



# THE SPARK

## ECAA E-Newsletter

May 6, 2013

Issue 28

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### Quick Links

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

### Calendar of Events

*JOIN US AT OUR BBQ  
OPEN HOUSE MONDAY,  
MAY 6th 5:00 - 7:00 PM  
(We want to show off our  
new digs!)*

*Upcoming CEC Code  
Changes Seminars*

*June 21st  
8:30 am - 12:30 pm*

**MAY/2013**

### 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

Well can you believe it, we have nearly exhausted another year? I warned you last year about making me your President so don't be complaining now. It's May already and this is my last report for the Spark as your President. What a year we have had, we moved offices, went to many corners of the Province, and met with many different people on many different topics.



Kelly Wilde

I got to go to a couple more places this past month. I was in Calgary for their Chapter meeting and met some new and not-so-new faces. Was a great time and the speaker they had, had quite an innovated new product. Great meeting and a fun time. Then Sheri and I went to Winnipeg to the retirement party for John Paisley of Federated Insurance. Remarkable man and neat to meet the people he had worked around for the past 37 years. Hard to believe that Federated has had only one President in the past 23 years, no wonder we have had such a great relationship with them.

Then off to Grand Prairie for their chapter meeting where we had a great round table discussion on the master's program, CSA approvals on lighting, red seal now has a practical exam that will be required to be taken for those who come from out of province who don't have the red seal already. I met with Brian Alford from Safety Codes and was able to discuss few items such as the request to remove the levy cap on permits over \$14,000.00. Safety Codes Council is looking to boost their revenue and this is one of the options on the table.

It has been a lot of fun and a lot of work but as usual you get out of it what you put in to it. I hope that we helped accomplish a few things and I hope you saw the benefits of your membership. The many people who sit on the Board and the Committees work hard to help keep your trade viable and profitable. Without this Association you wouldn't have anyone fighting for your right to keep your trade

*ECAA Office  
Edmonton*

*September 21st  
8:00 am - noon  
ECAA Office  
Edmonton*

*October 10th  
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
Hotel Blackfoot  
Calgary*

*(These courses approved  
by Electrical Technical  
Council to meet  
recertification  
requirements for Master  
Electricians and Safety  
Codes officers)*

#### **Upcoming PEC Courses**

*May 9th & 10th  
Accounting Principles  
ECAA Office, Edmonton*

*May 16th & 17th  
Design Build  
ECAA Office, Edmonton*

*June 6th & 7th  
Project Management  
ECAA Office, Edmonton*

#### **Tradeshows**

*Come visit us or join us  
by volunteering*

**Provincial Skills  
Competitions**  
*May 15th & 16th  
Edmonton*

**JUDGES NEEDED FOR  
ELECTRICAL WIRING  
COMPETITIONS** --Contact  
John Sumner  
([jsumner@nait.ca](mailto:jsumner@nait.ca))

Thank you to the volunteers  
who participated at the  
Calgary Construction  
Tradeshow, April 24th; the  
Edmonton Residential

from being a labour broker, or trying to make sure we get proper inspections and value for the dollars spent on permits. People work to make sure that your concerns with code, fire technical and electrical technical issues are heard. We have people who sit on the ACSA, ACA, Apprenticeship and Legislation committees all making sure we as electrical contractors have our issues brought to the table. To all of you, thank you for doing what you do.

I would like to thank my Board and your Board of Directors for all their hard work and helping me get through this year as your President. Without them this would be impossible. To Sheri and the rest of the Ladies in the office, thank you as well. You do a great job.

Waterton is now just a couple of weeks away and it looks like it will be a great time. Thanks to all who have supported the AGM whether through monetary contributions or whatever you did to support this event.

**REMINDER: Edmonton Chapter and the Provincial Board will be having a BBQ and open house on Monday, May 6 for everyone to come and view the new digs. 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm . Come join us!!**

#### **Getting to Know Your Membership**

**Want to show case your company -- contact [smclean@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:smclean@ecaa.ab.ca)**

#### **Industry News**

##### **Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters - Let's Talk Exports!**

REMINDER: Plan to attend the Edmonton Let's Talk Exports!  
This opportunity to find out what you need to know before making critical business decisions will be time well spent!

Date: Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Time: 11:30 am Registration

12:00 Noon Lunch Served

12:30 pm Keynote

Place: The Westin Edmonton; Cost \$65 + GST

Contact Linda Withers (780) 426-6622 or [linda.withers@cme-mec.ca](mailto:linda.withers@cme-mec.ca).

##### **URGENT - WE NEED YOUR HELP! ELECTRICAL WIRING SKILLS**

**COMPETITIONS** looking for **3 or 4 judges** for the competition. Competition dates May 15th and 16th. Contact John Sumner ([jsumner@nait.ca](mailto:jsumner@nait.ca)) if able to assist.

**REMINDER: The 21st Best Practices Conference**, to be held in Edmonton on May 14th and 15th, is shaping up to be another great session. Please contact the COAA office at 780 420-1145 or by email at [kasia@coaa.ab.ca](mailto:kasia@coaa.ab.ca).

Construction Industry Conference April 30/May 1; and the Lloydminster Try-A-Trade on May 1st. ECAA could not participate in these ventures without our member volunteers so a BIG thank you.

### Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

### Social Networking



[Find us on Facebook](#)

### **We Moved March 1st,**

**2013** to 17725- 103 Avenue, Edmonton, T5S 1N8 (phones and fax remain the same). Reminder: **Open House May 6th**, 5:00 pm -7:00 pm. Please RSVP if planning on attending BBQ.

### Board of Directors Update

**Next Board Meeting Monday, May 6th, 2013. Open House to follow at 5:00 pm. Thank you to all 80 members and guests who RSVP'd.**

### Labour Update

No update this month.

### Local Chapter Activity

**CALGARY** - Next meeting Thursday, May 9th. Elections will be held and Past President Scott White acknowledged. Cathy White, SunLife insurance will speak on Group Benefits and Estate Planning.

**EDMONTON** - Next Chapter meeting is Monday, September 16th. President Eric Fadden and your incoming Chapter executive look forward to seeing you there!

**FORT McMURRAY** - Next meeting September 10th. President Joe MacNeil looking for volunteers to fill rest of Executive positions. Contact Joe directly at

**NORTH EAST** - Thank you to those who participated in the Try-A-Trade show.

**NORTH WEST** - Another successful chapter breakfast meeting held April 25th. On behalf of Chapter President Tim Tarita, thank you to all the members and guests who participated in the very informative round table discussions.

### New Members

Applications received to-date will be presented for approval at the May 6th board meeting.

### Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) News

HOPING TO SEE OUR PEC'S AND STUDENTS IN WATERTON. THIS TRAINING DAY WAS PUT TOGETHER ESPECIALLY FOR YOU. Every PEC should be getting 20 points of Annual Professional Development (APD) credits annually and a minimum of 60 points by 2015. The Friday, May 24th Training Day has the potential for PEC's to get 8 APD if the PEC

attends all training day sessions and the 8 am and noon Keynote speakers. Saturday, May 25th has 1 APD for the Breakfast speaker, 6 points for the PEC AGM and 6 points for the ECAA AGM. In two days at a great resort you can get your 20 APD credits and contribute to the progress of the electrical contracting industry in Alberta.

**Mike Fleming PEC Education Chair email :** [mike\\_fleming07@yahoo.ca](mailto:mike_fleming07@yahoo.ca)

PEC Committee members still required -- especially for Marketing & Communication and Practice Review. Contact [smclean@ecaa.ab.ab](mailto:smclean@ecaa.ab.ab) if you would like to participate on a committee or would like more information on one of the committees.

### CONGRATULATIONS NEW PROFESSIONAL ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS (PEC'S)

Three completed applications will be presented to Board on May 6th.

### Continuing Education

***Registrations are being accepted for all courses scheduled in 2013 form on ECAA website under PEC section and in Calendar of Events:***

***Accounting Principles, May 9th & 10th (Edmonton).*** This updated course taught by ECAA's new accounting firm, BDO will introduce you to terms and concepts of accounting and show you how to use them to attain goals and controls for future growth. You will learn practical skills to help you develop, interpret and use financial data, pin-point problem and profit areas, and focus your resources toward a successful electrical contracting business. Course open to your accounting staff person.

***Design Build, May 16th & 17th (Edmonton).*** Design build has become a common place term in the engineering and construction industry in recent years and is prevalent for various building construction projects. The electrical contractor as a sub-trade is being asked to participate in the design build process. As a viable business opportunity, it is necessary for the electrical contractor to fully understand the concept of design build organization model, the laws and regulations pertaining to design build, design build methods, estimating techniques and risk management. The course will help project managers, engineers, executive and owners of electrical contracting firms to address opportunities in design build and expand their market profitability. Instructor for this course will be Mr. Larry Cantello.

***Project Management, June 6th & 7th (Edmonton).*** Increased competition is eroding profit margins across the board. To be successful in today's marketplace, electrical contractors need to work smarter - not harder. The Project Management course will teach you practical, hands-on skills to:

1. identify and recover all costs to which you are entitled
2. avoid paying for others' errors or omissions
3. reduce project costs through effective purchasing and administration
4. identify cost overruns - and take corrective action
5. use effective record keeping systems to enhance project profitability

**Also Available through ECAA.**

**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 Brittany ([bsmith@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:bsmith@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](http://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 [ecaa@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:ecaa@ecaa.ab.ca)

**The next issue of The Spark will be emailed Friday, June 7, 2013.**



Electrical  
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