



ECAA

Electrical Contractors
Association of Alberta

THE SPARK

ECAA NEWSLETTER

September 1st, 2017

Issue 79

In This Issue

[President's Message](#)

[Did you Know?](#)

[Electrical Safety Program
"Product in a Box"](#)

[Industry News](#)

[Board of Directors Update](#)

[Legislation Update](#)

[New Members](#)

[Chapter Activity](#)

[PEC News](#)

[PEC Courses](#)

[Online Training](#)

[News from ACA](#)

Calendar of Events

PEC COURSES

[2017/18 PEC Registration Form](#)

MEETINGS

September 14th, 2017
Calgary Chapter

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

Summer has drawn to a close and I am eagerly awaiting the coming weeks when the Fall will begin with a busy itinerary. The September schedule starts on the 12th with our provincial board meeting in Edmonton, followed on the 13th by the Bob Carson Classic golf tournament, then I head south on the 14th for the Calgary Chapter meeting. The Edmonton Chapter meeting on the 18th then the Red Deer Chapter meeting on the 27th will make for a full month with a lot of information to take in.



As most of us start looking toward the fall months, work has started to pick up for many and some sources say the latest outlook for Alberta is that the recession is officially over. For some it may not seem this way however as I see trends in our industry shifting and talk to other electrical contractors, I am confident things will stay on the upward trend.

Wishing all of you across the province a safe and enjoyable Labour Day weekend.

I am looking forward to connecting with you soon.

Regards,

Eric Fadden, PEC
ECAA Provincial President

September 18th, 2017
Edmonton Chapter

September 21st, 2017
North West Chapter
Grande Prairie

September 26, 2017
Fort McMurray Chapter

September 27, 2017
Central Chapter
Red Deer

SOCIALS

September 13th, 2017
**28th Annual Bob Carson
Highlands Golf Course
[Bob Carson Registration](#)**

**Football Game on the
Telus Patio
Saturday, September 16th
Stamps vs. Lions**

Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Did you know?

Your apprentice can challenge Construction Electrician Level 1 exam without taking 8-10 weeks of technical training in a full-time school, as long as you as an employer can confirm that the employee work with you and is capable to challenge the exam. To prepare for this exam ATTI is offering this course starting September 11, 2017. The candidates can be in Alberta/Saskatchewan/Nova Scotia and still will be able to prepare for Level 1 exam via Skype. For more information contact Direct: 778-995-3926 Toll Free : 1-855-471-3926 (1-855-IP1-EXAM) programs@atticanada.comwww.atticanada.com

Electrical Safety Program "Product in a Box"

Operating (e.g. opening and closing circuit breakers or disconnect switches, or contactors), energized electrical equipment is NOT maintenance and under "Normal Operating Conditions" doesn't require arc flash or shock PPE to be worn. Qualified Operations Workers, Qualified Electrical Workers or other authorized workers can operate energized electrical equipment. Energized diagnostics and troubleshooting and energized repair & alteration is maintenance. Isolation work tasks are not maintenance, but are required to be completed to "Establish an Electrically Safe Work Condition" and do expose a Qualified Electrical Worker to arc flash and/or shock (e.g. racking in or out low or high voltage power circuit breakers and installing temporary protective grounds).

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

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

Industry News

To All Contractors Working in the City of Edmonton

EDMONTON INSPECTION METER SOCKET CHANGE In the City of Edmonton 200A meter bases are required for all services for any permit taken out after Sept. 5, 2017, and on any service installation that has been part of the new U/G services pilot project that was started March 13, 2017.

Register Now! Edmonton Chapter Bob Carson Classic Wednesday, September 13th, 2017 Highlands Golf Club. To register online visit http://www.ecaa.ab.ca/industry_events.aspx

[Bob Carson Classic Registration.](#)

Call for Topics & Speakers, ECAA Training Day, Friday, May 25th, 2018, Edmonton, AB. Planning for ECAA Training Day 2018 is underway and we are looking for suggestions for technical speakers and topics. **Presentations will be dedicated to Technical, Codes & Standards and General Interest.** Please email topic suggestions to Larry Cantelo, PEC (lcantelo55@gmail.com) or Sheri McLean, CAE (smclean@ecaa.ab.ca). If you are interested in being a presenter please provide a brief outline of your presentation and the benefits it would provide to attendees prior to September 30th, 2017.

The Minister of Advanced Education is seeking applications from individuals interested in serving as a **member of the Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training Board**. The Alberta Industry and Training Board has 13 members consisting of a chair and an equal number of employer and employee representatives. Employee representatives have current, front line experience working with apprentices and journeypersons directly at the job site. Employer representatives have direct experience hiring and managing apprentices and journeypersons. The membership of the Board is intended to reflect the diversity of the apprenticeship and industry training system, including industry sectors, large and small business, men and women, geographic locations, and the designated trades and occupations. For more information on roles, responsibilities and requirements visit [AIT Recruitment Posting](#). **Closing Date is September 25th, 2017.**

Looking for a venue for your staff Christmas party? Purchase a table at the **STARS Magic in the Air Gala** Saturday, October 14th, 2017. Musical Entertainment provided by **BRETT KISSEL!** For more information or to purchase tickets and sponsorship visit www.stars.ca [STARS Gala Save the Date](#) [Sponsor Package](#) Or contact ECAA office.

CAREER Pathways Challenge Support Alberta Youth - Summer is coming to an end and 165,000 high-school students are headed back to school. CAREERS: The Next Generation Foundation (CAREERS) has launched a 30-day challenge to ensure we can continue to work with school partners, to help youth engage in learning, complete high-school, and make choices for post-secondary training. Students gain paid work experience - while in high school - that will help them discover their career path, give them a competitive advantage, and accelerate their entry into the workforce. CAREERS is challenging people who care about youth career planning and employment to raise \$100,000 to help you tackle the coming year with a plan. Funds raised will be used to facilitate student internships for the coming school year in 500 schools and 300 Alberta communities. Who helped you get your first job? Shaw Birdies for Kids will provide additional matching funds for all donations made before September 3. Your donation will be matched up to 50%. Visit www.nextgen.org or [Shaw Birdies for Kids](#).

Canada stands out as one of the world's largest electricity generators and as a leader in clean electricity generation. But to get to this position, Canadian electric utilities have undergone a dramatic transformation over the past decade. **Join Carlos A. Murillo , September 6, 2017 at 02:00 PM EDT, as he presents [Flipping the Switch: The Outlook for Canada's Electric Utilities](#)**, for a discussion of the changes underway for Canada's electrical utilities and a five-year outlook on the industry. This webinar is based on the newly released Canadian Industrial Outlook for Canada's Electric Utilities Industry, published in the Summer of 2017, and including five-year forecasts for the industry's output, employment, prices, investment levels, trade, and financial performance metrics, among others.

Register today for \$249.00. Your registration includes access to the live webinar, and a recording you can share with your organization. To place your order, please [visit our website](#) or contact me directly at marketing@conferenceboard.ca or 1-866-242-0075. Your campaign code is EFTSB4.

Board of Directors Update

Next Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 12th.

Legislation Update

On behalf of Terry Milot, ECAA Provincial Legislation Chair and Chair of Alberta Trade Contractors Coalition

Please click on the following [link](#) to find an example of a letter that our members are being asked to send to all Members of Parliament (individualized of course) via mail addressed to their respective constituency offices by members of the National Trade Contractors Coalition of Canada (NTCCC).

The purpose of this letter is to advise the MP's that Industry Associations believe they are being provided a story from senior Liberals that the delayed payment issue is being resolved (through non-legislative means) by working with "industry". We are telling them that this is absolutely not the case and why.

The NTCCC has requested industry Associations ask our respective general membership's individual companies to set up meetings with their local Members of Parliament before they go back to Ottawa in September.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Terry Milot through the ECAA office (780) 451-2412 or Russ Evans through Mechanical Contractors Association (403 250 7237).

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

New Members

Welcome New Members

Contractors: High Line Electrical Constructors new location (Sylvan Lake)

Local Chapter Activity

Pre-Meeting Presentations have been scheduled for Calgary and Edmonton and will occur 1 hour prior to each Chapter meeting. There is no cost to attend however you do need to RSVP. These meetings and presentations are open to everyone in the electrical industry. Refer to Chapter notices for more information and details. These presentations will also occur in Rural Chapters in conjunction with Chapter meeting.

CALGARY: Next meeting **Thursday, September 14th**, Best Western Port O'Call Hotel.

Pre-Meeting Presentation 5:00 pm: Lance Warner, RMA/WOW
Lighting Topic: A glimpse into the Future of Lighting in Alberta - A heads up and a few tips!

Chapter Meeting & Dinner 6:00 pm. Meeting Presenter: Mike Fleming,
PEC Topic of Discussion: Vehicle Costing. **Meeting Sponsor:** Eaton Industries

Come out and meet your Provincial President Eric Fadden, PEC.

Only 9 Tickets Left!! Join the Calgary Chapter Executive and fellow members in a networking opportunity on the Telus Patio, Saturday, September 16th. Enjoy a game of football between the Stampeders and the BC Lions. Limited spots left, please email caustin@ecaa.ab.ca to reserve your seat now!! As this is a new social opportunity for our Chapter, thank you for your participation!! Go Stamps Go!! Cindy Cameron, Social Committee Chair on behalf of the Calgary Chapter Executive. [Registration Information](#)

CENTRAL: Next Meeting **Wednesday, September 27, 2017**, Black Knight Inn, Red Deer (2929 50 Avenue, Red Deer) 6:00 pm.

Guest Speaker: Mike Fleming, PEC **Topic:** Vehicle Costing.

Presenter: Drazen Jerkovic, Eaton **Topic:** Connected Lighting Internet of Things (IOT)

Meeting Sponsor: Eddy Brasseur, Wesco Distribution

EDMONTON: Next meeting is **Monday, September 18th**, Chateau Louis Hotel & Conference Center.

Pre-Meeting Presentation 5:00 pm: Lance Warner, RMA/WOW Lighting **Topic:** A Glimpse into the Future of Lighting in Alberta - A heads up and a few tips!

Chapter Meeting & Dinner 6:00 pm.

Meeting Presenters: Mike Fleming, PEC; **Topic:** Vehicle Costing.

Guest Speakers: Epcor, City of Edmonton and Inspections Group. **Topic:** Inspection Updates.

Presentation by Allstate Insurance on ECAA Member Promotions, Amanda Smith.

Meeting Sponsor: Allstate Insurance

FORT McMURRAY: Next Meeting **September 26, 2017** Best Western Suites 6:00 pm dinner and meeting to follow.

Guest Speaker: Lance Warner, RMA **Topic:** A Glimpse into the Future of Lighting in Alberta - A heads up and a few tips!

Meeting Sponsor: Richard McDonald & Associates.

LETHBRIDGE: Next meeting date **October 11th**, Lethbridge Lodge 5:30 pm Meeting & Dinner.

Guest Speaker: Russ Drocket, Schneider Electric

Topic: Panelboard, Switchboard Installation Cost and Time Savers.

NORTH WEST: Next Meeting **September 21, 2017**, Stonebridge Hotel, Grande Prairie.

Guest Speaker: Jaye Jonnson, EECOL

Topic: Solar Energy.

***PEC Course** Assessing & Finalizing the Tender in conjunction with Chapter Meeting.

PEC Courses Scheduled in Grande Prairie: Apply for the Canada Alberta Job Grant to cover cost of courses. [Click Here](#) for more information and applying for Canada Alberta Job Grant.

****3 Credits towards Gold Seal for each PEC course. *Minimum numbers required to run each course.***

Assessing & Finalizing the Tender

Thursday, September 21st & 22nd, 2017
Stonebridge Hotel, Grande Prairie

Accounting Principles

Thursday, November 16th & 17th, 2017
Pomeroy Hotel, Grande Prairie

Business & Public Relations

February 15th & 16th, 2018
Pomeroy Hotel, Grande Prairie

Contact chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca to register.

Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) News

Don't forget to enter your APD points online. **APD short form will only be available until May 24th, 2018.**

ECAA Courses

BLUE PRINT READING

**Tuesdays, November 21st, 28th & Thursday, November 23rd & 30th
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM**

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.

**12 APD points for PEC's*

[BLUE PRINT READING REGISTRATION FORM](#)

Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) Courses

[2017/18 PEC Course Schedule and Registration](#)

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

Assessing & Finalizing the Tender (Instructor Chris Reinert, PEC) Thursday, September 21st & Friday, September 22nd (Grande Prairie) **Minimum Numbers Apply******

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.

****FULL/WAIT LIST - Electrical Project Management (Instructor Rob Colclough, PEC) Friday, September 22nd & Saturday, September 23rd (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.

Safety Principles (Instructor Clarke Gould) Thursday, September 28th & Friday, September 29th (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 (Instructor Pat Barnes) Thursday, October 5th & Friday, October 6th (Edmonton)

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.

Assessing & Finalizing the Tender (Instructor Chris Reinert, PEC) Thursday, October 26th & Friday, October 27th (Edmonton)

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.

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

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 underpinning in support of meeting Provincial or Federal regulatory due diligence for arc flash and shock.

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

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

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

Electrical Worker Training Modules:

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

Learning Objectives for Qualified Electrical Workers:

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

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

To purchase this training course visit www.ecaatraining.com

****NEWLY UPDATED** FIRST LEVEL SUPERVISOR TRAINING PROGRAM **5 Gold Seal Credits** 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).

ACA Update

[ACA Response to WCB Review - Your Action Urgently Requested](#)

ACA's Safety / WCB committee's [attached response](#) was submitted to Labour Minister Gray and Premier Notley Tuesday, August 29. This was done after careful consideration and study of the review and the discussions we have had with the government over the last year and a half.

If implemented, the WCB review recommendations will seriously erode Alberta's WCB as a fair and financially sustainable insurance program. Please share ACA's response with your membership with a message urging that all CEOs read it, share within their business networks, and raise their concerns with the Premier and the rest of the Alberta Government.

The Government plans to introduce legislation as early as this Fall 2017.

In the next few weeks, ACA will share with you our response to the OHS Review, which also has far reaching negative implications for Alberta's employers.

[Alberta Government's First Quarter Fiscal Update](#)

On Wednesday, August 23, 2017, the government of Alberta released its first quarter fiscal update. In it the government acknowledged they were using its reserve fund along with other savings to keep its \$10.5-billion deficit from increasing further.

Part of the income issue is that Oil has not rebounded as far as the government initially expected as it hovered around \$49 a barrel rather than the expected \$55.

The province expects the economy to grow by 3.1 per cent in 2017, up from the March budget forecast of 2.6 per cent. Employment is also expected to rise by 1.3 per cent, higher than the 0.9 per cent forecast in the budget.

The government is deferring \$700 million over the next 3 years for the Capital Plan. This decrease is primarily due to re-profiling of school, health facility, continuing care, housing and other projects to future years and savings on projects.

You can read the Update in full [here](#).

[Alberta Government Announces OHS Review](#)

On Wednesday, August 16, the Government of Alberta announced it is launching a review of the province's occupational health and safety system. This comes on the heels of a review of the WCB and Labour Code.

Alberta's Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Act sets the minimum standards for workplace health and safety, and outlines the roles and responsibilities of employers and employees. This becomes the third piece of major legislation the current government have decided needed to be revised.

Roundtable sessions with employers, employees, academics and health and safety associations will occur from September 5 - 15.

You can read the announcement [here](#).

[Health and Safety Conference](#)

The 16th Annual Health and Safety Conference and Trade Fair at the Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel & Conference Center will be taking place October 26 & 27, 2017.

This conference attracts a wide range of exhibitors, facilitates high profile Keynote and Blockbuster speakers, and provides delegates a diverse and valued choice of session topics. The conference focuses on working together in occupational health and safety and provides current information relevant to any industry.

You can find out further information [here](#) and how to [register](#).

For more news and events visit 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

The next issue of The Spark will be emailed on October 6th, 2017.



ECAA

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