alberta

17725 - 103 Avenue Edmonton, AB T5S 1N8

Phone: 780-451-2412 Toll Free: 1-800-252-9375

www.ecaa.ab.ca