

April 2005

The Conduit

News and Views of the Electrical Contractors Association of BC

Just because its baseball season again—a little
First printed in the San Francisco Examiner June 3, 1888

Casey at Bat

The outlook wasn't brilliant for the Mudville nine that day;
The score stood four to two with but one inning more to play.
And then when Cooney died at first, and Barrows did the same,
A sickly silence fell upon the patrons of the game.
A straggling few got up to go in deep despair. The rest
Clung to that hope which springs eternal in the human breast;
They thought if only Casey could get but a whack at that —

We'd pit up even money now with Casey at the bat.
But Flynn preceded Casey, as did also Jimmy Blake,
And the former was a lulu and the latter was a cake;
So upon that stricken multitude grim melancholy sat,
For there seemed but little chance of Casey's getting to the bat.
But Flynn let drive a single, to the wonderment of all,
And Blake, the much despised, tore the cover off the ball;
And when the dust had lifted, and the men saw what had occurred,
There was Johnnie safe at second and Flynn a-hugging third.
Then from 5,000 throats and more there rose a lusty yell;
It rumbled through the valley, it rattled in the dell;
It knocked upon the mountain and recoiled upon the flat,
For Casey, mighty Casey, was advancing to the bat.
There was ease in Casey's manner as he stepped into his place;
There was pride in Casey's bearing and a smile on Casey's face.

And when, responding to the cheers, he lightly doffed his hat,
No stranger in the crowd could doubt 'twas Casey at the bat.
Ten thousand eyes were on him as he rubbed his hands with dirt;
Five thousand tongues applauded when he wiped them on his shirt.

Then while the writhing pitcher ground the ball into his hip,
Defiance gleamed in Casey's eye, a sneer curled Casey's lip.
And now the leather-covered sphere came hurtling through the air,
And Casey stood a-watching it in haughty grandeur there.
Close by the sturdy batsman the ball unheeded sped—
"That ain't my style," said Casey. "Strike one," the umpire said.
From the benches, black with people, there went up a muffled roar,
Like the beating of the storm-waves on a stern and distant shore.
"Kill him! Kill the umpire!" shouted someone on the stand;
And it's likely they'd have killed him had not Casey raised his hand.
With a smile of Christian charity great Casey's visage shone;
He stilled the rising tumult; he bade the game go on;
He signaled to the pitcher, and once more the spheroid flew;
But Casey still ignored it, and the umpire said, "Strike two."
"Fraud!" cried the maddened thousands, and echo answered fraud;

But one scornful look from Casey and the audience was awed.
They saw his face grow stern and cold, they saw his muscles strain,
And they knew that Casey wouldn't let that ball go by again.
The sneer is gone from Casey's lip, his teeth are clenched in hate;
He pounds with cruel violence his bat upon the plate.
And now the pitcher holds the ball, and now he lets it go,
And now the air is shattered by the force of Casey's blow.
Oh, somewhere in this favored land the sun is shining bright;
The band is playing somewhere, and somewhere hearts are light,
And somewhere men are laughing, and somewhere children shout;
But there is no joy in Mudville - mighty Casey has struck out

Mott Electric Apprentice Going to World Skills Competition

Adam Byron, 21, has the chance to go for the gold in Electrical Construction on behalf of Canada at the WorldSkills 2005 Competition in Helsinki, Finland: www.wsc2005helsinki.com. The Mott Electric apprentice will compete in this prestigious bi-annual competition from May 26 to 29, 2005. Young vocational skills specialists, under the age of 23, gather from all over the world to test their skills in the fields of technology, industry and services. About 800 competitors from nearly 40 countries will be participating.

The opportunity to compete in the World Skills Competition is an honour and an achievement. Byron, a resident of Vancouver, British Columbia, is the perfect example of a hard-working, successful student working through the trades training apprenticeship system. He will eventually achieve a certification of qualification in Electrical Work. He began his training early in the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) Secondary School Apprenticeship (SSA)

Electrical Program at Princess Margaret Secondary School. He received his Entry Level Trades Training while still in secondary school. Byron recently completed his second year of technical training in the Electrical Trades at the BCIT School of Construction and the Environment. He has won regional and provincial skills competitions and placed second in the national Skills Canada Competitions.



The World Skills 2005 Competition is a challenging experience that requires much preparation. Byron will need to understand European wiring standards, tools and equipment. Much support from BCIT faculty and staff, Electrical Contractor's Association of BC, Mott Electric, Electrical Joint Training Committee and BC Electrical Association has been received in preparation for this event. After the competition, Byron will resume his training at BCIT and continue his apprenticeship with Mott Electric.



Apology to IBEW Local 213

In the October 5, 2002 edition of The Vancouver Sun, we published an article in which Phil Hochstein of the Independent Contractors and Businesses Association unfairly characterized the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers market recovery program as "an unseemly system of kickbacks." The article also included Mr. Hochstein's false

allegation that the market recovery program represents a substantial tax loss to both the federal and provincial treasuries. The Vancouver Sun is not aware of any factual basis for these allegations. We apologize to IBEW Local 213 and its members for having printed these allegations.

Courtesy: The Vancouver Sun, Business BC, Saturday, April 2,

Inside this Issue

CSABC STAR COR Program	2/3
Trades agree on name	3
Labour Scene	4
Arc Flash Hazards	4
BCCA Vital Skills STEP	5
Nikola Tesla—Forgotten Electrical Genius	6
Schedule of Events	7

CSABC STAR COR Program Approved by the WCB

Earn 5% Rebate on Your WCB Assessments!

A new safety training program from the Construction Safety Association of BC (CSABC) developed in cooperation with the WCB, provides expert, consistent safety training for BC's construction workers, supervisors and owners and allows the company to earn a 5% rebate on its WCB assessments.

The goal of the CSABC is to reduce the human and capital costs of accidents and injuries by promoting a culture of safety and by developing practical training for workers, supervisors, and owners/managers.

STAR COR -- the next Evolution of Safety Training

STAR stands for Safety Training, Accountability and Recognition.
COR stands for Certificate of Recognition.

The purpose of the STAR COR Program is to encourage the establishment and continual development of a construction company's health and safety culture through the provision of financial performance incentives in the form of WCB premium discounts.

How Does a Company Qualify for the 5% Rebate?

To participate, a company must be registered with the WCB as an employer in the Construction Sector.

In order to qualify for the STAR COR 5% rebate, a company must meet the following requirements:

One Worker, one Owner/Senior Manager and one Supervisor from the company must take their related courses, as below:

Worker Course (\$50) Half-Day

- *This is an interactive, computer-based training program, focusing on hazard awareness and preventative actions. Workers watch videos of actual construction sites and potential hazards and are guided through proper approaches to each situation.*
- *Must answer multiple choice questions and achieve a 100% score in order to progress through succeeding sections of the video;*
- *Self-paced, user-friendly; an excellent introduction (or refresher) to key construction industry safety considerations.*

Owner/Senior Manager Course (\$50) Half-Day

- *Instructor led, with focus on lowering WCB claims costs via accident prevention;*
- *Includes detailed presentations on the WCB's Experience Rating System and Due Diligence requirements; plus federal and provincial legislation that provide for heavy penalties for failure to ensure appropriate training and safe work practices.*
- *Participants learn how to set up and monitor site safety programs.*

Supervisor Course (\$150) Two Days

- *Essential for anyone who manages workers, the course is also Instructor led, with an emphasis on supervisor safety responsibility and liability considerations;*
- *Also describes STAR in relation to Due Diligence and federal and provincial legislation;*
- *Includes detailed presentations on site safety and monitoring, and effectively addressing and managing problem situations in order to prevent accidents and injuries.*

The company must implement a written Occupational Health and Safety Program and a full-time employee must take two additional courses, as described below.

The Safety Auditor Training course is required by all companies. It teaches how to conduct an audit in order to improve your safety performance on a day-to-day basis.

The second course can be chosen from the Course Options shown below.

Companies are encouraged to send a person who will act as a Trainer and continue to pass along the knowledge.

Safety Auditor Training Course (\$100) (One day) -- REQUIRED BY ALL COMPANIES

Instructor led, this teaches how to gather information necessary to complete an audit both in relation to the safety program and to the work actually being done.

A practical workshop shows the simplicity of the Audit Document and how to use the standardized forms. Participants gain experience in using the three forms of verification --- Documentation; Observation and Interviews.

The person must then complete a Safety Audit and submit it to CSABC.

A full-time employee of the Company must then complete ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

Fall Protection Course (\$100 - one day)

Instructor led, this workshop combines presentation with hands-on practice as the participants learn about various fall protection systems and strategies.

OR

WHMIS/MSI Awareness Course (\$100 - one day)

Instructor led, AS A TRAIN THE TRAINER COURSE, this course would guide participants through the need to educate, identify and handle safely those materials classified as WHMIS materials. The second half day of the course deals with preventing Musculo-skeletal injuries in construction.

OR

Return to Work (\$100 - one day)

How to achieve a safe, early and durable return to work, in a construction setting

OR

Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee Training (\$100 - one day)

Teaches OHS Committee and OHS Program requirements; also how to conduct safety inspections and accident investigations.

OR

Hazard Recognition & Control (\$100 - one day)

A range of hazards are described with recommended measures.

NOTE: Contact the Providers below for a list of courses in your area. Also, the course provider will supply a Certificate for each course successfully completed.

CSABC STAR COR Program Approved by the WCB - cont' from page 2

The company must also conduct and pass an internal safety audit in Year 1. A COR status certificate will be issued to the company upon the successful passing of the internal audit.

There will be random quality audits of the Training done by the CSABC.

Upon completion of the internal audit, the company is eligible for a 5% rebate of WCB assessments. The rebate will be on the base rate of the rate group for that company.

To maintain the 5% reduction in assessments in future years, the company must conduct and pass an internal audit in Year 2. In year 3, the company must complete and pass an external audit. The external audit may be done by a consultant or through a peer audit process. (In a peer audit, one qualified auditor from one company will conduct the audit on another company.)

Certificates Sent to CSABC

When all of the courses have been completed, the company sends a copy of the course Certificates to the CSABC.

How will the WCB Rebates take effect?

The company will send proof of courses completed to CSABC. CSABC will send a confirming letter to WCB that the company has completed the requirements. The WCB will send the rebate notice to the company.

Note: A company that completes the courses and the Audit by October 31, 2005 will receive a 5% rebate based on the company's 2004 base assessment rate (not the experience rating amount).

Example: If your payroll times the BASE assessment rate resulted in a \$100,000 payment to the WCB for 2004, you will receive a rebate of \$5,000. For a large construction company with a \$1,000,000 payment, the WCB rebate would be \$50,000. The amount of the rebate is calculated on the base assessment only, and is not adjusted to reflect the experience rating of a particular firm. Thus, even if

you are paying assessments in excess of the base rate, you will be entitled to a rebate on the base amount only, not on the greater amount actually paid.

How to get started?

Contact one of our Providers!

Roofing Contractors Association of BC* - Tel: **604-882-9734**

St. John Ambulance - Tel: **1-866-321-2651**

Southern Interior Construction Association - Tel: **250-491-7330**

* Currently, RCABC is the sole provider for Owner and Supervisor Training, but they are prepared to travel if you aren't located in the Lower Mainland area.

The CSABC grew out of the Council of Construction Associations (COCA) and their respective Boards of Directors have worked hard to develop and deliver courses that match the needs of BC's growing Construction Industry. The Curriculum Committee is led by Don McNiven of McNiven Masonry and the Marketing/Education Committee is led by Don Schouten of Transwest Roofing.

This new program has been developed in partnership with the WCB. The CSABC Board appreciates the support and assistance of the WCB and in particular thanks: Dave Anderson, President & CEO; Steve Barnett, Vice President, Programs, Betty Pirs, Director, Industry and Labour Services, Don Nelson, Manager, Construction, Industry Services.

The Construction Safety Association of BC: Building Safety in British Columbia

For more information about the STAR COR Program, please visit: www.csabc.ca, or email: courses@csabc.ca. Or, call CSABC directly at **604-241-7667**

Trades Agree on Name

Courtesy: Journal of Commerce

Seven national associations have agreed to the name National Trade Contractors Coalition of Canada (NTCCC) for the organization founded to address a variety of issues in the construction industry.

As well as officially adopting a name, the group of seven met recently and agreed to provide financial support and reaffirmed its priority issues:

- promotion of bid depositories
- prompt payment for work performed
- promotion of "unaltered" standard forms of contracts.

The NTCCC also intends to support the Canadian Construction Association if it endorses and agrees with recommendations in the draft of the Bid Depository Education Strategic Plan. Failing such endorsement, the NTCCC intends to promote the use of bid depositories across Canada unilaterally.

The coalition also wants to develop a communications and education strategy designed to illustrate the benefits to all trade contractors of using

unaltered forms of standard contracts.

In a release over the name of Richard McKeagan, president of the Mechanical Contractors Association of Canada, the NTCCC said:

"This strategy will highlight the hazards and consequences of signing unfair terms and conditions accompanied with recommendations and suggestions on how to get paid promptly and fairly for work performed."

The coalition will organize meetings and seminars across Canada to support this strategy.

NTCCC members also agreed to pool collective resources, including sharing of the industry's top management education programs and "best business practices" to all trade contractors nationally.

Members associations of the NTCC represent contractors across the country, primarily in the ICI sectors.

Labour Scene

by John Clarke

Simple solution but complicated industry

In the end it is a disarmingly simple solution. But construction is not a simple industry, which is why it has taken a while to set up a bargaining structure for a new labour agreement to take BC to the 2010 Winter Olympics. The last contract expired a year ago.

With 15 building trade unions and 300 or so contractors involved, it's never easy. They've had a long history of disagreements in BC, although there hasn't been a strike since 1986. Negotiations are usually broken into two sets – a main table where common issues are dealt with and a trade table where individual union interests are handled. This year there were problems as to what items precisely should be allocated to which set.

The bargaining council of the building trades unions initially proposed only two items for the main table where common issues are dealt with and a trade table where individual union interests are handled. This year there were problems as to what items precisely should be allocated to which set.

The bargaining council of the building trades unions initially proposed only two items for the main table – the term of the agreement and the hourly contribution to the an industry promotional fund. For the Construction Labour Relations Association representing the contractors just two items didn't cut it. How to deal with a possible impasse in negotiations this year was complicating matters sorely.

The whole situation was put into Labour Relations Board Associated Chairman Michael Fleming's hands. After two attempts he has succeeded in drawing a road map acceptable to both sides. The two tables will run simultaneously, all contractors and all unions (representatives thereof) meeting together at the same time and in the same room.

Length of agreement, jurisdiction, industry promotional fund and sunset clauses (terms automatically dropped unless renewed in one form or

another in a new contract) will go to the main table. All other items will go to the trade table, such as money, vacations, pensions and so on.

Hours of work in heavy industry construction will also be assigned to the main table. But the hours in commercial, institutional and residential building will go to the other venue.

In the first draft of his road map Fleming had indicated binding arbitration as his preferred choice for dealing with an impasse. This offended particularly the constitution of the building trades which made no reference to binding arbitration as a final solution. Where so many unions are bargaining together under the trades council, getting all on side at the same time is a Herculean undertaking. So in his second decision Fleming dropped binding arbitration while obliging the two sides to work out a process for concluding outstanding trades issues. If they can't, then the LRB will determine a process.

Right to strike or lock out remain principles as negotiations get underway. But conciliation and arbitration probably remain an option to ensure that trade problems don't get in the way of a final agreement. These arrangements may seem a little precious to a puzzled public. But they're what are needed where so many are seeking so much from so few bargaining sets in an industry in the last decade at least.

Arbitration will probably not be needed this time anyway.

Nobody expects a strike or lockout, not when contractors and workers have so much to look forward to in Olympic and other construction during the next few years. Recovery rather than picket lines will be the common objective. Construction wages have not kept up with those of other workers, especially in government service. Negotiating a way around this odious comparison will tax the ingenuity of that complex bargaining setup.

Courtesy: Journal of Commerce

Arc Flash Hazards a Burning Issue

By Roger Tuttle

In the near future, you are going to be hearing a lot more about arc flash hazards. The National Electrical Code now has a requirement that arc flash warning labels must be installed on electrical equipment. I understand that the CEC Part 1 code committee is proposing amendments to rule 2-306 to address these issues for the 2006 code.

Over 600 deaths are from electrocution each year in North America and a further 30,000 non-fatal electrical shock accidents. It is the fourth highest cause of industrial fatalities in North America.

As much as 80 percent of all electrical injuries are burns resulting from arc flash and ignition of flammable clothing. Over 200 people are admitted into burn centres each year with severe electrical burns. Most of these injuries and deaths could be avoided if proper procedures were observed.

The National Fire Protection Agency has written a set of guidelines (NFPA 70E) detailing safe procedures for approaching live equipment. The following shock protection boundaries are defined:

Limited Approach Boundary: defined as a shock protection boundary to be crossed only by qualified persons. An unqualified person cannot cross the boundary unless escorted by a qualified person.

Restricted Approach Boundary: defined as a shock protection boundary, to be crossed only by qualified persons, which due to its proximity to shock hazard, requires the use of shock protection techniques and equipment.

Prohibited Approach Boundary: defined as a shock protection boundary; to be crossed only by qualified persons, which when crossed by a body part or object requires the same protection as if direct contact is made with a live part.

Flash Protection Boundary: IEEE defines this as an approach limit at a distance from live operating parts that are un-insulated or exposed within which a person could receive a second degree burn. The arc flash hazard calculation is based on the voltage, available short circuit current and predicted fault duration.

Personal protective equipment: includes flame resistant clothing (flash suits and hoods for high energy arc exposure), insulating gloves, and tools. These are in addition to the normally used hard hats, shoes, boots, safety glasses and hearing protection.

The employer is responsible for implementing approved electrical safety policies and procedures and an agreed to work plan.

The employee is responsible for implementing the procedures. The bottom line is that wherever possible, electrical equipment should be de-energized before being worked on. (Information from NFPA 70)

Editor's Note: We have a copy of the 2004 - NFPA 70E in the office, if you would like to see it, or we will be pleased to order a copy for you. The cost is approximately \$70.00.

BCCA Takes Vital Skills STEP

Job coaching role unique to industry

The B.C. Construction Association and the KMC Group have launched the Skilled Trades Employment Project (STEP). BCCA president Manley McLachlan was joined by Cowichan Tribes Chief Harvey Alphonse and Dana Francis, general manager of project partner Khowutzun Mustimuhw Contractors Group at a ribbon cutting at the new STEP offices in Duncan, on Vancouver Island. Graham Bruce, Minister of Skills Development and Labour officiated at the ceremony.

The focus of STEP is to assist the construction industry find trades people necessary to complete the projects they currently have and are projecting in the future. The program assists in skills development and provides opportunities for unemployed individuals and others to establish careers in the construction industry by providing links to employment and access to training and trade certifications.

“The BCCA is committed to the development of an employment and training model that works for industry, employers and individuals who are seeking careers in the construction industry,” McLachlan said. “To that end we have studied a number of industry-led employment initiatives across the country and have embraced the successful elements of models which have generated substantial results.”

KMC Group, a Cowichan Valley general contracting firm, partnered with the BCCA to deliver this innovative trades training model.

“We are proud of the relationship that we have established with the BC

Construction Association and are pleased to partner on such an important project,” said Francis. “The introduction of STEP will address the industry demand for skilled trades people through a process of assessment, job placement and employee retention.”

The STEP program will introduce the role of the job coach to the construction industry which is unique to this project. The job coach will provide ongoing liaison between workers and employers and assist STEP participants in the development of employability skills and career advice.

Industry Training Authority CEO Brian Clewes said this type of career development initiative is increasingly important to the future of B.C.’s skilled workforce.

“This program is exemplary of the kind of industry leadership that is critical to expanding and improving BC’s industry training system to meet employers’ needs and seize the economic opportunities to the province as a whole,” Clewes said.

STEP is being initiated as a four-month pilot project through primary funding from the Ministry of Human Resources with the goal of bench testing the model for replication throughout BC.

The program is open to all interested employers in the construction industry. The STEP office is located at 250 Trunk, Rd., Duncan Mall, Unit 6, Phone: 250.746.0304.



Ark Tsisserev, Laurel and Dave Coleman, and Harry Friesen

Roger Pelletier and Tim Power



Central Chapter Dinner Meeting

**ALEXANDER
HOLBURN BEAUDIN
& LANG**
Barristers & Solicitors - Trade Mark Agents

A Partnership for Building Solutions

Alexander Holburn Beaudin Lang (AHBL) is pleased to announce our new partnership with the Electrical Contractors Association of British Columbia. Through this partnership, AHBL will provide ECABC members and their employees with the highest quality, responsive and innovative legal services, at our preferred client rates.

If you would like additional information on any of our practice areas, or individual lawyers, you can contact Norm Streu at 604.643.2192, nstreu@ahbl.ca

Nikola Tesla – The Forgotten Electrical Genius

By Al Demers

AMD Maintenance and Project Services

In this article we are going to step away from technical topics and take a look at Nikola Tesla – who laid the foundation for the modern electrical industry. When people talk of the forerunners in the field of electrical science and communications– it is Edison, Marconi or Faraday who come to mind. Yet it is Nikola Tesla (1856 – 1943) born of modest background in a small town in modern Croatia who conceived and developed the basis for using alternating current (AC) for transmission, distribution and ultimately to drive motors.

He studied engineering first in Austria and then Czechoslovakia. While studying he designed and built a “telephone repeater” which is the basic loudspeaker. Then he started work in Paris for Edison’s European division in 1882. Nikola had developed the concept of the rotating magnetic field and alternating current induction motor in university. In 1883 on his after work hours he developed and built the first induction motor.

He immigrated to the United States in 1884 and found employment with Thomas Edison. There were business and technical disagreements between the two and within a year they parted company. The reality was that Tesla’s alternating current was a major threat to Edison’s electrical empire built on direct current (DC). That system involved multiple generating stations spaced relatively close to the end users and heavy transmission lines to carry low voltage DC. There were frequent cable failures and fires. AC transformed to higher voltage levels & lower current and then transmitted long distances on smaller conductors.

Nikola’s patents were purchased by George Westinghouse and made the foundation for the Westinghouse electrical system. Nikola was to be paid a royalty per KW of power distributed by Westinghouse. As the system grew rapidly – the royalty bill skyrocketed to \$12 million – an unimaginable amount in those days. Westinghouse would be bankrupt rapidly at that rate. Nikola had made a million dollars already and simply tore up the Westinghouse contract as a humanitarian gesture to ensure the widest public access to the new system.

There was an enormous public relations battle between Edison and Westinghouse to corner the electrical distribution and utilization market. Edison tried to prove AC as much more dangerous than DC. This reached the point of electrocuting large and small animals in front of audiences and actually caused the state of New York to select the use of AC for the electric chair. The final battle that won the war for AC was when it was used to power and illuminate the World’s Fair of 1893. Tesla went on to design the massive generators for Niagara Falls.

Nikola Tesla used much of his fortune to conduct research and experiments in a wide variety of scientific areas. He developed brush-less AC induction motors unlike his first units. He experimented with radio-frequency electromagnetic waves and patented radio transmission. At his Colorado Springs laboratory, it is claimed he was able to transmit 30-50 thousand watts of power wirelessly and created 135 foot bolts of man-made lightning.

The United States Supreme Court in 1945 over-ruled Marconi’s patent in favour of Tesla. He created the Tesla Coil, which is still the core component of car ignition systems. Tesla went on to establish the basis of using radio waves to detect objects in the air or in the ground. This was the foundation for radar and the modern hospital MRI’s. When the transistor was being patented in the 1950’s, a search revealed two of his 1903 patents for the basic AND circuit.

Tesla was never driven by money. He gave much of his fortune away and spent most of the remainder on experiments relating to the wireless transmission of power. He was an eccentric figure. He never married and avoided any romantic entanglements. He shared Howard Hughes germ phobia, never shaking hands and wearing fresh gloves every day. He weighed out all the food he ate – and stayed at 142 lbs. all his adult life. Sleep was confined to fours per night.

By 1915, he was broke and spent the balance of his life and moving from one cheap hotel in New York to another. Without financial backing or physical resources he continued to fill notebooks with his ideas. He was forgotten by the general public but still recognized by the scientific community. The 1917 the Edison Medal was conferred on Nikola, which was the highest honour the American Institute of Electrical Engineers could award.

In 1931 – on his 75th birthday, greetings came from both Albert Einstein and Lee de Forest. He lived on till 1943, with his health declining – till his heart gave out. Over 2000 people attended his funeral, indicating how highly regarded he was by the scientific and technical community. Perhaps the last indication of how he was seen as a scientific genius – was the fact that U.S. Custodian of Alien Property seized all his papers, books and other documents – to prevent them falling into enemy hands.

Years later they were released to surviving relatives and now are in the Nikola Tesla Museum in Belgrade. Perhaps his life and contributions were best put by the three Nobel Prize winners who gave the tribute at his funeral – “one of the outstanding intellects of the world, who paved the way for many of the technological developments of modern times.” For further information, contact al_demers@telus.net.

ECABC would like to welcome these new members:

BC Electrical Association
Hayes Creek Electrical
Valley Power Line Contractors Ltd.
Venture Electrical Services
Vicar Electric Ltd.

Coast Hotels
& Resorts



Discover the tremendous benefits of having a Financial Controller on your team. Having a full-time professional Controller has, until now, been a possibility only for the largest companies. Now you can have the same benefits for substantially less money! Let us introduce you to this cost effective outsourcing model for your bookkeeping and controllership. For your complimentary Accounting Assessment of your business, please call Charles Bristow, Director of Sales, at 778-288-6966 (Outside Vancouver 1866-231-3344, ext. 44)



Electrical Contractors Association of BC

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 Email: eca@eca.bc.ca
 Website: www.eca.bc.ca

Schedule of Events

April 14, 2005
 Vancouver Island Chapter Meeting
 Grand Pacific, Victoria, BC

April 25, 2005
 Vancouver Chapter Meeting
 Location—Executive Hotel

May 17, 2005
 Central Chapter Meeting
 Ramada Inn, Prince George, BC

June 10, 2005
 AGM and Hall of Fame Dinner
 Locations—Executive Hotel, Coquitlam

Honest to a Fault

A police officer pulls over a speeding car. The officer says, "I clocked you at 80 miles per hour, sir"
 The driver says, "Gee, officer I had it on cruise control at 60, perhaps your radar gun needs calibrating."
 Not looking up from her knitting the wife says: "Now don't be silly dear, you know that this car doesn't have cruise control."
 As the officer writes out the ticket, the driver looks over at his wife and growls, "Can't you please keep your mouth shut for once?"

The wife smiles demurely and says, "You should be thankful your radar detector went off when it did."
 The man glowers at his wife and says through clenched teeth, "Darn it, woman, can't you keep your trap shut?"
 The officer frowns and says, "And I notice that you're not wearing your seat belt, sir. That's an automatic \$75 fine."
 The driver says, "Yeah, well, you see officer, I had it on, but took it off when you pulled me over so that I could get my license out of my back pocket."

The wife says, "Now, dear, you know very well that you didn't have your seat belt on. You never wear your seat belt when you're driving."
 And as the police officer is writing out the third ticket the driver turns to his wife and barks, "WHY DON'T YOU PLEASE SHUT UP??"
 The officer looks over at the woman and asks, "Does your husband always talk to you this way, Ma'am?"
 ~~~I love this part~~~  
 "Only when he's been drinking!"

**Benefits of Membership in ECABC**

**Advocacy**

- A strong united voice to government for expressing opinions and concerns regarding issues that directly affect the electrical industry
- Representation on other associations, committees and councils that deal with apprenticeship, safety, WCB and other issues

**Consulting**

- Contract Interpretation Service

**Education**

- Seminars or information sessions and speakers at chapter meetings
- Salaried Employees Training Trust Fund (recovers costs for some seminars/courses)
- Scholarship fund through our membership in the BC Electrical Association (BCEA)
- Seminars and courses offered from other associations

**Health Care**

- BCCA Group Benefit Plan

**Insurance**

- Industry specific insurance from Federated Insurance and a gasoline discount program

**Networking**

- Regular networking opportunities at monthly chapter meetings, annual general meetings, an annual national conference and social events.

**News**

- Safety alerts and the ECA newsletter The Conduit (monthly) and Relay (annually) to keep members current on industry events and issues

**Marketing**

- Electrical engineers/contractors joint committee, the ECA website, the ECA logo for stationery and web page use, and membership stickers for industry recognition

**Publications**

- Member only access to videos, publications and manuals such as the Seismic Restraint Standards Manual and Health & Safety Policy Manual.
- When your membership application has been accepted you receive a Seismic Restraint Standards Manual and Health & Safety Policy Manual free (2 x \$80 = \$160 value).
- Only ECA members can access CECA and NECA publications.

**Discounts and Preferred Rates**

- NEBS forms discounted rates
- Esso gasoline discount program
- Group benefit plan rates
- Legal services
- Accounting services
- Imagewear - Marks WorkWearHouse
- Courier rates
- Accent Inn Corporate Rates
- Coast Hotels and Resorts
- PetroCan SuperPass Program
- Fleet purchase/lease program
- Answering service
- Cellular phone rates
- Consulting rates



THE POWER TO RESPOND  
 Answering Services