



ECAA

Electrical Contractors
Association of Alberta

THE SPARK

ECAA NEWSLETTER

December 6th, 2021 | Issue 130

President's Message

Here we are the final month of the year. We enjoyed a good turnout at the ECAA Open House to celebrate the season and to give Sheri a good send off. It was great to see some of the leaders of the electrical industry there that have retired, I think they got some chuckles from the slide show. Prior to the meeting we held our Ways and Means meeting as well as the Board meeting. The 2022 budget was finalized, and a new plan forward to try and get the PM Elec recognized was discussed. During the week I was involved in some discussions regarding the problems in the industry with regards to quoted material, B material, and the wild price fluctuations. I hope you will take the time to read the article later in the Spark prepared by one of our associate members. I look forward to connecting with industry members this upcoming weekend at the Calgary Christmas Gala.

I would like to pass on greetings and best wishes for all this holiday season. I hope that next year treats us all well and to use a phrase I heard this week, stay positive and test negative.



Respectfully,
Scott Hutton
ECAA Provincial President



On behalf of the ECAA Provincial Board of Directors and staff, wishing you and yours a wonderful holiday season and a prosperous, healthy and happy new year.

*The ECAA Provincial Office will be closed
December 23rd - January 3rd*

Welcome New Members

Contractor: **Pro-Tech Electrical** (Red Deer)
Associate: **Michelin Tires** (Calgary)

Congratulations New PEC's: **Igor Boskovic, PEC** (Edmonton); **Lem Chong, PEC** (Calgary); **Ryan Leonard, PEC** (Edmonton); **Charles McKenna, PEC** (Fort McMurray); **Russell Olsen, PEC** (Drayton Valley); **Shane Steil, PEC** (Edmonton)

Upcoming Events

Fort McMurray Chapter Meeting

Tuesday, January 11th | 6:00 pm
Sawridge Suites (410 TaigaNova Crescent, Fort McMurray) Meeting will be hybrid, for those attending in person Restriction Exemption Program is being followed.

[RSVP In Person](#) [RSVP Virtual Attendance](#)

Calgary Chapter Meeting

Thursday, January 13th | 5:30 pm
Courtyard Marriott Calgary Airport Hybrid format, for those attending in person Restriction Exemption Program is being followed.

Associate Spotlight Presentation: LSW Lighting, Michael Gonzalez on Simple Cost Effective Solutions for NECB.

[RSVP In Person](#) [RSVP Virtual Attendance](#)

Edmonton Chapter Meeting

Monday, January 17th | 4:00 pm
Virtual Only
Inspections Updates with Epcor, City of Edmonton and The Inspections Group

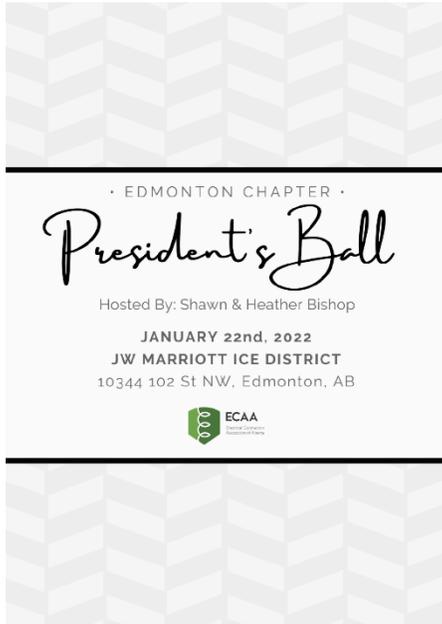
If you have any questions you would like to submit please [complete the following survey](#). Submission deadline is December 20th.

[RSVP Here](#)

Lethbridge Chapter Meeting | 5:30 pm

Wednesday, January 26th | 5:30 pm
Sandman Lethbridge Lodge Hybrid format, for those attending in person Restriction Exemption Program is being followed.

[RSVP In Person](#) [RSVP Virtual Attendance](#)



Join Us!
Edmonton Chapter President's Ball
hosted by Chapter President
Shawn & Heather Bishop
Saturday, January 22nd
JW Marriott Edmonton Ice District

Special room rates available:
**Book your group rate for ECAA -
Edmonton Chapter President's Ball 2022**
Reference ECAA is booking in
advance; [\(780\) 784-7950](tel:780-784-7950)

[Purchase Your Tickets](#)



Calgary Chapter Winter Gala
Join Chapter President Cam & Kristin
McIntosh along with the Chapter Executive
as we celebrate the holiday season.

**Few Tickets Left! Last day to purchase
tickets is Tuesday, December 7th.**

Thank you to the following sponsors:

*Acutech Electric
Canem Systems
Controls Plus Canada
Convergint
Eaton Industries (Canada) Company
EECOL
Gescan
Guillevin International
Highline Electrical
Prolux Lighting
Schneider Electric
JCI/Tyco
Western Electrical*

[Purchase Tickets](#)

Reminder for anyone wanting to contribute
food bank donations, drop off to Guillevin and
Gescan deadline is December 9th. If you
require pick up last day is December 10th. For
more information contact [Cindy Cameron](#).

Upcoming Training

[Legal Implications -
February 10th & 11th,
2022](#)

[Basic Electrical
Estimating - February
17th & 18th](#)

[Arc Flash & Shock
Virtual Instructor Led
December 20th](#)

[CE Code Update
Training](#)

Updates from Your Associates

Freight Delivery Lead Times - BC Flooding

Hello everyone, as we navigate road openings and closures in and out of the lower mainland, delivery schedules to the branches as you are well aware are affected. Below are delivery lead times per branch we have been tracking. Hwy 3 remains open to essential commercial traffic and is the only route out of the lower mainland at present.

Here is a look at the time in transit from the DC to the affected branches from November 22 onwards, these are the average days on route to delivery. These days can change at any time due to conditions but is what we are currently seeing. Also note this does not include Saturdays & Sundays as these days are not considered travel days.

Time in Transit – Average / Business day

PENTICTON – 2 DAYS
P.G. – 3 DAYS
KAMLOOPS – 2-3 DAYS
DAWSON – 3 DAYS
TERRACE – 3 DAYS
WILLIAMS LAKE – 3-5 DAYS
VERNON – 2-4 DAYS
CRANBROOK – 2-3 DAYS
EDMONTON – 4-5 DAYS
CALGARY – 4-5 DAYS
SASKATOON – 6 DAYS

Small parcel ground shipments are suspended by all small parcel carriers in and out of BC. Small parcel Air Shipments. UPS is providing air shipments within BC on certain lanes call into UPS dispatch or online for area details. Loomis Express air shipments will pickup from lower mainland branches to all other provinces, ground shipments are suspended within BC. Purolator no pickups or shipments within BC.

We will continue to monitor carrier changes throughout the week.
E.B. Horsman & Son

Here's what another Associate Member has to say..

We are all feeling the pain of material deliveries in 2021. That is an understatement. Frustration is escalating and we are confident that lighting is right up there with the rest. People are tired of hearing about the supply chain excuses. To the point of being told that it isn't a reasonable response.

If it's denied.....does the problem go away?

It's happening at all levels to where it is affecting long term mutually beneficial relationships. Accountability towards each other and how everyone worked in the past as part of a team has been dramatically affected.

A 2x4 troffer is a seemingly simple constructed item. What the pandemic revealed to us is where each screw, lens, plastic bit and wire came from. It is surprising how globally sourced that simple fixture is. Ten different component companies in ten different countries could be involved. As Covid shut down shifted from one area of the world to the next it created this ripple effect in the supply chain. You need all components arriving on the assembly floor simultaneously to make a completed troffer. Other material piles up as you wait for that single two cent screw to show up. As agents, we have learned a lot more about manufacturing than we ever realized. Many manufacturers are more than happy to share this with us now to demonstrate their predicament.

In addition to this, being equally shocked as anyone, when in Nov of 2020 we routinely submitted an order to one of our manufacturers. In turn they acknowledged it and thanked us. We weren't ready for the next part of their response with a requested delivery of March 2021 (4 months away). If material pricing goes up in that time we will have to pass that additional cost along to the customer.

What?? Not possible. Our manufacturers beg us daily for early commitments and long deliveries. Gives them a chance to balance out production in the factory.

That was only the beginning.

Recent pricing escalation is due to scarcity of materials and components. High demand but limited supply. For example we have seen at least one and as many as four price increases from all the manufacturers in the 2021 calendar year. Previously we were only seeing one price increase in three years from any given manufacturer. Looking at production charts on steel pricing throughout 2021 you can see where they predicted it to level out but it kept on climbing upward. They missed that prediction four times in the last 11 months.

Where managing a project delivery was straight forward with systems in place, has now become a new adventure trying to secure material and avoid costly increases at every turn. Resubmitting option after option for an alternate item that could hopefully meet performance, delivery and budget.

The challenges of job deadlines are completely understandable. We have pulled some rabbits out of our hats and will continue to do so. Unfortunately sometimes the result is a lump of coal.

When we end up with that lump of coal it's not because we aren't prioritizing our customers needs or putting them first. It's because we have spent countless hours trying to make a miracle happen and that is all we got for our efforts.

Constant communication is critical, get your orders in as soon as possible and plan to accept material as fast as they can build it. The potential of what may normally be a 4-6 week delivery could easily stretch out to 12. We don't foresee this improving as we approach 2022 however, as always we will be right here ready to serve and eager to please.

Industry News

It's membership renewal time. Invoices will be emailed later in December for your 2022 ECAA Membership Dues. We value your membership and thank you for your continued support.

Call for Interest. We are looking for members who are interested in representing ECAA on the **Fire Sub-Council** with Safety Codes Council. Members who are interested in putting their name forward for this position are to contact Robin Bobocel (rbobocel@ecaa.ab.ca) by **December 15th**.

[Fire Sub-Council Skills Matrix](#)

[Sub-Council Member Position Description](#)

On behalf of Provincial President Scott Hutton, thank you to everyone that attended our open house and donated to Santa's Anonymous and the Edmonton Food Bank. We were able to fill one wagon of toys; two boxes of food along with cash donations totaling \$340 for the local food bank!

"Thank you to all who made my retirement so special, the gifts, the memories, the message from Arthur Thormann, and especially for the two scholarships set up by the Board in my name. So appreciated." Sheri McLean

The following Building STANDATA is now available on the Alberta.ca website. Follow the links below to view or print copies.

[19-BCI-025/18-ECI-009](#) Lightning Protection Systems

[19-FCI-020](#) Firecrackers

To view all Building STANDATA [click here](#).

To view all Fire STANDATA [click here](#).

EIAA Conference February 11th & 12th, 2022. If you would like to submit any conference agenda items, [please fill out this form](#) and send directly to Ken.Forbes@lethbridge.ca.

Electrical IP Red Seal Prep and Masters Prep courses offered by ATTI. [Click here for more information.](#)

Check out the latest from Alberta Association of Optometrist eyesafe blog [on the importance of sealed cushioned close fitting safety glasses.](#)

How often do you want to hear from us?

Weekly

[Select](#)

Monthly

[Select](#)

Every Other Month

[Select](#)

Quarterly (every 3 months)

[Select](#)

Next Issue of The Spark will go out Friday, January 7th, 2022



Contact Us

If you are an ECAA Contractor or Associate member and would like us to help promote and industry or company event please contact us directly chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca

We value your feedback and its important to us, send us your comments and feedback.

[Visit our website](#)



