



**ECAA**

Electrical Contractors  
Association of Alberta

# THE SPARK

ECAA NEWSLETTER

December 4th, 2020 | Issue 118

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Calgary Chapter Meeting

Thursday, December 10th

[Register Here](#)

### UPCOMING TRAINING

Tuesday, January 12th

Lunch n' Learn

11:30 lunch (ECAA office)

noon – 1 pm (in person and zoom)

**Top Tips for Starting Your New Business** presented by FBC Canada

Friday, January 22nd, 2021

### Grounding & Bonding Seminar

8:00 - 4:00 pm

Virtual Delivery

[Register Here](#)

Tuesday, February 9th

Lunch n' Learn

11:30 lunch (ECAA office)

noon – 1 pm (in person and zoom)

**5 Question to Ask Your Accountant** presented by FBC Canada

Visit our website

## President's Message

Well I am not typically the type to wish time away, but I must say that I am somewhat excited to be entering into the final month of 2020 and looking forward to what 2021 may have in store for us. I don't expect that we will bounce back like a rubber ball when the New Year hits, however I would certainly hope that we round the corner as we head into the second half of it. There have been a lot of firsts this year. Covid has changed the entire world as we once knew it and there is no doubt that most of us were a little guilty of taking many things for granted. As is normally the case, I am sure we will be better for it once we get through all of the adversity.



Not all is lost, as there has been some bright spots as of recent, with the stock index rebounding back to where it was before it began the sharp fall last March. There also seems to be some optimism growing in the economy with the recent changing of the government south of the border, right, wrong or indifferent. Oil prices have been on the rise as of late, and there is some positive news surrounding the development of vaccines for Covid-19.

We are very pleased to report that Bill 37 received a third and final reading in the Legislature. The Alberta Legislature will debate these amendments, develop detailed Regulations to accompany the amended Act, and expects the amended

[ECAA 2020-2021  
Board of Directors](#)

Act to come into force in July 2021. Terry Milot has been working tirelessly on this initiative for the past seven years and again should be congratulated for his tenacious efforts.

We will be having a Ways & Means meeting on December 4<sup>th</sup> as well as the Provincial Board meeting. One of the many items on the agenda will include a third and final pass on the 2021 budget. Chapter meetings are all slated on the calendar and posted for your convenience. Once again, I would like to remind everyone the importance of participating in our Chapter meetings whether in person or via Zoom. Networking is very important to all of our members and this is a great opportunity to share and learn with one another.

Thank you again to all of our volunteers and members for your participation and patience. Also, a very special thank you as always to Sheri McLean and her team, Camille, Christine, and Dorothy for their perseverance and creativity this past year as they continued to find new ways to share, provide training and host meetings, all the while taking full precautions with social distancing and the ever changing Infection Control Plans as rolled out by Alberta Health Services. Great job ladies!

On behalf of your Provincial Board we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Respectfully,

Tim Brundage  
ECAA Provincial President



The ECAA Provincial Office will be closed from December 21st - January 1st, 2021.  
The office will re open on January 4th, 2021.

## Industry News

Finally, after 7 long years we are getting closer to having legislation that will enable contractors to be paid for their work in a timely manner. **Bill 37, *The Builders' Lien (Prompt Payment) Amendment Act* passed 3rd reading on November 26th.** A lot of work is yet to be done during the regulation process. ECAA's efforts have not gone unnoticed and we are pleased to confirm that Terry Milot has been selected as a Subject Matter Expert (SME) for the regulation consultation review to ensure industry needs are met. We look forward to the remaining challenge and the work Government has already done in anticipation for a July 1, 2021 coming into force date. ***Congratulations Terry, the Alberta Trade Contractors Coalition and industry partners for a job well done!***

### Message from the Minister - Prompt Payment

**It's membership renewal time. Invoices will be emailed in December for your 2021 ECAA Membership Dues. We value your membership and thank you for your continued support.**

**Urgent! Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program Grant Available.** The ECAA has partnered with DAD Sales and Flo and is pleased to announce that we will be applying for NRCan Clean Fuels' ZERO Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program (ZEVIP) to deploy a network of zero-emission vehicle charging stations (Level 2 and higher) across Alberta.

ECAA Members who express interest as ultimate recipients of the funding will be limited to \$100,000 per project (multiple sites allowed) to support the installation of electric vehicle charging stations across Alberta. **Deadline to submit letters of intent to ECAA has been extended to December 8th, 2020.**

For more information contact Ben Wells, DAD Sales [benwells@dadsales.com](mailto:benwells@dadsales.com)

### ECAA Code Book Pre-Order Form

#### **Pre-Order CSA C22.1:21, Canadian Electrical Code**

The 25<sup>th</sup> edition of the CSA C22.1:21, *Canadian Electrical Code, Part I* is due to publish in January 2021. The French edition, CSA C22.1:F21, will be available in April 2021. For over 90 years, the *Canadian Electrical Code, Part I* has been developed and updated to help better protect electrical workers and promote improved consistency in electrical installations across the country. The new edition includes over 200 additions and revisions, including:

- New subsection for energy storage.
- Requirements regarding climate change adaption addressing risks from floods.
- Substantial changes to wiring methods.

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

LEG-ECR-003  
18-ECB-026

[Electric Railways](#)  
[Section 26 – Installation of electrical equipment](#)

18-ECI-064  
18-ECV-064-218

[Section 64 – Renewable energy systems](#)  
[Rule 64 – 218 Photovoltaic rapid shutdown](#)

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

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**CSA Research - DC Microgrids in Buildings.** With an increasing focus on the environment, power production capability from Direct Current (DC) power sources, such as photovoltaic (PV) panels and battery storage, has become more prevalent. CSA Group has published a research reports that summarizes the tools, opportunities, barriers and standardization requirements of this changing industry.

1. March 2019 – [“DC Microgrids in Buildings”](#) authors AES Engineering Ltd. and published by CSA Group
2. October 2020 – [“DC Microgrids in Buildings: Planning Today for Tomorrow’s Needs”](#) author Andrew Pride Consulting, workshop hosted by Cisco Canada and published by CSA Group

Expanding on the initial work of *DC Microgrids in Buildings*, this second report presents the workshop findings of 40 industry stakeholders including presentations and interviews with experts.

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***Congratulations to following ECAA RAP scholarship recipients from the CAREERS High School RAP Awards ceremony.***

**Gavin Bean**, Fort Saskatchewan - Electrician with Shell Canada Limited  
**Haeden Rylee Nile**, Grande Prairie - Electrician with Youngman Electric Ltd.

Complete list of award recipients: [https://tradesecrets.alberta.ca/Financial-Assistance/Scholarships/Scholarship\\_Recipients/?Type=HSA&Year=2020](https://tradesecrets.alberta.ca/Financial-Assistance/Scholarships/Scholarship_Recipients/?Type=HSA&Year=2020)

**ECAA is proud to support and sponsor CAREERS and the RAP program.**

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**CAREERS Next Generation Celebration of Excellence Awards.** Do you know any students who worked hard to achieve their goals? Or maybe a teacher or mentor you believe made a real difference in a student's life. Nominate them now! Student scholarships are available. Submission deadline is **December 31, 2020**. [Click here to Nominate someone](#).

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Alberta Energy Efficiency Alliance is currently hiring for the Executive Director position. If you are interested please refer to the following announcement. [AEEA Executive Director Job Posting](#)

Interested candidates are encouraged to provide a cover letter and resume (as one file) to [contact@aeaa.ca](mailto:contact@aeaa.ca) by **December 10th , 2020**.

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**This year's National Apprenticeship Conference will take place virtually on February 22-23, 2021, from the comfort and safety of your own home!**

The conference will highlight initiatives, programs and strategies that help attract and retain top talent. This requires an understanding of how to breakdown the stigma associated with skilled trades careers and engage youth, underrepresented groups, parents and educators to actively promote apprenticeship as a first-choice career path. They are looking forward to presenting a full **conference program**,

with many opportunities to connect with peers, speakers, exhibitors and sponsors over the 2 days. Please contact Emma if you have questions: [emma@caf-fca.org](mailto:emma@caf-fca.org) **Register Here Now**

*This information is being forwarded on behalf of the Canadian Apprenticeship Forum*

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**WEBINAR**  
**December 9, 2020**  
**9:30 – 11:00 AM MST**

For more information and to register [CLICK HERE.](#)

The rapid growth of interest and information related to Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) factors can be overwhelming. Lack of clear guidelines, competing disclosure organizations, investor and societal expectations and culture change within organizations are just some of the issues companies are grappling with on their ESG journey. Join the Alberta Chamber on December 9<sup>th</sup> to hear from experts who are at different points on the path as they discuss trends, integration, and operationalization of ESG into planning and everyday work.

This Environmental Forum is free to ACR member organizations. Non-members attending will be charged \$40+gst. If you are unsure if your organization is a current member of ACR, please take a look at their membership directory before registering, <https://www.acr-alberta.com/members/>.

*This information is being forwarded on behalf of the Alberta Chamber of Resources*

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*This message is being sent on behalf of Nadine Barber, Executive Director, Alberta Chamber of Resources*

Please mark your calendars for the morning of Tuesday, February 23, 2021 for the AGM and midday Thursday, February 25, 2021 for the Awards Celebration. More details will be coming soon. Stay tuned to your email and on our website for more information.



<https://www.acr-alberta.com/2020/11/26/2021-agm-annual-awards-celebration/>

Award nomination forms are now available online for the Resource Leadership Award, Indigenous Leadership Award, and the Young Leader Award.

Please send your completed nomination forms to [communications@acr-alberta.com](mailto:communications@acr-alberta.com).

Sponsorship opportunities will be available December 2, 2020 for the Annual Awards Celebration. Visit the website above for more details.

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**Alberta Infrastructure launched the new Vendor Performance Management (VPM) Program** on January 6, 2020. This program supports quality infrastructure projects delivered on time, on budget, and within scope.

To continue providing awareness, updates and information on the VPM Program, Alberta Infrastructure is hosting a series of information sessions with online participation in partnership with Alberta Construction Association, Consulting Architects of Alberta, Alberta Association of Architects, and Consulting Engineers of Alberta.

The sessions will focus on the following:

- VPM Program Updates
- VPM Program Overview
- Frequently Asked Questions
- VPM Continuous Improvement

Information sessions have been scheduled. To register, visit Infrastructure's [Vendor Performance management Program website](https://www.alberta.ca/vendor-performance-management-program.aspx). ( <https://www.alberta.ca/vendor-performance-management-program.aspx> )

For event inquiries, please email [infras.vendorperformance@gov.ab.ca](mailto:infras.vendorperformance@gov.ab.ca).

*This information was obtained from the Alberta Infrastructure ITR Newsletter. For more information visit <https://www.alberta.ca/infrastructure-technical-resources.aspx>*

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Our condolences go out the family and friends of Ray Lutz who passed away on November 20<sup>th</sup>. Lutz Electric was a member of ECAA since 1970, and Ray awarded Lifetime Membership in 1990. To view his obituary [click here](#).

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## From Your Associate Member

Winter weather is here— is your roof ready for cooler conditions? It's recommended that you perform regular maintenance checkups before, during and after the winter season. Learn more here: <https://bit.ly/34Uu3Iy>



When the temperature drops and winter storms begin, a number of risks can arise, including property damage and an increased risk of injury to outdoor workers resulting from slips, trips, and falls. Learn more here: [Tips for working in cold temperatures](#)

***All of us at ECAA wish our friend, Wayne Budge, a speedy recovery***

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In an effort to increase Associate attendance at the Chapter meetings, a **survey was sent to the Associate members on behalf of Darrell Warholik and Cody MacInnis** (Associate Liaison north and south). The survey also included requests for presenters/presentations for upcoming Chapter meetings (specifically to distributors, vendors, manufacturers) or Lunch and Learn speakers. This is a reminder to please respond to the information requested as this is a benefit of your membership in the Electrical Contractors Association of Alberta.

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## Provincial Board Update

Board meeting is scheduled for December 4th. Update in January Spark.

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**ECAA 2021 Out of Country Convention October 13th - 29th, 2021. Reminder deadline to Register is December 15th, 2020.**

**Registration**

**Link:** [https://forms.logiforms.com/formdata/user\\_forms/81634\\_4874682/383216/page1.html?cachebuster=728](https://forms.logiforms.com/formdata/user_forms/81634_4874682/383216/page1.html?cachebuster=728)

Due to the covid pandemic delaying a pre-planned trip many of our members were partaking in, the out-of-country convention will be a 10 day African Safari in Kenya, followed by 4 nights at the Baobab Beach Resort in Diani Beach from October 13 – 29, 2021. This customized adventure was put together by Rick MacSwain, Network Travel who will be accompanying the group. Want more information? Grab your favorite beverage and join Rick on **Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm** as he walks us through this amazing safari.

**Topic: ECAA Out of Country Conference Meet & Greet**  
**Time: Dec 8, 2020 07:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)**

**Register in advance:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMpcuqogqijHN2K3pePZLbwFB13MzXWnLSi>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the session.

Any questions? Please contact Sheri McLean ([smclean@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:smclean@ecaa.ab.ca)) or Rick MacSwain ([RMacSwain@NetworkTravel.ca](mailto:RMacSwain@NetworkTravel.ca))

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## Local Chapter Activity

**CALGARY CHAPTER** Next Meeting will be held on Thursday December 10th at 5:00 pm. This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom. **Presentation by Federal Metals.**

**When: Dec 10, 2020 05:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)**

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZArceyspz4sHNZE2N49MTUnSQWf2sOb4P7F>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

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## CALGARY CHAPTER - Food Bank Drive

The Calgary Chapter needs your help. Food items will once again be collected for the local Food Bank. ***Please let us know if your business will collect items.***

The Chapter Executive will make arrangements for pickup if you are unable to deliver contact **Cindy Cameron** [Cindy.cameron@gescan.com](mailto:Cindy.cameron@gescan.com); or **Matthew Hale** [Matthew.hale@guillevin.com](mailto:Matthew.hale@guillevin.com)

Monetary donations can be made online by clicking the link below: <https://events.ecaa.ab.ca/events/calgary-chapter-...-food-bank-drive/> **\*\*to pay by AMEX, contact the ECAA office directly: 1.800.252.9375 ext 4**

The Calgary Food Bank is community owned, community supported. It takes community action to provide healthy and nutritious food support, to help one family, one person at a time. In partnership with the food industry and people like you, for every \$1 received we can distribute \$5 worth of food. **We invite you to help by contributing online or in person for donation drop off at Gescan 5005 -12A St SE or Guillevin 4220A Blackfoot Trail SE by Thursday December 10<sup>th</sup>.** Help fill each emergency food hamper with food to make healthy meals. Hampers contain 52% non-perishable items, 28% perishables and 20% grains.

***On behalf of Calgary Chapter President, Chris Jardine and the Executive, thank you so much for your participation at this time of year.***

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## EDMONTON CHAPTER - Food Bank Drive

Greetings Edmonton Chapter

We have all had a very tough 2020 and can relate to one another during tough times. The economy isn't great, jobs are hard to maintain and mentally it has been a huge adjustment for the entire association. With that being said, there are a lot of people out there that need help this year. So here is what I am proposing to help really make some people happy this holiday season:

### ONLINE DONATIONS

- **Our goal is to raise \$1000 minimum by December 16<sup>th</sup>**
  - PEC COURSE – Hubbell Canada has generously donated 1 free PEC Course to our Associate members as an incentive to beat Calgary. **After December 16<sup>th</sup>** we will draw for the free course from the information received through online donation ONLY. For every \$10 donated, you will receive a ballot for this draw.
- Donate online here: [www.canadahelps.org/en/pages/ecaa-edmonton-chapter-food-bank-donations/](http://www.canadahelps.org/en/pages/ecaa-edmonton-chapter-food-bank-donations/)

### FOOD BANK DONATIONS

- As of today the box in the office has a lot of room for more food or in other words, it's basically empty. We recognize that it is hard to get over to the ECAA office at times during winter, so we will be providing a **safe curbside pick-up** to pack the office and pump these numbers up!
  - PLEASE Bring or store any foodbank donation items at your office or home, on **December 16<sup>th</sup>** we will have a **van going around the city picking up donations** to bring back to the office.
  - The ECAA Elves will be following AHS guidelines by social distancing, wearing face masks and using hand sanitizer
  - **If you are participating in this and you have food to be picked up, please send your pick-up information to Camille Austin ([caustin@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:caustin@ecaa.ab.ca)) or myself by December 15<sup>th</sup> @ 4:00PM ([etheroux@hubbell.ca](mailto:etheroux@hubbell.ca))**



2020 has been hard, but we are fortunate enough to be a part of an Association that prides itself on bridging the gap between industries to bring people together. Whether it is inside the Association walls, online via zoom or in our home offices, we can all relate to each other now in a much different way. Let's rally together to make this last event a success.

Regards,

**Eric Theroux – Edmonton Chapter Associate Liaison**

Cell: 780.893.1161

Email: [etheroux@hubbell.ca](mailto:etheroux@hubbell.ca)

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Looking to support local in Edmonton? Special thanks to Hastings Electric who is a sponsor and electrical provider for the **Winter Wonder Forest**.

**The Winter Wonder Forest November 27th - January 3rd, 2021.**

This is a great opportunity to safely stay in your car and enjoy the Christmas lights! For more information or to purchase a car pass click on the following link: <https://winterwonderforest.ca/>

**CALLING ALL DOWNTOWN BUSINESSES**  
*it's time to put your business on the map!*

The Downtown Revitalization Incentives Program offers 50 per cent matching reimbursement grants to help property owners and business operators of eligible buildings:

- Improve façades (up to \$75,000 or \$100,000, depending on the building type).
- Upgrade the interiors of existing buildings (up to \$50,000 for select projects).
- Construct new patios or upgrade existing patios (up to \$10,000).
- Install beautification projects (up to \$5,000) and murals (up to \$30,000).

The deadline for applications is Dec. 31, 2020.  
Find out if your downtown business is eligible for a grant at:  
[rmwb.ca/incentives](http://rmwb.ca/incentives)

REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO

## FORT McMURRAY CHAPTER

### **Businesses still have time to apply for Down Revitalization Incentives Program.**

Since launching earlier this summer, the Downtown Revitalization Incentives Program has awarded 11 grants to downtown business and commercial property owners.

To date, over \$500,000 has been earmarked for grant projects ranging from façade improvements to patio updates.

With a total program budget of \$5 million, interested businesses and property owners can still apply for the four 50 per cent reimbursement grants offered through the program.

Successful applicants could receive:

- Up to \$75,000 or \$100,000 to improve building exteriors or façades (depending on the building type).
- Up to \$50,000 to upgrade the interiors of existing buildings (for eligible projects).
- Up to \$10,000 to construct new patios or upgrade existing patios.
- Up to \$5,000 to install beautification projects and up to \$30,000 to install murals.

Apply now, construct later. **The deadline for applications is Dec. 31, 2020.** Applicants can request an extension up to Aug. 31, 2021 for construction

completion.

Learn more at [rmwb.ca/incentives](http://rmwb.ca/incentives).

**Training Opportunities**

**PEC Courses ([2021 Course Schedule](#))**

**[2021 Manual PEC Course Registration](#)** - use this form to register using your complimentary course certificate or to pre register for all the courses but pay for each individually as they come up.

**[2021 Online PEC Course Registration](#)**

For more information about the program and courses please contact [chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca)

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Online Training available on [www.ecaatraining.com](http://www.ecaatraining.com)  
Courses available through [Buildforce Canada](#).

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***Next Issue of The Spark will go out Friday, January 8th, 2020***



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

We value your feedback and its important to us. Please submit any comments to [smclean@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:smclean@ecaa.ab.ca)

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