



August 9th, 2021 | Issue 126

President's Message

July seems to have flown by. The weather has been warm, the masks have come off, and seems that construction has sprouted up everywhere in Edmonton and surrounding area. I hear from many involved in the construction industry that hiring and supply chain are becoming large issues and affecting schedules. Simple things that we used to take for granted are more and more difficult to obtain. I heard from a general contractor this morning that the latest issue is drywall mud. Really it's just MUD, who would have thought.

I am looking forward to joining industry colleagues at the upcoming Wood Buffalo Apprenticeship Classic Golf Tournament in August and hope that we can raise some funds for scholarships at Keyano College. I am somewhat embarrassed to admit that this will be the first time ever driving north of Wandering River on Hwy 63. I am looking forward to seeing this part of Alberta.



The Provincial Board is continuing to work on a number of issues as the Executive Director gets settled in including ongoing meetings regarding Bill C67, and a new member management software to efficiently address: member management, communications, integrated billing, event management, member portal, staff & member apps, online store capabilities, and continuing education reporting capabilities.

I hope everyone has an opportunity to reconnect with friends, and enjoy some of our all too short summer. Hopefully it continues into August.

Respectfully,

Scott Hutton
ECAA Provincial President

Getting to Know Your Executive

We thought our readers would like to know more about the volunteers who make up the ECAA Board of Directors and have added this feature into the Spark.

Getting to Know Your Provincial Vice-President Neil Moffatt

Company: 36 years and counting with Canem Systems Ltd. Currently serving as Director – Health, Safety, Environment

Family Members: Spouse - Teraca, Children - Alexandra (30), Tyler (27)

When and how did you start in the industry: 1983 – with good friend Gene Sale (Gendar Electrical Systems – Red Deer)

Favorite hobbies: Camping, Golf, Curling, Fishing

Favorite TV show: Sports

Favourite Sports Team: Calgary Stampeders and Flames

Most memorable vacation: 1988 Rugby Tour to UK (England, Scotland, Ireland) as a guest player with the Calgary Police Rugby Club

Affiliations with other associations: Past Chair – Alberta Construction Safety Association
Presiding Officer – Provincial Apprenticeship Committee (PAC) - Electrician
Director – Alberta Midget Hockey League

Any word of advice to new electrical apprentices: Ask questions; Demonstrate a desire to learn; Be a team player; Listen

Favorite ECAA memory: 2019 AGM event held in Jasper

Best part of ECAA is: Opportunity to meet, socialize, and work with industry colleagues on issues that affect the Electrical industry



Training

Canadian Electrical Code Update Courses

2021 Course Registration Form

September 8th (Medicine Hat)

September 9th (Calgary)

September 13th (Edmonton)

September 14th (Fort McMurray)

Fire Alarm Training Course

October 25 - 29th, 2021 (Calgary In-Person) - [Register Here](#)

[2021 PEC Course Schedule](#)

Legal Implications

Thursday, September 2nd & Friday, September 3rd, 2021 (Online)

[Register Here](#)

Business & Public Relations

Wednesday, September 22nd & Thursday, September 23rd, 2021 (Online)

[Register Here](#)

Upcoming Events

[FORT McMURRAY CHAPTER](#)

Wood Buffalo Apprenticeship Classic Golf Tournament August 18th, 2021.

Last Chance!! Come out and golf to support this fundraiser event. Proceeds raised will be set up as scholarships at Keyano College.

For more information or other opportunities contact Maryse Lessard mlessard@wesco.com

Thank you to the following sponsors:

Eecol Electric
FirePros Inc.
IPEX Inc.
Fort McMurray Kinsmen Club
North Star Ford Lincoln
Midlite Construction Ltd.
Rivard Powerline
Stuart Olson
Tridon Communications



CALGARY CHAPTER

Calgary Chapter BBQ Social hosted by Chapter President Cam McIntosh and the Calgary Executive

Mark Your Calendars: **Thursday, September 9th | 5:00 pm**

Table Top Displays & Door Prizes and more! More details and registration to follow.



EDMONTON CHAPTER



32nd Annual Bob Carson Classic Golf Tournament

Wednesday, September 8th, 2021

Highlands Golf Course

Registration & Breakfast 7:30 am

Shotgun Start: 9:00 am

Texas Scramble/Best Ball Format

Registration Fee: \$195/ECAA Member; \$225/Non-Member

(price includes breakfast, wrap up dinner, green fees and cart.

Sponsored holes, prizes and gift bag also included)

***Special Promotion: Have your golf registration credited towards your annual dues by inviting a non-member to participate and join us. With their new company sign up; both will receive \$195 credited towards company membership dues!**

For sponsorship inquiries please email Christine chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca

[Register For Bob Carson Here](#)



Calling all Edmonton & Calgary Football Fans!

Join Edmonton Chapter and the Edmonton Executive at our fall kick off party.

Tickets: \$110/ person plus gst

Price includes ticket to the game buffet meal and access to the End Zone Part 60 minutes prior to kick off. There will be cash bars at the event but drink tickets can be sold in advance. **Calgary & Central Members welcome to join us as bussing will be provided by the Edmonton Chapter.**

End Zone Party

Saturday, September 11th | 5:00 pm

Edmonton Elks vs. Calgary Stampeders

[Buy End Zone Tickets Here](#)

Industry News

The following **Building STANDATA** is being sent on behalf of Municipal Affairs and now available on the Alberta.ca website.

19-BCE-002 Errata 2

The Errata can also be viewed here:

<https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/5f07feb8-a3d2-4c7d-8a39-33ed98cab2ba/resource/d59a6463-0262-49c0-bf90-e3e2f7feea36/download/ma-standata-errata-building-19-bce-002.pdf>

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

Energy Savings for Business

Right now, there is a short-term opportunity to receive support to outfit commercial and industrial buildings with high-efficiency, energy-saving technology. Emissions Reduction Alberta's **Energy Savings for Business Program** offers over 300 measures such as variable frequency drives (VFDs) and LED lighting to reduce operating and maintenance costs, whether it is a multi-unit residential building, warehouse or office building.

Retrofitting buildings can reduce maintenance and replacement costs due to the extended life of the technology and make operations easier to manage. It can also increase the enjoyment and safety of buildings, with brighter lighting for example — something Lafarge knows all too well.

Lafarge has received funding to support 13 projects from ERA's Energy Savings for Business Program for its operations across Alberta. The majority of the funding grants are being used to upgrade lighting at their plants, as well as upgrades to several VFDs and their process heating. In total, the 13 projects are expected to reduce GHG emissions by over 11 thousand tonnes over the lifetime of the projects. Lafarge received over \$100,000 in incentives through Emissions Reduction Alberta. "From a safety standpoint, the improved lighting has made things a lot brighter and a lot safer," said William Gowdy, Environment and Public Affairs Manager for Lafarge in Northern Alberta. "We've found in our plants we have been able to reduce our utility costs anywhere from 10 to 33 per cent, which is massive."

Companies across the province are completing small to large projects, from lighting measures such as bay fixtures and retrofit kits, ceiling insulation, LED exit signs, to advanced rooftop controls, condensing boilers and CHP, saving serious money and reducing energy consumption. We're seeing examples of this all over the province:

- A warehouse in Vegreville is replacing 2x4 recessed light fixtures, receiving almost \$7,000 in incentives for the project.
- An office building in Edmonton is replacing lighting and installing sensors, receiving almost \$9,000 in incentives.
- By replacing its boiler with a condensing unit, a multi-residential building in Calgary will save money for up to 25 years, see a payback after seven to ten years and will receive over \$14,000 in incentives from the program
- A retail facility in the Fort McMurray area is even taking steps to generate its own power by installing a geothermal system, netting themselves over \$125,000 in incentives in the process.

To learn more about ERA's Energy Savings for Business program, visit the [website](#) and learn how it can benefit your business.

Youth Internship & Training Program

Discovering Potential Youth Internship and Training Program supports companies providing youth with green work experience via internships and on-the-job training. This includes positions in STEM (Science, Math, Engineering, and Mathematics) or relating to the environment and natural resources.

Work experience should meet one of the following criteria:

- The position requires environmental skills, knowledge, experience, or competencies in order to produce environmentally beneficial products or services. Examples of positions that fall into this category would be land use planning or air quality engineers.

OR

- The position may not require specialized environmental skills, but still results in an environmental benefit. Examples of positions that fall into this category would be trades or manufacturing jobs related to renewable energy.

Discovering Potential can subsidize an internship, a training opportunity, or a combination of both, up to maximum of \$25,000 per participant. Additional funding may also be available for opportunities that support youth furthest from employment. For more information visit: [Electricity Human Resources](#)

Webinar: What's Next Speaker Series

Session Topic: How to Compete for Construction's Top Talent.

Date: August 11th, 2021 Time: 11am PT

Being the employer of choice is more important than ever. **Be the company where the best want to work.** You're not only competing for bids. You're also competing for the industry's best people. And right now, that competition is fierce. Join Procore's What's Next Speaker Series and learn practical tools to attract and retain great employees—even in the most difficult of times.

To register for this webinar [click here](#).

ECAA is proud to support [SAIT's 25th Anniversary School of Construction Annual Golf Classic](#) in partnership with the Mechanical Contractors Association at the Springbank Links Golf Club Thursday, August 19th.

ECAA congratulates Dr. Aminah Robinson Fayek on her appointment of Vice-President (Research and Innovation) at the University of Alberta. Welcome Dr. Yasser Mohamed as he takes over the position of Director at the CIC (Construction Innovation Centre). [View the complete announcement here.](#)

Electrical IP Red Seal Online Training

October 2nd - November 6th, 2021 (5 Saturdays). For more information and registration contact ATTI 604-749-2231 support@atticanada.com.

Relive the Excitement of Level Up! With Skills Canada

Check out this [recap booklet](#) to see highlights of the Level Up! With Skills Canada event held last February, where visitors were taken on a career exploration journey.

2022 Skills Canada National Competition! 🌀 May 25 – 28, 2022 at the [Vancouver Convention Centre](#) for the Skills Canada National Competition (SCNC). Through SCNC, Skills/Compétences Canada promotes skilled trade and technology careers to Canadian youth. The Skills Canada National Competition is our flagship event and is an ideal way to connect with students and apprentices.

Source: <https://www.skillscompetencescanada.com/en/skills-canada-national-competition/scnc-vancouver-2022/>

Eyesafe Blog. Some great reasons to NOT fix your safety eyewear. While the expense of new safety eyewear is a cost consideration, it is important employees be warned against trying to use damaged safety eyewear or try to repair damaged safety eyewear. The resourceful side of each of us wants to ensure efficiency and cut costs, but when it comes to safety eyewear cost cutting can be a false economy. Eye injuries cost Canadian employers millions of dollars in lost-time and compensation costs. Beyond eye injuries resulting in untold pain and suffering, many eye injuries can result in permanent disability. [Read more...](#)

Welcome New Members

Welcome new Contractor Members

Impact Lighting o/a Irontech Controls, Colin Bertsch (Edmonton); **Surdhar Electrical Ltd.**, Harinder Surdhar (Edmonton) and **Team Electrical**, Devin Bonnar (Ohaton)

Journey person Associate Member: Roan Opperman (Calgary)

PEC News

Congratulations on obtaining your Professional Designation!

Andrew Ambrosie, PEC
Said Halat, PEC
Wesley Hirschbeck, PEC
Chris Jardine, PEC
Brandon Zelisko, PEC

Local Chapter Activity

Mark Your Calendars

Calgary Chapter Social - Thursday, September 9th BBQ 5pm; more details to follow.

Fort McMurray Chapter Meeting - Tuesday, September 14th following CE Code Seminar Radisson Hotel. Networking 5:30 pm, meeting to follow.

Edmonton Chapter Meeting - Monday, September 20th ECAA Provincial Office; Networking 5:00 pm, meeting to follow 5:30 pm.

North West Chapter Meeting - Thursday, September 23rd Pomeroy Hotel Grande Prairie;
Networking 5:30 pm, meeting to follow 6:00 pm.

More details to come.

Provincial Board Update

A Board meeting was held in the ECAA Boardroom on Thursday, July 8th, 2021. President Scott Hutton called the meeting to order at 10:38 am and welcomed the new members, commenting *it is nice to see new faces around the Board table*. In attendance in person were Shawn Bishop, PEC; Joe Davis; Tim Fehr; Landon Jones; Jason Kuziw (Recording Secretary); Andrew McGuire; Terry Milot; Neil Moffatt; PEC Chris Rauschning, PEC; Grant Wagar; and Sheri McLean. Joining via zoom: Cody MacInnis; Cam McIntosh, PEC; Paul Schmaltz, PEC; Darcy Teichroeb, PEC; Hans Tiedemann, Keith Urlacher.

Agenda and Minutes were approved. Terry Milot provided an update on CECA and the discussion on CECA membership dues. Board members were asked to read the ByLaws before the September meeting as changes have been made to (i) Terms of Office for Directors; (ii) selection of Nominations Committee. There are now specific terms for the Directors. This includes chapter presidents, directors at large. Committee chairs and industry appointments do not qualify to the terms of office as these positions are appointed.

Correspondence was received from Minister Nicolaides on Bill 67. It was noted that a survey is currently being sent to contractors and discussion occurring at the PAC level. Robin sought further information prior to the meeting with the Minister. Changes lean heavily on Skills for Jobs Task Force, with the intent to build flexibility into legislation and to include non-regulated groups into the apprenticeship program. Board agreed that the contract should remain between the apprentice and the employer to continue building relationships between the employer and the employee. Board endorsed being involved with *Alberta 2030: Expanding Work Integrated Learning*.

May financials reviewed; 2021 convention reconciled; June Wood Gundy investments discussed as minor changes made to portfolio. Board discussed shock injuries and keynote address by Dr. Jeschke. This was on the CECA meeting agenda as well. If enough information is gathered from each Province, something should be able to be done at the national level. Apprentices need to be educated on the long-term impacts of electric shock. We don't know what we don't know and need more research at the industry level. Z462 is a positive for prevention and training. Challenge for WCB will be proving that this is work related.

PEC and Membership applications were approved. Education tabled until next meeting. Chapter and committee reports were presented. Two submissions were made to the Government supporting ECAA's Professional Regulatory Organization (PRO) position. Professional Governance waiting for approval from Minister to release the findings to the PRO's.

ACSA has a new chair, John Digman who is the Executive Director of the Medicine Hat Construction Association (*congratulations to John*). Dave Hagen is now an independent Director on their Board; ACSA is working on their operational and strategic plan and has hired a consultant; looking to increase their budget by 2.0M in 2022; Virtual training is up 25% from last year; 90% satisfactory reviews from their students on virtual training.

A new course outline for the electrical apprenticeship program has been completed and is out for industry review. This new outline incorporates harmonization process of aligning commercial program with industrial tickets; ie. Ontario. Red seal will include training on hydraulics and controls so that students can write the Red Seal for that program. Alberta is moving to 2 separate tickets (construction and industrial electricians). May end up with multiple red seal tickets under the new system. Bill 67 will not make a ton of changes to the existing electrical apprenticeship programs, but changes that need to be made will just go to the Board vs going to the government. Brent Melnyk (oversees electrical trade) will be moving the Trade Regulations over to the new legislation.

Associate Liaisons reported that pricing volatility and supply chain shortages are a few things on the radar. NETCO has expanded quite a bit due to government grants for training (one project is the Oasis project). EVITP: Working on EVs and charging stations on a national level. Expanded communications to multiple social media platforms; NETCO works with a Lobbyist company Rubicon, Dewalt is now a national supplier. NETCO conference in Nova Scotia in 2022.

The dates for ECAA's out-of-country convention are February 19th – March 6th, 2022. AGM will be held at the JW Marriott in Edmonton May 27th-29th. Convention 2023 has been confirmed at the Jasper Park Lodge May 10th–14th.

Jesse Row, Executive Director, Alberta Energy Efficiency Alliance joined the Board virtually and made a presentation on Energy Efficiency and the utility sector. Presentation will be forwarded to the Green Energy Committee as this is an opportunity to create our own footprint.

Next Provincial Board Meeting: September 15th, 2021

If you have any issues or concerns you would like discussed please reach out to your Chapter President or contact Robin (rbobocel@ecaa.ab.ca).

Next Issue of The Spark will go out Friday, September 3rd, 2021



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.

Electrical Contractors Association of Alberta
ecaa.ab.ca

