

Granby Group of Companies

**BRIDGE**  
ELECTRIC CORP.



Bridge Electric Corp.:

# POWERING UP THE LOWER MAINLAND

Bridge Electric Corp. has forged a well-earned reputation for delivering projects of the highest quality on budget and "On Time, Every Time"

*Written by: Kevin Doyle Produced by: Stephen Marino*





Partners, Granby Group



operating as the Commercial Division of The Granby Group of Companies (est.1966) for more

than 30 years, Bridge Electric Corp. is an award-winning, trusted provider of electrical systems for projects of all sizes across the commercial, institutional, retail, and light industrial sectors in and around Greater Vancouver, British Columbia.

Now under the guidance of CEO Terry Lange and President Duane Besse, an industry veteran with more than 25 years of electrical construction and management experience, the company continues to grow as one of British Columbia's largest and most respected open shop electrical contractors, forging a well-earned reputation for delivering projects of the highest quality on budget and "On Time".

What differentiates Bridge Electric from its competitors in a crowded field? It's all about teamwork and trust.

"Any business knows you can only be successful if you have an engaged team and an environment that allows individuals to succeed in reaching their professional and personal goals. Our goal is to make sure everyone wants to get up in the morning and go to work for Bridge Electric," Besse says.

"We genuinely care about our employees and want them to have the best work environment possible. Trust and loyalty are the foundation of our strength. Individuals are motivated to do the best work they can, which energizes the team at every level to provide top notch service to our clients and customers," he continues.

The company employs between 100 and 200 field staff, depending upon its existing workload, as well as approximately 25 office staff.

### *Projects and Awards*

In September 2015, Bridge Electric completed installation of the electrical systems for Nordstrom Pacific Center. The 230,000sf buildout is the first of six international flagship locations for the high-end retail chain.

The company was also responsible for the electrical installation at the striking MNP Tower at 1021 West Hastings. The 35 storey commercial tower features a LEED-certified core and shell and was completed in early 2015.



Duane Besse, President

Through the years, the company has earned 13 Awards of Excellence presented by the Vancouver Regional Construction Association (VRCA) dating back to 1989, a point of pride for Besse.

“With so many competitors in our market we are very proud of the 13 Awards of Excellence our teams have received and continue to strive for on every project we build,” he says.

Most recently, Bridge Electric earned a 2014 VRCA Silver Award of Excellence for its work on Stratford Hall Middle Years Program Private School. The 33,500sf facility is a vertically stacked school designed for a small commercial urban lot. It featured an open concept design with interior glass partition walls, extensive multimedia systems, and a full lighting control system.

Bridge Electric also earned a VRCA Silver Award of Excellence in 2012 for its work on The VanDusen Visitor Centre at Vancouver’s VanDusen Botanical Gardens. The stunning 19,000sf structure is LEED Platinum certified and is recognized as Canada’s first Living Building.

In 2010, VRCA bestowed both its Gold Award of Excellence and its Innovation Award of Excellence upon Bridge Electric for the company’s work at the Fairmont Pacific Rim Hotel and Residences in Vancouver. Achieving both the Gold Award of Excellence and the Innovation Award on one project demonstrates the effort and resources that Bridge Electric will commit to accomplishing projects of this size and magnitude “On Time”.



MNP Tower

In the January 2003 edition of BC Business Magazine, a Watson Wyatt survey ranked Bridge Electric as the Seventh Best Employer in British Columbia, the first time a member of the BC construction industry made the list's top ten.

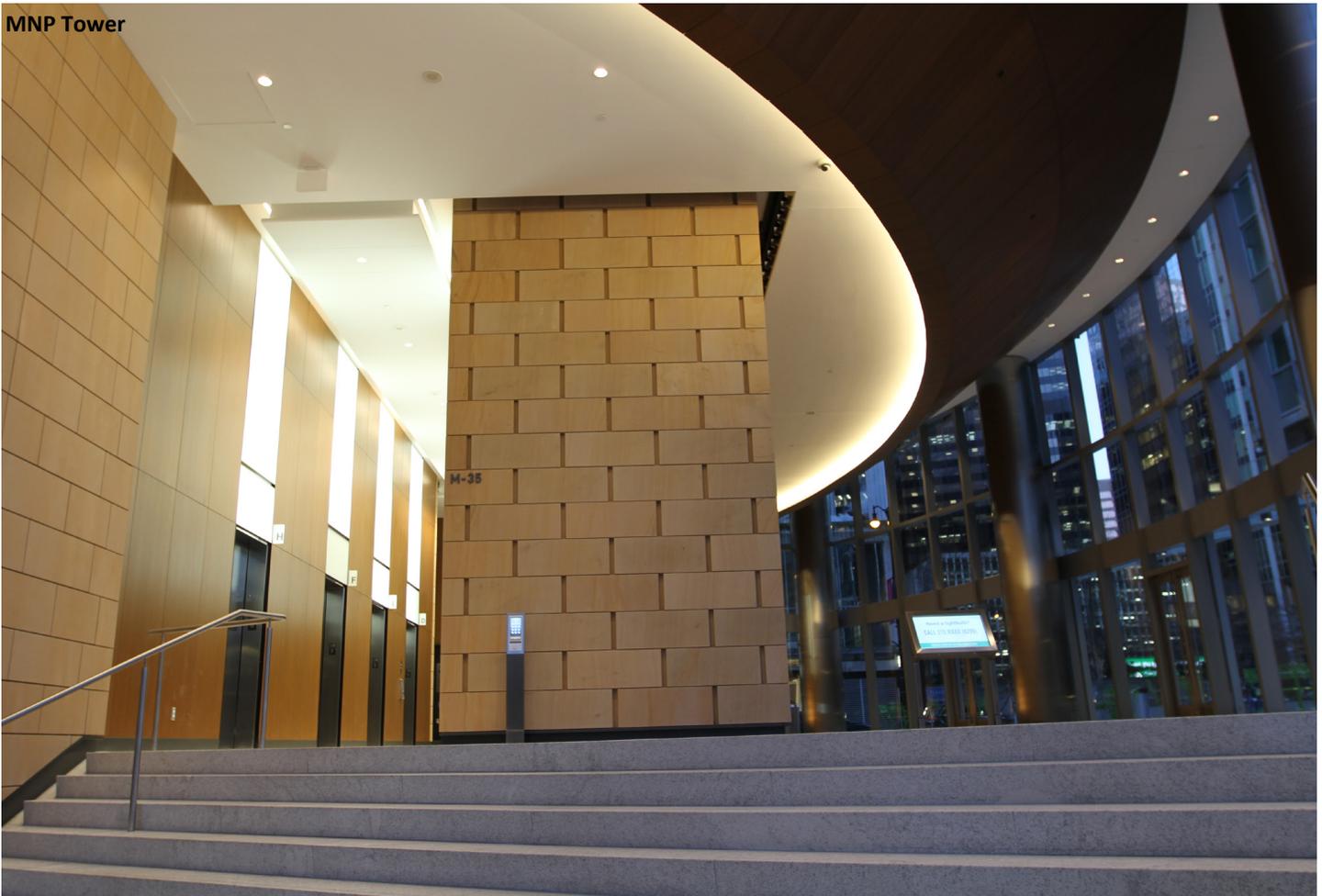
### *Maintaining A Safe Environment*

The company's commitment to safety is unwavering, beginning the moment a new employee is hired.

"The Bridge Electric commitment to safety begins from the moment an employee is hired. There is an extensive safety orientation, followed by a quiz to ensure that the new employee has a solid understanding of the fundamentals of safety within our organization. Our highly developed safety training program far exceeds the minimum WorkSafeBC requirements, which in turn provides all employees with the skills required to work safely at all times. Safety will always be a priority before productivity," Besse explains.

The company maintains COR certification through the British Columbia Construction Safety Alliance. A dedicated Safety Officer keeps the company current with new safety enhancements and changes in legislation. They actively visit all jobs to review the site conditions and any specific issues rising from construction while openly seeking feedback for the continued development of the safety program. In the company's continuing effort to promote and engage employees in safety, they frequently seek feedback and suggestions via company-wide anonymous surveys. Employees buy into the programs knowing they are being heard. Their efforts are recognized and rewarded when safety milestones are reached.

MNP Tower



## *People First*

Bridge Electric strongly believes in the values of teamwork and family culture. The company offers profit sharing to all employees, promotes and provides educational opportunities for its work force, and holds several annual company-wide events.

"I'm a firm believer in treating people the way you in turn would like to be treated. It comes down to having a core group that is motivated and interested in conducting themselves with integrity and professionalism, from the management team all the way down to our first-year apprentices," Besse says.

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[www.bridgeelectric.com](http://www.bridgeelectric.com)

- **Commercial**
- **Institutional**
- **High-rise Residential**
- **Light Industrial**
- **Fully Equipped Service Fleet**
- **Engineered Design Build**
- **Serving the Lower Mainland since 1982**

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about our

*On time!*  
commitment

registration #10546

“We want everyone who has a goal to be able to achieve their goal. It is critical everyone feels they are important and not just a number to the company. Our success is due to our teamwork,” he asserts.

The company provides a 13-week in-house supervisory training program for those journeymen interested in moving into a leadership role.

“We walk through everything our employees should be prepared for in a successful leadership capacity. We believe people should have the tools it takes to make the next step in their careers and not be left to sink or swim,” Besse says.

All employees are encouraged to take

ongoing education and safety courses to stay up to date and understand intricate changes in industry practices and regulations with tuition fully funded by the company.

Besse prefers an open door policy that encourages employees to share their ideas and concerns. He regularly visits job sites to speak with the crews and provide additional mentoring and insight.

“I find staying in touch with the crews in the field increases morale and productivity,” Besse continues.

The company holds three sponsored events each year – a Christmas Banquet for all employees, their significant others, as well as the company’s suppliers;



**Stratford Hall Middle Years Program Private School**



a Summer Social Family Day with golf, bocce, and kids events; and an offsite Team Building Day for office and field leadership teams, allowing employees to interact on a personal level away from work.

Onsite barbecues for crews in the field are always well received.

### *Operations and Challenges*

Besse pinpoints the biggest challenge confronting any electrical contractor is always being a following trade on any given project. He says, "Bridge's commitment to "On Time, Every Time" means we refuse to accept this as a barrier to success."

"We have to go in there and analyze schedules and put forward suggestions to

help the General Contractors achieve tight deadlines. We have yet to miss a deadline and General Contractors look to Bridge Electric to be a leader when we are onsite," Besse points out.

The company operates primarily in the Lower Mainland. It has its own dedicated service department with a fleet of service vans designed to handle any form of planned maintenance, upgrade, or emergency calls. Bridge Electric has three electrical engineers and a LEED certified representative on staff and is capable of any type of project approach from firm price quote to Design Build.

"We have a strong core group of highly educated and dedicated individuals. We work within our resources and will not over

Wesbrook Residences



Fairmont Pacific Rim Hotel and Residences



extend ourselves. Once we take on a job, the General Contractor has confidence it will be done 100 percent correctly,” Besse says.

“Repeat business is huge for us. We thrive on strong customer relationships and want the customer to call us back to achieve their next project with Bridge Electric,” he concludes.

Given Bridge’s track record, why wouldn’t they?

## COMPANY INFORMATION

Granby Group of Companies

**BRIDGE**  
ELECTRIC CORP.

Company Name:

**Bridge Electric Corp**

Country:

**Canada**

Industry:

**Construction**

Established:

**1982**

President:

**Duane Besse**

Website:

**[www.bridgeelectric.com](http://www.bridgeelectric.com)**



Bridge Electric Team, November 2015

*Granby Group of Companies*

# **BRIDGE**

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**11091 Hammersmith Gate,  
Richmond, BC, Canada  
V7A 5E6  
604.273.2744  
[information@bridgeelectric.com](mailto:information@bridgeelectric.com)**

**[www.bridgeelectric.com](http://www.bridgeelectric.com)**