



# ECAA

Electrical Contractors  
Association of Alberta

## IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES

### **Subject:**

BUSINESS LICENCES AND SECTION 40 OF THE PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS REGISTRATION ACT (POARA)

### **Issue:**

A lack of awareness and inconsistent application of the law exists in the Province surrounding the issue of when business licences are NOT required.

### **The Law:**

Professional and Occupational Associations Registration Act

Part 4 General Provisions

Exemption from municipal licence

*40 No municipality has the power to require any member of a registered association to obtain a licence from the municipality to engage in the field of practice established by the registered association under the regulations.*

### **The 'member's and 'registered association' of concern:**

The Professional Electrical Contractors and Master Electricians regulation exists under the POARA. POARA is an 'umbrella act' that is intended to regulate many professions and occupations not regulated under other statutes, and provides for a 'right to title'. The titles of concern for this notice are the *Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC)*, *Professional Electrical Contractor Student*, *Certified Master Electrician (CME)*, and *Registered Master Electrician (RME)*.

The Electrical Contractors Association of Alberta (ECAA) is the 'registered association' for these registered 'members', and as such becomes responsible for the conduct and competency of its members, and has the necessary power to ensure a standard of service. If the conduct or skill of a member is not in keeping with the regulation, a complaint may be filed with the Association.

### **Application of the Law:**

A registered member of the ECAA (PEC, PEC Student, CME, and RME) is exempt from purchasing or maintaining municipal business licences in the Province of Alberta for jurisdictions where they are conducting the practice of Professional Electrical Contracting as defined in the Professional Electrical Contractors and Master Electricians Regulation 36/2004. This is right of title legislation pertaining to the individual and not the company.

### **Questions:**

Contact Sheri McLean at [smclean@ecaa.ab.ca](mailto:smclean@ecaa.ab.ca) or by calling 1-800-252-9375.