



The Canadian Electrical Contractors Association.

Working for You!

Electrical Injury Awareness

The Canadian electrical industry has set aside October 6 as “Electrical Injury Day of Recognition”. October 6, 2022 was the very first day of recognition. This year’s campaign included distribution of an informational poster with links to the CECA website that contained information related to electrical injury. Annually, we will continue to recognize October 6 as the day we raise awareness on the long-term consequences of electrical shock exposure.

Exposure to electrical shock has unfortunately been common since the invention of electricity. The immediate effects of electrical injury are well documented, however, there was no awareness of the long-term consequences. Research now shows injury can develop months or years after receiving an electrical shock. This applies to AC or DC voltages, depending on the frequency, path of the current, magnitude of the current and duration of exposure.

The potential long-term consequences include psychological, neurological, and physical impairment of varying degrees. Symptoms often present as a distinguishable pattern; however, they are often misdiagnosed by family physicians, and physicians of occupational medicine.

An expert opinion is required to properly diagnose and treat those who may have been injured, and unfortunately due to this limitation, workers more than often cannot get the help they need. Currently there is no cure for the long-term effects of electrical injury and few North American hospitals are performing research in this area.

Any contact with electrical current must be reported to both employer and family physician, the safety authority having jurisdiction, and documentation retained by the worker. Regardless of visible injury.

Please visit the CECA website for additional resources related to electrical injury.

The Electrical Injury Day of Recognition is an initiative of the [Electrical Contractors Association of Alberta](#), the [Canadian Electrical Contractors Association](#), and the [National Electrical Trade Council](#). We welcome other industries and trade organizations to join us in supporting this initiative to raise awareness of the dangers of electrical shock injury so that we may support our workers and our economy.

Respectfully yours,

Gregg Whitty

CECA Operations Manager