



Mechanical Contractors Association of Saskatchewan Inc.

December 11, 2008

Volume 7 Number 3

1. *President's
Message*

President's Message - by Dave Flamand

Seasons Greeting to everyone. Here's hoping this message finds everyone in good health and spirits.

2. *Gas Inspection
Act*

What a great year it was for our industry. There was work in all segments of construction, from residential, commercial, institutional to industrial; everyone was busy. The year ahead looks a bit cloudy but I am hoping that the prosperity we have enjoyed will continue.

3. *Commercial
Boiler Training*

Your MCAS board has been busy working on the issues of our industry. We have made some good headway. One item that MCAS has been working on for many years has been to "Ban the Can". Thanks to the work of long time MCAS board member, Daryl Schwartz, companies doing plumbing work in Saskatoon no longer have to do a "final can test" on the plumbing installation. This was a needless time consuming test and it is good to be rid of it! Great work Daryl.

4. *Mark Your
Calendars*

We still haven't seen any concrete movement on our request for the apprentice ratio change as of yet. The trade boards expressed their approval for the ratio change at the last meeting sessions in Davidson and Regina. The Saskatchewan Construction Association has also spoken out in favour of the ratio change as has the Electrical Contractors Association. We anxiously await some announcement from the government on this file.

The Gas Licensing Act Review committee has held some more meetings and has come out with a few recommendations. Here are a few.



Christmas Hours

The Association office
Will be closed from
12:00 (noon) December
24th, 2008

Opening again 8:00 am
On January 2nd, 2009

1. We have sent a letter asking that the contractor gas licence bond be increased to \$20,000 from the current \$5,000. This new amount better reflects the costs that are incurred when Gas Inspections has to hire someone to correct defects from delinquent contractors.
2. We have sent a letter requesting a gas fitter be required to show proof of ownership of a current gas code book when he or she renews his or her gas fitter licence.
3. We have sent a letter asking that a gas fitters number be included on gas permits for residential construction. This way the gas fitter will get a defect notice as well as the contractor. All gas fitters will then become aware of who is using their ticket and where.
4. A restricted gas licence has been approved for oil field installations. There has been a training program designed for this licence and once all parties involved agree the training can commence.

The committee is currently working on a proposal to have a Central Regulatory Agency. A draft has been written and it is working it's way



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through the appropriate channels. More news on that as it becomes available.

On the training front there will be a Commercial Boiler Training program coming in January 2009.

Your MCAS is also working closely with SaskEnergy on their new training facility. An agreement still needs to be finalized but once that is done we will have access to a modern, roomy training facility for our training programs. This is a very exciting development indeed.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of MCAS, Judy and Maridee I would like to extend our sincere hope that everyone enjoys a safe and happy holiday season. Take care everyone and we'll talk to you soon.

Gas Inspection Act:

Your association has requested a change to the Gas Inspection Act, 1993.

Section 13 Permits – Connection Permits (3)

To remove SaskEnergy's responsibility in relation to connection and reconnections made pursuant to a permit. In essence the permit will provide sufficient authorization to SaskEnergy to activate.

This will help avoid costly and unnecessary scheduling problems for both SaskEnergy and the installing contractor while maintaining safety. It would advance installations, provide the customer with more efficient service and enhance working relationships between the two groups.

Please add your two cents worth mcask@sasktel.net

The association will keep you up-to-date as this moves forward.

Commercial Boiler Training:

Both Regina and Saskatoon seminars are filling up quickly, if you have not already done so get your registrations in soon!!!

Check out our web site <http://www.mca-sask.com> for all training courses and dates.

Mark Your Calendars:

March 13-14, 2009
MCAS 37th Annual Bonspiel - Saskatoon
Granite Curling Club - Saskatoon, SK
Hilton Garden Inn

May 28 & 29, 2009
MCAS & CIPH Joint Provincial Conference & AGM
Jackfish Lodge - Cochin, SK

June 11, 2009
MCAS 5th Annual Southern Golf Tournament
Deer Valley Golf Course - Lumsden, SK

June 25, 2009
MCAS "Ron Young" Memorial Golf Tournament
Moon Lake Golf & Country Club - Saskatoon, SK

Check our web site for ALL Event Details <http://www.mca-sask.com>