

**Present:**

<b>AC Members</b>	<b>ESA</b>	<b>MPBSDP</b>	<b>Regrets</b>
Ryan Delisle Joe Kurpe Colin Mercier Deva Sarathchandran Scott Yemen	Patience Cathcart Declan Doyle Freda Lam Sarah Kempel Eric Kingston Alex Piccini Alicia Smith	Sharmila Uruthiranandasivam	Brendon Fenton Rick Leduc Doug McGinley Chris Ruber Mat Scratch

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>
1.	<p><b>Welcome and Preliminaries</b></p> <p>Chair welcomed the council, and CoAC members introduced themselves followed by introductions of the ESA attendees.</p> <p>ESA advised that due to the absence of the current Chair and the Vice Chair, per the terms of reference, the council shall appoint an acting chair for the purposes of facilitating the meeting today. Joe Kurpe was elected as acting chair for the 4-Nov-25 meeting.</p> <p>No conflicts of interest were declared.</p> <p>Motion:  <i>Approval of the Minutes of Meeting for June 12, 2025</i>  <i>Moved by: Deva</i>  <i>Seconded: Scott</i>  <i>Carried</i></p>
2.	<p><b>Update on Membership</b></p> <p>The Council also welcomed Sharmila from MPBSDP, returning from maternity leave to join the AC meetings.</p> <p><i>Comments: None.</i>  <i>Motions: None</i>  <i>Actions: None</i></p>

<p>3.</p>	<p><b>Licensing Technology Platform Project Update</b></p> <p>Sarah Kempel presented an update on the Licensing Technology Platform (LTP), which launched on October 20th, allowing license holders to conduct transactions online. She reported positive initial results, with 350 renewals and 70 exam applications processed in the first week, though there was a 50% increase in licensing calls requiring a 9-minute average wait time. The project is currently in its warranty period, with a focus on bug fixes and creating educational resources for users.</p> <p>Sarah discussed attributes of the new licensing platform, which allows for the renewal of both contractor and master licenses simultaneously, though this feature is not yet available. She mentioned that the platform's transparency tool displays compliance history for license holders with repeated non-compliance issues.</p> <p><i>Comments: Council members were very engaged with LTP and its roll out to all licensees.</i></p> <p><i>Motions: None</i></p> <p><i>Actions: Follow up in 2026 on how LTP is being utilized and how the platform will evolve to best serve licensees.</i></p>
<p>4.</p>	<p><b>Artificial Intelligence and ESA</b></p> <p>Patience Cathcart presented an overview of artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, and its applications at ESA. She provided a level-set by explaining various types of AI and the nomenclature, including cognitive, analytical, functional, interactive, and generative, and discussed how ESA is using AI to meet challenges related to Ontario's energy demand and grid expansion. Patience highlighted the importance of data cleaning and governance before implementing AI systems, as well as the need to ensure the accuracy and legitimacy of AI-generated outputs. She also shared examples of how ESA is beginning to look at use-cases including AI for predictive analytics, compliance monitoring, and service delivery improvements.</p> <p><i>Comments: Deva inquired about the possibility of using their construction project tracking software, Open Space, for ESA inspections, but Patience explained that ESA is not currently set up to handle such submissions due to security and data management concerns. Patience emphasized the importance of using open-source systems and managing data expansion costs, while also noting the potential for future collaboration. The discussion touched on the evolving role of artificial intelligence in construction and its limitations, with Patience and Joe exchanging views on AI's current capabilities and security vulnerabilities. Eric Kingston also highlighted ESA's focus on cybersecurity through their corporate goals and continuous investment in safeguarding information.</i></p>

*The Council also discussed the importance of human oversight in AI systems and compared current data security practices to those from previous years. Overall, this was a significant area of interest with AC members noting the use of AI for day-to-day business purposes in their own operations (particularly back-office processes) but not specific to actual electrical work.*

*Conclusions: None.*

*Motions: None*

*Actions: None.*

5. **Ontario Electrical Safety Report**

Freda Lam presented the 24th edition of the Ontario Electrical Safety Report, highlighting key trends and statistics on electrical-related fatalities and injuries in Ontario since 2015. She noted that fatalities have remained relatively constant at around 1 per million population, with a peak in the 20-39 age group and a seasonal increase during summer months. Freda also discussed worker safety statistics, which have remained steady at 14-17 incidents per year, with electrical safety incidents hovering between 3 and 4. The report aims to provide stakeholders with a longitudinal perspective of electrical safety risks and inform the development of safety programs and standards.

Freda presented data on electrical fatalities, injuries, and fires in Ontario. She noted that industrial settings and repair/maintenance activities were common for occupational fatalities, with human error often being the cause. Electrical injuries in emergency departments showed a steady trend, with males accounting for the majority of cases. Freda also discussed power line contacts and electrical fires, highlighting a decrease in wiring-related fires over the years.

*Comments: Joe expressed concern about power line contact incidents and suggested improving awareness of safety rules. Scott inquired about the occupation-specific tracking of injuries, and Joe offered to provide monthly reports from the Provincial Health and Safety Labor Management Committee. Deva asked about the tracking of battery fires, to which Freda noted that while it's not a non-issue, reliable data collection remains a challenge.*

*Conclusions: None.*

*Motions: None*

*Actions: None*

6. **2026 Work Plan Discussion**

The conversation ended with a discussion of the 2026 work plan draft, presented by Alex. He outlined five main objectives for the Council's consideration, including developing an understanding of emerging electrical harms and trends, and industry-specific issues, governance and management updates, ESA awareness campaigns, and the annual license holder meeting. The Council members were asked to review the draft and provide feedback on which items to prioritize, add or remove. Alex emphasized the importance of continuing to listen to the Council's needs and respond accordingly in the coming year. There was no decision point on the work plan for this meeting, but instead the members were asked to review it and provide updates via email ahead of the 2026 calendar year meetings.

The committee also discussed the meeting cadence and format for 2026, agreeing to hold four virtual and one in-person meetings throughout the year, with a preference for shorter, more frequent meetings rather than fewer, longer ones. The group also discussed the timing of meetings relative to other association events and agreed that Eric's availability would be a key factor in determining meeting dates. Alex will distribute the meeting minutes, draft work plan and 2026 meeting dates to be confirmed.

*Comments: The council emphasized the importance of continuing with five meetings per year and did not want to alter the cadence.*

*Conclusions: None.*

*Motions: None*

*Actions: Alex to distribute the minutes and 2026 workplan following the meeting to the Chair and council for review.*

### **Meeting Adjournment**

Motion:

*Adjourn Meeting at 11:05*

*Moved by: Joe Kurpe*

*Seconded: Scott Yemen*

*Carried*

Having completed the agenda, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

The conclusion of this meeting ends the 2025 calendar year meetings for CoAC. The cadence, format and dates/times of the 2026 meetings will be shared with the Chair and council for review.

*Please advise the Chair or ESA staff of any discrepancies in these minutes.*