

July 12th, 2022 | Issue 137

### A Message from ECAA's Executive Director

Happy July, everyone. I just wanted to share some quick thoughts with you, as we get all the way into summer!

First, I wanted to thank those of you who were able to attend Training Day and Conference in Edmonton this year. We had a great time reconnecting with our friends and colleagues and even managed to learn a few things about how to make our industry and our businesses run smoother. I want to thank the entire team here in the office for all of their hard work leading up to, and during the weekend, as none of it would be possible without their passion and dedication to the ECAA. I also want to thank our sponsors and contributors to both Training Day and conference; again, without your



ongoing support and contributions, we wouldn't be able to put on such great events like we did in May. Be sure to keep in mind that next year's conference will be held at the Jasper Park Lodge from May 11 to 14, 2023. Planning is already underway for this special event so that we are able to provide you with an incredible experience.

With respect to our new website and member management platform, I'd like to thank those of you who have taken the time to visit the new site and login for the first time. We're seeing significant traffic on the site since we launched it at our AGM this past May, and I would encourage all of you to visit the new site and request your new login credentials so that you can customize your membership listing, update all of your contact information as well as that of your employees. Through this portal, you will have more control over your own data, and be able to register your employees for any of our training and events, directly online. You can expect to see more information from us on how to use and leverage our new system later this summer and into the fall.

Our new board had its first meeting in late June, where we set the board meeting schedule for the coming year. One exciting outcome of that process was that we are planning to take the board on the road! We will be travelling with a representative group to each of our chapters at least once in the coming board year (September to June) so that you will have the opportunity to interact directly with your board and share your experiences and provide suggestions on how we can improve as an association and help improve your businesses. I'm really looking forward to this road trip and I'm excited for what the board and I can learn about what you want or need from us, going forward, so that we can continue to provide value for your membership.

Lastly (for this month), we will be looking to expand on the size of the team here at the provincial office. We will soon be advertising for an Education Coordinator, which will be a new position focused on ongoing developing and expansion of our educational offerings so that we can continue to be the clear leader in industry training and education. This will be a part-time, contract position that I'm certain will have a significant positive impact on the value that you receive as members of the ECAA.

Lots of things happening here at the provincial office, as we continue to explore and develop new ways for us to interact with you, assist you, and generally improve the electrical community here in Alberta...stay tuned!

Respectfully, Robin Bobocel







### **Apprenticeship Update**

The *Skilled Trades and Apprenticeship Education Act* was proclaimed on June 29, 2022 and will come into force on July 20, 2022. The government is touting this new Act as one that will provide a framework for Alberta to become a national and international leader in skilled trades and apprenticeship education through increased flexibility, modernized governance, and strengthened system roles.

As part of this step in the evolution of the legislation, the government released three new regulations as a result of this work:

- The Skilled Trades and Apprenticeship Education General Regulation
- The Apprenticeship Education and Industry Training Programs Regulation
- The Designated Trades and Restricted Activities Regulation

All three regulations have been structured to reduce red tape, streamline decision-making, and simplify administrative processes.

This announcement also included the structure of the new Alberta Board of Skilled Trades. The 15-member board will be responsible for consulting with industry on standards for trades and advising the minister on the needs of the Alberta labour market for skilled trades professionals. The electrical trade does have direct representation on the Board, one of only two representatives from the construction trades.

The ECAA is continuing to work with the ministry of Advanced Education and the Alberta Board of Skilled Trades directly on the ongoing implementation of the legislation and associated regulations both independently and through our partnership in the Alberta Trade Contractors Council (ATCC).

If you would like to learn more about the Act, please check out the Apprenticeship and Industry Training website, <u>Tradesecrets.alberta.ca</u>, which is being updated with comprehensive information about processes and policies under the new act.

### **Industry News**

**Still need your CE Code Update training?** CSA has instructor led training dates available this fall. <u>Click</u> <u>on the following link for more information</u>. This training is approved for Alberta Master Electricians and CME's.

**1 Day Arc Flash & Shock Training Friday, July 29th, 2022** - registration cut off Friday, July 22nd, 2022. For more information and registration, please contact <u>training@twbesc.ca</u>

#### City of Edmonton Updates.

The City of Edmonton has shared the new <u>Development and Construction Application Processing</u> <u>Times</u> on their website. This outlines timelines for residential construction permits, commercial and industrial construction permits, business licenses, building and trade permit inspections and land development and zoning. Visit the <u>City of Edmonton page</u> for more information.

#### **Preparation For Ground Plate Inspections**

In an effort to improve the outcome of inspections for Ground Plates, the City of Edmonton, Epcor, and Inspections Group have come up with a new method for builders/contractors to prepare for ground plate inspections.

This is a temporary method till further notice - there will be a new method in the near future.

Install the ground plate inside the basement as normal 600mm below finished grade (basement floor), then install a 4 inch PVC pipe approximately6 to 12 inches in length vertically directly over the ground plate at the connection point of the wire to the ground plate. You may then cover the rest of the ground plate making sure the inspector can see the connection. If the PVC fills with water the inspector will deal with this.

For more information contact the City of Edmonton Inspections.

The <u>Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce</u> is hosting an online seminar about the Electric Vehicle Charging Program on **July 13 from noon to 1 p.m.** The program is a golden opportunity for local businesses to prepare for the rapid increase in electric vehicle (EV) sales and usage.

#### **Register Here**

Source: Alberta Municipalities newsletter

**STANDATA UPDATE.** The following revised Electrical STANDATA Bulletin is now available on the Alberta.ca website. Follow the link below to view or print copies.

#### 21-ECB-004(REV1) Section 4: Conductors

To view all Electrical STANDATA click here

### The Canadian Apprenticeship Forum's Alberta Return on Training Investment (ROTI) survey is underway across the province.

This study is being funded by the Alberta Ministry of Labour and Immigration and targeted to **Construction Electricians**; Carpenters and Automotive Service Technicians.

Here are some key details:

- They are looking for HR Managers and President/CEOs who work or own companies that hire apprentices. (It is really important only employers complete the survey.)
- Online and telephone options are available for the employer. If you would prefer to complete the survey by telephone, please call 1-855-454-0785 (toll free) between 9 AM to 9 PM weekdays, 10 AM to 6 PM Saturdays, or 12 PM To 8 PM Sundays. You may also call the number above for assistance with the online survey, or email Malatest at ABROTI@malatest.com.
- Employers have the option to fill in the survey when it is convenient for them. Their work is saved each time either online or by the survey staff on the phone so if they only have 5 to 10 minutes to fill in a particular section.
- As a thank you for participating, employers can be entered into 2 draws for a \$500 or \$300 gift card.

To complete the survey, click here.

#### Job Ad: Safety Codes Auditor, Safety Codes Council

The Safety Codes Auditor is responsible for reviewing practices, policies and procedures of accredited organizations and certified individuals to ensure compliance with the organization's terms of accreditation, the approved Quality Management Plan and the intent of the Safety Codes Act. The position is required to provide expert advice on the Electrical



Code, help support improvements to the Master Electrician program, and participate in the development of Safety Codes Officer training offered by the Council.

#### **Job Posting**

Candidates can submit cover letter and resume to HR@safetycodes.ab.ca or by visiting: <u>https://www.safetycodes.ab.ca/council-information/careers/</u>



Electrical Business 4th Annual Charge-out Rates and Revenue Survey is out. This national survey of Canadian electrical contractor charge-out rates is brought to you by Electrical Business Magazine. <u>To</u> participate in this survey, CLICK HERE.

Deadline for submission is July 30th, 2022. Results will be published in September 2022.

Source: Electrical Business Magazine

# **New Members**

Welcome New Members



Associates: EyeCare Optometric Group (Edmonton); National Breaker & Supply Ltd. (Edmonton)

### **PEC News**



Congratulations on obtaining your Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) designation.

### Jim Stewart, PEC #407

To learn more on how you can start your path to professionalism, <u>click</u> <u>here.</u>

# What's Available from your Associates



As the construction industry continues to grow rapidly with projects becoming bigger and more complex, it's more important than ever to run a safe jobsite with good site controls and workplace practices to mitigate risks.

To help you avoid potential losses and keep their projects running smoothly, Federated has developed <u>a risk management resource</u> on construction site management and what it should entail.



#### 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 <u>chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca</u>

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

Visit our website

