



## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

For Immediate Release

### **Birnie Electric Takes Home Prestigious Win at The 2016 Electrical Safety Awards.**

MISSISSAUGA, October 2nd, 2016 - Birnie Electric's commitment to making homeowners electrically safe was recognized last Thursday, at the Living Arts Centre, by the Electrical Safety Authority (ESA).

The licensed electrical contractor's CurrentSAFE program took home the, Consumer and Home Safety Award, for their efforts in educating residents about electrical safety issues in the home.

The Awards were presented by Brian Bentz, Chair, Electrical Safety Authority Board of Directors, and the Honourable Marie-France Lalonde, Minister of Government and Consumer Services.

Tim Birnie, president of Birnie Electric and Birnie CurrentSAFE, was present to accept the award. "I am extremely proud of my team. I know we are actually making a difference in the community and we're saving lives everyday by finding potential electrical fire hazards and making the necessary recommendations for the repairs," he says.

Since its inception in 2010, Birnie CurrentSAFE has been speaking to homeowners about the dangers of degraded electrical systems and providing solutions to address electrical hazards. Birnie CurrentSAFE continues to promote their electrical safety message by partnering with community agencies like the Mississauga Fire Department, hosting monthly public seminars across the GTA and by maintaining a strong social media presence that reaches thousands of consumers.

"I would like to thank the ESA for this recognition and for supporting all of our electrical safety initiatives. It really is a team effort," says Birnie.

To find out more about Birnie Electric's CurrentSAFE program visit [ismyhomesafe.ca](http://ismyhomesafe.ca)

#### Quick Facts:

- 99 per cent of homes have electrical defects that pose potential hazards
- 30 per cent of homes have serious 'call the fire department' defects
- 40 per cent of homes contain dangerous shock hazards
- 61 per cent of homes have inadequate, expired or non-existent smoke alarms
- Nine out of 10 homes inspected lack functioning GFCI protection
- GFCI outlets should be inspected and replaced every 10 years
- Homes as early as 15 years of age can start exhibiting the warning signs of faulty electrical

*\*\* The following quick facts were gathered from Birnie CurrentSAFE's EHD inspections.*

#### **For further information, please contact:**

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Birnie Electric, founded in 1967, is committed to promoting safety at work and at home. Birnie employs a team of skilled service electricians, each with an average of 20 years' electrical experience. They are fully insured, background security checked and covered under WSIB. In addition to delivering the Birnie CurrentSAFE program to residential customers, Birnie Electric provides design/build, electrical contracting and datacomm services to developers and contractors as well as to commercial and industrial businesses throughout Ontario.

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