

March 2005

The Conduit

News and Views of the Electrical Contractors Association of BC

A few trivia items

Q. Where does the expression **nick of time** come from?

A. Centuries ago sporting scores were kept by noticing wooden sticks called "tallies". Each point was one "nick" and a win at the very last second was a 'nick in time'.

Q. Where did the word **ketchup** come from?

A. Comes from the Chinese word *koechiap* meaning 'spine of fish'

Q. How did the **cardigan sweater** get its name?

A. It is named for Lord Cardigan, hero of the Charge of the Light Brigade, who habitually wore a light woolen jacket.

Q. It's not chaos, it's **bedlam**. But what's the name of the place famous in the etymological history of the word?

A. The Hospital of St. Mary of Bethlehem

Q. What's the literal meaning of **alert**?

A. On the watchtower

Q. What is the proper definition for the word **soteriology**?

A. Study of the salvation of the eternal soul.

Q. Where does the word **sheriff** come from?

A. Middle English *shirreve*: an judicial official

Q. What is the origin of the **peacoat** (or **pea jacket**)?

A. The name comes from an old Dutch word 'pij' which was the name of the heavy course cloth originally used in making the garment

Q. To what does the descriptive term **potboiler** usually refer?

A. an inferior work of art or literature

Q. A confection based on almond paste, **marzipan** comes from?

A. 'mant haban', Arabic for seated king, figured on Cypriot coins paid as tribute to Venice

Q. What is the proper meaning of the **ophidiophobia**?

A. Fear of snakes

Industry Training Authority Exceeds First Year Targets

Apprenticeship continues to grow in BC

With less than two months remaining in its first full year of operation, BC's Industry Training Authority (ITA) reports that it is already exceeding the targets it has set for increasing participation in industry training.

The number of apprentices and employers actively involved in industry training in BC continued to increase throughout January, extending a nine-month growth trend that began last year. As of January 31, 2005 there are 18,985 apprentices registered, up by 4,309 or 29 per cent from 14,676 on March 31, 2004. There are also 9,720 employer/sponsors training apprentices, up eight per cent over the same time period.

These results put the ITA well ahead of schedule in its plans to increase the number of apprentices/trainees by 30 per cent and employers by 18% in three years. Growth in youth participation is also exceeding targets, due primarily to the launch of the well-received ACE IT secondary school program. While 400 students were expected to enroll in the first year, actual registration in the first intake alone appears to be greater than 1,100 and an additional 700 to 900 students are forecast to participate in the second intake later this year.

"We are very pleased with the growth we've achieved in our first year," says Brian Clewes, CEO of the ITA. "BC's economy continues to boom, and people are increasingly recognizing the career potential that exists in the skilled trades."

In addition to registered apprentices, the ITA estimates that there are more than 10,000 British Columbians currently enrolled in Entry Level Trades Training (ELTT) programs at BC postsecondary institutions. Even with these numbers factored in, total participation in industry training programs has increased by 17 per cent in the 10 months since the ITA was established.

"The most recent numbers of apprentices and trainees

show that we're on the right track," said Advanced Education Minister Ida Chong. "And we will continue to work directly with employers, through the Industry Training Authority, to give our young people more opportunities to learn on the job."

In order to facilitate the necessary expansion of BC's industry training system, the ITA has invested \$2.2 million this year to allow post-secondary institutions to increase their capacity and offer new training programs that address local industry needs. For example, North Island College received funding to deliver a millwright training program in response to a request from a group of local employers, and College of New Caledonia is piloting a pulp and paper operator program.

An additional \$700,000 was allocated to allow for extra classes in existing programs like plumbing, electrical and carpentry, in response to high demand for technical training by current apprentices and their employers.

The ITA began operations in April 2004, and has made significant progress in its first year. In addition to ACE- IT, three new industry training programs have been approved in response to proposals from industry: Residential Construction Framing Technician, Construction Formwork Technician, and Reinforcement Steel Installer. The ITA has also re-invigorated BC's commitment to the inter-provincial Red Seal program and introduced a new policy framework.

This includes an expanded definition of who can sponsor an apprentice and a clear process for challenging exams and obtaining credit for prior experience – both designed to create flexibility and make it easier for apprentices to complete their training requirements.

Clewes adds, "The programs we've introduced this year are tangible evidence that the ITA is moving in the right direction – one that is endorsed by industry and offers tremendous career paths for British Columbians."

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Happy Easter
From everyone at
ECABC

Terms of Reference – Electrical Program Standards Project

This document is intended to outline the parameters of a project to update the provincial standards for the electrician (Construction) apprenticeship program. It has been developed to communicate ITA's expectations and requirements, facilitate project planning, and serve as the basis for the development of a project / funding proposal by the BC Construction Association.

Background / Context

The ITA, under the terms of the Industry Training Authority Act is established as an occupational standards and certification body for a range of industrial occupations. In this regard Section 8 of the Act empowers the ITA to:

- designate a training program, including a training program for a trade or an occupation, as a recognized program;
- recommend to the minister that a training program, including a training program for a trade or an occupation, be designated as an accredited program;
- develop programs of training and apprenticeship and program standards for the purposes of paragraphs (a) and (b);
- establish standards, procedures and fees for examinations, assessments and services;
- set requirements for trainers funded by the authority to deliver industry training programs and conduct examinations and assessments of training and apprenticeship;

The ITA Board has placed a priority on the establishment of rigorous and well defined industry training program standards in order to ensure the credibility and broad recognition of the qualifications and credentials it provides to trainees. In this respect ITA sees its role as approving and applying standards that have effectively been defined by industry bodies, including national interprovincial standards mechanisms such as the Red Seal program. The basic premise of this approach is that industry is best qualified to define the skills and knowledge required for productive and gainful employment.

Feedback received by the BC Government and ITA indicates that industry strongly feels that it is best qualified to take a lead role in establishing maintaining standards for industry training in the Province. This important principle has been reflected in ITA policies and processes, including the decision to establish sector-based Industry Training Organizations that will assume the lead role in establishing and maintaining standards for designated programs.

The BC Construction Association has indicated a strong interest in taking a lead project management role in updating the standards for the construction electrician program, including the program outline, examinations and related documentation. It is anticipated that BCCA will work closely with the recently established Advisory Council on Construction Training (ACCT) to implement the project.

General Project Terms & Requirements

1. Project Funding – ITA will provide the necessary funding to BCCA to plan and implement the project beginning in February 2005. Funding will be provided to BCCA through a Contribution Agreement that will be based upon a project proposal that is submitted by BCCA. The proposal and subsequent Agreement will detail project processes, deliverables, timelines, costs and accountabilities.

2. Project Management – BCCA will establish a two-level project management structure comprising an overall Steering Committee and a Working Group. The Steering Committee is to establish overall project direction and will comprise senior representatives of the ICI construction sector and a representative of ITA.

The Working Group is to coordinate and undertake the standards development work and will be comprised of industry practitioners and other technical experts as required. BCCA will appoint a Project Manager to develop and coordinate the implementation of a project plan designed to meet agreed upon goals and objectives.

3. Standards / Curriculum Updating

- **Program Outline – National Standards-** The existing Program Outline (2001) will be reviewed against the established National Occupation Analysis for Construction Electrician and updated as required to bring it fully into alignment;
- **Program Outline – Provincial Standards-** The existing Program Outline (2001) will be reviewed to ensure the content and structure of the electrical training program meets B.C. industry needs and standards;
- **Table of Specifications** - A Table of Specifications will be produced based upon the NOA and revised Program Outline that will enable the development of assessment tools;
- **Examination Item Banks** – 3 X item banks based upon the Table of Specifications and comprising a minimum of 450 questions will be developed for each of four levels. The item banks are intended to enable the generation of random, standardized examinations that will administered at the conclusion of each level of technical training and on a challenge basis by the ITC; and
- **Supporting Tools and Resources-** Support resources such as Training Guides and Log Books that are intended to support the work-based delivery component of the electrical apprenticeship program will be updated / re-designed if the project committee feels that they should be retained.

4. Program Policy Review / Development - In addition to updating standards mechanisms, the project is established to provide recommendations to ITA respecting the following key policy directions:

- a) **B.C. Certificate of Qualification** – If there is clear industry support, ITA is now prepared to issue a Certificate of Qualification to individuals who successfully complete a Level 4 examination and meet any other requirements established for the occupation. These individuals would then have the option of writing an Inter-Provincial examination, and if successful, receive a Red Seal endorsement. (Note: The IP examination currently serves as the final examination prior to Red Seal certification and is based upon the content in all levels). The project committee will review this matter to determine whether the industry wishes to proceed with the certification model. If the decision is to proceed, the project committee will prepare a proposal to the ITA for a modification to the standards for an existing program.



...con't on page 3

Terms of Reference – Electrical Program Standards Project (con't)

b) Electrical Entry Level Trades Training – If there is clear industry support, ITA is prepared to establish provincial standards for electrical entry-level training. The electrical ELTT program is intended to prepare individuals for direct entry into the workforce and/or entry into a formal industry training program leading to a provincial / inter-provincial qualification. There are currently no provincial standards for this program and program delivery models (duration, content, technical training credit) vary among the public post-secondary institutions delivering the program. The program model also utilizes a significant portion of the financial resources allocated by ITA to the public system to support training for the electrical trade. Additionally, a number of private training providers are now establishing ELTT programs and are seeking recognition for these programs towards provincial industry training qualifications. If defined, recommended, and supported by industry (through recruitment and hiring practices) provincial standards for ITA funded electrical Entry Level Trades Training have the potential to improve access and outcomes for trainees and employers. Specific issues that should be addressed in this project component include:

- Program rationale (i.e. Is there a need for a pre-apprenticeship program?)
- Program outcomes (i.e. What skill level should the program produce?)
- Regional variations (i.e. Should program standards vary by region?)
- Program laddering (i.e. How should ELTT integrate with the full electrical apprenticeship program?)
- Industry Support / Utilization (i.e. To what extent is industry prepared to support the program by hiring graduates?)

c) Secondary School Trades Training – ITA has recently created the ACE-IT Program that provides secondary schools with financial support to deliver Level 1 apprentice technical training to high school student in collaboration with post-secondary providers. The program also provides support for placement of program graduates in relevant employment-based training opportunities. The program is available for 14 trades including electrical.

If there is clear industry support, ITA is prepared to establish provincial

standards for ACE-IT programming for the electrical trade, providing they fit within the general policy parameters already established for the program.

5. Implementation – The project will develop an overall plan for implementing the new program standard mechanisms and where appropriate new program policies pertaining to the BC Certificate of Qualification and electrical ELTT program standards. The plan will detail tasks, actions, responsibilities, timelines and estimated resource requirements.

6. Project Timeline – The planning phase of the project will commence in early February 2005 and conclude in mid to late March 2005, The development phase will commence in late March 2005 and conclude in September 2005.

7. General Project Principles – The project design and execution is to adhere to the following general principles:

- **Transparency** – All project processes will be fully documented and made available to interested parties upon request
- **Accountability** – The financial administration of the project will be in accordance with established Treasury Board guidelines and requirements.
- **Inclusiveness** – The constitution of the Steering and Working committees will ensure that all relevant aspects of the industry are represented (e.g. regional, smaller employers, open shop)
- **Efficiency** – Opportunities to utilize existing resources will be fully considered where appropriate (e.g. Alberta curriculum)
- **ITA Policy Compliance** – The project process and outcomes will be fully compliant with the ITA Program Policy Framework
- **Terms of Reference – Electrical Program Standards Project** and processes established by the ITA Board for making changes to existing industry training programs.
- **Scope** – The project will remain within the scope of work as defined in these Terms of Reference

Editor's Note: This project is underway. In conjunction with BCCA/ACCT, we have retained a Keith Dunbar from Victoria as a facilitator/project manager to assist us with the planning phase of the project. If all goes well, he will be retained to assist with the development phase also. Keith was recommended to us by the ITA and has extensive background in curriculum development. The goal is to complete the project by this fall.

Western Canada and Western Economic Diversification

Western Economic Diversification Canada (WD) will target \$186 million over the next five years in support of a new economic development approach in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. Of this amount, \$35 million will be allocated over five years from its existing budget. Budget 2005 will provide \$11.9 million per year, totaling \$59.5 million over five years, as a permanent increase to WD's budget, and new funding of \$73.5 million in the next five years. With this funding, WD will launch a new Partnerships for Community Action initiative

to work with communities vulnerable to economic adjustment pressures and with Western cities, such as Vancouver, Regina and Winnipeg, on their specific economic issues, and support other Western Canadian priorities.

As well, WD will be provided with \$18.2 million over five years to increase its contribution to Community Futures Development Corporations throughout Western Canada.

BCIT Researchers Tap the Sun to Power Hydrogen Generation System Courtesy: BCIT Insight

Innovative thinking realizes the art of the possible. BCIT's Photovoltaic Energy Applied Research team is testing the possibilities presented by renewable energy technologies.

The team recently designed and installed a solar powered hydrogen generation system at the National Research Council Institute for Fuel Cell Innovation (NRC-IFCI) in Vancouver.

The system uses electricity from photovoltaic panels to power a Hydrogenics HyLYZER™ electrolyzer module, which generates hydrogen from water. The hydrogen will be used in research labs and for a Hydrogen Highway fuelling station.

BCIT Technology Centre Research Head Joe Newton led the team as project manager for the solar powered hydrogen generation system.

Newton says the installation is unique. As data becomes available, researchers will be able to determine exactly how much hydrogen is being generated from the photovoltaic panels installed at the research facility. "One of the key elements is that the power that comes out of the solar modules is directly connected to the stack, the piece that makes hydrogen."

"Think of it as two parallel systems. There's a stack that makes hydrogen and it's fed by the solar electricity. At the same time it's topped up by the

hydro grid. So it will always produce the maximum amount of hydrogen possible. As to which source actually does the most work depends on the sun. This project will allow us to determine exactly how much hydrogen we can produce from a solar array. We'll be able to state that clearly and scientifically," he says.

If the data collected shows the system to be effective, Newton foresees increased efforts to generate hydrogen from the sun. "If it proves to be viable, there will be a future for it. It will make sense," he says.

Potential applications on the horizon include installations in remote areas where power is required and the hydro grid is unavailable.

The BCIT project team included Colin Wilson, ASCT and Dr. Lou Stamenic, P Eng. from Automation, Electronics and Photovoltaics Research Group at BCIT; electrical trades instructor Jim Sparks; technician Jim Carrigan, and electrical trades chief instructor Ted Simmons.

Said Jim Reichert, BCIT Vice President, Research and International: "This project is an outstanding example of the institute's orientation towards applied, commercially relevant research. As a polytechnic institution, BCIT is able to draw upon a broad range of technical and research skills necessary to turn concepts into practical, operational solutions."

Newton says that knowledge gained in the execution of this project will be applied to future solar hydrogen fuel cell initiatives at BCIT.



Left to right—Vancouver Chapter President Harry Friesen (Canem West), Geoff Stevens (ITA), and Andy Cleven (EJTC)

Left to right—Vancouver Island Chapter President Harry Mike Brewis (Brewis Electric), Rob Carmichael, Corey McAstocker, Hal Broadhurst (BC Hydro)



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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

CSABC Worker Course offers High Quality, Documented Training

The CSABC's half-day Worker course provides an excellent tool for worker training and is specifically designed for the Construction Industry. The Worker course is presented as an interactive computer video. The video presents a wide range of construction sites and situations and then asks the worker to complete a multiple-choice quiz on each section.

The worker does the course at the worker's own pace. A facilitator sets up the computer and assists the worker with the computer as needed.

The courses cover the following topics:

- The Law at Work
- Workplace Hazards
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Personal Physical Care; Fitness for Work

- Housekeeping
- Ladders & Scaffolding
- Machinery, Tools & Equipment
- Mobile Equipment
- Excavation & Trenching
- Emergency Response
- Working with Chemicals (WHMIS)
- Environmental Factors

For more information about the Safety STAR Program go to WWW.csabc.ca, or email courses@csabc.ca, or call CSABC at 604-241-7667.

Save Your Money

Time is money for contractors. The best and fastest way to respond to a WCB claim from one of your workers is to call the WCB and complete your Form 7 (Report of Injury) over the telephone.

This special service has been set up for the Construction Industry.

Did you know workers can potentially receive more money on a WCB claim than they do when working for you? Ensuring correct earnings information is provided on the Form 7 so that workers are categorized correctly (Casual, Regular, etc.) will avoid this situation occurring.

You can also reduce the time you

and your staff spend on the front end of the claim; will improve the chances for a safe and early return to work.

The solution is simple.

USE **TeleFile!**

The WCB has a special phone number, set up in cooperation with COCA, for the Construction Industry. It is easy to use. You call TeleFile. They help you complete the Report of Injury over the phone. You save time and money.

Call TeleFile at **604-233-5353** within the Lower Mainland;

Call toll free **1-866-338-3888** for all other regions of BC.

BC wants 30,000 workers from India for 2010 games

The Asian Post

Cost of games could jump to C\$2 billion.

British Columbia is on the lookout for 30,000 skilled tradesmen from India to build necessary infrastructure for the 2010 Winter Olympics, according to a report in *The Times of India*. Gordon Campbell This is in addition to IT professionals and engineers, according to the World Wide Immigration Consultancy Services Ltd. "The province of British Columbia needs 25,000 to 30,000 tradesmen, including **electricians**, plumbers and construction workers. They will help build houses and other infrastructural

facilities. There are over 25,000 vacancies in other provinces. Initially, these people will get work permits. Later, they will be offered permanent residency," said Curtis Panke, in charge of global placements for WWICS.

"Countries like Canada and Australia are facing problems due to a dipping population and a booming economy. People in these countries are aging fast and they are on the lookout for English-speaking professionals and skilled tradesmen." There are also openings for businessmen and farmers in Canada provided they can invest money in that country.

Highlights from Budget 2005

Workplace Skills Strategy

The modern workplace must adapt to rising and increasingly diverse skills requirements to remain competitive. A fundamental shift in Canada's approach to the labour market is required to ensure that it is positioned to respond to the challenges of a 21st century economy.

In Budget 2004, the Government of Canada committed to launch a Workplace Skills Strategy to help workers continuously enhance their skills to keep pace with constantly evolving workplace requirements. As an immediate measure, the budget initiated a new Training Centre Infrastructure Fund (TCIF), a three-year, \$25-million pilot project that will provide matching

funding for union training centres to purchase up-to-date machinery and equipment in order to enhance the quality of training.

For the next phase, the Government of Canada is prepared to work with its partners—provinces and territories, their colleges and training institutions, business and labour, and individuals, all of which have a role to play—to ensure that workers acquire the skills they need to succeed. Budget 2005 makes an additional investment of \$125 million over the next three years to work with stakeholders in moving forward on a Workplace Skills Strategy. This will include:

- Strengthening apprenticeship systems in Canada.

- Creating a Workplace Partners Panel to foster ongoing dialogue and provide advice to the Government of Canada.
- Acting in some key areas of federal responsibility (e.g. Aboriginal Canadian participation in apprenticeship programs and facilitating the transition of retiring military tradespersons to civilian skilled trades).
- Leveraging support from workplace partners on a project-specific basis to design and test skills development pilot projects that are innovative, demand-driven and targeted to the currently employed

Waiting for the Bite of Bill C-45

By: Jackie Brown—Source: Journal of Commerce

Some say it will lead to an increase in criminal prosecutions against those involved in workplace accidents; others say its bark is worse than its bite. In the final analysis, one thing is for certain: Bill C-45 serves notice to everyone on a construction site of the critical need to understand and abide by safety rules and regulations.

Domenico Fantini found that out the hard way, when he was charged in August, 2004 with criminal negligence causing death after one of the two workers he was supervising died when a trench collapsed. Fantini, a resident of Newmarket, Ont., was the first person charged under the Bill's provisions. The charges could result in thousands of dollars in fines and, possibly, a jail term.

Not surprisingly, many in the construction industry are anxiously awaiting the outcome of the Fantini case. But, says Grant McMillan, president of the Council of Construction Associations (COCA), whether or not Bill C-45 has "teeth" really isn't the point. The focus, he says, should be on avoiding ever being investigated and charged in the first place.

"The best defense is to practice due diligence at all times," he said. "For workers, that means following the directions and instructions of site supervisors and not engaging in dangerous behavior; for supervisors, it means understanding health and safety regulations and making sure workers are trained and properly supervised; and for owners and managers it means being aware of all Workers' Compensation Board requirements for setting up health and safety programs and the liabilities involved for non-compliance."

This is where the Construction Safety Association of BC (CSABC) can play an important role, says McMillan, noting that the association's program (established by COCA) offers courses for supervisors, owners/managers, and workers that include a specific focus on meeting due diligence requirements.

"Our Safety STAR courses (Safety, Training, Accountability, Recognition) put everyone in a much better position to deal with their safety responsibilities and, as such, greatly reduce vulnerability to any kind of investigation or prosecution."

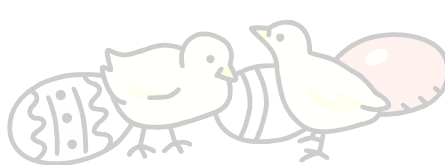
Bill C-45 is an amendment to the Canadian criminal code which took effect in April, 2004. It is a response to the Westray mining disaster of 1992, when 26 Nova Scotia miners were killed in an explosion. More than 50 charges were laid against the mine's owner and managers but eventually all were dropped, in large part due to the difficulty associated with proving criminal intent against a corporation as opposed to individuals. In a nutshell, the Bill attempts to remedy the problem by expanding the scope of corporate criminal liability to include virtually anyone who works for or who is associated with a company – including construction owners, supervisors, foremen, and workers – and, equally important, by placing a legal duty on those who "undertake or have the authority to direct how another person does work or performs a task" to take reasonable steps to ensure that others aren't harmed by the work or task. In the case of an accident, not only can a person with authority be charged, but also his or her supervisor, co-workers, and the company owners.

Although the Bill was established with corporate prosecution in mind, and according to many analysts will likely be reserved for the most serious cases, its provisions shouldn't be taken lightly, McMillan says.

"I think it does criminalize health and safety and it does broaden the application of provincial legislation by providing another avenue of prosecution beyond the WCB.

For example, a worker on a construction site who removes a **protective** cover over a hole, as well as the warning signs around it, could be investigated by both the WCB and the police, as could the worker's supervisor and the project owner. Each prosecution will reveal more about the Bill's impact."

In the meantime, he adds: owners and supervisors especially – many of whom are worried about the impact of C-45 and have expressed the need for specialized training – would be well-advised to look into CSABC courses that are available throughout the province at a very reasonable cost. "CSABC provides a living, breathing program that promotes hands-on training, not just paper instruction," McMillan said, noting that enrolling in the program (which was developed in close consultation with the WCB) is also considered a part of meeting due diligence requirements.



The Economy

Data Source: Statistics Canada

The value of building permits issued in BC amounted to \$7.9 billion in 2004.

This represents a jump of 23.9%—the largest increase since 1991 and the fourth consecutive year of double-digit growth.

The residential sector (+29.7%) was the leading factor in the construction

boom. Growth in non-residential building permits (+10.0%) was more modest. Within the non-residential sector, growth in institutional and government sector building was mild (+1.4%). However, industrial (+34.4%) and commercial (+8.6%) building, showed much stronger growth.



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Schedule of Events

Maarch 2, 2005
 BCEA Career Fair

March 15
 Central Chapter Meeting
 Ramada Inn, Prince George, BC

March 22, 2005
 Vancouver Chapter Meeting
 Location—Executive Hotel

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

The Jeweler

An old man walked into a jeweler's shop late one Friday, with a drop-dead gorgeous young blonde on his arm. "I'm looking for a spectacular ring for this young lady," he said. The jeweler looks through his stock, and takes out an outstanding ring priced at \$5,000. "I don't think you understand. I want something unique and much more expensive" the old man said. †

At that, the jeweler went and fetched his special stock from the safe. "Here's a stunning ring at only \$85,000." The girls' eyes sparkled, and the man said that he would take it. "Fine," the jeweler said. "And how will you be paying?" "I'll pay by check, but of course you will want †

make sure that everything is in order, so I'll write a cheque today, and you can phone the bank on Monday, and I'll pick up the ring Monday afternoon." Monday morning a very upset jeweler phoned the man. "You lied to me," he said: "there's no money in that account." "I know," the old man said, "But can you imagine what a fantastic weekend I had?"

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