



19-February-2026

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Meeting held virtually via Zoom

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT	ESA STAFF PRESENT
Larry Shaver, ECAO, Acting Chair	Sarah Kempel, Director of Licensing
Steve Del Guidice, OEL	Shana Hole, Manager of Licensing
James Boritz, CAC	Alex Piccini, Stakeholder Advisor
Vince De Gasperis, UCAO	
Kelly Casey, ESA Nominee	
Steven Green, ECAO	
Leo Grellette, ESA Nominee	
GUESTS	REGRETS
Amanda Garofalo, MPBSDP	Nick Mammoliti, ECAO
Glen Hicks, Chair, MEC	Cathy Taylor, Community at Large

AGENDA ITEM	Call to Order Notice and Quorum No conflicts were declared with the agenda
PRESENTER	Chair

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

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MOTION	The motion to accept the minutes of the November 26, 2025, ECRA meeting.
MOTIONED	Kelly Casey
SECONDED	Steve Del Guidice
	<i>Motion carried</i>

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Review of Open Action Items:

Master Examining Committee Update

- Glen Hicks provided a quarterly update of Master Exam results.
- The data showed consistent pass rates and average scores over the past four years, with a slight dip in 2025, which could be related to Code changes.

Update on 2024 Ontario Electrical Safety Report

- Alex Piccini noted that the 2024 OESR has been shared with the ECRA AC and asked if there were any follow-up questions.
- ESA celebrated that so far, with only a month and a half left in this FY, there have been no fatalities in Ontario, a fantastic accomplishment for the sector as a whole & ESA.
- No questions were noted.

ESA update on STO Pass/Fail rate for Electrical C of Q holders

- Alex Piccini reported back that ESA had contacted Skilled Trades Ontario (STO) about the pass/fail rates for electricians, specifically the 309A Certificate of Qualification (CofQ) exam.
- Alex Piccini noted that STO did not share pass/fail rates for exams with him, but they did have some demographic data to share. Highlights included,
 - Red seal resource supports
 - Exam preparation guides
 - Virtual learning support services
 - Breakdown of demographic data for 309A including average pay by region, gender and age of applicants etc.
- Members raised concerns about a shortage of teachers in the eastern part of the province, which Alex Piccini agreed to follow up with STO.

Action Items: Alex to follow up with STO regarding STO instructor availability in the eastern part of Ontario as a noted gap by the AC.

AGENDA ITEM	ECRA Member Update
PRESENTER	Alex Piccini

- Alex Piccini noted that ESA has approached the Ontario Electrical League (OEL) regarding their new nominee for the current OEL position vacancy on the ECRA AC as well as the member at large vacancy created by Kathy’s departure.
- Alex Piccini furthermore notes that Cathy Taylor’s term will expire at the end of February, 2026. The Chair notes that an invitation be extended for Cathy to participate in the next virtual ECRA AC meeting taking place on May 21 and the in-person ECRA AC meeting taking place on September 17 as a guest.

Action Item: Ensure invite is extended to Cathy Taylor to attend the next two ECRA AC meetings.

AGENDA ITEM	2026 ECRA Workplan
PRESENTER	Alex Piccini

- Alex Piccini provided an overview of the ECRA AC Workplan for 2026.
- The Chair called for feedback, seeing none the workplan was approved unanimously.

Action Item: None

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AGENDA ITEM	Labour Mobility/Harmonization
PRESENTER	Sarah Kempel

- Since the Ontario Labour Mobility Act (OLMA) as-of-right provisions took effect January 1st, 2026, ESA has received five applications from out-of-province MEs seeking to get their equivalent Ontario ME licence
- Of the five applications, two are pending and three have been approved, one of which is now working as a DME for a LEC
- The Ontario Free Trade and Mobility Act (OFTMA) legislation focused on goods and services mobility, which includes the recognition of equivalent EC licences issued by Canadian jurisdictions designated as reciprocating, is currently under regulatory review.
- Alex shared that the earliest possible implementation date is July 1, 2026, with a contingency target of January 1, 2027, if not enacted by July. ESA will continue to share updates as things progress.

Action Item: None

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AGENDA ITEM	License Holder Meeting Update
PRESENTER	Shana Hole

- Shana Hole provided an overview of the latest Licence Holder Meeting in 2025 including data coming out of the Q&A session and feedback from the post meeting survey.
- The council noted that the shorter format was more productive for LECs and asked that the Q&A portion be longer to accommodate more technical questions.
- The council noted that more promotion of the Licence Holder Meeting ahead of time through social media platforms would be beneficial to generate more awareness around the meeting for LECs.

Action Item: None.

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AGENDA ITEM	Online Licensing Platform Update
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PRESENTER

Sarah Kempel

- The online licensing platform, launched in October 2025, reached its four-month anniversary with strong adoption: over 11,000 users registered, nearly 10,000 renewals and 600 new licence applications completed, and over 600 exam applications processed
- During the first four months of launch the licensing team saw peak phone and email volumes, which has resulted in longer wait times as the team supports licence holders with their first-time registration. Of note, no formal complaints have been received, and customer service feedback remained positive, a testament to the great work of our Customer Service Representatives (CSRs).
- Members provided positive feedback on the user friendliness and overall experience in the new system, including the excellent customer service received from our CSRs.
- Suggestions were made to provide status updates as new applications and renewals move through the process, and expanded communication to multiple contacts within each business, with particular attention to the DME. Sarah noted that while the current platform is limited to licensing communications only, multiple communication contact functionality is being considered within the broader ERP project, which will digitize additional business areas, including Operations.
- Members discussed login credential management, noting that the licensing platform operates separately from other ESA login systems.

Action Item: Licensing to explore licensing-specific opportunities to expand correspondence to the DME where relevant.

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AGENDA ITEM

Risk-Based Oversight (RBO): Areas of Interest for Future Presentation

PRESENTER

Sarah Kempel/All

- Sarah opened the Risk-Based Oversight (RBO) discussion to gather input from members on topics of interest for a presentation by the RBO team at the May meeting.
- Members raised concerns about high defect ratios, limited incentives for maintaining low rates, and difficulty regaining RBO privileges once thresholds are exceeded.
 - Suggestions included exploring a hybrid or audit-based inspection model, offering credit for no-visit passes, and improving incentives and recognition for compliant contractors.
- The group is interested in a review on how defect ratios are calculated, how defects can be cleared, and how risk is calculated/validated in the algorithm.
- Members noted challenges for larger contractors and temporary or builder-related work, where third-party damage can affect ratios.
- Recommendations included increased and ongoing education on RBO benefits and notifications when defect ratios near thresholds.

- Council feedback will inform the RBO team presentation content in May.

Action Item: None

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AGENDA ITEM	Licensing Correspondence: Opportunities & Feedback
PRESENTER	Sarah Kempel/All

- ESA introduced a correspondence modernization project to make all licensing communications clearer, more consistent, and written in plain language while maintaining regulatory accuracy, she requested preliminary feedback from ECRA AC as we kick off the project,
- Members stressed the need to copy DMEs on critical notices (e.g., defect ratios, account changes) and focus messages on actionable, high-value information
 - Feedback will inform both the correspondence redesign and ERP system updates,
- ESA will share more specific items for member feedback as the project progresses.

Action Item: None

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AGENDA ITEM	Roundtable
PRESENTER	Alex Piccini, ESA Stakeholder Advisor

- Alex Piccini reminded the ECRA AC that to respond to inflationary pressures, the ESA will be increasing wiring and licensing fees by 1.9%, effective April 1, 2026. Alex further noted this is an inflationary increase and that industry associations have been informed, and ESA is proceeding with informing the sector.
- Shana Hole noted that ECRA AC members will receive a placeholder for the 2026 License Holder meeting (November 2026).
- Sarah shared information on the 17th annual Ontario Electrical Safety Awards, noting that nominations are open and encouraging members to submit or share potential nominees; the awards ceremony will take place on September 16, 2026.

Action Items: Alex Piccini to provide a safety awards calendar hold to ECRA AC members and Licensing to provide Licence Holder Meeting calendar hold to ECRA AC members.

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MOTION	To adjourn the meeting.
MOTIONED	Vince De Gasperis
SECONDED	Kelley Casey

Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT: 11:00 AM

End of ECRA AC meeting

If there are any discrepancies to these minutes, please report them by email to the Chair or Alex Piccini.

Next Meeting: May 21, 2026