



ONTARIO COLLEGE OF TRADES
ORDRE DES MÉTIERS DE L'ONTARIO

Minutes

Construction Electrician Trade Board & Industrial Electrician Trade Board Joint Meeting

April 29, 2016 at 8:30 a.m.

CSA Group

5060 Spectrum Way (Meeting Room #6 & 7)

Mississauga, Ontario, L4W 5N6

Trade Board Members in Attendance

Ray Hamel, Chair (Industrial)

Dan Racicot, Chair (Construction & Maintenance)

Don Bemko

Tim Butler

Glen Drewes

Adrian Harris

Serge Lecompte

Dale MacDonald

Robert Nelson

Peter Olders

Larry Shaver

Don Spearin

Ben Stegner (new member, Industrial)

Corrie Thompson

Trade Board Members not in Attendance

Kristian Bischoff (Construction & Maintenance)

Resource Persons/Guests in Attendance

S. Smith, Electrical Safety Authority

Staff in Attendance

Risa Abella, Program Coordinator, Standardsⁱ

John Mania, Manager, Compliance and Enforcement

Bob Onyschuk, Director, Compliance and Enforcement

* via teleconference

1. Call to Order/Welcome

The Chairs jointly called the meeting to order. New Industrial Trade Board member, B. Stegner, was introduced.

2. Approval of Agenda

ON A MOTION MADE BY D. MacDonald, SECONDED BY D. Spearin AND CARRIED, the agenda was approved with minor changes to the order of the items.

3. Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

4. Previous Minutes

ON A MOTION MADE BY D. MacDonald, SECONDED BY D. Bemko, unanimously approved AND CARRIED, the draft minutes of the Industrial Electrician and Construction and Maintenance Electrician Trade Boards' January 15, 2016 joint meeting were approved.

5. Trade Board Resolutions and Issues Update

5.1 Industrial Exemption

The Trade Boards (particularly the Industrial Electrician Trade Board) want to ensure that the matter of reviewing the status of the Industrial exemption remains part of the agenda/discussion for the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities and the College. The Program Coordinator will triage the matter to ensure that it remains a consideration. Currently, there is no update.

6. Compliance and Enforcement Discussion

Two representatives from the College's Compliance and Enforcement (C&E) division (B. Onyschuk and J. Mania) were invited to participate in a discussion with the two Trade Boards on the following matters: an installation in White River, Ontario; Quebec workers in Ontario; solar work; street lights; legal interpretation principles/scope overlaps with voluntary trades; and whether an appeals mechanism for C&E decisions exists.

6.1 White River

The C&E representatives discussed the White River decision with the Trade Board members. With the agreement of C&E staff, the Trade Board designated G. Drewes, D. Racicot and D. Bemko to follow up on some discussion points.

6.2 Construction and Maintenance Electrician – Quebec Workers in Ontario

The Trade Boards inquired as to the status of Quebec workers working within the scope of Construction and Maintenance electricians. It was confirmed that membership in the College is not required. Specifically, as per the *Agreement on Labour Mobility and Recognition of Qualifications, Skills and Work Experience in the Construction Industry between Ontario and Quebec*, if an individual from Quebec holds a certificate issued by the Commission de la construction du Québec (CCQ) or the Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité Social in any of the designated six trades (which includes Construction and Maintenance Electrician), he/she is not required to become a member of the College to practise in the designated trade.

The Trade Boards raised questions/concerns on the following matters in regards to Quebec workers: Can enforcement staff ask for validation of licensing (CCQ cards); With whom are issues of competency or capacity raised if there is a concern with a Quebec electrician; Is there an estimate of the number of Quebec electricians working in Ontario; What is the relationship in terms of WSIB

premiums. C&E representatives acknowledged that the College is limited by this exemption.

6.3 Solar Work

The Trade Boards inquired as to the previous decision made by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU) in regards to solar work and whether the College would reconsider the decision in regards to non-“plug-and-play” situations.

6.4 Street Lights

Compliance and Enforcement staff provided an update on the ongoing discussion regarding who can work on street lights.

6.5 Legal Interpretation Principles – Scope Overlap With Voluntary Trades

The Trade Boards discussed how overlap in scopes of practice with voluntary trades influences enforcement decisions related to who can complete certain work activities. The Trade Board recommended that a scope overlap should be interpreted that only the individual in either the designated compulsory or voluntary trade can work. This will help ensure competency.

6.6 Appeal Mechanism

The Trade Boards inquired as to whether there was an appeal mechanism for Compliance and Enforcement decisions and discussed this matter with the C&E representatives at the meeting. The Trade Boards and the C&E representatives agreed to follow up on designated points after the meeting (6.1 to 6.7).

ON A MOTION MADE BY D. Bemko, SECONDED BY G. Drewes, AND CARRIED the Industrial Electrician Trade Board and the Construction and Maintenance Electrician Trade Board recommend that the College engage the Ministry of Training, College and Universities or the Minister on potential changes to the working rights of Quebec electricians in Ontario to ensure that safety and capacity needs are met including, but not limited to, requirements to become members of the College and the application of ratios.

ON A MOTION MADE BY A. Harris, SECONDED BY P. Olders, AND CARRIED the Industrial Electrician Trade Board and the Construction and Maintenance Electrician Trade Board recommend that, in the case of overlap between a voluntary and compulsory trade, the legal interpretation principles be adjusted to ensure that the work can only be done by an individual in the scope of the trades for which the work falls, whether voluntary or compulsory. All workers should be required to prove certification or equivalent competency.

ON A MOTION MADE BY D. Spearin, SECONDED BY T. Butler, AND CARRIED the Industrial Electrician Trade Board and the Construction and Maintenance Electrician Trade Board recommend the creation of an appeals process or mechanism from Compliance and Enforcement staff decisions, including a collaborative and consensus-based process with the trades involved. Should a decision not be reached, the decision should go to a panel of skilled tradespeople with valid College membership.

7. Electrician Exams – 2015 Electrical Code

The Program Coordinator will organize a workshop to review the existing exams for Industrial Electrician (as host jurisdiction) as well as the Domestic and Rural Electrician exams to check suitability to the 2015 electrical code.

8. Transitional and Trade Equivalency Assessment requirements between 309A and 442A and

Updates to the Apprenticeship Training Standard Log Books and Registration and Completion Requirements

The Program Coordinator and Trade Boards discussed the need to detail the competency requirements that could be used in determining what an individual needs when transitioning (1,800 hours) between 442A and 309A and vice versa. The Program Coordinator will put together a group to complete the gap analysis between the two trades and establish a check list to be used by assessment staff in evaluating applications, and also potentially MTCU staff, in determining the trade in which an individual should be registered.

The Program Coordinator confirmed that she is doing final formatting and edits to both new draft Training Standard log books. The drafts will go back to the Trade Boards prior to initiating the industry validation process.

ON A MOTION MADE BY G. Drewes, SECONDED BY R. Nelson, AND CARRIED the Construction and Maintenance Electrician Trade Board recommends that the Apprenticeship Training Standard log book be a required element for the apprenticeship completion process (along with the verification of hours) similar to the way it is used in completing Industrial Electrician apprentices.

9. Electrical Code Course for Trade Equivalency Assessment (TEA) Applicants

The Program Coordinator and R. Nelson provided an update on discussions related to the development of a course on the Canadian Electrical Code and Ontario Electrical Safety Code for TEA applicants who have no experience using the code books. This discussion is in very initial stages.

10. Electrical Safety Authority (ESA) Update

S. Smith from the ESA provided an update on the ESA. The Trade Boards raised multiple questions including whether the ESA could be a potential recourse for Quebec electricians working in Ontario as a result of master licensing requirements.

11. Red Seal Product Cycle

The Program Coordinator confirmed that the Item Bank workshop to review the Red Seal Industrial Electrician exams is tentatively set for winter 2017. Subject matter experts and instructors will be required to attend on behalf of Ontario. The Program Coordinator will forward information as it is available. The Program Coordinator also confirmed that a working group met on April 4 to 6, 2016 to review the draft new examinations for Construction Electrician on behalf of Ontario. Comments and feedback were sent back to the host jurisdiction of Nova Scotia.

12. Red Seal – Harmonization Pilot Project

The Program Coordinator provided information on the Pan Canadian harmonization discussions taking place in regards to both the Industrial Electrician and Construction Electrician trades. R. Nelson, D. MacDonald, P. Olders as well as instructor representatives are participating in these webinars. The first session took place on April 7, 2016 and a session is scheduled for May 5, 2016.

13. Practical Assessments

The Trade Boards continued their discussion in relation to practical assessment options for all three trades that fall under the two Trade Boards, including accommodation examinations and demonstration of skills training assessments. The Trade Boards also discussed the NETCO assessment tool as was presented at a previous Trade Board meeting. The Trade Boards agreed to establish a working group to discuss this issue more thoroughly.

14. Ontario College of Trades Updates

The Program Coordinator provided general updates on the Ontario College of Trades.

15. Program Update

15.1 Count from end of March 31, 2016

	Active Apprentices	Active Journeyperson Candidates	Active Journeyperson	Provisional Certificates	Tradespersons	Total membership for Trade
309A	8499	381	43590	0	n/a	52470
309C	67	6	776	0	n/a	849
442A	1347	53	1234	n/a	29	2663

15.2 Exam Attempts

The Program Coordinator provided aggregate data on exam attempts for apprentices and challengers for all three trades represented by these Trade Boards.

16. Next Scheduled Meeting

The Chairs agreed on prospective dates to be sent out via email in regard to the next joint meeting.

17. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:00 p.m.

“Dan Racicot”

Dan Racicot, Chair (Construction & Maintenance)

“Ray Hamel”

Ray Hamel, Chair (Industrial)

September 15, 2016

ⁱ Recording Officer