

December Board of Directors Meeting Highlights

The ECAM Board of Directors is comprised of a cross section of Industry members; residential, industrial, commercial, urban and rural, sub-contractors, engineers and associate members. The Board meets monthly September through June and is served by standing committees, advisory councils and working groups.

Memorandum of Understanding for MCAC & ECAM Collaboration

Electrical Contractors Association of Manitoba (ECAM) was pleased to sign a memorandum of understanding with the Mechanical Contractors Association of Canada (MCAC) to establish a working group between both organizations to collaborate on the development of a dual-trade, federated, and integrated national association. Read more [HERE](#).

National Association Membership & Collaboration Updates

The Electrical Contractors Association of Central Ontario (ECACO) has communicated interest in rejoining the Canadian Electrical Contractors Association (CECA) and will take on some administrative responsibilities to support CECA as they seek a new Executive Director. Additionally, ECACO has accepted the Mechanical Contractors Association of Canada's (MCAC) proposal to explore dual representation as a national association.

Participation in Manitoba Home Builders Working Group

ECAM Board representatives have been actively participating in a working group with Manitoba Home Builders focused on addressing safety concerns related to the earlier connection of services. Manitoba Hydro stated that early power connections will not be provided until all specific code requirements are met. Director at Large, John MacKinnon and Jason Geddes attempted to meet the code requirements to facilitate an earlier power connection but were unsuccessful due to differing interpretations of the code. Discussions on this issue will continue in upcoming meetings.

Construction Industry Wage Act (CIWA) Wage Schedule Update

The Minister appointed CIWA Committee tasked with providing recommendations regarding updates to the CIWA wage schedule has completed their work and provided a consensus recommendation to the Minister. Shawn Henry (Wescan) represented MCAM and ECAM on the Minister's committee which included both Labour and Employer representatives. The recommendation was a 2% increase per year for three years across all trades with the exception of the Heat and Frost Insulator trade. The recommendation for Insulators was 2%, 7.5%, 2%. The committee further recommended the first increase take place May 1, 2025 with annual increases following. It should be noted these recommendations have not yet received ministerial approval and are therefore subject to change.

SLED-ARAMA: Ride for Kids

Sled-arama Ride for Kids is returning to support the Make-A-Wish Foundation. This snowmobile derby will take place on February 21 at Whiteshell Provincial Park. Find out how you can support the event [HERE](#).

Whiskey & Wisdom

The Next Gen Committee will be hosting a whiskey tasting and educational event in March. The event will feature a panel discussion with an agent, engineer, contractor, and distributor, who will explore the various roles and processes within the electrical industry. Additional details to come.

TradeConnect 2025

March 18, 2025, at RBC Convention Centre. ECAM and MCAM's joint business conference. Join us for a day filled with inspiration, education, networking, trade booths and a glimpse into the evolution of the trades. Featuring Keynotes from Leah Goldstein and Bill Ferreira. Learn more and register [HERE](#). Early bird registration deadline is January 31, 2025.

Safety Protocol Updates from General Contractors

Starting in January, larger general contractors will implement new safety measures, including a mandatory 6-foot tie-off requirement and the use of chin-strap hard hats for all workers.

Prompt Payment Update

ECAM and MCAM representatives are actively participating in the Builders Lien Modernization Committee, having successfully completed Reg 1 of the process and are reviewing the second regulation in the new year. Representatives are participating in a working group with industry partners to create a proposal for adjudication.

Chat & Cheers 2025

ECAM is continuing its tour across Manitoba to engage with contractors outside of Winnipeg. The association will return to Brandon in April, recognizing the potential of an untapped market in the area. Additional details will be provided as the tour progresses. Additional details to come.

ECAM at MCAC Annual National Conference

ECAM Board representatives attended the MCAC Annual National Conference in Austin, Texas, from November 27-30, 2024. Director-at-Large Paul Shack attended and provided an overview of the conference, highlighting the importance of industry collaboration and the value of a highly functioning National Association.

Electrical Licence Renewals

Licences issued under the Electricians' Licence Act will expire on December 31, 2024. To renew your licence please provide the renewal fee of \$160.00 to ITS by December 31, 2024. Read more [HERE](#).

Welcome New Members

Source Supply

New associate member representing American Wire Group in Canada, Lovato Electric and Daelim Transformers.



Dave Cook, ECAM President

Dave Cook, born in Thompson, Manitoba, has built a career in the electrical industry since becoming a journeyman in 1995. His journey within Static Electric saw him rise from a first level apprentice to journeyman to Operations Manager to a Co-Owner and currently to the role of President.

Dave is deeply invested in the well-being of the trade and its workers. He actively participates in discussions and drives initiatives aimed at ensuring fair treatment, upholding safety standards, and fostering professional development within the electrical sector. As the ECAM Social Committee Chair, he plays a pivotal role in promoting a supportive and inclusive environment within the industry.

Outside of work, Dave's passions include spending time with his family, cooking, playing golf, and watching hockey.