

IN THIS ISSUE

ECAO Director Nominations & Proxy Circular.....	1
ECAO's First Ever Supplier Product Exposition – Casino Windsor.....	2
Casino Windsor Conference – Rooms Released	2
ECAO Promotes Registration with ECRA	3
Addendum to the 2004 ESA Wiring Fee Schedule	3
Email Campaign.....	3
Workplace Safety & Insurance News.....	3
Ontario Government Launches Workplace Gateway Resource	4
Calendar of Upcoming Conferences/Conventions.....	4

ECAO DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS & PROXY CIRCULAR

ECAO received a nomination from 10 members in good standing nominating an additional Ottawa member for election as a director. The nomination is timely, though it was received after the ECAO Board approved and published their nominating committee report. As a result there may be an election at the annual meeting to be held in Windsor on October 2, 2004.

The attached Proxy Circular and Proxy plus a prepaid return envelope were sent to the general membership on September 2, 2004. **If you did not receive a proxy package in the mail, please print the attached proxy form and mail it to the ECAO office before September 27th.** Since this is the first time ECAO has ever required proxies, there are bound to be some questions, so here are some FAQ's:

- **To vote in favour of the directors nominated by the area ECA's and ECAO Board**, members should simply sign, date and return the proxy to ECAO. This gives their vote to the President, 1st or 2nd Vice President, who are bound to vote in favour of the published nominating committee report. They will also vote in favour of the re-appointment of the auditors. There are no other material issues to be considered at the AGM.
- **Do not fax or email proxies.** Mail it so it arrives at ECAO by close of business, Monday, September 27th.
- **Each firm that is a member of an area ECA and has a full time office there is entitled to vote.** If a firm has a permanent office in each of 4 ECA areas, and is a member of each area ECA, they are entitled to 4 proxies. Each firm may vote only one proxy in any area ECA, regardless of the number of offices a firm has in the area. The list of eligible member firms is made up of the 13 area "Group Member" lists plus direct members. There are 475 eligible voters.
- **The Scrutineers are Don Franks and Paul Gardner whose decisions regarding eligibility are final.** They were appointed by the President and confirmed by the Board of Directors.

- **Proxies should be returned whether members intend to go to the AGM or not.** The scrutineers will set proxies of those in attendance aside.

Any questions on the annual meeting or the proxy issue should be directed to Eryl Roberts at 416-675-3226 X311 or eroberts@ecao.org.

ECAO'S FIRST EVER SUPPLIER PRODUCT EXPOSITION – CASINO WINDSOR

The Public Relations Committee of ECAO is pleased to announce the addition of the first ever Supplier Product Exposition to be held on September 30th, 2004, 1:00-6:00 p.m. at Casino Windsor.

This one-day event will feature many of the industry's leading companies, showcasing new products and services to the electrical contracting industry and will be a part of the annual conference September 29th to October 3rd, 2004. It is a perfect opportunity for ECAO members and their staff to learn about new technologies, visit their industry partners and support those who support the association. The Exposition is open to the public and is no charge to attend.

The show's major sponsor this year is Total Power, distributors of the "Generac" and "Himoinsa USA" generators and Anixter distributors of wire, cable and connectors has signed on to be a co-sponsor of the event. For a complete list of exhibitors, visit the conference web page at www.ecao.org.

It promises to be the start of many to come, as ECAO hopes to make the Exposition an annual event.

For more information on the Trade show portion please contact Paul McNair of Kelly Alexander Communications at 1-877-250-4556 X225 or email him at paul@kellyalex.com.

CASINO WINDSOR CONFERENCE – ROOMS RELEASED

ECAO's Annual Conference and General Meeting will be held September 29th to October 3rd, at the Casino Windsor. Rooms have now been released so if you haven't booked your room, you are advised to do so now to avoid disappointment. Registration and hotel reservation forms are online.

The event kicks off Wednesday evening with a Mix & Meet Wine Tasting hosted by Colio, Erie Shore, Pelee Island and Sanson Estate wineries. Thursday morning, Ralph Nichols, of the Dale Carnegie Corporation, will inspire and motivate conference-goers with his keynote address on leadership and success followed by information sessions on estate planning and promoting the union construction industry. A new edition to the program is ECAO's first ever Supplier Product Exposition on Thursday afternoon (see separate article). Sessions on Friday will cover workplace safety incentives and corporate governance.

While the delegate's are benefiting from these excellent sessions, their partner's will be visiting Point Pelee National Park, Pelee Island Winery, Jack Miner Sanctuary, Walker's Candies, the Canadian Club Brand Centre and the Odette Sculpture Park.

Friday afternoon, golfers can play a round at Windsor's most exclusive course, the Essex Golf & Country Club. Friday night, conference attendees will join the golfers at the Essex and be entertained with a "Saturday Night Murder" mystery dinner in the elegant and stately dining room. On Saturday delegates will visit the Henry Ford Museum or Ford's recently opened "Rouge Factory Tour". The conference wraps up Saturday evening with the President's Reception and Gala.

Visit www.ecao.org for registration forms and updates on the program. For additional information please contact Lucy Roberts at 1-416-675-3226 X312 or email her at lroberts@ecao.org.

ECAO PROMOTES REGISTRATION WITH ECRA

In preparation for the implementation of province-wide licensing, ECAO is urging all ECAO members who are already Master Electricians and all firms which are already licensed with one of the reciprocal cities to register with the Electrical Contractor Registration Agency (ECRA).

Those members and firms not already qualified for registration will be directed to the Pre-Masters Exam course in their area. ECAO is co-ordinating the delivery of the course and exam sittings with the area ECA's.

Since ECRA will be the vehicle for provincial licensing, ECAO aims to make the transition as smooth as possible for its members by pre-registering all ECAO contractors with ECRA. The cost for registering a Master Electrician or an Electrical Contracting Business is \$25. Application forms are available on the ECAO website at <http://www.ecao.org/visitors/ecra.htm>. For further information contact Penny Semenenko at 416-675-3226 X314 or at psemenenko@ecao.org.

ADDENDUM TO THE 2004 ESA WIRING FEE SCHEDULE

After consultation with contractors, the Electrical Safety Authority (ESA) will implement a change to the Low Voltage Services 0-225A fee and reduce it to \$64.00 from \$69.00. This fee change will take effect on any Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional Application for Inspection dated on or after September 1, 2004.

For further information on this addendum and how you can have input to the ESA fee setting process, refer to the attached ESA memo. Any questions regarding this fee change can be directed to ESA's Customer Service Centre at 1-877-ESA-SAFE (372-7233).

EMAIL CAMPAIGN

In an effort to reduce the cost of communicating with its members, ECAO has begun a campaign to obtain email addresses for the purpose of distributing its newsletters and quarterly magazine. While we respect your privacy, we ask that you co-operate in helping ECAO put the members' contributions to the best possible use. ECAO serves and represents its contractor members in many ways – union-management relations, developing educational material and standard practices, lobbying government, developing and negotiating group discount programs, etc. Your assistance in this campaign will help keep you informed in a timely fashion AND ensure that dollars are well spent!

WORKPLACE SAFETY & INSURANCE NEWS

The WSIB is currently exploring the restructuring of construction rate groups in order to reduce improper classification. One recommendation is to collapse the current 12 groups into 4. While this move would make life simpler from the WSIB auditor's perspective, it comes with the price tag of higher premium rates for electrical contractors. This amounts to an increased payroll tax on legitimate employers who have the lowest premium rate in the industry in order to cover off those who do not comply. ECAO has sent the message to the WSIB that this is absolutely unacceptable and we will not support such a move. COCA, who is front and centre in the discussions, has also been advised of our position.

The WSIB has issued a clarification of policies regarding, among others, the requirement to report earnings by contract not trade. Employers are reminded that WSIB auditors may determine the nature of the business activity conducted as that described in the written contract issued by the buyer of construction services. Typically, any written contract will describe the nature of the work to be performed. The description of this work, in a written format like a contract, may be significant evidence to the WSIB of the actual business activity. It is important, therefore, to ensure that where the full business activity is not fully described by a written contract, that there is other evidence available to demonstrate what the actual business activity or activities are.

The Ministry of Labour is currently targeting high-risk firms for audit. WSIB data has been reviewed for indicators of injury severity and frequency and used to identify firms for targeted inspections. The MOL will request that the following information be provided for their review:

- Number of workers;
- Union affiliation, if any, and names of representatives;
- Records and details of all LTI's incurred in the previous year and earlier if possible;
- Steps taken to prevent recurrences;
- Company Occupational Health & Safety Policy;
- Program to implement the Policy;
- Minutes of Joint Health & Safety Committee meetings and/or company safety meetings;
- Worker training records;
- Material Safety Data Sheets;
- Approved Registration Form 1000;
- Records of trades employed;
- Licensing records – Trades Qualification and Apprenticeship Act; and
- Workplace Safety & Insurance Board Employer Account, Firm Number and Rate Group.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding matters of Workplace Safety & Insurance, please contact Gary Robertson at the ECAO office at 416-675-3226 or by e-mail at grobertson@ecao.org.

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES WORKPLACE GATEWAY RESOURCE

The Workplace Gateway (<http://www.cbs.gov.on.ca/obc/english/workplacegateway/index.htm>) is a one-stop access point that combines links to a number of web-based resources for specific industry sectors like construction, restaurants, tourism, and bed and breakfasts. The construction link, for example, leads to detailed information on how to start a business or project, licences and trade qualifications, workplace health and safety laws, regulations and other topics. The Workplace Gateway can also be accessed through the Ministry of Labour's website at www.gov.on.ca/lab/english. Click on the Workplace Gateway button.

Calendar of Upcoming Conferences/Conventions

ECAO – Casino Windsor, Windsor, Ontario, September 29-October 3, 2004
CECA – Jasper Park Lodge, Jasper, Alberta, June 15-19, 2005
ECAO – Fiesta Americana Grand, Cancun, Mexico, October 23-30, 2005
CECA/ECAO (Combined) – Fairmont Empress, Victoria, BC, June 21-25, 2006

www.ecao.org

www.ceca.org

ECAO

**ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS
ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO**

PROXY CIRCULAR

TO: ECAO Members Entitled To Vote

This proxy circular is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by and on behalf of the ECAO Board of Directors for use at the annual general meeting of ECAO to be held on Saturday, October 2, 2004 at 8:00 a.m. at Casino Windsor, Boulevard Room, 377 Riverside Drive East, Windsor, Ontario.

The reason for the solicitation of proxies is that a nomination has been received from the Ottawa area nominating Mike Tremblay of T&M Electric for election as a director of ECAO. This nomination is in addition to the 21 nominees nominated by the ECAO Nominating Committee and the area ECA's. Of the total of 21, one is the chairman of the Electrical Trade Bargaining Agency who, according to the by-laws of ECAO, is automatically entitled to be a director of ECAO. As a result, there will be an election at the Annual General Meeting to fill the remaining 20 director seats available.

Using the form of proxy (on the reverse), you may appoint one of the named persons as your proxyholder or another member of your choosing. The named appointees are Directors and Officers of ECAO and are expected to vote in favour of the Director nominees nominated by the ECAO Nominating Committee and the area ECA's. The named appointees are also expected to vote in favour of the re-appointment of the auditor, Smith Brown, Professional Corporation, Chartered Accountants and in favour of the other motions usually made at the AGM.

Whether or not you intend to attend the AGM, it is important that you complete, sign and return the proxy form to ECAO head office by September 27, 2004 for your vote to count. A self addressed, stamped envelope is included for your convenience. If you do attend the AGM, the scrutineers will set your proxy aside when you register with them at the meeting.

Prepared by Eryl Roberts, Executive Vice-President
on behalf of the Board.
August 31, 2004

ECAO

**ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS
ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO**

PROXY

**Solicited by the Board of Directors,
for the Annual Meeting of Members to be held on October 2, 2004**

The undersigned, being a Member of Electrical Contractors Association of Ontario (the "Corporation") hereby appoints Dave Mason (President) or, failing him, Brad Vollmer (First Vice-President) or, failing him, Fred Black (Second Vice-President) or instead of any one of them, the person, if any, named below as proxyholder with full power of substitution, to attend, vote and otherwise act for the undersigned at the Annual Meeting of Members to be held on October 2, 2004 and at any adjournments thereof, for receiving reports of the Board and the auditors, appointing the auditors, electing the directors and on such other business as may properly come before the meeting; hereby revoking any proxy previously given.

DATED at _____, the _____ day of September, 2004.

Name of Member: _____

Authorized Signature

Title:

IF THIS PROXY IS NOT DATED IN THE ABOVE SPACE, IT IS DEEMED TO BE DATED ON THE DAY WHICH IT IS RECEIVED BY THE CORPORATION. THE MEMBER MAY APPOINT A PROXYHOLDER OTHER THAN ANY PERSON DESIGNATED ABOVE TO ATTEND AND ACT ON THE MEMBER'S BEHALF AT THE MEETING. IF YOU WISH SOME PERSON TO ACT FOR YOU OTHER THAN THE PERSON NAMED IN THE ABOVE FORM, PLEASE FILL IN THE NAME OF SUCH PERSON HERE.

[Please Note: To be valid, proxies must be signed, dated and mailed to the head office of ECAO (Suite 460, 170 Attwell Drive, Toronto, Ontario M9W 5Z5) by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, September 27, 2004. Do Not Fax]

September 2004

Announcement: Addendum to the 2004 Wiring Fee Schedule

As a result of the 2004 Fee Schedule review, which included input from consumers, contractors and Advisory Councils, the fee for Low Voltage Services 0-225A was increased from \$59.00 to \$69.00 effective March 1, 2004. Also included in this fee, were any required advance connections (previously a \$40.00 extra fee).

After further conversation with contractors, Electrical Safety Authority (ESA) will implement a change to the above fee and reduce it to \$64.00. The advance connection fee will not be re-introduced. This fee change will take effect on any Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional Application for Inspection dated on or after September 1, 2004.

If you have any questions regarding this fee change please call our Customer Service Centre at 1-877-ESA-SAFE (372-7233).

Comments on the Current Fee Schedule

ESA reviews fees on an annual basis and is currently in that process. The current date for any further fee changes to be implemented is March 1, 2005. In this regard, please forward any comments or concerns related to the current Fee Schedule so that they can be considered as part of this process. Please forward your comments to the ESA Customer Service Centre email address: esa.cambridge@electricalsafety.on.ca. Your comments are an important part of this process and we encourage you to participate as you feel appropriate.

MEMBER/CLIENT SURVEY

Information required for our records:

Company Name

Address:

City/Province

Postal Code

Telephone

Fax

Area Membership

Local Union Affiliation

General E-mail Address

Website Address

Accredited Company Representative

Name

E-mail

ext #/direct line

Additional Company Representatives

Name

E-mail

ext #/direct line

Name

E-mail

ext #/direct line

Name

E-mail

ext #/direct line

Name

E-mail

ext #/direct line

Please return this form to:

*Electrical Contractors Association of Ontario
460 – 170 Attwell Drive
Toronto, ON M9W 5Z5
Fax: (416) 675-7736*



Electrical Safety Training Workshops Metro Territory – Event Schedule September 2004– December 2004

Provincial/Metro Territory Office 155A Matheson Blvd West., U202, Mississauga			
Course	Date	Time	Notification
Available Fault Current	November 2,2004	6:00pm – 10:00 pm	90002873
Conductors	October 7,2004	8:30am – 12:30pm	90002874
Grounding & Bonding	October 20,2004	6:00pm – 10:00 pm	90002875
Hazardous Locations	November 23,2004	8:30am – 4:30pm	90002876
HVAC Installations	December 16,2004	6:00pm – 10:00 pm	90002877
Industrial Installations (Low Voltage)	December 8,2004	8:30am – 12:30pm	90002878
Industrial Installations (High Voltage)	November 9,2004	8:30am – 12:30pm	90002879
Lock Out/ Tag Out	November 19,2004	8:30am – 12:30pm	90002880
Motor Installations	October 26,2004	8:30am – 12:30pm	90002881
Pre-Masters Course (Six Consecutive Saturdays) (Excluding Thanksgiving Weekend)	Beginning October 2,2004	8:30am – 3:30pm	90002882
2002 Ontario Electrical Safety Code*	September 30,2004	6:00pm – 10:00 pm	90002883
2002 Ontario Electrical Safety Code*	December 17,2004	8:30am – 12:30pm	90002884
Residential Installations	September 24,2004	8:30am – 12:30pm	90002885
Transformer Installations	November 3,2004	8:30am – 12:30pm	90002886

Circle the date of the workshop

To register:

Phone: 1-800-434-0172

Fax: 1-800-434-0173

E-Mail: www.esacambridge@electricalsafety.on.ca

Please visit www.esasafe.com for course information.

All seminars include a workbook.

Code books are not included.

Please visit www.orderline.com/oesc/

or call 1(888) 361-0003 to place an order.

Name:	
Company:	
Address:	City:
Phone #:	Fax#:
E-mail Address:	
Payment Method – Please circle one.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> Amex <input type="checkbox"/> ESA Account#	
Account/Card #:	Expiry Date:

Standard workshop price is \$98/person if registration is received two weeks prior to the event, or \$113 for late registration. Hazardous Locations is \$197, & \$226 for late registration.

Discounts of 20% for 4 or more attendees at the same seminar.

- Please note these courses support ACP Program requirements