



# ECAO NEWS

**ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO INC.**

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## **WSIB SEMINAR SERIES AND MANUAL**

The WSIB Seminar Series and Manual are due for release in January. The seminar has been specifically prepared to provide electrical contractors with the vital information they require to manage all phases of the WSIB process. Each seminar will be a half-day long and will give participants a chance to learn more and ask specific questions about this complex issue.

The comprehensive manual, complementing the seminar, was written by Rob Boswell and Jason Mandlowitz of the law firm, Hicks Morley Hamilton Stewart Storie and edited by a committee of knowledgeable electrical contractors and ECAO staff.

Contact your local ECA office for details about seminars in your area.

## **ECAO AT PM EXPO**

PM Expo, held in Toronto December 4-6, 2002, is the largest tradeshow of its kind in Canada. This year’s show attracted over 20,000 visitors, composed of private and public building owners, property managers and engineers, architects, government and developers – up 5.7% from last year.

Once again, our booth was very popular. We expanded our booth this year so that we could highlight our line contractors, communications contractors, Registered Fire Alarm Contractors and our contractor locator. The latter drew a lot of attention, with many visitors saying that it was very useful and the type of information they had been looking for.

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**WSIB SEMINARS NOW BEING SCHEDULED**

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This was the 14th year the show has been staged and the 6th time we have been involved. The 15th show is scheduled for December 3-5 next year.

## ***ELECTRICAL PROJECT SUPERVISION COURSE UPDATE***

Niagara is currently running two Level 1 Electrical Project Supervision (EPS) Courses and courses are scheduled to start in Toronto, Hamilton, Sudbury and Ottawa this month. Contact your local area ECA for course availability in your area.

The EPS Course is provided in three levels, each covering the same basic modules, but introducing new material and building on the content of the lower level. This allows students to apply their knowledge immediately and they can then bring their experiences back to the classroom for the next level. Each level requires approximately 24 hours of classroom instruction.

Plans are underway for the second level of trainer training to be held in March.

## ***CODE NOTICES FROM ESA***

### **GFCI Protection Required for Kitchen Counter Receptacles (Effective January 1, 2003)**

The 2002 edition of the Ontario Electrical Safety Code includes an Ontario amendment to Rule 26-700, which requires Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) protection for Kitchen Counter receptacles effective January 1, 2003. The new Subrule (26-700(12)) states that effective January 2003:

(12) Receptacles located in kitchens and installed within 1 m of a kitchen sink along the wall behind counter work surfaces shall be protected by a ground fault circuit interrupter of the Class A type.

Appendix B note: Distance of 1 m is measured from edge of kitchen sink.

The following guidelines shall be used for consistent interpretation and application of this new subrule effective January 1, 2003.

1. This rule applies to all receptacle installations located within 1 m of a kitchen sink along the wall behind counter work surfaces where the plans or application for inspection is received on or after January 1, 2003.

2. This rule applies to all kitchens.

2.1. Kitchen is defined as “a place (as a room) with cooking facilities”.

2.2. A cooking facility is defined as a range or stove (electric or gas supply) for cooking. Hot plates, microwaves, etc. are not defined as a cooking facility for application of this rule.

3. In dwelling units, Rules 26-712(d) and 26-722(b) require that kitchen counter receptacles be split receptacles connected to multi-wire 15 amp branch circuits. Rule 26 -726 permits the installation of 5-20 RA (T-slot) receptacles connected to single 20 amp branch circuits as an alternative to split receptacles and circuits. In both cases adjacent receptacles shall not be connected to the same branch circuit. Receptacles that are located on either side of a

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kitchen sink shall not be considered as adjacent for the application of this requirement and can be connected to the same branch circuit when applying this new rule.

### **Receptacles Required for a Porch or Balcony**

The 2002 edition of the Ontario Electrical Safety Code, which came into effect April 25, 2002, requires that at least one duplex receptacle be provided in each area of a residential property, including balconies and porches.

The word “enclosed” has been deleted from Rule 26-712(b), in the 2002 edition of the Code, so it now reads “At least one duplex receptacle shall be provided in each area, such as a balcony or porch, that is not classified as a finished room or area.

Many dwelling units have attached balconies or porches that may or may not be enclosed from the outside elements. The word "enclosed" was deleted to require that a receptacle be installed in any balcony or porch to eliminate running appliance or extension cords through windows or doorways for various portable electrical equipment, such as rotisseries, radios, TV, etc.

The Electrical Safety Authority is committed to ensuring proper interpretation and application of this rule. To support this goal, the following guidelines shall be used for consistent interpretation and application.

- Receptacle(s) shall be located in a readily accessible location and may be fed from any branch circuit if the requirements of Rule 26-714(a) and 26-724 (a) have been met elsewhere.
- Rule 26-714 (b) requires the receptacle to be GFCI protected if less than 2.5 m above grade and if exposed to the weather, a weatherproof cover shall be installed to comply with 26-702.

#### Definitions:

A porch is “a covered area adjoining an entrance to a building and usually having a separate roof”, and

A balcony is “a platform that projects from the wall of a building and is enclosed by a parapet or railing”.

#### 26-702 Receptacles Exposed to the Weather

(1) Receptacles exposed to the weather shall be provided with weatherproof cover plates, except that, when these receptacles are installed facing downward, at an angle of 45° or less from the horizontal, standard metallic cover plates may be used.

(2) Where receptacles exposed to the weather are installed in surface-mounted outlet boxes, the cover plates shall be held in place by four screws or by some other equivalent means.

(3) Where receptacles exposed to the weather are installed in flush-mounted outlet boxes, the boxes shall be installed in accordance with Rule 12-3018 and the cover plates shall be fitted so as to make a proper weatherproof seal.

#### 26-712 Receptacles in Dwelling Units

This Rule applies to receptacles in dwelling units (including single dwellings) as follows:

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(a) Except as otherwise provided for in this Code, in dwelling units, duplex receptacles shall be installed in the finished walls of every room or area, other than kitchens, bathrooms, hallways, laundry rooms, water closet rooms, utility rooms, or closets, so that no point along the floor line of any usable wall space is more than 1.8 m horizontally from a receptacle in that or an adjoining space, such distance being measured along the floor line of the wall spaces involved; and

(b) At least one duplex receptacle shall be provided in each area, such as a balcony or porch, that is not classified as a finished room or area in accordance with Paragraph (a); and

#### 26-714 Receptacles in Single Dwellings

This Rule applies to receptacles only in single dwellings as follows:

(a) For each single dwelling, at least one duplex receptacle shall be installed outdoors so as to be readily accessible from ground or grade level for the use of appliances which, of necessity, are used outdoors; and

(b) All receptacles installed outdoors of single dwellings and located within 2.5 m of ground or grade level shall be protected by a ground fault circuit interrupter of the Class A Type; and

#### 26-724 Branch Circuits in Single Dwellings

This Rule applies to branch circuits in single dwellings only as follows:

(a) In a single dwelling, at least one branch circuit shall be provided solely for receptacles that are located outdoors;  
...

If you have any questions regarding these directives, please contact your local Electrical Safety Authority Technical Advisor.

## **LIMITATIONS LAW UPDATE**

The Council of Ontario Construction Associations (COCA) reports that Royal Assent has been given to Bill 213, the Justice Statute Law Amendment Act, which codifies all the amendments COCA had requested in the former Bill 10.

In general, the law establishes that claims must be pursued within 2 years (general limit) from their discovery and no lawsuit may be commenced more than 15 years (ultimate limit) after the act or omission on which a claim is based took place. There is no ultimate limitation period for claims of an environmental nature.

In 1999, COCA put together a coalition of interested parties to lobby the Attorney General and that action resulted in the introduction of a bill by Jim Flaherty. It did not look like that legislation would pass and the current Attorney General, David

Young, put the limitations amendment bill together with other legislation and got it through the Legislature.

The legislation provides a measure of financial and personal security to contractors who previously were liable to lawsuit for infinity.

The text of Bill 213 is on the Ontario Government website, [www.gov.on.ca](http://www.gov.on.ca) under the Bills section.

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## **WRIGHT AND CARROLL AWARDS - CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

Nominations are now being accepted for the R. H. (Hugh) Carroll and D. J. B. Wright Awards, which will be presented at the Annual General Meeting being held at the ECAO Conference in St. John's Newfoundland in June. Please note that the deadline for the Carroll Award is Apr. 18 and Wright is Apr. 1. This is earlier than preceding years.

The R. H. (Hugh) Carroll Award is given to companies who demonstrate a dedication to safety. The D. J. B. Wright Award is presented to an electrical contractor who has shown dedication to the electrical contracting industry in the province.

Nomination procedures and forms are included with this attached.

## **2003 CONFERENCE IN ST. JOHN'S**

This year ECAO is co-hosting its conference with the Canadian Electrical Contractors Association (CECA) in St. John's, Newfoundland, June 18-22.

The one constant in today's world is change, and the pace is always increasing. The theme "A Sea of Change" recognizes this and our keynote speaker, Joe Caruso, will give his insights into how to cope with it.

Conferences are an excellent way to develop relationships and network with fellow contractors in Ontario and, this year, across the country.

Registration packages will be mailed out soon and are available at the ECAO and CECA websites ([www.ecao.org](http://www.ecao.org) and [www.ceca.org](http://www.ceca.org)). The websites are also kept up to date with the latest program information.

## **AT THE BOARD**

The Board welcomed our first Associate members into the fold at it's last meeting, November 21. The companies accepted into membership were:

- Skipwith & Associates Insurance Agency Inc.
- Alcan Cable
- Revay & Associates Limited
- Cooper Crouse-Hinds
- Jim Peplinski's Leasemaster National
- Moeller Electric Inc.
- Total Power Ltd.

Associate membership provides those companies involved with the industry, which are not contractors, an opportunity to become more formally involved with ECAO.

The Board also discussed the work of the ongoing fee restructuring committee at the Electrical Safety Authority. In particular, the Board heard about the discussions surrounding the basic exemption the ESA has proposed. Currently there is no exemption and even like-for-like replacements (including replacing fuses) require an inspection certificate. ESA recognizes that homeowners currently ignore the requirement, particularly when inspection fees can amount to 40 times the cost of the component. Noting that there has not been a safety problem, they are therefore proposing a basic exemption.

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ECAO representation on the fee restructuring committee have opposed the basic exemption, feeling that it was too broad as it was written in the proposal.

The fee restructuring committee continues to meet.

*ECAO News is published at the ECAO offices — 170 Attwell Drive, Suite 460, Toronto, Ontario, M9W 5Z5. Address changes may be sent to this office by mail, by telephone at 416-675-3226, by fax at 416-675-7736, or by e-mail to [ecao@ecao.org](mailto:ecao@ecao.org). Comments and questions can be directed to Earle Goodwin at the above numbers (extension 313) or by e-mail to [egoodwin@ecao.org](mailto:egoodwin@ecao.org).*

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**WSIB SEMINARS NOW BEING SCHEDULED**

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# **AWARD**

**2003**

**NOMINATION FORM**

**THE DOUGLAS J. B. WRIGHT AWARD**

**Recognizing Major Contributions to the Betterment  
Of The Electrical Contracting Industry in Ontario**

**History of the Award:**

The Douglas J. B. Wright Award was created in 1992 by the Electrical Contractors Association of Ontario and the Ontario Electrical Construction Co. Ltd. to pay tribute to individuals who best exemplify the dedication and commitment to the electrical contracting industry as exhibited by Doug Wright through his years of service. Previous recipients are listed on the back of this nomination form. The Douglas J. B. Wright Award Committee consists of three representatives from ECAO, two representatives from Ontario Electrical Construction Co. Ltd. and the Executive Vice-President of ECAO as an ex-officio.

**Application and Selection Criteria:**

1. All named applicants must be or have been employed by a corporation or company that is a member of ECAO.
2. Application and Selection will take in to consideration the named applicants involvement in the electrical industry at the provincial, local and national level.
3. Any other notable contributions to the electrical industry and how they are perceived by the members of ECAO as providing leadership within the industry.
4. Length of service to the electrical industry.
5. Any other community involvement for which they are recognized.

**Application and Selection Procedure:**

1. Annually, members, or Area ECA's, will be invited to submit a nomination form 90 days prior to the submittal due date.
2. Only those nominations received by the D. J. B. Wright Award Committee by the submittal due date will be considered.
3. The D. J. B. Wright Award Committee will meet to review all nominations and determine a recipient for the award no later than 45 days after the submittal due date.
4. All unsuccessful nominators will be notified.

**Submittal Due Date:**

April 1, 2003

**Submit to:**

The Douglas J. B. Wright Award Committee  
c/o Electrical Contractors Association of Ontario  
170 Attwell Drive, Suite 460, Toronto, Ontario M9W 5Z5  
Fax: 416-675-7736



**RECIPIENTS  
THE DOUGLAS J. B. WRIGHT AWARD**

*1993*

**Mike Sharp**

Black & McDonald Ltd.

*1994*

**Ross Sawle**

Blenkhorn & Sawle Ltd.

*1995*

**Art Wilson**

Wilson & Sommerville Ltd.

*1996*

**Jack Moncur**

Moncur Electric Ltd.

*1998*

*(Co-recipients)*

**Cliff Ainsworth**

Ainsworth Electric Ltd.

**John McDonald**

Black & McDonald Ltd.

*2000*

**Bob Ferguson**

Ferguson Electric Ltd.

*2001*

**George McCue**

Harlock-Schultz Electric Inc.



**ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS  
ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO**

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**R. H. (HUGH) CARROLL SAFETY AWARD (RATE GROUP 704)  
RECOGNIZING AND ENCOURAGING SAFETY AMONGST THE MEMBER FIRMS  
OF THE ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO**

The R. H. (Hugh) Carroll Award was created in 1999 by the Electrical Contractors Association of Ontario to pay tribute to member firms who best exemplify the dedication and commitment to safety in the electrical contracting industry as exhibited by R. H. (Hugh) Carroll through his years of service.

The terms and conditions of this award are as follows:

1. Four (4) eligible categories:
  - Companies having not more than 50,000 total work hours\*
  - Companies having between 50,001 and 200,000 total work hours
  - Companies having between 200,001 and 500,000 total work hours
  - Companies having over 500,000 total work hours.

*\*Total work hours refers to electrician work hours, rate group 704.*
2. The basis for measuring a member's safety performance will be the most recent WSIB Account Profile (contact WSIB at 1-800-387-0750 to obtain yours). Where a tie arises, in any category, the winner will be selected on the basis of the higher number of hours worked; a Health and Safety Program; and safety program audit results (if any).
3. Members who have offices in more than one area, and hold membership in more than once local association, must choose only one of the following options for eligibility:
  - submit one application for each area, using WSIB Account Profile only for that area's operation

or

  - submit one (1) application using the aggregate WSIB Account Profile from all areas.
4. Member entries accompanied by WSIB Account Profile, a Health & Safety Program and safety program audit results (if any) to be forwarded directly to ECAO.
5. Completed entries and supporting documentation must be received at ECAO by April 18, 2003 to be eligible for consideration.

All WSIB Account Profiles and other company safety data will be held in the strictest confidence by ECAO. No details will be announced or published; except for the names of winners in each category. The awards will be presented each year at the ECAO Annual General Meeting commencing in 2000.

**APPLICATION FORM**  
**R. H. (HUGH) CARROLL SAFETY AWARD (RATE GROUP 704)**  
**Recognizing and Encouraging Safety Amongst the Member Firms**  
**Of the Electrical Contractors Association of Ontario**

The R. H. (Hugh) Carroll Safety Award was created in 1999 by the Electrical Contractors Association of Ontario to pay tribute to member firms who best exemplify the dedication and commitment to safety in the electrical contracting industry as exhibited by R. H. (Hugh) Carroll through his years of service.

Members wishing to apply should fill out the following form and return it to the ECAO office to the attention of the R. H. (Hugh) Carroll Award Committee.

**The deadline for application is April 18, 2003**

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Area ECA: \_\_\_\_\_

Category (check one):

- Companies having not more than 50,000 total work hours
- Companies having between 50,001 and 200,000 total work hours
- Companies having between 200,001 and 500,000 total work hours
- Companies having over 500,000 total work hours.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Application Submitted

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Contact

**IMPORTANT**

All applications must be accompanied by most recent WSIB Account Profile, Health & Safety Program; and safety program audit results (if any).

*Submit Applications to:*

R. H. (Hugh) Carroll Award Committee  
Electrical Contractors Association of Ontario  
460-170 Attwell Drive  
Toronto, Ontario  
M9W 5Z5



**ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS  
ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO**

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**R. H. (HUGH) CARROLL SAFETY AWARD (RATE GROUP 830)  
RECOGNIZING AND ENCOURAGING SAFETY AMONGST THE MEMBER FIRMS  
OF THE ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO**

The R. H. (Hugh) Carroll Award was created in 1999 by the Electrical Contractors Association of Ontario to pay tribute to member firms who best exemplify the dedication and commitment to safety in the electrical contracting industry as exhibited by R. H. (Hugh) Carroll through his years of service.

The terms and conditions of this award are as follows:

1. Two (2) eligible categories:
  - Companies having not more than 50,000 total work hours\*
  - Companies having over 50,000 total work hours.

*\*Total work hours refers to linework hours, rate group 830.*
2. The basis for measuring a member's safety performance will be the most recent WSIB Account Profile (contact WSIB at 1-800-387-0750 to obtain yours). Where a tie arises, in any category, the winner will be selected on the basis of the higher number of hours worked; a Health and Safety Program; and safety program audit results (if any).
3. Members who have offices in more than one area, and hold membership in more than once local association, must choose only one of the following options for eligibility:
  - submit one application for each area, using WSIB Account Profile only for that area's operation

or

  - submit one (1) application using the aggregate WSIB Account Profile from all areas.
4. Member entries accompanied by WSIB Account Profile, a Health & Safety Program and safety program audit results (if any) to be forwarded directly to ECAO.
5. Completed entries and supporting documentation must be received at ECAO by April 18, 2003 to be eligible for consideration.

All WSIB Account Profiles and other company safety data will be held in the strictest confidence by ECAO. No details will be announced or published; except for the names of winners in each category. The awards will be presented each year at the ECAO Annual General Meeting commencing in 2000.

**APPLICATION FORM**  
**R. H. (HUGH) CARROLL SAFETY AWARD (RATE GROUP 830)**  
**Recognizing and Encouraging Safety Amongst the Member Firms**  
**Of the Electrical Contractors Association of Ontario**

The R. H. (Hugh) Carroll Safety Award was created in 1999 by the Electrical Contractors Association of Ontario to pay tribute to member firms who best exemplify the dedication and commitment to safety in the electrical contracting industry as exhibited by R. H. (Hugh) Carroll through his years of service.

Members wishing to apply should fill out the following form and return it to the ECAO office to the attention of the R. H. (Hugh) Carroll Award Committee.

**The deadline for application is April 18, 2003**

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Area ECA: \_\_\_\_\_

Category (check one):

- Companies having not more than 50,000 total work hours
- Companies having over 50,000 total work hours.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Application Submitted

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Contact

**IMPORTANT**

All applications must be accompanied by most recent WSIB Account Profile, Health & Safety Program; and safety program audit results (if any).

*Submit Applications to:*

R. H. (Hugh) Carroll Award Committee  
Electrical Contractors Association of Ontario  
460-170 Attwell Drive  
Toronto, Ontario  
M9W 5Z5