

## Final Report – November 25, 2019: Construction Electrician

A Trade Advisory Committee (TAC) for the Construction Electrician (CE) trade met first on December 15, 2015 and eight times over the next three years, often in conjunction with the Industrial Electrician group. The mandate for the CE TAC focused discussions and recommendations on the following: trade regulations as pertaining to cross-over work, trade participation, trade profiles, labour market information and pre-apprenticeship programs.

There were initial regulatory discussions and the review of cross-trade skills transfer and training. However, it was decided that these issues were outside regulatory processes, so no changes were required at that time.

To better understand the current state of trade participation for construction electricians, the TAC reviewed the labour market information in relation to apprenticeship participation and completion rates. The group was concerned that the regional breakdowns seemed low. NSAA presented their numbers and the provincial distribution. Additionally, the TAC also completed a validation of the CANTRAQ Labour Market Information (LMI) report. Overall, it was determined that apprenticeship is certifying enough apprentices to meet labour market needs until 2026. The committee also provided ideas and feedback on what became a successful recruiting marketing campaign for apprentices, entitled 'Ready When You Are.'

Further, in April 2018, the TAC conducted a review of pre-apprenticeship programming at NSCC and NSAA apprenticeship programs that was then approved by the Apprenticeship Board in February 2019. Their participation and contributions resulted in recommendations to maintain Apprenticeship Transfer Credit and increase transfer credit hours for the Electrical Technical program, to consider the creation of a 'one plus one' program (a program that allows students to complete one year for a certificate or continue on to a second optional year for a diploma), and to regularly review content in Atlantic Level 1 Technical Training which would determine whether there are gaps in NSCC pre-apprenticeship programming. The committee completed a mapping exercise, validated program outcomes and program structure and discussed the industry trend toward smart controls and renewables as appropriate.

The changes in the new 2018 Code Books were reviewed and some TAC members also volunteered and contributed to updating the Red Seal and Level Exams. Due to an exam compromise, new exams urgently needed to be created and this development was led by Nova Scotia (national host for Construction Electrician). As a result of this collaborative work, five new Construction Electrician exams were put into circulation in 2019-2020.

The work of these TACs has been concluded.