



# THE SPARK

## ECAA E-Newsletter

April 13, 2011

Issue 3

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[www.ecaa.ab.ca](http://www.ecaa.ab.ca)

### Calendar of Events

**April 18th**  
Edmonton Chapter Meeting  
*(Derrick Golf & Winter Club)*

**May 12th**  
Calgary Chapter Meeting  
**ELECTIONS**  
*(The Blackfoot Inn)*

**May 16th**  
Edmonton Chapter Meeting  
**ELECTIONS**  
*(Derrick Golf & Winter Club)*

**May 27th - May 29th**  
49th Annual Convention & AGM  
*(Kananaskis, Alberta)*

**APRIL/2011**

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

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

### President's Message

Welcome to the ECAA's 3rd edition of "The Spark". Hope you are enjoying the updates.

Transition of the master's program to Safety Codes Council has begun. Elise from our office will be moving with the program - the Association will miss her however we wish her the best of luck with this move.



Bob  
Maslanko,  
PEC

Kelly Morris, PEC reinstated Chair of the ECAA Masters Committee, has been asked to stay involved while the transition from the ECAA over to Safety Codes Council takes place and to keep our members informed. Please read Kelly's article in the Contactor for more detailed information.

### Reminder: WCB in attendance at April Edmonton Chapter Meeting.

A major change is being proposed to the way they are currently doing business with Electrical Contractors in Alberta. If you are a contractor from outside of Edmonton or Calgary this is your only opportunity to hear what WCB has to say and it may be your only opportunity to ask them any questions.

**NOMINATIONS** are now being received by the respective chapters and the Provincial Board. If you, or someone you know would like to serve on one of the boards, please let the nominations committee know as soon as possible (respective nomination committee members listed in the Roster). Nominations also being sought for **AWARD OF MERIT, LIFETIME AND HONORARY MEMBERS**. We need membership input.

### Industry News

**Master Electrician Program Update**, The ECAA had a meeting arranged and travel plans made to speak directly with Minister Goudreau and Minister Oberle in Peace River about the Master Electrician Program. Minister Goudreau subsequently became unavailable for the meeting. The ECAA has provided the information intended for this meeting to the

## Tradeshows

**May 3rd & 4th, 2011**  
**Bi-Provincial**  
**Try-A-Trade**  
**Career Expo**  
(Lloydminster  
Construction Association)

[www.lloydconstruction.ca](http://www.lloydconstruction.ca)

**May 11th & 12th**  
**2011 Provincial**  
**Skills Competition**  
(Edmonton Expo Centre)

[www.skillsalberta.com](http://www.skillsalberta.com)

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Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM), Mr. Ivan Moore, to share with the Minister. As part of this, the ECAA included correspondence to the ADM outlining our position on the matter which includes among other things: a correction of the idea that the ECAA rejected becoming a Delegated Administrative Organization, identification of the contractual breaches of the Service Agreement by that department, and a request for appropriate Master Electrician representation at the Safety Codes Council (given that Master Electricians will eclipse the number of Safety Codes Officers that currently exist across all disciplines). None of this, at this time, changes the fact that by exclusive Government action, the ECAA is out of the Master Electrician business effective May 1st.

**Labour Update** The 2011 round of bargaining has produced a Tentative Agreement between IBEW Local Union 424 and the ECAA Unionized Electrical Contractors. On April 11th, 2011, ECAA ratified that Tentative Agreement. The Union is counting ratification ballots on April 15th and it is expected that the results of the vote will be announced on April 18th, 2011.

Mr. Clem Gratton, PEC recently attended the **Alberta Apprenticeship & Industry Awards** evening honouring the hard work and dedication of top apprentices, instructors and employers in Alberta. Clem and his wife Kathy really enjoyed attending this event, seeing and feeling the excitement of the recipients recognized. **Douglas Greene from Olds was the recipient of the Alberta Apprenticeship & Industry Training Top Electrical Apprentice** award sponsored by ECAA. Douglas was very proud and appreciative of the award he earned through hard work and dedication - good work Douglas!

**Congratulations to Jennifer Tran, recipient of the ES (Stan) Sunley Scholarship** donated by ECAA Edmonton Chapter in honor of Mr. Sunley, a long time member and strong supporter of the Association. Awarded annually on the basis of high academic achievement to a student entering fourth year of the Human Resource Management program in the School of Business at the University of Alberta. Award is restricted to residents of Alberta.

**Congratulations to Lakeland College ECAA scholarship recipient, Scott Mathison of Vermilion,** a third year electrical apprentice. ECAA apprenticeship award recipients (RAP, AIT) have been invited to the Awards luncheon in Kananaskis.

**WCB Approaches ECAA on Industry Custom Pricing.** Very informative presentation to Calgary members on April 14th. Edmonton date is April 18th - member attendance and input important for path forward.

**NW Chapter President Les Dzwonkiewicz** in a recent meeting with Minister Oberle, MLA for Peace River, discussed The New West Partnership Trade Agreement (NWPTA) between Alberta, BC and Saskatchewan. This agreement replaces TILMA and was cited as one of the reasons in Mr. Ivan Moore's letter why ECAA could no longer be the service provider for the Master Electrician program.

**Congratulations to Associate member, Federated Insurance** who received the distinct honor of being one of **Canada's Great Places to Work for 2011** for a second consecutive year! The Great Place to Work<sup>®</sup> Institute announce the winners at a special awards dinner (Monday April 11<sup>th</sup>) and the names of all of the companies who have won the award are printed in a special supplement in the Globe and Mail. Good for you!!

**News Flash** - Canadian Electrical Contractors Association (CECA) co-hosting conference with Electrical Contractors Association of BC (ECABC) June 13-17, 2012 at the Four Seasons Whistler.

## Board of Directors Update

Next Provincial Board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 27th.

**Convention 2011 - DEADLINE FOR HOTEL** accommodations **April 22nd**. The hotel will not honor the convention rate after this date. Only 26 spots left for golf. Quorums must be met at the meetings so please get your registrations in.

**A big thank you to the following sponsors;**

**Platinum:** Ecol Electric & Federated Insurance

**Gold:** Schneider Electric & Eaton

**Silver:** Western Electrical Management & Guillevin International

**Bronze:** Canem Systems

**Convention 2012** - As previously mentioned ECAA had the opportunity to charter a Tall ship for Convention 2012 however it appears to not be feasible. This is an agenda item to be discussed at the next Board meeting. Goal is to have location to be announced at AGM.

## New Member

**Welcome:** Fisher Powerline (Fort McMurray)

## Local Chapter Activity

**Calgary Chapter** - Meeting held Thursday, April 14th with 50 members and guests in attendance. Very informative presentation by WCB. Thank you to Sophie and Perry Schmaltz who manned the ECAA booth at the Calgary Construction Association Career Expo earlier in the day.

**Central Chapter:** A brief meeting was held following the AEL Trade Expo on March 24th. President Darcy Teichroeb updated members and guests in attendance on the Master's program, CME/RME designations, OBIEC, and the upcoming WCB industry custom pricing information meetings in Edmonton and Calgary. Congratulations to new PEC, Ken De Beaudrap. Presentation on PEC course deferred to next meeting.

**North East Chapter:** Chapter meeting held April 7th with 12 members and guests attending. Topics discussed: included WCB industry custom pricing, personal WCB insurance for company owners, Master's update, concern with inspector signing off on job not up to code, fire alarm systems, electrical inspector signing permits, inactive Master Electricians obtaining permits, new apprenticeship ratio and upcoming convention.

**North West Chapter:** Meeting held April 12th with 10 members and guests attending. Presentation by Kalmar Designs on marketing products. Congratulations to incoming Chapter President Tim Tarita, Magnum Electric.

**Upcoming Chapter Meetings:**

**Edmonton:** Monday, April 18th. WCB presentation on Industry Custom Pricing. Comparative rate sheets will be prepared for those contractors who have confirmed attendance.

## Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) News

**ATTENTION PEC's:** suggestion made to have PEC breakfast meetings in the Chapters that currently have active PEC's and PEC student members (would probably start with one in Calgary and Edmonton). This would provide an opportunity for PEC's to share concerns, ideas, and meet on a regular basis. This will be an agenda item at the PEC AGM. Please let Sheri know if this is something you feel should be pursued

([smclean@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:smclean@ecaa.ab.ca)). Thanks for your input.

**PEC Practice Review Committee** met. Substandard Condition Report approved and posted on ECAA website. Agenda items also included: "Professional" liability insurance; continuing education; CME/RME renewal forms; duties and responsibilities of committee; course re: liability in using PEC seal/stamp; PEC Regulations, POARA Act and ECAA ByLaws; "Got a Minute" survey for supplier's counters.

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 [ecaa@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:ecaa@ecaa.ab.ca)



Electrical  
Contractors  
Association of  
Alberta

11235 - 120 Street Edmonton, AB T5G 2X9

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

[www.ecaa.ab.ca](http://www.ecaa.ab.ca)