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president's message

by Al Nelson, ALS

We have had some unsettled weather this summer but, for the most part, it seems that the survey community enjoyed a relatively productive summer.

That seems to coincide with a recent issuance from NRCan wherein it was reported through Statistics Canada that geomatics revenue across Canada was led by the Alberta sector with estimated revenue of \$1.1 billion.

This is a pilot project and Statistics Canada may revise the preliminary estimates. Since this is a pilot project and still only at a first phase, the results are very preliminary and subject to revisions by StatsCan. For this reason, they don't intend to post it on the NRCan website. When phase 2 is completed, the results will be revisited to capture a better picture of the geomatics industry.

Yes, quite a few zeros. Second is Ontario with \$460,000. When you look at the number of land surveyors

Table 2: Preliminary estimate of geomatics activity by province, 2002¹

	Number of establishments ²	Revenue ³	Expenses ⁴	Salaries, wages and benefits ⁵	Sub. contracted services	Depreciation	Other expenses	Profit margin ⁶ (%)
Millions of dollars								
Alta.	287	1,154.4	1,071.4	442.6	133.8	98.1	484.9	7.2
Ont.	228	489.9	410.2	205.0	19.1	18.8	169.3	10.8
Que.	184	298.9	220.6	85.5	15.1	9.6	110.4	6.9
B.C.	105	232.3	216.0	88.7	24.1	6.7	96.5	7.0
N.S.	33	43.8	40.7	17.9	2.8	1.4	18.7	6.6
Sask.	24	30.9	27.5	15.9	2.1	1.1	8.2	11.7
N.L.	13	20.6	20.7	7.8	0.1	1.0	11.8	-0.3
Man.	14	18.0	16.6	9.0	0.3	0.7	6.0	12.5
P.E.I.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
N.B.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Y.T.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
N.W.T.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Nvt.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Canada	904	2,242.2	2,063.5	891.5	199.5	128.4	844.1	8.8

in each jurisdiction, the number of residents and a number of other factors, it becomes increasingly apparent that we are most fortunate in both our economy and in our systems of survey and land titling. It occurs to me that the profit margin is rather low in relative terms. This survey was undertaken by StatsCan on behalf of NRCan. You may have an interest in

obtaining more information on these statistics. You could contact Tammy Nguyen [944-4709; tanguyen@nrcan.gc.ca] or Michelle Maragh [943-1703; mmaragh@nrcan.gc.ca]

That good fortune has been documented in another interesting manner by a former Director of Surveys from Alberta, Mr. Ed Kennedy (now Managing Director at the Canadian GeoProject Centre) entitled "Canadian Land Registry System Market Survey" wherein the ten provincial jurisdictions are directly compared in the following categories:

- Population
- Regulatory framework
- Responsible organization
- Type of organization
- Ministerial responsibility
- Responsibility for Policy on Land, Registration and drafting Legislation
- Number of Parcels
- Existing Land Registry systems
- Computerization
- Imaging of Documents
- Private sector contractor involvement
- Financial investment statistics
- Proposed land registry projects
- Internet functionality
- Implementation and development of proposed system

Table 1B: Preliminary estimate of geomatics regional activity by combined industrial grouping, Canada, 2002¹

	Number of establishments ²	Revenue ³	Expenses ⁴	Salaries, wages and benefits ⁵	Profit margin ⁶ (%)
Millions of dollars					
Atlantic Provinces (P.E.I., N.S., N.B.)					
Surveying and Mapping (except geophysical)	34	26.0	23.7	14.1	5.2
Computer Systems Design and Software Publishers	10	18.5	15.2	10.0	17.3
Consulting, Engineering, Manufacturing, Wholesale, Other	9	16.4	15.5	5.6	-0.7
Geophysical Surveying and Mapping	x	x	x	x	x
Quebec					
Surveying and Mapping (except geophysical)	126	928.8	89.8	43.4	14.3
Computer Systems Design and Software Publishers	34	65.2	64.7	25.0	0.7
Consulting, Engineering, Manufacturing, Wholesale, Other	28	57.9	54.9	16.2	5.1
Geophysical Surveying and Mapping	x	x	x	x	x
Ontario					
Surveying and Mapping (except geophysical)	141	932.6	146.4	87.1	10.0
Manufacturing, Wholesale, Other	18	95.2	84.3	27.9	9.6
Computer Systems Design and Software Publishers	21	75.4	64.1	34.1	15.0
Consulting and Engineering	14	21.6	19.9	7.4	9.7
Geophysical Surveying and Mapping	x	x	x	x	x
Western Canada and Territories (Man., Sask., Alta., B.C., Y.T., N.W.T.)					
Geophysical Surveying and Mapping	177	774.5	717.5	299.7	7.3
Surveying and Mapping (except geophysical)	184	419.0	380.3	205.6	9.2
Manufacturing, Wholesale, Other	25	121.5	115.3	32.9	4.9
Computer Systems Design and Software Publishers	20	82.0	79.6	38.1	2.5
Consulting and Engineering	22	83.4	61.2	27.5	3.8
Total	904	2,242.2	2,063.5	891.5	8.8

x: suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act

- Fee Schedules
- Proposed five year investment.

These two documents capture a significant story related directly to the heart of our businesses and really bring into perspective what we are capable of achieving in both business rewards but also in fulfilling our statutory mandate under our legislation.

Onwards and Upwards

Although we may have some favorable bias with respect to the systems we enjoy in Alberta, we should not believe that we can rest on the status quo. I would like to acknowledge the simple fact that our membership do no such thing. The positive actions that are representative of our membership's proactive attitude include intense consideration of complex proposals aimed at improving an already enviable system.

Legislation Ad Hoc and Boundary Uncertainty

This includes work being done to streamline resolution of boundary conflict and to protect the public. This is not a simple issue and if you recall the discussion at last year's AGM, the committees deserve accolades just for tackling the issues, and even more credit for proposing complex solutions. This year's effort will be very interesting.

The Future

Another work of immense interest that is a more global issue is the work being undertaken by the Ad Hoc Committee on the Future. Envisioning where our overall profession will be in both the short and long terms is daunting in itself. Proposing change to accommodate evolving disciplines and technologies while maintaining the integrity of a legal survey system and community in the public interest is a real challenge. As a group, we tend to be quite conservative. It is a shame that we have not reacted sooner to accept branches of related

The positive actions that are representative of our membership's proactive attitude include intense consideration of complex proposals aimed at improving an already enviable system.

workings into the survey community. One specific example is that of Information Management and GIS, which in itself is the very essence of the motion from our general membership which created the committee. Again, credit to our members for recognizing the need to consider change and to commit to a leadership role in that consideration. With reciprocity, NAFTA and the simple fact that our members often hold qualification in other jurisdictions, it truly becomes a global issue, requiring the need for broad consultation. The issues of entrance requirements and entry standards will also be on the table during these deliberations. Any possible solution that may arise from this work will also require a unified approach to the introduction of the solutions to members of the survey community at large, to legislators, to practitioners in related disciplines and to the public. Thanks again to our members and our committee for the vision and the fortitude to carry out the exercise.

Other Committees

The seeming importance of the committees discussed above does not diminish in any respect the incredible amount of challenges and work being undertaken by the many active committees within our Association. My own enlightenment by being more involved and seeing first-hand the commitment and dedication of our membership brings with it a much higher level of respect for individuals, committees and for varying and

opposing opinions. This is a gift that we enjoy and often fail to recognize or acknowledge.

Provincial Meetings

On other fronts, upcoming meetings with other provinces include Manitoba in September (my old stomping grounds), Nova Scotia in October, British Columbia's Centennial in January (when the flowers are blooming) and finishing up with Ontario in February. I will repeat that the interaction with other provinces and other jurisdictions are invaluable for both the information exchange and in the relationships forged with some pretty incredible people.

President's Tour

We looked forward to the visit with some of our members in President's Tour venues, which were held in Ft. McMurray and Grande Prairie on September 9th and in Red Deer on September 21, 2004 which will coincide with an Executive Committee meeting to be held in that location. Grande Prairie is now big enough to hold its own regular regional meetings.

New Offices

It would appear that our dedicated staff at the ALSA are now settled in to the new quarters and are back into business as usual of trying to satisfy the insatiable. Please take the time to drop in and check out the new office space and say hello. There will be an opportunity to visit the office with a Christmas reception in December at the new offices.

If any of you have concerns or issues that you would like discussed or brought to Council, please call me anytime.

If your wallet is too full and causing discomfort, please make a donation to the Holloway Scholarship Fund or to a worthwhile charity.



councillor's forum

by Grant Cross, ALS

Over the past several years, a number of technological advances have aided our profession by allowing field and office operations to be completed in a shorter time frame than previous.

Knowing this, and recognizing the Historical and Biographical Committee undertaking to publish a history of land surveying in Alberta, perhaps this is a good time to look back and remember some of the equipment and methods of survey previously utilized.

Do you remember when:

- every new Alberta Land Surveyor was required to purchase a "standard chain." This was the standard that all other chains used for measurement were checked to;
- steel chains would break and repair was necessary either by a rivet process or solder repair;
- transits had exterior vernier scales that were best read using a magnifying glass;
- transits had an external focus rather than an internal focus as instruments of today have. You could see the scope lengthen and shorten when operating the focus;
- topographic surveys were performed by measuring horizontal and vertical angles and distances were determined by stadia readings;
- titles searches were performed by going to Land Titles, obtaining the information from Land Titles staff and hand writing all the information;
- every crew had chaining pins. The head chainman placed the pin at the mark and tail chainman picked the chaining pin up. This was a

...with all the technological advances, why hasn't someone developed a system of seeing through bush when standing on the ground.

method to ensure the number of measurement intervals was correctly accounted for;

- everyone on the survey crew had chaining clamps to ensure the steel tape didn't slip during the measurement process;
- everyone on the survey crew had a plumb bob complete with a sheath attached to his belt or some other inventive method of attachment;
- there were no "gammon reels." You threw the plumb bob string over your shoulder and proceeded to the next point;
- when measuring over undulating terrain, vertical angles were measured with a clinometer. Steep angled measurements required vertical angle measurement from each end of the measurement. Calculations were performed to determine the horizontal distance;
- temperature corrections were calculated and applied to measured distances;
- measurements were sometimes performed using scales to ensure proper tension of the steel tape;
- there were no walkie-talkies to aid in communications between members of the survey crew. This meant a lot of shouting and use of hand signals for directions and relay of numbers;

- the first practical short range electronic measuring devices were available and required the manipulation of dials to determine the various measurement components (ones, tens, hundreds, etc.);
- field calculations were performed on a "Curta" calculator;
- anyone that had a four wheel drive vehicle was driving a Jeep or a Dodge Power Wagon;
- there were no snow machines or quads. Crew members walked a lot and gained experience with snow shoes;
- survey plans were drafted by hand and every office had drafting tables complete with Leroy lettering sets, scales, straight edges and the ever famous electric eraser;
- survey plans were drafted on linen, and heaven forbid if the plans were folded or exposed to moisture;
- survey plans were cluttered with endorsements by the land surveyor, owner and encumbering parties to the title;
- the first computers were capable of 1/10,000 (a guess) of today's computer and required a large room;
- printing machines were huge monstrosities requiring the use of ammonia to expose the paper and show the linework and lettering of the plan;
- automated plotters came into use complete with an array of pens for the various line weights. The machine whirred and clicked as the paper was rotated, the pens swept sideways and the plotter picked up the required pen. The operator had

.....continued on page 24



editor's notes

by Brian Munday, Executive Director

Ok, here I am sitting at my desk without any idea about what to write for this issue of *ALS News*. Al Nelson just called to see if I had any ideas about what he could write for his article and I gave him my best idea. So it's back to the drawing board.

There are a number of things that I could write about but none of them really warrant a full column at this time. National Post sports columnist, Cam Cole, occasionally writes a column that he calls "items that may one day turn into full columns." So, with apologies to Mr. Cole, here is my version of items that may one day turn into a column for *ALS News*.

1. The Association moved into its new premises in the Phipps-McKinnon Building on July 10th. We have been really pleased with our new premises. We now have, for the moment anyway, sufficient space for all of our boxes, binders, files and manuals.

2. Alfred Licwinko was the first Alberta Land Surveyor to visit our new office. The Registration Committee was the first Committee to hold a meeting in our new office. The Registration Committee was also the last Committee to hold a meeting in the Association's old office.

3. As you might guess, the Registration Committee has been very busy since the Annual General Meeting in April. To date, nine former articulated students and affiliate members have received their commissions as Alberta Land Surveyors.

4. In this issue of *ALS News*, Registration Committee member Bryan Bates has written an excellent article on the registration process. All articulated students, affiliate members, and principals (current and future) should read it.

Computers were supposed to make communications easier. ... If there is a better way for your Association to communicate with you, please let me know.

5. There is really good information about the registration process in the handbook, syllabus and Examination and Training Regulation. Articled students and affiliate members should be as familiar with them as they are the LTO Procedures Manual or the EUB Guide 56. Articled students are responsible for their articles and must be aware of when their articles expire and when they must request an extension. The same also applies for project reports.

6. Re-read Bryan Bates' article.

7. The number of phone calls from the public about land surveying questions is down. This is good. It tells me that, for the most part, our members are keeping their clients happy and addressing any concerns that do arise.

8. Even though the number of phone calls are down, the most common type of phone calls remain surveyors accessing a property using Section 16 of the Surveys Act and not repairing property damage. In these situations, the land owner always tells me that this has happened repeatedly and that the surveyor never identified himself.

9. Of course, we cannot be sure that it was, in fact, a land survey crew that came onto the property and looked for those monuments. However, the public believes a land survey crew is responsible.

10. I am aware of one situation this year in which a land owner talked to her municipal councillor about property damage left by surveyors. In another case, the police were contacted when a landowner felt that a land surveyor did not adequately identify himself.

11. The Association does receive phone calls from clients about how much their Alberta Land Surveyor has charged them. The Association does not get in the middle of these types of disputes other to explain to the client that it is the Association's role to make sure that the work was done in accordance with the appropriate acts, regulations and other standards.

12. In the case of a fee dispute between a land surveyor and a client and in the absence of any written contract, I would bet that any court would rule in favour of the client. You may wish to re-read the booklet, *Contracting Surveying Services*, published the Canadian Council of Land Surveyors several years ago.

13. It is no surprise that insurance is a big topic around the Association these days. Auto insurance rates have hit the newspaper headlines and insurance coverage resulting from Edmonton's July hailstorm has also received much attention.

14. The Association's bylaws state that Alberta Land Surveyors must have professional liability insurance. The Association does not specify, however, who the broker or the carrier must be.

15. We try to discourage clients from procuring surveying services simply on price but to consider other factors such as timeliness, quality of service and so on. Everyone should be careful about obtaining insurance

coverage simply on the basis of the premium but to ensure that they are making an apples to apples comparison.

16. Many thanks to all of the members who completed the on-line questionnaire on the attitudes and opinions of the Association's public relations efforts. Many other people with whom land surveyors work on a regular basis were canvassed and the Public Relations Committee will use this information to develop a new public relations plan.

17. The membership has been bombarded with questionnaires from the Association in the past covering everything from public relations to continuing education seminars to the location of future AGMs. We try to keep the number of questionnaire to a minimum but when we do send them out, we really value your comments and responses.

18. Computers were supposed to make communications easier. I also remember somebody saying something about a paperless society. I am skeptical on both counts. We try to get information to you in a timely fashion and we know you are getting blasted with e-mail messages and voice mail message from everywhere. If there is a better way for your Association to communicate with you, please let me know.

19. The Professional Development Committee has embarked on an aggressive seminar program for the next year. Stay tuned for seminar notices. There should be something for everyone.

20. *Laying Down the Lines: A History of Surveying in Alberta* has gone to the publisher and will be available at the 2005 AGM in Jasper. To date, almost 500 books have been pre-ordered and we are continuing to take orders.

The Association office continues to be a busy place with many things on the go. Perhaps I will have time to think of an idea for a column before the next deadline for *ALS News*.



letters

RPR Updates

I found your news release regarding Alberta Land Surveyors Real Property Reports very well done and informative.

I have to disagree with you, however, that "only the Land Surveyor who signed the original RPR may do an update." The field notes of the original survey belong to the surveyor's corporation with whom the surveyor was employed. If the surveyor is no longer in the employ of that corporation, he cannot update the Report.

In my opinion, any ALS in the employ of the corporation with the field notes may update an RPR.

Your comments please.

JOHN VAN BERKEL, ALS

Curve Dimensioning

Mr. Minto's comments about the frequent insufficient dimensioning of curves is right on the mark. I have been saying for many years that the minimum requirements of the MSP do not ensure that there is sufficient curve information to easily calculate closures. In fact, it is possible to prepare a plan containing a curve or curves for which it is impossible to calculate a closure and yet still meet the requirements of Part D, Section 1.4 of the MSP. The easy solution to this is to require all legal plans to show radius, chord and bearing for every curve segment. Delta angle and arc could be shown too but are not, in my opinion, necessary because they are extremely easy to calculate from the chord and radius information.

Showing the bearing and chord information allows closures to be run simply on each lot, and is more useful to staff when checking plan dimensions to field measurements. How many of your field staff actually measure the arc distance along a curve?

I strongly urge the Association to amend the MSP accordingly. The simplest and most practical amendment is to require that the radius, arc delta, chord and bearing be shown for every curve segment on the plan. With today's computer drafting capabilities, the cost to produce a table of this data is insignificant. The MSP could read as follows:

Where any curved boundary of a lot, block, parcel, or right-of-way, or any other curved boundary is required to be shown on a plan, the radius, central angle, arc length, chord length, and chord bearing of each and every curve segment shall be shown. Some or all of the data may be shown in tabular form if required for clarity of data presentation.

Thank you, Mr. Minto, for your comments. I challenge all the Alberta Land Surveyors out there to convince me that the above amendment, or a similar one, is not in the best interests of our members and the public. Or, if you agree with me, please write me a letter in support of taking this amendment to the Standards Committee or directly to the AGM.

PAUL STOLIKER, ALS

Scholarships

Please accept my sincere appreciation for your generous gift of \$2,500 in support of the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association Academic Achievement Scholarship at the University of New Brunswick. This gift will support our most important resource—our students.

I am pleased to welcome the Alberta Land Surveyors to the newly created President's Circle recognizing donors who annually contribute \$1,000 or more to the UNB.

I am grateful for your message of confidence in UNB and your willing-

ness to continue to partner with us in our mission to provide talented and motivated students with a quality educational experience.

JOHN D. MCLAUGHLIN
PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR

On behalf of the University of Calgary, I am pleased to advise you that the recipients selected for the following nominated awards are:

J.H. Holloway Scholarship in Geomatics Engineering

Donald Albert L. McKee - \$2,500

John Deyholos Memorial Award

Dana Erin Lee - \$2,500

I would like to take this opportunity to express to you the thanks of the University of Calgary for the provision of these awards. The financial reward and support you offer to the students here is greatly appreciated. Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions or comments regarding the administration of these awards or the University awards program in general.

LINDA SHARMA, DIRECTOR
STUDENT AWARDS AND FINANCIAL AID
UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

On behalf of the University of Calgary, I am pleased to advise you that the recipient selected for the following nominated award is:

A.D. (Denis) Hosford Scholarship

Norman Chan

LINDA SHARMA, DIRECTOR
STUDENT AWARDS AND FINANCIAL AID
UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Note: the above award is funded by the North West Group in perpetuity.

Made to Measure

Science Alberta Foundation has had a banner year! At the root of our success is the sponsors who make our programs possible. We appreciate the support we have received from the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association and we are delighted to report on the tremendous success of "Made to Measure" during its first year in circulation.

The Program

Science-In-A-Crate is our signature program. With over 160 crates in rotation province-wide, we are able to share with schools, museums, and community groups a treasure trove of scientific activities designed to engage minds through hands-on learning. Each crate uses a different storyline or theme to explore a different aspect of who we are, the way we live and the world around us. In the last fiscal year, the crate program reached 58,060 students province-wide!

"Made to Measure" Crate

With support from Alberta Land Surveyors' Association, "Made to Measure" uses the principles of land surveying to teach the concepts of Grade 8 mathematics relating to "shape and space." The response to these new crates has been excellent. In the first year, the two crates had 95% usage! The 2003-2004 school year saw the crates travel to 16 venues in 8 communities—and 828 participants!

"Made to Measure" Promotion

Representatives from both the Calgary Board of Education and the Calgary Roman Catholic Separate School District were invited to the launch of "Made to Measure." The Calgary Board of Education math specialist was so impressed with the crate, that Science Alberta Foundation staff were invited to present four in-services to teachers showcasing "Made to Measure" within the school district. The Calgary Board of Education Math Leaders are so enthused

about "Made to Measure" that they are working with Science Alberta Foundation on new initiatives.

Additionally, "Made to Measure" was highlighted at a workshop during the ATA Science Council Conference in Edmonton. The crate was also featured at the Science Alberta Foundation booth where all science teachers attending the conference would have an opportunity to see this amazing resource. "Made to Measure" was also featured at a workshop for Calgary-area math teachers attending a miniconference during the spring.

Impact

Our hosts appreciate this resource as it helps them communicate difficult concepts to their students in new ways. A teacher from John Ware Junior High in Calgary wrote, "The crate was excellent! It followed curriculum. Instructions were clear. Kids were keen to be working hands-on. Instructions for teachers were very helpful."

The Science-In-A-Crate program also helps children to see the science, math, and technology in their everyday lives. A teacher from Berry Creek Community School in Cessford, Alberta wrote, "I thought it was a great example of application. Often, I am answering the question "Where will I use this?" After this crate was used, I heard the comment that they didn't think parts of it were math. Wonderful."

Science-In-A-Crate Program Report Card

In May 2004, Proactive Information Services, a highly regarded organization in the evaluation field with expertise in evaluating programs in formal and informal contexts, conducted an in-depth independent evaluation of the Science-In-A-Crate program.

Study results demonstrate the excellent quality of the crate program, high user satisfaction, and the achievement of important outcomes. Highlights of the May 2004 evaluation summary include:

- 90% of students surveyed in grades 1 to 4 agreed that the crate activities make them more interested in science;
- 89% of students surveyed in grades 9 to 12 felt the crates showed that science is used in everyday life, 96% felt the activities illustrated the types of jobs people can do using science or technology, and 87% reported that these jobs can be interesting; and,
- 88% of grade 6 students agreed that the crate activities showed them that science can be fun.

Results of the teachers' evaluations include:

- 83% agreed that the crate activities helped them to achieve curriculum outcomes;
- 89% reported that the activities in the crates helped students develop a better understanding of the concepts presented in class and 93% reported increased student participation in class activities;
- 84% reported that the crate activities engaged students who do not usually show interest in science, with a further 76% reporting "at-risk" students and students who are not usually academically successful were engaged; and,
- 99% were satisfied with the activities!

This feedback reinforces the important role Science-In-A-Crate can play in making science learning engaging and accessible to an audience with a wide range of learning needs and science experience. Thank you for helping to make "Made to Measure" possible. We appreciate your support of Science Alberta Foundation. Should you have any questions, comments or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (403) 220-0077 ext.228 or at kathleenk@sciencealberta.org.

*KATHLEEN KLOEPFER
CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
SCIENCE ALBERTA FOUNDATION*



alsa golf tournament

In August 20, 2004, 136 golfers participated in the Annual ALSA Golf Tournament. The weather held out long enough for everyone to finish the course.

Due to the generosity of the participants, the J.H. Holloway Scholarship Foundation raised \$1,695 through the sale of mulligans and draw tickets for two nights accommodation and one round of golf at the Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge and the auction of a signed Jarome Iginla print for \$525.

The winners were:

Team #21



Mary Campbell, Peter Orzek, Bob Wallace, Tim Lindberg

Draw Prize

Dan Joerissen: Two nights accommodation and one round of golf at the Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge.

Auction

Jim Halliday won the signed Jarome Iginla print auctioned of by President Al Nelson. Thanks to George Smith for donating the print.

Early Bird Prize

Ashley Robertson: ALSA Golf Tournament registration fee.

Hole Prizes

- Hole# 01** **Paul Densmore**
Closest to the Target: Men
- Hole #2** **Greg Brown**
Closest to Pin (second shot): Anyone
- Hole #3** **Bryan Rolph**
Closest to the Pin: Anyone
- Hole #4** **Bill Pang**
Closest to Pin (second shot): Anyone
- Hole #5** **Rachel Vincondeau**
Longest Drive: Ladies
- Hole #6** **Mary Campbell**
Closest to the Pin: Anyone
- Hole #7** **Paul Westersund**
Closest to Pine: Anyone
- Hole #8** **Bob Pinel**
Closest to Water (not in) Anyone
- Hole #9** **Dan Joerissen**
Longest Drive: Men
- Hole #10** **Candace Chernetski**
Shortest Drive: Ladies
- Hole #11** **Roy Devlin**
Longest Putt: Anyone
- Hole #12** **Colleen Smith**
Longest Putt: Ladies
- Hole #13** **Tom Medlicott**
Closest to Target from Tee: Anyone
- Hole #14** **David ten Broek**
Ball in Sand: Draw
- Hole #15** **Lloyd Cridland**
Closest to the Pin: Anyone
- Hole #16** **Peter Orzek**
Closest to the Pin: Anyone
- Hole #17** **Murray Young**
Longest Putt: Men
- Hole #18** **Jerry Quinlan**
Longest Drive: Anyone

Hole-in-One Prizes and Special Trophies

- HDF Insurance and Financial Group**
3rd Hole—Digital Camera
- Mountainview Systems Ltd.**
6th Hole—Boat and Motor. The annual trophy for closest to the pin was won by Mary Campbell.
- Land Measurement Systems Inc.**
7th Hole—Hyperlight RTK System
- Butler Surveys Supplies Ltd.**
15th Hole—Boat and Accessories
- Spatial Technologies Inc.**
16th Hole—Leica GPS RTK System

Tournament Sponsors

- Alberta One-Call Corporation
- All-Can Engineering & Surveys (1976) Ltd.
- Butler Survey Supplies Ltd.
- The Cadastral Group Inc.
- Calgary Winter Club
- Caltech Surveys Ltd.
- Can-Am Geomatics Corp.
- Corporate Express
- Crape Geomatics Corporation
- D.W. Data Services
- EECOL Electric
- Ensign Information Systems
- Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge
- First Order Measurement Solutions Inc.
- Focus Surveys Inc.
- Fugro SESL Geomatics Ltd.
- Gemini Positioning Systems Ltd./ Talon Survey Solutions Inc.
- Harry's Pub
- HDF Insurance and Financial Group
- IHS Energy (Canada) Ltd.
- Konica Minolta Business Solutions (Canada) Ltd.
- Land Measurement Systems Inc.
- LPP Services
- Midwest Surveys Inc.
- Millennium Geomatics Ltd.
- Mountainview Systems Ltd.
- Olson Surveys Ltd.
- Peerless Printers Ltd.
- Precision Geomatics Inc.
- Rachynski Land Surveys (1998) Ltd.
- Red Deer Lodge
- Rose County Communications Ltd.
- Russel Metals
- Spatial Technologies Inc.
- TAL Private Management Ltd.
- Tarin Resource Services (1994) Ltd.
- Trimble Canada Ltd.



association notes

New Members



#723
M. (Michael)
Fretwell

#723 FRETWELL, Michael

Michael Fretwell was born in Coventry, UK on April 5, 1961. He entered Canada in 1974. Michael graduated from Old High School in 1979 and went on to receive a diploma in surveying technology from NAIT in 1985.

Michael became an affiliate member on September 3, 2003 and received his commission as an Alberta Land Surveyor on July 28, 2004. He received his commission as a Canada Lands Surveyor on August 1, 2003.

Michael is currently a member of the ALSA Section 9 of the Surveys Act Ad Hoc Committee.

Michael has been involved in the areas of international and municipal surveying and resource development.

Current employment is with Challenger Geomatics Ltd. in Calgary.

Michael enjoys camping, hiking, skiing, white water kayaking, climbing and photography. He is married to Barb and they have one daughter, Shelby, age 12.



#724
R.D. (Reid)
Egger

#724 EGGER, Reid D.

Reid Egger was born on March 29, 1968 in Calgary. He graduated from Ernest Manning Sr. High School in Calgary in 1986 and went on to receive a B.Sc. in Geomatics Engineering from the University of Calgary in 1998.

Articles were served under Alberta Land Surveyors John Matthyssen, Gordon Repp and John Ironstone. The topic of technical report submitted as part of the qualifying examination was "Public Highway or Private Road: Issues Concerning the Dedication of a Road." Commission as an Alberta Land Surveyor was received on August 17, 2004.

Reid has been a member of the ALSA Historical and Biographical Committee since 2001. He is also an Engineering in Training with APEGGA. Reid is a member of the Canadian Forces Reserves (South Alberta Light Horse).

Employment has been with The Cadastral Group Inc., Midwest Surveys Inc. and is currently with All West Surveys Ltd. His surveying experience is mostly in the oil and gas field.

Cycling, hiking, golf and history are a few of Reid's interests.



#725
E.R. (Edward)
Salmon

#725 SALMON, Edward R.

Ed Salmon was born in the province of Ontario on June 6, 1962. He graduated with a B.Sc. from the University of Calgary in 1997.

Articles were served under Roger Ross, ALS. "A Review of the Role of the Province of Alberta, Alberta Land Surveyors and Municipalities in the Development of the Alberta Survey Control Framework (present and future considerations)" was the topic of the technical report submitted as part of the qualifying examination. Ed received his commission as an Alberta Land Surveyor on August 18, 2004.

Ed also is the treasurer of the Fort McMurray Rowing Club and a member of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board.

Surveying experience is mainly in the municipal and industrial fields.

Other interests include rowing and teaching courses at Keyano College in Fort McMurray.



#726
S. (Sirt)
Lin

#726 LIN, Sirt

Sirt Lin was born in Laos on January 27, 1964 and entered Canada in November 1979. He graduated from Winston Churchill High School in 1983 and went on to receive a Civil Engineering Technology Diploma from Lethbridge Community College in 1987. He graduated, with a B.Sc. in Geomatics Engineering from the University of Calgary in 1997.

Articles were served under Alberta Land Surveyors Vince Ziegler and Vic Wolchansky. Commission as an Alberta Land Surveyor was received on August 18, 2004.

Sirt also holds a designation as a P.Eng.

Sirt has experience in the areas of subdivision, condominium, construction and pipeline surveying. He also



#727
H.J. (Harvey)
Goosens

has experience in commercial real property reports and was involved in surveying the Edmonton LRT extension. His present employer is Challenger Geomatics Ltd.

Sirt and his wife, Irene Wong, reside in Edmonton.

#727 GOOSENS, Harvey J.

Harvey Goosens was born in Brockville, Ontario on July 19, 1962. He graduated from Thousand Islands Secondary School in 1981. He received a B.Eng. in Survey Engineering from Ryerson Polytechnical Institute in 1988.

Paul Ellegood, ALS and Michael Grosz, ALS served as Harvey's principals. Commission as an Alberta Land Surveyor was received on August 20, 2004.

Harvey has been a member of the ALSA Standards Committee since 2002.

Surveying experience includes working as a field supervisor in Nigeria and Nepal for mapping related work with Kenting Earth Sciences International of Ottawa and mapping, pipeline and engineering surveys with J.D. Barnes of Toronto. For the past ten years, he has been involved with wellsite and pipeline surveys in surveyed and unsurveyed territory, rural subdivision surveys and real property reports with his present employer, Caltech Surveys Ltd. of Calgary.

Harvey's interests include hockey, golf, skiing and scuba diving.

Harvey is married to Martha and they are expecting their first child in late November 2004.

Changes to the Register

Azimuthal Surveys Ltd. has been cancelled as a surveyors corporation effective July 29, 2004.

Can-Am Geomatics Corp. has moved its Edmonton office to 7909 - 51 Avenue, Suite 100 T6E 5L9. All other contact information remains the same.

Crape Geomatics Corporation has opened a branch office in Grande

Prairie effective September 1, 2004. Chris Chiasson, ALS is the Alberta Land Surveyor exercising supervision, direction and control of the branch office. The contact information for the branch is: 9638 - 115 Street, Suite 103 T8V 5W2; Tel: (780) 814-7639; Fax: (780) 814-6901; E-mail: cchiasson@crape.com

Donald Lantz, ALS is no longer with McElhanney Land Surveys (Alta.) Ltd. effective September 3, 2004. He is now listed as a sole practitioner and has moved to Australia. His address is: 42 Craig Avenue, Moorebank, New South Wales, Australia 2170; Tel: 011-61-2-9601-7069.

Alfred Licwinko, ALS was granted retired status on August 26, 2004.

Syd Loeppky, ALS has left Challenger Geomatics Ltd. in Calgary and has accepted a position with a land development company. In the interim, he can be reached at 1726 - 14 Avenue NW, Suite 902W; Tel: (403) 210-1953 or by e-mail at syd.betty@shaw.ca.

Walter Malainey, ALS was reinstated as an active Alberta Land Surveyor on August 26, 2004. His registration had been cancelled on June 28, 2004.

Loss Control Seminars Scheduled for Alberta in November 2004

The Claims Department of the Encon Group, the major carrier of surveyors' professional liability insurance in Canada, is holding a loss control seminar arranged by ALSA both in Calgary and Edmonton. The seminar is intended to provide claims procedure guidance to minimize policy holder risk. The seminar is open to anyone who wishes to attend from Alberta or other provinces.

Seminar speakers will be representatives from the broker, local solicitors and adjuster's offices, Encon Claims Department. A representative from the Professional Liability Insurance Committee may

Midwest Surveys Inc.—effective September 1, 2004 the branch office address in Peace River is 10401 - 77 Street T8S 1R2. All other contact information remains the same.

Ted Rippon, ALS (Hon. Life) has relocated to Alberta. His new contact information is: 30 St. Joseph Street, Suite 202, St. Albert, AB T8N 7C9; Tel: (790) 419-7132.

Michael Stewart, ALS has left the employ of Focus Surveys Inc. effective August 27, 2004. He has taken employment with crape Geomatics Corporation in Grande Prairie.

Ken Weimer, ALS is no longer with Public Works and Government Services effective August 27, 2004. He is now listed as a sole practitioner.

Associate Members

Terry Ingraham (AS 042) became an associate member on August 26, 2004.

Articled Pupils

John Lohnes is now with Global Surveys Group Inc. His e-mail address is john.lohnes@the.globalgroup.ca.

be in attendance also. The purpose of the seminar is to outline claims handling procedure and time to take questions from the floor.

This seminar follows the Alberta annual architects and engineers loss control seminar in the morning of the same days at the same locations.

The seminars will be held in Edmonton on Wednesday, November 24, 2004 from 1:00 to 4:30 pm at the Westin Hotel and in Calgary on Thursday, November 25, 2004 from 1:00 to 4:30 pm at the Westin Hotel. There is a registration fee for the seminar of \$15. Registration can be completed on line at: www.alsa.ab.ca.

Roles and Responsibilities of Articling

Introduction

The articling relationship between the land surveyor and the articulated pupil is arguably one of the most influential on a future land surveyor's career. However, precious little information is generally known about the roles, responsibilities, and expectations during the articling period. Land surveyors already know they are charged with instructing their pupils to the best of their skills and ability in the art and science of land surveying, but what does this really represent? Pupils know they need to faithfully learn and develop into professionals, but they may not have a clear road map to do so. More information would be useful to the land surveyor and pupil for reference and guidance.

Currently, the Registration Committee meets with the land surveyor and pupil once each year to discuss aspects of the articling process. These short meetings are meant to provide opportunity for questions about the process, but the land surveyor and pupil will likely encounter issues and questions at other times of the year. The Registration Committee hopes this article will answer some of those questions.

Role of the Registration Committee

The Registration Committee's primary statutory duty is to assess and examine candidates for registration as Alberta Land Surveyors. In other words, the Committee must determine if a candidate has the skills and character required to be an Association member. The Registration Committee accomplishes this through prescribing a term of articles, three project reports, and a set of exams. Candidates who satisfactorily complete these items are eligible for registration as an Alberta Land Surveyor.

It is important to note that the Committee is not charged with educating the pupil; that responsibility lies in the hands of the land

surveyor and pupil. Therefore, the Committee is restricted to simply suggesting ways that the pupil could gain the experience or skills necessary to pass examination. It is up to the pupil and land surveyor to follow those suggestions and find ways to gain the education and experience the pupil needs.

The Committee's goal at the end of the process is to protect the public by ensuring only qualified individuals become eligible for registration as an Alberta Land Surveyor.

Role of the Land Surveyor

The time the Registration Committee spends with a pupil is relatively short, compared to the time the pupil spends with the principal. Therefore, the Committee places a great deal of onus on the land surveyor to ensure that the pupil is receiving the necessary experience to become a competent professional. For example, the Committee relies heavily on the professional judgment of the land surveyor when he or she approves the yearly Affidavit of Service. The Committee expects that the affidavit is an accurate and complete summary of the pupil's activities throughout the year, in order that the Committee can properly assess the level of experience the pupil is receiving. The land surveyor is naturally in a better position than the Committee to ensure the affidavit is accurate and complete.

The Registration Committee's trust in the land surveyor also extends to assessing the professional traits of the pupil. The Committee is unable, in the few hours of examination, to fully explore and assess the pupil's professionalism, ethics, and character. The land surveyor, who has known and supervised the pupil for several years, should have a much clearer idea of the level of the pupil's professional skills. In fact, the land surveyor should be working with the pupil throughout the term of articles to ensure the pupil's professional skills are up to standard. The final Discharge of Articles form in which the

land surveyor attests to the pupil's "good character" should only be a confirmation of a fact of what the land surveyor has known for some time.

Lastly, the most important role the land surveyor must accept is to be a mentor and trainer. Our Code of Ethics demands that we educate our pupils so that they make their optimum contribution to the profession. This means they need to receive training in all aspects of land surveying, including areas outside the land surveyor's own area of expertise. The land surveyor must help to identify areas where the pupil's skills are weak, and then help the pupil to overcome those deficiencies. Weaknesses should be remedied long before the pupil sits for the qualifying examination in front of the Registration Committee.

Role of the Pupil

The pupil's job is no easier than the land surveyor's during the articling process. Just like the land surveyor, the pupil is responsible for his or her education. No one else can do the work for them. In addition, if the pupil feels their skills are deficient in an area of expertise or they have not been exposed to a certain aspect of running a project, then the pupil should discuss the problem with the land surveyor. The pupil needs to take an active role in his or her own education.

The pupil also needs to make the transition to looking at the issues of the day from the professional's perspective. The pupil should be asking the questions: Do I understand all the issues involved in this situation? Have I gained the knowledge required to provide good solutions to the problems? It is not sufficient to approach land surveying issues from a purely technical point of view – the professional aspects must be considered as well.

The pupil should strive to meet the highest expectations of the land surveyor. Few things reflect as much on a land surveyor as the quality of the pupils they article. Few things are as satisfying to a land surveyor as helping a pupil become a great professional.

Finally, the pupil should strive to ensure there is a progression in their duties and responsibilities. While experience at an entry-level fieldwork position teaches fundamental skills, the pupil should ensure the learning process continues by earning higher levels of responsibility. The pupil should prove to the land surveyor that they are capable of more. The Registration Committee will be looking for a progression in the pupil's duties and responsibility level as the Committee assesses experience.

Some Final Suggestions

First, jointly develop a plan for completing the articling process, detailing as much as possible. Re-visit the plan frequently and assess if the process is on track. Adjust the plan as necessary. Avoid using annual interviews with the Registration

Committee as the only planning time, since they are too short to cover all the issues.

Second, take some time to review both the Pupil Handbook and the Syllabus, both of which are available on the ALSA website. These documents contain many details on articling such as examination topics, guidelines for project reports, and forms used during articles. Basically, all of the fine details of the articling process can be found in these publications.

Next, ensure the pupil is exposed to every possible facet of land surveying practice. Not only should the pupil have working knowledge of all different kinds of surveys, but he or she should be exposed to all aspects of running a business including client contact, invoicing, and liability issues. A pupil who spends the office time of their articles doing little more than drafting plans will not have all the skills they need to practice as professionals.

Consider joining or forming a pupil's study group — a suggestion that is directed to both the pupil and the land surveyor. Informal polling of

newly-commissioned land surveyors suggests that many of them were better prepared for exams when they participated in a study group. Land surveyors can contribute to study groups by stopping by to answer questions or give a lesson on a topic.

Finally, ensure the pupil is exposed to different land surveyors and their opinions. Much can be gained from listening to different land surveyors debate the gray areas of practice and professionalism. In addition, no one among us is an expert in all surveys, so other surveyors' perspectives can help fill in the gaps in a pupil's knowledge. Just as it takes a community to raise a child, the pupil will do better with guidance from the community of land surveyors.

In closing, the members of the Registration Committee would like to mention that they are available for questions and comments. The Committee seriously considers all suggestions from members and pupils, since we are always looking for ways to improve the process.

BRYAN BATES, ALS
REGISTRATION COMMITTEE MEMBER

Writing Great Project Reports

Project reports have turned out to be one of those most successful of recent innovations to the examining and registration process. This new report format has been very favorably received by both the candidates who write them and the Registration Committee members who grade them. The Committee has now reviewed well over 100 of these reports and has developed some suggestions to help candidates turn out the best reports they possibly can. If you're currently putting together a project report of your own, you may find some of the suggestions in this article useful.

What is a Project Report?

It sometimes helps to recall exactly what a project report is: a very brief, professional document that highlights

the important things that happened from start to finish during a survey project. Project reports should be simple, practical, and easy-to-read, yet still contain the details that allow the reader to appreciate and understand what happened during the survey and plan preparation process.

Review the Guidelines

The project report guidelines (published on the ALSA website) are the prime resource for information on what needs to be in the report. Reviewing these guidelines will help you understand what sorts of topics are appropriate for project reports and what items should be included in the document. It's fundamental stuff, which is why it's so critical to the generation of a great report.

Start Looking Now

One of the great features of project reports is that you get to suggest which projects you would like to use. As long as the project follows the guidelines, the Registration Committee will approve it. So, have a look at the work you're doing right now to see if it would make a good report. Let the ALSs at your office know what sorts of projects you would like to do, so that they can keep a look out for suitable ones. If one or more of your projects will be outside your firm's area of expertise, try contacting other firms to see if you could possibly work on a project with one of them. By looking for project opportunities right away, you will be prepared to get involved when appropriate ones pop up.

Keep it Simple

One of the original purposes of project reports was to get away from the old-style, large technical reports that seemed to intimidate some candidates into a cycle of procrastination. These newer project reports are intended to be much more bite-sized. With that in mind, it makes sense for candidates to choose a bite-sized project.

Avoid projects that span several weeks of fieldwork, a handful of new plans and complicated application processes. Try using this guideline: if more than a day of fieldwork was done, try restricting the report to just a portion of that larger project. A project the size of a single wellsite, a two-lot subdivision, or a short right-of-way should have enough substance to fulfill the requirements. Why write about something big when a little project will do?

Get Involved

When you've found a suitable project, you're going to need to know everything there is about the project in order to write a great report on it. So, immerse yourself as much as possible in the project. Offer to personally perform as much of the work as you can. Supervise the parts you can't do yourself. Avoid simply reviewing important parts of the project after the fact – chances are you won't understand all the issues as thoroughly as if you were actually involved.

Plan Your Report

Before you jump into writing your report, take a bit of time to plan it out. The Registration Committee wants to see no more than four pages of text (excluding attachments), so you need to be brief and keep to the important details. However, the project report guidelines show a substantial list of items that are expected to be addressed. This means you will have to carefully decide what information to include and what isn't important for the report. A few minutes spent at the start of report

writing will help you do this and will probably save you some revising time later.

Write It!

It's time to get your thoughts written down. If you have trouble finding the time to do it, try scheduling a specific quiet time away from distractions such as work, family, and other commitments. Set a deadline for yourself if you know you tend to procrastinate.

The Registration Committee doesn't dictate a specific style for these reports. The Committee needs to see a professional-looking document that covers the important details, but after that point, it is up to the author to come up with their own recipe for writing it. Take the opportunity to show your sense of good style when you prepare your report.

Proofread, Proofread, and Then Proofread a Bit More

Imagine you're sending this report to your biggest client to help justify the invoice for the job. Is your client going to be baffled by spelling mistakes, grammatical errors, and mislabelled appendices, or will they read and easily understand your writing? The same thing applies when Registration Committee members look at your report. Take the time to make it right.

A style guide, a dictionary and a helpful colleague or two can aid you in proofreading your writing. Don't rely solely on the spelling and grammar checkers on your computer since these can let an error slip by on occasion. Remember, a well-written report inspires confidence in the work of the person writing it.

Go for the Professional Look

Again, think about how a client would react to seeing your report for the first time. Does it appear to be prepared by a professional? Is it organized well enough that the readers can find the information they are looking for? Is it held together

properly, or does it fall apart as soon as it is opened? Taking time to address those questions will help you to ensure your report will make the best first impression possible.

Send it in With Time to Spare

Guess when the majority of project reports are submitted? The deadline for project reports is the end of the calendar year and most of them show up at the ALSA office just before then. This implies that a large number of candidates are scrambling during the holidays to get their reports finished. Spend more time with your family and friends during the holidays and reduce your stress level by submitting your reports earlier in the year.

In closing, the Registration Committee hopes these suggestions will make candidates' report writing go easier and help them turn out the best reports possible. We look forward to seeing those great project reports.

BRYAN BATES, ALS
REGISTRATION COMMITTEE MEMBER

Note: The Registration Committee, at its meeting of September 8, 2004, reviewed a list of articulated students who had not complied with the guidelines and the Syllabus regarding timely submission of project reports. The Syllabus states:

For articulated students, a minimum of one project report per calendar year must be submitted, starting in the second year of articles with a maximum of two per calendar year during any given year of articles.

Articulated students should review their status and if they find themselves to be delinquent, submit their project reports as soon as possible. Non-compliance with these obligations as an articulated student may jeopardize articles.

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Office.....

by David Marquardt, ALS

For those of you who are offended by words such as God, Jesus, His, or any words in reference to religion or church, this article may not be for you. So please skip and go to the next one. For those of you who are interested or curious and for the millions of die-hard fans who read *ALS News* fervently from cover to cover, this might be for you.

A funny thing happened on the way to the office in late May. I got a call on my cell. Just great, I'm flying up Deerfoot Trail in bumper-to-bumper traffic at 100...another client who wants his plans yesterday or wants a field crew ASAP somewhere in this beautiful province of ours. Upon touchdown in our parking lot and taxiing to an open parking space, I cruised into my office to check cell messages from the safety of my chair. Here's the message:

"Hi David, you may not remember me (I am thinking, this is not Lotto 649 calling...) but we chatted about a year ago about surveying for some construction projects we have on the go. (Now I am thinking...oh no, not now, I am way too busy to provide another quote...no thanks.)

"This is Steve Ulrich of EMI Canada, and I have emailed you some details of an upcoming project of ours in the Caribbean, just wondered if you would be interested, please give me a call."

Turning on my computer and checking email, I get some details.

Steve Ulrich is a quiet fellow, registered architect, and former private practice business owner, who now heads up EMI Canada, saulrich@emicanada.org, www.emicanada.org, (Engineering Ministries International – Canada). Like Engineers Without Borders, it is a non-denominational, non-profit, Christian-based organization of professional engineers, architects, and others from all walks and all countries, who have made a choice to

use their skills and their God-given talents for the betterment of mankind all over the world. With over 400 projects to date in 70 different countries (through EMI-International, based in Colorado...hospitals, churches, orphanages, and schools in places like Manila, Thailand, Uganda, India, Ukraine, and Haiti...in some of the worst areas known to man...this group of men and women have pooled their time and talents to create small miracles, and to give a bit of hope to someone, somewhere, at their own expense. That is what a "mission" is really all about. I always thought in order to be of any "use" to mankind to do these things, you should be a doctor or a nurse or a Mother Theresa, one of incredible faith and courage...not a native Alberta-boy, U of A, SAIT graduated land surveyor.

I began reading the project details; "...to provide site survey and preliminary plans for a Bible school/camp on a semi-wooded, sloping, parcel. (Now my thoughts here are hot climate and bugs...OK bring lots of Muskol with deet and emergency malaria pills and get new pair of work boots, preferably snakebite proof.) After years of stepping on and tripping over prairie cactus, muskeg and tree roots, barbed wire, gravel, from +30C to -30C, and generally dropping bundles of survey posts on the steel toes, the old ones were literally coming apart at the seams with a hole through the steel sole. As far as the snakebite-proof goes, I was content, 'till I found out that 7' black and green mambas can rear up 5' and can bite you anywhere from the face down. Oh joy...(I should be thinking full set of hockey gear, maybe I could borrow some real good stuff from the Oilers...since it is not being used...I was writing this at playoff time.)

Back to the project details—"located in a coastal area off the island of...Trinidad..." Trust me I



A semi-wooded sloping parcel—yeah right.

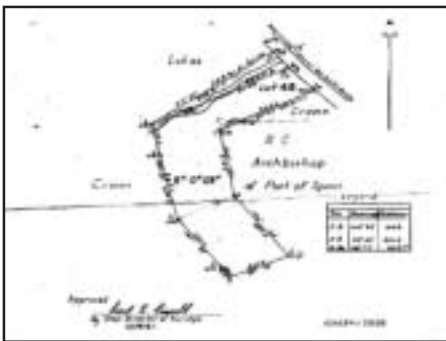
read the details a few times before I picked up the phone. I was prepared to go to a third world, bottom of the barrel, country, like Haiti where we adopted two of our daughters. It's a place referred to by missions people as the hell-hole of the western world, with good reason...but Trinidad?

Organizing for the Trip

With a lot of thanks to company President Jim Halliday, Dode Berry (Calgary office manager), and Tim Rinquist, our equipment guru, my logistics were beginning to take shape. Next, was a new passport, and proper immunization (Hep A&B, tetanus, and typhoid). Time was getting short, about ten days till take off, when I started to get into the project prospectus details, and a couple things hit me.

A copy of the survey plan, plot plan, and contour plot with the project lot sketched on was included and nothing **seemed** amiss. The survey plan was done in 1961 and it was evident that iron posts were used at the corners. Lot dimensions appeared to be in feet, and the plan was signed and approved by the Director of Surveys at the time. That's when the "issues of boundary determination" occurred to me. A quick email to Ken Allred regarding any contacts

through FIG, provided a timely reply. One of the contacts was none other than Alec McEwen (former head of Geomatics at the U of C), who as is such a coincidence, had been doing some consulting work on the restructuring of land registration and survey legislation for Trinidad and Tobago. He put me in touch with the Director of Surveys Mr. Tyrone Leung. A few days later came Mr. Leung's reply. "You are most welcome to visit my Division during your visit. You mentioned that you will be doing a survey at Maracas on your visit. In this regard, for one to practice in the jurisdiction of T&T, (Trinidad and Tobago), one has to be registered with the Land Survey Board of Trinidad and Tobago in accordance with the Land Surveyors Act No. 33 of 1996 and regulations of November, 1998, Legal Notice No. 275."



A copy of the original plan. All dimensions, except for the one in the table, which is in feet, are actually in links.

So in that regard, surveying for construction/planning purposes was OK within lot boundaries, however, a local land surveyor was contacted to locate and confirm existing monuments before we got there. This should sound familiar...these are the same rules that apply to Alberta.

There was one more item to clear up. With two sets of legs, prisms, rod, level, prism pole, total station, chargers, laptop, my snakebite-proof work boots and personal and work gear, the weight adds up really quick. You are allowed two checked bags of not more than 70 lbs. each, plus one carry on and a laptop can be separate. It was the black plastic cylinder housing the rod and prism pole that had me concerned as it resembled a bazooka

anti-tank gun or a case for a shoulder missile launcher. So realizing I would have a problem here, with six days to go I went to the airport to talk to an American Airlines official on how to do this. Explaining everything to the lady in charge, she gave me some suggestions. Come departure day, this same lady would recognize me in line and proceeded to check in all my items, with no concerns. Some would consider the above scenario a coincidence, I think it was meant to be. The events of 9/11 have put airline personnel on constant high alert and rightly so. In subsequent ports of call on my trip, Chicago, and Miami the bags were thoroughly searched through checkout and behind the scenes.

While being pulled aside and thoroughly checked in Miami, the security guard asked me what my purpose of travel was...so I told him the plain truth, as funny as it sounded. It is hard trying to explain to airport security that you are going someplace to do something for free, being loaded down with expensive equipment, and oh yeah...all for the good of mankind. One of the Miami security supervisors, explained it to me this way...that terrorists use the same ruse, so you had better have all your documents in place, and expect delays being checked. It really helps when your project team leader has done this customs thing many times as our team leader Steve Ulrich has.



An incredible view of the Bahamas from 37,000 feet up.

The Project

Going back a bit, this project came to EMI from InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (Trinidad). They wanted to build a Bible/Study camp and conference centre for boys and girls, on some property they had recently purchased. As is the nature with these projects, they were looking for a way to do this and keep costs down. That is essentially the mandate of EMI, to put to use the talents of design and construction professionals for those in need. In this case, in return we were given our food and lodging.



Our "team" in a maxi-taxi, consisted for six people; from right to left: Keith Schneider (civil engineer and team comedian), Janice Chan (landscape architect), Steve Ulrich (team leader), Olwen Li (architectural student), and myself (land surveyor and head water boy). Michael Elkan (architect), took the picture.

Upon arriving in Trinidad on Saturday June 19th, we spent the first day getting to know our Trinidadian hosts (Trini for short), settling in to our accommodations, recovering from jet lag, and getting acclimatized to the heat and humidity. Sunday we celebrated Father's Day at a local church, meeting and lunching with more of our hosts, and rehearsing project details in the evening. Monday morning we loaded up our gear and drove to the project site.

I must say a few words about driving in Trinidad. Like the English they drive on the left side with right hand vehicles, so your perspective changes A LOT. With the exception of two major four-lane roads, the rest are two lanes, usually narrow, and very congested. To get anywhere here

in due time, aggressive driving is a must, and you must learn the language of the “horns.” The Trini “speak” with their car horns—literally. Our Maxi-taxi, had horns with a series of beeps, cheeps, chirps, honks, whistles, chortles, arugas, and other jungle-type sounds, that would put a Monkey-Boy ice-cream truck to shame. And the sounds all mean something like... my turn, I have the right-of-way, go ahead,



On the left, a not too promising initial view of the site, the grass and vegetation in the “open” part of the property was eight feet high in some places and the terrain was steep.

On the right, is one of the back property lines. The small light spot in the middle of the picture is the end of the cutline, about 30m away. A couple of sharp machetes and a day and a half of sweat, and we managed to cut several sightlines of about 70m each across the property and uphill from this baseline.

watch out, get out of my way, hey man, hello, or thank you. Couple this with polite hand gestures and head-light flashes and a conversation ensues in very short order. Driving to and from the project and around the island, I would generally classify as a series of frequent, medium to high-speed, near misses. However, we had two of the best people for the job, and they will be in our team’s hearts and prayers forever.

The project had more twists than I could have expected. This “gently-wooded partially sloping parcel” was a bit of an understatement. This former orchard, had reverted back to jungle, many years ago, thick vegetation, and the 40-45m difference in elevation from the front to the back of the property, made for some interesting walking/climbing. Thankfully, the T & T land surveyor had located the property corners and had cut out the property lines, (essentially holes in the undergrowth), save for the north

boundary. That consisted of a very nasty ravine 10-12m deep and 20m wide at the top, completely overgrown with tree/plant cover and very dark below. The fetid water it held, would only flow from level to level during a rainstorm. An ideal place for caimans, snakes, and other critters I don’t want to think about. Unless vegetation was thinned out above, it would be too dark to survey down here, not to mention a bit of a health



A double posting at the westerly lot corner, one under the machete blade, one under the stick. The lower one is the correct one. The posts were pieces of hollow iron pipe, 1/4” thick walls and about 1 1/2” diameter. The soil depth on this very sloping terrain was minimal, maybe 6-8” at best. The posts appear to be drilled into the rock. The visible outcrop is quartzite.

and safety risk. The main work area was above and due to our short time limit, that is where it was decided to concentrate our efforts.

In the initial walk up and around the property, I noted a couple of other things. As a land surveyor, I pride myself on pacing, even in varying sloped terrain, but being out 50m over what everybody thought was a 142m plan distance, definitely had me concerned. As well, it figures that the west corner of the property was double-posted, (see photo).

Checking back with the local land surveyor, he confirmed the status of the double posting, indicating that the lower post in the photo was the correct one, and that all the dimensions shown on the plan, except for the one indicated in feet, were actually in links...(remember 100 links = 66’ = 1 chain). No indication of this was visible on the plan, so perhaps one can now assume that links were/are a common survey measure here.

Now that this was figured out, the architects and engineer on our team, could get down to some more realistic proposal plans. In the meantime, my job was to do as much of a topographical survey in the buildable area as possible, tying in the existing house to be renovated, and trees and bushes that were to be left untouched. The problem was the overgrowth. We ended up cutting out some 400m of grid lines over two days and fortunately, the second storey balcony of the house was sturdy enough, for an instrument set-up. That was needed for shots in the “open” area at the front of the property, (the grass in some places was eight feet tall). About cutting line in jungle terrain...it is some of the hardest work, primarily due to the intense heat and humidity. A sharp machete is the ideal tool here, light and portable, and its gas supply is totally dependent on the operator. Power saws will work of course, but the maze of hanging vines and stinging nettles are way worse than cutting through the worst of willows. The daily tempera-

ture here was anywhere from 32-38 degrees celsius, with humidity hovering constantly around 95-100%. It was rainy season, and we regularly had downpours that would soak you to the skin in a matter of seconds. However, we managed to get all the fieldwork done in a couple days with minimal rain delays.



The lack of soil depth here on this sloping terrain necessitates using painted "bush pegs" for traverse points, as the local surveyor has done.

The sounds of the jungle can make this an extremely noisy place. Every 15 minutes or so for some reason, the crickets, toads, birds, and other creatures start seemingly off in the distance as a low motor, building in intensity and loudness until it sounds like 1000 power saws, revving up for business...yelling over 20m becomes nearly useless. This will fade away to comparative "silence" in 3 or 4 minutes. The property had several thick stands of tall bamboo trees. When the wind came up they would bang and crash together, and bamboo being hollow, the low rumble that it created sounded very much like a building coming down. The first time I heard it standing next to them, I grabbed the instrument and ran for cover...much to the amusement of the local helper we had the first day.

One of the helpers I had on the last day in the field was a second year survey student from the University of West Indies by the name of Chevon. He absolutely enjoyed himself despite the hard work. I usually jump at the opportunity when it comes to sharing knowledge and experiences, and this was no exception. I really didn't have to, his constant questions on this project, on surveying in



Sharing experiences with a future land surveyor—it doesn't get any better sometimes.

general, and how we do things in Alberta, had us chatting away most of the morning and afternoon. The principles of land development, approval and registration in Trinidad seem very similar to ours, at least to the point of registration. There appears to be two registration systems, a deeds registry and a government body that resembles Land Titles, with much less authority and powers than ours. I'm sure Dr. McEwen can expound more on that. Had I had an extra half day, I would have dropped in to the Director of Surveys office to gain more knowledge, but having the choice to do that or spend time with some close friends that recently moved down here, I chose the latter.

With the survey complete, the architects and engineer on our team went to work creating a number of possible concept plans, impressive hand-drawn creations that we used in a presentation to the Board of Directors at InterVarsity Christian Fellowship and eventually they will be used at the local planning commission for approvals. We still have to finalize a few things from here, one being the location of specific contours. The nearest benchmark is a mile away from the project area, and without GPS and the known benchmark elevations, this is something that the local land surveyor will be providing us soon. As well, this is considered to be within the scope of practice and regulations for T & T land surveyors.



The rugged north coast of Trinidad offers a few great beaches like this one—Los Cuevas.

Throughout our nine days there, our hosts treated and fed us very, very well. The last couple of nights we spent in a quaint, rustic, but very nice guest house, which was part of an old



With everything closing and checks done and digital data stored in place, it is time for fun and a little R&R—Midwest Surveys Inc. "We Know The Territory."

For me, a few days of sweat, doing something I have been trained to do for the last twenty years, pales in comparison to the experience of a different culture, different people and a different way of life...

and still active St Benedictine Monastery. Its fortress-like appearance on top of a small mountain, commands an impressive view for many miles to the south, east, and west. The day before departure, June 26th, was a “free” day to shop, to take in a wildlife sanctuary, or go to a beach on the rugged North Coast and get a taste of the legendary “bake and shark.”

As always is the case with “missions” trips, one always ends up getting more in return than we are able to give. For me, a few days of sweat, doing something I have been trained to do for the last twenty years, pales in comparison to the experience

of a different culture, different people and a different way of life, in a far different environment than I have ever been exposed to. It also gives me an appreciation of this place we call Alberta and Canada, my home and native land, and how blessed we are to have it so good here. Maybe next time our trip will be in a not-so-nice of a place, or a little harsher conditions. So be it. I am a firm believer that the Lord provides.

If something like this interests you, by all means give me a call or an e-mail and I can introduce you to a few people. Thanks for taking the time to read...and God Bless.

FIG Executive Director Visits ALSA Office

Markku Villikka, the Executive Director of the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG), visited Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver on a recent scouting trip to examine those three centres as potential venues for the FIG XXIV Congress in 2010. He was accompanied by Ken Allred who was recently elected as an FIG vice president.

In Edmonton, he visited the new offices of the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association where he was given a tour and met Lyall Pratt and Don George from Systematic Practice Review. Lyall was a co-author (with Ken Allred) of a paper on Practice Review presented in Athens in May of this year. Markku was also shown the video of the 2002 AGM in Edmonton. He was very impressed with the media coverage that we were able to obtain with Lorraine Mansbridge of Global TV. “Your organization is obviously very active and could do a great job of hosting an FIG event,” Markku commented.



Markku Villikka and Dick Bassil on the Edmonton Queen Riverboat in Edmonton.

In doing a site inspection of the three cities, Markku and Ken toured through all three convention facilities as well as numerous hotels and potential social function venues. In Edmonton, they toured Fort Edmonton Park, and West Edmonton Mall; and in Calgary they toured Heritage Park and the Calgary Zoo. Markku was also hosted at a luncheon at the Edmonton Petroleum Club with local surveyors representing the Canadian Institute of Geomatics, the Associa-

tion of Canada Land Surveyors, Alberta Land Surveyors' Association, Alberta Geomatics Group, Director of Surveys Office, Natural Resources Canada and Charlie Weir as an Honorary President of FIG. CIG is the official Canadian member association of FIG. An informal dinner was also held on the Edmonton Queen Riverboat.

In Calgary, a luncheon was organized at the University of Calgary with representatives from interested survey organizations.

If a conference was held in Canada it would likely attract 2,000 delegates from 100 different countries around the world. The conference would last a total of eight days including three days of executive meetings and the General Assembly. The conference would also feature keynote speakers, several hundred technical papers, technical tours and numerous social tours and social functions. It would be a great boon to the Canadian geomatics community.

G.K. ALLRED, ALS



spr director's message

by Lyall Pratt, ALS

Plan Corrections and Judge's Orders

Clarifications

The Land Titles Office Procedures Manual was recently updated for procedure SUR-8. This section deals with plan corrections. The update clarifies the application and intent of Section 92 of the Land Titles Act. It also outlines what is **not** considered an omission, clerical error or other defect in a registered plan for the purposes of Section 92 of the Land Titles Act. SUR-8 references Black's Law Dictionary in the interpretation applied to Section 92. "According to Black's Law Dictionary, under "ejusdem generis" canon of statutory construction, where general words follow the enumeration of particular classes of things, the general words will be construed as applying only to things of the same general class as those enumerated. In Section 92, the terms "omission" and "clerical error" do not encompass a survey error and therefore, "other defect" cannot be interpreted in its meaning to include altering property boundaries." It is now clear that omission, clerical error or other defects **do not include survey errors**, and that the Registrar cannot accept corrections under Section 92 of the Land Titles Act that have the effect of moving monuments or altering property boundaries. This includes corrections or changes to the table of coordinates for Section 47 (delayed posting) plans.

Depending on the correction required to a plan, a judge's order pursuant to Section 91 of the Land Titles Act or an order issued pursuant to Section 9 of the Surveys Act will now be required in all cases if survey monuments are being moved or boundaries being altered as the result of a plan correction. Of course, there

Moving monuments because of a survey error has never been easy, nor should it be...

may also be other methods used to correct title boundary problems; a new subdivision for instance, a transfer of land document, or a closure bylaw. Each of these, however, requires other types of approvals.

If a plan correction fits the criteria for an omission, clerical error or other defect the process is fairly simple. A letter from the land surveyor requesting the correction must contain several pieces of information. The required information includes:

- (a) a detailed explanation of the nature of the error or defect and the corrections to be made. The corrections can be either in a list form or marked on a copy of the plan trimmed off to sheets no larger than 11½ x 14 inches;
- (b) a statement that no improvements have been made (e.g. fence, driveway, garage, setback requirements, utilities) relying on the incorrect information on the plan and that the correction will not create any encroachments or have any other adverse effects;
- (c) advise whether the corrections affect any other registered plans;
- (d) a statement that no monuments have been moved or removed;
- (e) a statement that no property boundaries are being altered or moved; and
- (f) consent from the owner(s). Note that this consent is usually required where areas or distances are to be amended.

What if your correction requires that monuments be moved? How do you go about obtaining an order pursuant

to Section 9 of the Surveys Act? How do you get a Judge's Order?

Section 9 of the Surveys Act

This section, titled "survey error investigation" came into force on June 9, 1988 with the enactment of the Surveys Act. In the 16 years since, it has only been used on three or perhaps four occasions. The Act outlines who can apply and the process that must be gone through by a Board appointed under Section 9. There are guidelines for the application of Section 9 and at the end of an investigation, any party may still appeal any order of the Board within 30 days of receipt of the order. In general, the position of a corner or a boundary must be in question as the result of an alleged survey error. The Alberta Land Surveyors' Association has an Ad Hoc committee currently looking specifically at Section 9 of the Surveys Act. That Committee's findings and report will be of interest, so I will not go into any further detail on Section 9 in this article.

Section 91 of the Land Titles Act

This section, titled "application to vary a plan" also came into force in 1988. It says:

- (1) A court may, on application and on hearing the persons to whom notice of the application was given,
 - (a) order a plan to be cancelled, in whole or in part, amended, altered, or corrected, and
 - (b) make any order with respect to the vesting or re-vesting of any land included in the plan, on any terms or conditions as to costs and otherwise as the court considers proper.
- (2) An application for an order under subsection (1) may be made by

-
- (a) a person who caused a plan to be registered,
 - (b) a person deriving title to or some other interest in any land shown on the plan,
 - (c) an Alberta land surveyor who signed the plan, or
 - (d) the Registrar.
- (3) Notice of the application referred to in subsection (2) shall be served on those persons and in any manner that the court directs.

Court Order

While I have never personally applied for a court order to correct a plan, I have spoken to a few land surveyors who have. While costs will vary depending on the provision of owner's consents and the use of a lawyer to make the application on your behalf, the figure most often quoted was about \$2,000. Clearly under Section 91, the Alberta Land Surveyor who signed the plan can apply for the court order personally, although most surveyors seem to have a lawyer make the application on their behalf. Obviously, if a land owner

was opposed to the correction or monument movement, the legal costs could climb much higher, as the land owner would receive a notice of the application.

The Message

Just in the past year, it has been made abundantly clear that Section 92 of the Land Titles Act cannot be used for plan corrections that have the effect of moving monuments or altering boundaries. Should your plan correction require the movement of monuments there will likely be a much larger cost than a clerical correction. It is quite conceivable the cost of obtaining the required judge's order, completing a new subdivision, or transferring a property to correct a survey error would far exceed the original fees for the survey.

Moving monuments because of a survey error has never been easy, nor should it be. It is far easier to spend the time now to get it right, than to spend the time and money to correct it after the plan is registered.

Councillor's Forum

continued from page 9

- to clean the pens until finally disposable pens became common;
- there were no photocopy machines;
- there were no fax machines;
- memos and letters were prepared on a type writer along with carbon paper between sheets of paper to provide extra copies;
- no one ever heard of e-mail;
- no one ever heard of voice messaging;
- no one ever heard of a cell phone;
- no one ever heard of satellites and global satellite positioning.

These are only a few to think about; you will note that no mention is made of logarithms, gunter chain, triangulation, transit and tape traverses. Also omitted is reference to line cutting prior to chainsaws. This has dealt more with my experiences and there are members that can provide information and probably some very good stories of survey experiences and equipment utilized in days gone by.

Consider this, with all the technological advances, why hasn't someone developed a system of seeing through bush when standing on the ground.

By the way, be sure to support the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association and pre-order copies of *Laying Down the Lines - A History of Surveying in Alberta* for you and your friends.

Case Study No. 21: Bent Only or Bent and Disturbed?

This is the twenty-first in a series of articles featuring problems or issues commonly encountered in Systematic Practice Review. The purpose of these articles is purely educational, so no names or identifying legal descriptions are included. Opinions expressed are those of the author.

The Issue

In the December 2001 issue of *ALS News* in the Director's Message column, I spoke of the difference between restored monuments and re-established monuments. As noted in that column, there is a huge difference between the two terms. A re-established monument will have opinion only written all over it, as the land surveyor has relied only on measurements to re-establish the lost monument. As we all know, measurements are the last rung in the hierarchy of evidence. A restored monument is actually two rungs higher in the hierarchy of evidence, as the surveyor is replacing the obliterated monument from traces of the original. As noted in the 2001 article, members often use the terms interchangeably when they should not. The issue addressed in this article is related directly to the restored vs. re-established issue. Is a bent monument automatically considered disturbed?

The Plan Examination

Our review examined a road widening survey that touched on a 1937 road survey along a quarter line. This survey required an intersection with the 1937 road survey. The survey evidence placed by the 1937 survey was required for the intersection. The

practitioner's field notes and the registered plan both showed the notation "Fd. I. Disturbed Re-est. Pl. I. R1."

The Field Inspection

Our field inspection was conducted in January while the practitioner's survey had been conducted in June and July of the previous year. At R1, we found two monuments. One bearing the practitioner's permit stamp only, and an older bent iron post marked R1 about 0.26m away from the practitioner's post.

In viewing the monument, we questioned the practitioner's finding that the monument was disturbed, as from our position the original monument appeared to be only bent. Also, if the monument was disturbed as the practitioner claimed, why did he leave it in the ground only decimetres away? In reviewing the practitioner's field notes and plan again, it seemed obvious that the practitioner had not accepted the monument simply because it did not match the dimensions from the 1937 plan. The included photo shows the findings of our January field inspection.



Facing southerly showing two posts; practitioner's is straight, original is bent. Plan states "Fd.I. Disturbed Re-est Pl. I. R1." New post not marked R1.

Definitions

Our Manual of Standard Practice defines disturbed monument. A *disturbed monument is one that has*

been moved other than by an Alberta Land Surveyor in the course of his duty and that can be proved beyond reasonable doubt to have been moved from its original position.

While not defined in our Manual, a bent monument is one that is no longer straight and has been bent to some degree. If the bent monument is still at least partially in the ground the challenge is to determine if it is also disturbed, or if the monument is in its original position and simply been bent in place. Spinning a bent monument around will leave a clear post hole that must be considered as evidence of the original position of the monument, should it be determined that the monument is only bent and not disturbed.

The Report

In our report we noted that the practitioner did not see the need to restore evidence when it was found bent, and after a second frost-free look at the same survey during a follow-up review, I made the following observations: "It is my opinion that the bent monument at R1 (now removed by the practitioner) shown in the January photo was the original monument. The practitioner's plan reads "Fd. I. Disturbed, Re-est. Pl. I. R1." Clearly the practitioner must believe that it was not in its original position. Keeping in mind the content of Section 45(4) of the Surveys Act, I would like the practitioner's explanation of what, besides dimensional differences, led him to conclude that the original bent R1 was disturbed. While dimensions may play a role in boundary re-establishment, they can never be the only consideration, as abundantly clear in Section 45(4)."

.....continued on page 40



guardpost

by Paul Westersund, ALS

Procrastinate: to put off intentionally and habitually the doing of something that should be done.

How does procrastination affect what we are doing and how does it affect others?

When you receive a review from the Director of Practice Review does it get opened with anticipation that the review previously conducted is perfect and nothing more is required? But wait—it requires a response in 4-6 weeks. I will get back to it later and throw it on the corner of a desk for now as there is real work to be done. In four weeks, I look at it again and see that seven of the ten questions can be answered but the other three are a little more involved. Throw it on the corner of the desk again. Six weeks have come and gone, better ask for an extension from the Director. I get the extension and now I have four more weeks to answer those three questions. Another three weeks go by and now those questions need to be answered. I am running out of time and still too busy to put together all the information required but I will send it to the Director to get

Systematic Practice Review requires your timely attention in order to run efficiently and cost effectively.

it off the corner of the desk. I got through school answering 70 percent of the questions so this should be OK.

Now the review goes through the administration of practice review, assigned to a board member, then to a board meeting for discussion, a motion and more correspondence back to the practitioner.

Another package arrives in the mail and I look again with anticipation that the review is complete. But wait, I still need to respond to the three unanswered questions and more clarification is required on others. A response is required in four weeks so it goes back to the corner of the desk. I do not get it done so I get another extension from the Director and

throw it back on that desk corner. Now the time has run out so I finally answer everything as it should have been done from the beginning and send the review off again. I wait for a month wondering if the Director forgot about the review but figure no news is good news. Finally, the letter comes that all is OK for this review and I have five years before the next one.

Being on the Board for one year this seems to be an all too common occurrence. Procrastination by the practitioner leads to incomplete understanding of what is being requested and leads to incomplete responses after numerous delays. The Director, staff and the Board spend their time granting time extensions and requesting additional information instead of being able to review a complete file. The review goes back to the practitioner and the cycle begins again.

Systematic Practice Review requires your timely attention in order to run efficiently and cost effectively. Don't procrastinate responding to your practice review.

Mark Your Calendar

95th ALSA
Annual General Meeting
and Convention

April 21 to 23, 2005
Jasper Park Lodge





pdc corner

by Greg Hebb, Associate Member

One particular line I've been noticing in job ads over the past year is "dedication to life-long learning." I believe this is continually demonstrated in the field of land surveying. As technology advances, we are continually working at keeping up with these changes and learning how to optimize the new technologies at our fingertips.

In the interest of life-long learning, the Professional Development Committee reviews the seminars offered in previous years and these reviews assist in deciding what to offer in the calendar year ahead. Seminars which are centred around calculations or new advancements in methods seem to have a high demand. One thing we can't overlook in surveying though is the soft skills we need to display daily when interacting with clients and the public.

The Manual of Standard Practice states:

"An Alberta Land Surveyor shall serve society, his clientele and his profession with the ultimate objective of contributing to the knowledge of land, to the better management of land and to the preservation of peaceful and lawful enjoyment of land."

We cannot overlook how we are perceived in the public eye. Whether we are working on a right-of-way survey or a real property report, we are dealing with the public. How we choose to be perceived, as a professional, affects not only the company doing the work and their client, it affects how the public perceives the profession of land surveying.

There have been many articles published and e-mails sent out about property damage and irate landowners. How would you as a landowner feel if someone were to pull up to the front of your door, walk out of the

The soft skills can be some of the most important things we choose to polish as we deal with clients and the public on a daily basis.

truck with some electronic device and start digging a hole in your lawn? A few minutes taken prior to beginning the job could make a huge difference in a landowner's day; as well this could save people in your office hours on the phone trying to sort the problem out later.

The science of surveying has come a long way over the past few decades. Just like everything else today, it's become a matter of how fast can we do things. Clients have become accustomed to faster and faster turnaround times for drawings and plans. It seems as though the big push is turnaround and cutting the time down everywhere. What we can't overlook though is the public and how they see the Association.

As things move along, what we will require more of are the soft skills that go along with the profession. Everyone who is out there representing their company and the Association is responsible for how the profession is perceived in the public eye. While soft skills may not be as exciting or as stimulating as the math skills we use every day, they're every bit as important and something we must continue to work at every day.

The PDC is putting on a seminar titled "Service Best" which is aimed at helping to develop or polish the soft skills that are required for the profession of land surveying. While the seminar focuses on the perception of the client, it takes time as well to talk about how a company functions

as a team. Many people are of the belief that only one person in the company deals with a client. Service Best takes the time to point out that everyone who produces or hands off a product is dealing with a client, either internally or externally.

The soft skills can be some of the most important things we choose to polish as we deal with clients and the public on a daily basis. These skills also determine how well we function as a team in serving the external clients.

On a closing note regarding seminars, please take the time to fill out the evaluation sheets that are handed out. These are used as a means of updating and improving seminars from year to year. Your input is greatly appreciated.

Upcoming Seminars (tentative)

GPS

October 27, 2004—Calgary

RPR

November 26, 2004—Calgary

Service Best

February 23, 2005—Calgary

EUB

*Oil & Gas Act and Alberta
Environment Definitions
February 25, 2005*

Getting It Right

*March 10 and 11, 2005
Edmonton*

Exam Preparation

March 12, 2005—Red Deer

Leadership

April 2005—AGM



public relations

by Heather Stairs, ALS

As a new member of the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association, I am beginning a professional career that I hope will be rewarding and fulfilling and one that I know will be demanding and challenging.

I recently joined the Public Relations Committee to become more involved with the Association and its members. One of my first tasks was to write an article for *ALS News* and I was honestly puzzled on what I should write about that would be appealing and interesting to the members of the Association.

Public relations? What does that term mean to you as a professional land surveyor? My understanding of the term "public relations" means just that—our relationship with the public and more so, how our members are viewed by the public.

During my articling time, I sometimes found it challenging to explain to people what I did for a career. I would tell them that I was an articling pupil to become a land surveyor and the expression on their faces would immediately tell you they didn't understand. I would then explain that it is similar to being an Engineer In Training (EIT) to receive one's professional engineering designation or apprenticing to receive your electrician certification. I explained that I needed to complete field work, office work, write exams, complete project reports, and so on. People immediately understood EIT or apprenticeship; however, they would be surprised that I had to complete all that work to become a land surveyor. One person thought after graduating from university with an engineering degree, that one could survey.

After I passed the qualifying exam and received my commission—it was such a relief and an accomplishment and I was pleased to tell people I was an Alberta Land Surveyor. However, I

If we want to improve public relations, then we need to communicate. I encourage the members to get involved with the community and involved with the Public Relations Committee.

still get some confused expressions and a few nods and polite smiles.

This prompted me to conduct a survey (pardon the pun) with family and friends as I wanted to get a better understanding of how we are viewed in the public eye. I sent an e-mail asking people four questions and asked them to forward the e-mail onto their family members and friends as I was hoping to reach a wide range of people. I asked people to answer the following:

1. What is a land surveyor?
2. What do they do?
3. Have you ever required the services of a land surveyor?
4. If yes, how was your experience?

I was somewhat disappointed with the number of responses (eleven) I received and concluded that either people were simply not interested in responding or that they did not know what a land surveyor was and, therefore, did not respond. I am leaning towards the first reason as some members of my immediate family did not respond and I would hope they knew why I went to university for five years and articulated for 4 years after graduation to obtain my commission.

All kidding aside, the responses I received were interesting. Keep in mind that this was a general questionnaire on land surveyors and responses came from all across Canada. People seemed to have a good understanding and answered questions one and two with responses such as:

- Engineer who measures land to determine ownership, property lines and assists with the layout for

the construction of buildings and roads.

- People who drive pins to mark the boundaries of land described in a deed or other legal document.
- People who draw maps to describe the shape and size of parcels of land and have the plans registered at a land registry office.
- A person who measures and marks the land for various purposes such as subdivisions and development.
- A legal expert who reads titles and verifies property boundaries. They complete both office and field work.
- A person who examines the land according to government specifications.
- A person who finds property boundaries and who will get involved when there is a land dispute.
- A person who defines property boundaries and who works with oil companies to locate oil wells.

Five of the respondents had required the services of a land surveyor and two simply stated that their experience was good. One respondent commented that they ended up with more land than they thought they had! The other two respondents required the services when they were buying a home; one directly through the surveyor and the other through their lawyer. Both commented that they did not see the surveyor throughout the job and one thought the experience was costly and did not understand why a new survey needed to be completed on a piece of land that was previously surveyed two years earlier.

Even though this was a very small sampling, I could not help but wonder if the public has a good perception of our profession. Are we where we want to be? Ironically enough, I found out after I conducted my survey, that the Public Relations Committee had a similar survey completed that was much more detailed and researched. The purpose of the survey is to form the basis and rationale for a new five year marketing and public relations plan for the ALSA. The plan will address the needs of each of the target audiences. The survey was targeted towards:

- Lawyers
- Land developers
- Realtors
- Municipalities
- People within the energy sector
- Members of the ALSA

A formal presentation of the results will be given at the October Public Relations Committee meeting, but I wanted to share an overview of the comments to give you an idea of where we are.

Overall, most are happy and satisfied with the services land surveyors provide. Both the land developers and members of the energy sector were very satisfied with services. Most lawyers and realtors were satisfied with the services, however, a number of them expressed concerns with the cost and time to complete a real property report—they cost too much and take too long to complete. Some comments were made regarding the use of title insurance over a real property report and some stated they would recommend title insurance when they knew there were compliance issues existing on the property! WOW—is that in the best interest of the public? I was also amazed by the answers to the question, “what image comes to mind when you hear the term Alberta Land Surveyor?” Answers included:

- men by the roadside;
- men with survey equipment;
- transit;
- men working outdoors;

- scruffy guy with a hat on trying to find pegs;
- great guys that do great work;
- very important person!

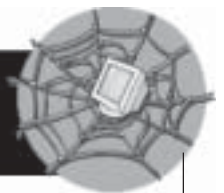
Well, I am not a man and I don't work in the field anymore, but I am an Alberta Land Surveyor! So, do you think people understand who we are and what we do?

Public relations is definitely a challenge but we must make it a priority and work towards improving our public image. One key factor is educating the public about surveying and land surveyors. It is understandable for someone to think that our crews working in the field are the actual surveyors because that is what they see. Do they know that the crews are working under the supervision of the professional land surveyor? Do they understand the research that goes into completing subdivisions and real property reports and that we simply cannot complete these jobs within a short time frame? Do they understand the value of our work and services that we provide? Do they understand the education and training we fulfilled to receive our professional designation? There are lots of questions to think about. What can we do?

In my experiences thus far, the most important part of my job is communication; communication with clients, co-workers, field crews and the public. If we want to improve our public relations, then we need to communicate. I encourage the members to get involved with the community and involved with the Public Relations Committee. There are a number of events coming up where we can meet members of the public, municipalities, realtor boards, energy sector, and so on. There is an AUMA trade show on November 17 and 18 in Edmonton. It will be attended by elected municipal counsellors and exhibitors will be those who complete business with the municipalities. This is a great opportunity to meet people and promote the profession. Various municipalities have displays and brochures available for

development permits and related activities. Take a moment to contact these people and see if we could display our brochures about subdivisions, real property reports, utility right of ways and easements. Many people are referred to land surveyors by municipalities and, therefore, visit these places prior to seeing a land surveyor. I get a number of phone calls from potential clients who say, “the municipality said to contact a surveyor and they would take care of everything.” Let's do the best we can to do just that.

net notes



It is amazing finding out what the Association's Executive Committee is up to when you type their name in the Google search engine.

Olympic Weightlifting with Bodybuilding for All by Jim Halliday—

www.sandowplus.co.uk/Competition/Halliday/OW/ow-01.htm

Larry's Pals: 4/20/99—

www.s-t.com/daily/04-99/04-20-99/c011o087.htm

Stephen's Green: Irish Music at its Best—www.stephens-green.com

Vintage Football Card Gallery - 1970 Topps #141 Al Nelson—
www.footballcardgallery.com/1970+Topps/141/

Bournemouth Male Voice Choir - male voice choirs - Brian Munday, Assistant Secretary—
www.bournemouthmalechoir.co.uk/



legal notes

This is an excerpt from the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta decision, Pollo v. Taylor (2004 ABQB 173). For the complete decision, go to: www.albertacourts.ab.ca/go.aspx?tabid=13&retm=/isysquery/irlf636/2/doc

Between:

Lorne Pollo (Plaintiff) and Jeanette G. Taylor and Donald Bryce Dougan (Defendants)

Plaintiffs by Counterclaim and Lorne Pollo and Jane Pollo Defendants by Counterclaim

Reasons for Judgment of the Honourable Mr. Justice J. S. Moore

INTRODUCTION

[1] Donald Bryce Dougan ("Dougan") owns farm lands near Strathmore, Alberta. Also, he owns one quarter section as tenant in common, each as to an undivided one-half interest, with his aunt Jeanette G. Taylor ("Taylor"). Lorne Pollo ("Pollo") and his wife Jane Pollo ("Jane") have lived on a portion of the south east corner of that quarter section since the Spring of 1983. That quarter section is: Meridian 4, Range 25, Township 25, Section 21 Quarter North East ("the quarter").

ISSUES

[2] The issues are:

- (a) Did Pollo and Jane purchase the quarter in the Spring of 1992? Should there be an order for specific performance and the transfer of title of the quarter to Pollo and Jane?
- (b) Instead of specific performance, should Pollo be awarded damages?

- (c) Should Pollo be granted an order of adverse possession for a portion of the south east corner of the quarter?
- (d) Should Pollo and Jane be ordered to vacate the quarter?
- (e) Does Pollo have a claim for unjust enrichment for the improvements he installed on the quarter? Does Pollo have another equitable claim for money?

FACTS

[3] Pollo and Dougan are the two main witnesses at trial. There is a great deal of conflict in the evidence between the two main witnesses, but a few facts are clear:

- (a) Pollo was in financial difficulties in the Spring of 1983. Dougan and Taylor were charitable, and Dougan allowed Pollo and his family to come and live on a portion of the south east corner of the quarter.
- (b) Pollo and his family have occupied the corner since the spring of 1983, and Pollo and his family are still living on the corner. At first they occupied only three acres. Later they occupied five acres, then eight acres, and eventually 20 acres.
- (c) Pollo has constructed some buildings on the corner, and he has moved buildings from other locations and placed them on the corner. He has constructed corrals and fences, and made other improvements on the corner. Dougan never objected to Pollo doing any of the improvements. Sometimes Dougan even loaned Pollo some of his machinery and Dougan personally helped Pollo install some of the improvements.
- (d) Although Taylor owns an undivided one-half interest in the quarter section, all of the negotiations were between Dougan and Pollo.

- (e) Regarding the corner, there is no written lease or written licence between Pollo as the occupier and Dougan and Taylor as the registered owners of the quarter section.
- (f) From 1984 to 2000, Pollo paid money to Dougan; and Pollo and Dougan characterized those payments of money as a proportionate amount of the total tax money Dougan paid annually to the county of Wheatland (for that quarter section). Subsequent to 2000, Pollo has not paid any money to Dougan.

[4] I accept a portion of Pollo's evidence and I accept a portion of Dougan's evidence; but I do not accept much of Pollo's evidence and I do not accept much of Dougan's evidence.

[5] Pollo and Dougan each have made allegations. In a civil trial, the party who makes the allegation has the onus of proving the allegation on a balance of probabilities. Three things have hindered Pollo and Dougan in trying to prove allegations on a balance of probabilities:

- (1) Regarding the corner, neither Pollo nor Dougan put in writing what the deal was; and memories cannot be checked without a written record.
- (2) There is very little mutual agreement between Pollo and Dougan, very little consensus ad idem. Pollo believed one set of facts applied to the deal regarding the corner, and Dougan believed another set of facts applied. Rather than have disagreements, they rarely discussed the deal regarding the corner.
- (3) Now there is litigation between Pollo and Dougan and there is hostility between them. The

hostility has probably caused both Pollo and Dougan to “slant” their evidence, and there is much of their evidence I cannot accept.

REAL ESTATE PURCHASE CONTRACT

[6] In the Spring of 1992, Pollo had his realtor friend (Barbara Gray) prepare for Pollo and Jane a real estate purchase contract (Exhibit 7). Pollo and Jane (as purchasers) signed the real estate purchase contract to purchase the quarter and Dougan and Taylor signed the real estate purchase contract as vendors.

[7] Pollo claims that he and Jane made a binding and enforceable contract for the purchase of the quarter, and he prays for specific performance of that contract. If the order for specific performance is not granted by the court, Pollo prays for damages in lieu of specific performance.

[8] There was never a sale of the quarter from Dougan and Taylor to Pollo and June.

Therefore, there will not be an order for specific performance of the real estate purchase contract, nor will there be any award of damages to Pollo.

...

DOUGAN WANTS POLLO TO LEAVE

[31] On February 25th 1998, Dougan had his lawyer prepare a Notice to Vacate Premises (Exhibit 12). Dougan’s lawyer then arranged to have the Notice to Vacate personally served upon Pollo and personally served upon Jane. Pollo and Jane have never vacated the premises. In Dougan and Taylor’s counterclaim, their first prayer for relief is that Pollo and Jane forthwith vacate the subject property.

[32] I ordered the Statement of Claim amended on September 2nd 2003; and I ordered the Counterclaim amended on November 26th 2003. At page 86 of the proceedings, I added

these words to the Counterclaim: The Plaintiffs by Counterclaim repeat all of the facts stated in the Statement of Defence.

ADVERSE POSSESSION

[33] Pollo argues that he (and his wife and family) are not required to vacate the premises because Pollo argues that he has a valid claim of adverse possession. Pollo argues that (by reason of adverse possession) he should be granted a title to a portion of the south east corner of the quarter.

[34] If Pollo is not granted a title to a portion of the south east corner of the quarter, Pollo argues that (by reason of adverse possession) he should be granted an easement over a portion of the south east corner of the quarter.

[35] I find as a fact that Pollo was permitted to occupy a portion of the south east corner of the quarter as a licensee only, and that Taylor and Dougan allowed Pollo to occupy the land out of generosity and kindness. Unless Pollo purchased all or a portion of the quarter, it was not intended that he acquire any interest in the quarter. Pollo is not granted an order of adverse possession for all or any portion of the quarter. That applies to a transfer of title, to an easement, or to any other order for an interest in land.

[36] There is nothing in writing regarding Pollo’s occupation of a portion of the south east quarter. However, both Dougan and Pollo agree on some facts regarding Pollo’s occupation of the premises. Dougan allowed Pollo to come on the land because Pollo was in extreme financial distress and Pollo needed a place for his family to live.

[37] In Dougan’s words, Pollo and his family could stay on the land “until Pollo was on his feet again” and then Pollo was expected to purchase all or a portion of the quarter section. Pollo was not entitled to stay on the land for free — each year he had to pay a portion of the taxes.

[38] If Pollo purchased a portion of the quarter (or all of the quarter), the purchase price would be fair market value at that time. There was no specified date when Pollo was required to purchase all or a portion of the quarter, so this was not a verbal option to purchase. It was more like a verbal right of first refusal.

[39] Dougan never did subdivide a portion of the south east corner of the quarter and obtain a separate title for the subdivided portion—although he did come close to doing that at one time. Dougan obtained subdivision approval from the County of Wheatland and then Dougan did not proceed further.

[40] Pollo’s only written offer to purchase the land was the real estate purchase contract (Exhibit 7) made in the Spring of 1992. Dougan tried to convert the verbal licence into a written farm lease (Exhibit 19 and Exhibit 20) in 1995, but Pollo never signed either of those two farm leases. Pollo’s payment for occupation was small—a portion of the annual taxes on the quarter. And Pollo even stopped paying his portion of the taxes in 2000.

[41] This case is somewhat similar to Robertson v. King Estate, [1999] A. J. No. 1280, an Alberta Court of Appeal decision. The facts are outlined in the trial decision [1999] A. J. No. 228. The trial judge speaks of the plaintiff, Tysanna Robertson (“Robertson”): *In the spring of 1986 the Plaintiff had fallen on hard times indeed. She was looking for a place to stay and a place for her horses. She had been looking for a place for over one year. She was also looking for work on a ranch. She had lost her city residence in April 1985, and she was a party to a divorce 8 years prior to this trial. I understand from the evidence that she was living in her car on the forestry reserve by the head waters of the Old Man River. She went to the Blairmore Forestry Office where she was given the name of Cochlan, a rancher who*

resides SW of Calgary, some mile from the home quarter of the King Ranch. She went to his ranch. Morris Cochlan testified she was looking for a place to stay. Her horses were temporarily on forestry lands.

[42] Robertson moved into a small cabin on the home quarter of the King ranch. The home quarter had pasture and little use was made of it. The two King brothers lived some 200–300 yards down the road from the cabin that Robertson began to occupy, and their cabin was also on the home quarter.

[43] Robertson lived in the cabin from June 3rd 1986 to 1999. She grazed her horses on the home quarter. No rent was payable pursuant to whatever arrangement she had with the King brothers.

[44] Robertson filed an adverse possession caveat on title to the home quarter on November 25th 1997, and she later filed a certificate of lis pendens on the home quarter. Robertson made a claim in adverse possession for all of the quarter section, or in the alternative, a claim for a portion of the quarter section on which her cabin was situate.

[45] In Robertson, the trial judge says at paragraph 41: *It is appropriate to borrow the words of Lord Greene in Booker v. Palmer [1942] 2 All E. R. 675 at 676 where he said in referring to an owner of a cottage who had allowed someone who had lost their house to live in it:*

...His sole motive was to act as a good and charitable citizen towards people in distress. In my opinion, the result is that the only permissible inference is that the appellant was intended to be there as a licensee.

And the trial judge says at paragraph 33: *What was granted to the Plaintiff was a license to occupy. I have said the occupancy was not exclusive. I would also conclude that this claim fails because it was a license to occupy that was granted by Maurice King to the Plaintiff.*

[46] In *Lehr v. St. Mary River Irrigation District* [1993] A. J. No. 1411, the trial judge was required to characterize the relationship between the plaintiff and the defendant. The trial judge distilled some principles with respect to licences, and I have compressed the trial judge's paragraphs 55, 56, 58 and 59: *A "licence," with respect to real property, is the authority to do an act with respect to the land which would otherwise constitute a trespass. A licence does not pass an interest in the property. Rather it is only a personal privilege with respect to the land. In deciding whether a licence has been created, the decisive factor is the parties' intention. The question of whether the parties intended to create a licence is a question of fact. Where there is no formal document to evidence this intention, the precise circumstances and conduct of the parties must be examined to decide whether a licence was intended.*

[47] In *Lehr*, the trial judge found as a fact that a licence was imputed, and the plaintiff was not granted a judgment for adverse possession.

[48] Similar to *Robinson* and similar to *Lehr*, I find as a fact that a licence was imputed to Pollo; and Pollo is not granted a judgment for adverse possession.

LICENCE TERMINATED

[49] Dougan and Taylor terminated Pollo's licence to occupy any portion of the quarter.

[50] Pollo has received a generous financial benefit — he lived on the quarter for 21 years for a small payment of money (some taxes). Pollo's licence to occupy a portion of the quarter has been terminated, and it is equitable that he vacate the property within a reasonable time. Pollo must vacate the quarter on or before August 1st 2004.

[51] The judgment (or order) prepared as a result of these Reasons shall specify that the Registrar of the

South Alberta Land Registration District is hereby ordered that upon presentation to him of a certified copy of the judgment (or order) and proof of no appeal within the appeal period, he shall discharge from the title to the quarter the caveat filed as instrument number 971033604.

IMPROVEMENTS

[52] Pollo has a mobile home on the quarter, and Pollo shall remove his mobile home from the quarter on or before August 1st 2004.

[53] Pollo has installed other improvements on the quarter including (but not limited to) corrals, fences, and the improvements described in Exhibit No. 10 which are: storage building no. 1, storage building no. 2, storage building no. 3, and a concrete slab. Dougan and Taylor shall pay Pollo for the improvements and the improvements shall be owned by Dougan and Taylor.

[54] Pollo shall not either directly or indirectly cause or allow to be caused any damage to the quarter or to the improvements, except reasonable wear and tear.

[55] It depends upon the future user (owner or occupier) of the south east portion of the quarter as to whether the improvements have some value or are almost useless. I find that the value of the improvements is \$24,000.00, and Taylor and Dougan shall pay the sum of \$24,000.00 (without interest) to Pollo on or before November 15th 2004.

COSTS

[56] There shall be no costs awarded to any party. No party achieved outstanding success in this litigation. Each party waited until trial before making applications for important amendments to pleadings. This made the litigation cumbersome.

HEARD ON THE 4TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2004.
DATED AT THE CITY OF CALGARY,
THIS 8TH DAY OF MARCH 2004.

SALE OF LAND

MISREPRESENTATION—

Plaintiff purchased property as is and subject to any title deficiencies. Its action for an abatement of the purchase price because the size of the property was less than advertised was dismissed.

Plaintiff sued defendant for damages for a misrepresentation in a sale of land. Plaintiff purchased a farm from defendant executors. The executors' father had owned the farm. Neither executor had lived at the farm for many years. It was common knowledge in the area that half a concession lot in that township contained 100 acres more or less.

There had been two applications for severance for approximately one acre each. The property was advertised and sold as containing 98 acres more or less. Plaintiff knew there was no survey and did not get one itself. It signed an acknowledgement that it was buying the property "as is" and purchasing subject to any title deficiencies. Some months after closing, plaintiff had the property surveyed and ascertained that the size of the property was an estimated 96.22 acres. It claimed entitlement to an abatement of the purchase price.

HELD: action dismissed. The sale in the present case was the sale of the whole parcel and not a sale by acres.

On the basis of the maxim of *falso demonstratio non nocet*, the court held that a term of the agreement has not been varied and the plaintiff received what it bargained for. Any misrepresentations made by defendants were innocent, in full accordance with their knowledge and belief and not actionable. They did not amount to a warranty or collateral agreement that would have either vitiated the contract or survived the closing of the real estate transaction.

John Beattie Farms Limited v. Stevenson Estate, [2004] O.J. No. 1177, Ont. S.C.J., Marchand J., Mar. 16/04. Full Text Order No. 2349-014 (10 pp.)

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SPR Corner: Case Study No. 21
continued from page 30

The Response

The practitioner in his response to this observation indicated that the initial acceptance of R1 as disturbed was an extension of a verbal review of the initial survey with the party chief. He also indicated that the measured location of R1 did not agree with the plan information. He said when questioned, the party chief indicated that the post had been banged around quite a bit, and had probably been moved during construction. He sent the same party chief back to the site to address the issues raised. He also said that he personally examined the evidence and that plan corrections will be made to reflect the proper location of R1. As a result, he noted that he will be implementing an evidence evaluation form into the field notes, and has been conducting more inspections of the field evidence, to ensure that the field condition of the evidence and what is reported in the notes is accurate.

The practitioner did correct the survey and plan to show finding R1 bent and restoring it.

The Message

Do you know what your staff consider as bent, or bent and disturbed when a monument is found bent? Be absolutely certain that all field staff understand the difference between bent and disturbed and restored and re-established. The differences are major and can have an impact on the application of the hierarchy of evidence in the future for that corner.

Record of Restored Monuments

Sections 44 and 46 of the Surveys Act require that the land surveyor register a plan showing the method of re-establishment of a lost monument within 90 days of the completion of the survey. There is no statutory requirement to register a plan if you have restored the monument from traces of the original. Many restorations are done in conjunction with a survey that is to be registered anyway. However, surveys conducted by

land surveyors for wellsites, real property reports and other surveys of a non-registered variety, may also require the restoration of survey monuments.

The Surveys Act does not require a land surveyor to register a plan of survey when a monument is restored. As keepers of the cadastral fabric, we have a duty as outlined in Part B Section 1 of the Manual of Standard Practice to at all times maintain the cadastral fabric.

A sub-group of the Standards Committee has been working on a corner recordation database. The intent of this database is to house a record of restored monuments that do not wind up getting shown on a registered plan of survey. When operational, this will allow all land surveyors to input and extract restoration information from the database at no cost. In my view, this is an initiative that assists land surveyors in their ethical responsibilities to maintain the cadastral fabric without registering plans that show restorations if a plan would not be required by the survey.



education news

by G. Lachapelle, M.E. Cannon and N. El-Sheimy

25 Years of Geomatics Engineering at the University of Calgary – A Celebration Of Excellence

Origins

The Department of Geomatics Engineering at the University of Calgary is celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2004. The initiative to establish this centre for geomatics engineering education was the result of the foresight and persistence of the surveying profession in western Canada in the 1960s and 70s. In 1977, the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association led the preparation of a Brief by the western land surveying and mapping profession which called for the creation of such a centre. The University of Calgary responded by proposing to establish an undergraduate, graduate and research program in surveying engineering which received unanimous support. The engineering profession, represented by APEGGA, also supported the creation of such a centre, and it was their subsequent strong support that tipped the balance in favour of the eventual creation of the program in 1979.

Geomatics Engineering began as the Division of Surveying Engineering of the Department of Civil Engineering, but was run independently. The full-time faculty members who joined the unit during the first year were Ted Anderson, Rod Blais, Edward Krakiwsky (Chair), Klaus-Peter Schwarz and Bill Teskey. Numerous other experts helped with the teaching as sessional instructors, including John Adams, PEng, Alex Hittel, ALS, Tom Swanby, ALS. These faculty members, in particular Dr. Krakiwsky who was the founding chair and head, were instrumental in setting up a successful program and in creating a culture of excellence, openness and collaboration that has been maintained. Surveying Engi-



Figure 1: Second (Spring 1982) Graduating Class with Faculty Members - from left to right: Dr. Ted Anderson, Phil McKenzie, Jeff Fee, Stephen Green, Dr. Ed Krakiwsky, Ken Ritz, Dale Arden, Dr. J.A.R. Blais, Dr. K.P. Schwarz

neering became a full department in 1986 and in 1992, the name was changed to Geomatics Engineering to better reflect its broad curriculum and national trends.

The first nine BSc students graduated in 1981. Figure 1 shows the second graduating class (1982) together with some of the faculty members at that time. In the early years, many students were transfers from survey technology programs such as those at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology, Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, Red River College and the British Columbia Institute of Technology. One of the goals of the undergraduate program was to supply graduates for both the land surveying and engineering professions and numerous graduates of the program have gone on to become industry leaders.

Current Department Organization

The Department now consists of 19 faculty positions. In 1997, thanks to a substantial increase in undergraduate enrolment, the University re-allocated three positions to the Department. This was followed by a further increase of several positions through funding from the Alberta government in the late 90s. Currently there are six women faculty members which represent about 30% of the Department total.

The Department has been very successful in competing in special federal and provincial programs to increase the number of faculty positions. Drs. Cannon and Skone were awarded five-year NSERC University Faculty Awards in 1991 and 1999, respectively. In 1997, Dr. Cannon was awarded a five-year

NSERC/Petro-Canada Chair for Women in Science and Engineering (Prairie Region). In 2001, Dr. Lachapelle was awarded a Tier I Canada Research Chair and iCORE (Alberta Informatics Centre Of Research Excellence) Chair in Wireless Location which resulted in the creation of an additional faculty position. In 2003, another Canada Research Chair was awarded to Dr. El-Sheimy, in the area of Mobile Multi-Sensor Geomatics Systems. Starting in 1990, the western Canadian land surveyor associations sponsored a professorship in Cadastral Studies until two tenure-track faculty positions focusing on cadastral studies and related areas were created in the early 2000s. Four faculty members who have retired since 1996 are now Professor Emeriti, namely Drs. Blais, Krakiwsky, McEwen and Schwarz.

Undergraduate Program

Most of the engineering common core courses, which cover fundamental engineering and science principles, are completed during the first three semesters. Geomatics Engineering courses begin after this time and are ordered according to five streams: methodology, surveying, geodesy, land studies, photogrammetry and remote sensing, and practical work. During their fourth and final year of studies, students choose six technical elective courses which give them the opportunity to focus on preferred areas of study. Between the third and fourth years, all students take Field Surveys, which is held in Kananaskis Country, 80 km west of Calgary, at the University of Calgary Field Station.

Geomatics courses are selected and designed to balance the requirements of the Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board (CEAB) and the Canadian Council of Land Surveyors (CCLS), as well as the needs of students to allow them to successfully contribute throughout their careers. The program is re-assessed on a continuous basis with input from

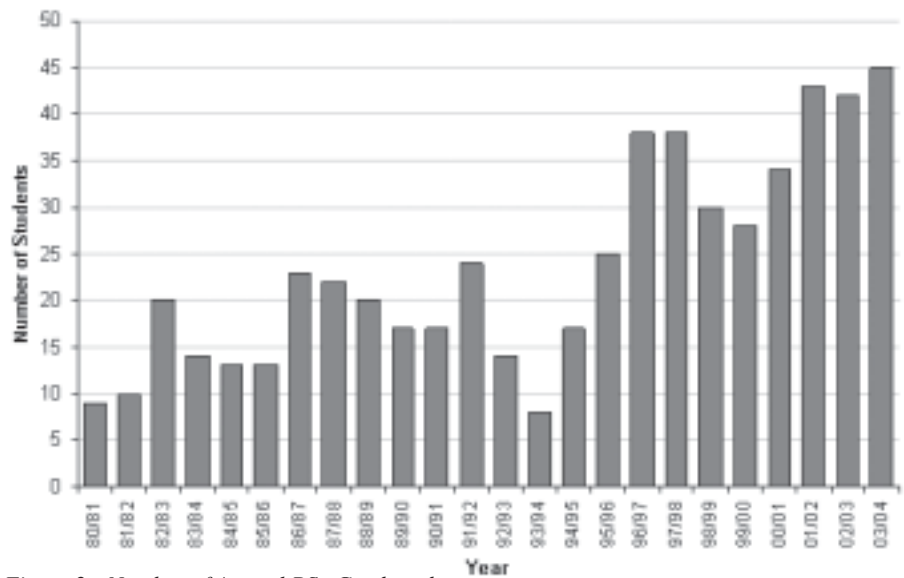


Figure 2: Number of Annual BSc Graduands

accrediting bodies, advisory committees and industry.

The number of BSc graduands is now about 45 per year as shown in the photo in the header of this article. The number began to increase substantially in 1995/96, due to a combination of renewed student interest, the name change, increased industrial opportunities fostered by a strong interaction with industry, and a deliberate strategy to raise the Department's profile among first year students. Significant effort has been put into the attraction of women in

engineering, and Geomatics Engineering in particular, and women now comprise about 26% of the undergraduate program and 25% at the graduate level.

In the early 90s, the Faculty of Engineering initiated an internship program, whereby third year students work in industry for 12 to 16 months prior to completing their final year of study. The program is voluntary and currently between 15 and 25 Geomatics Engineering students are participating at any point in time.

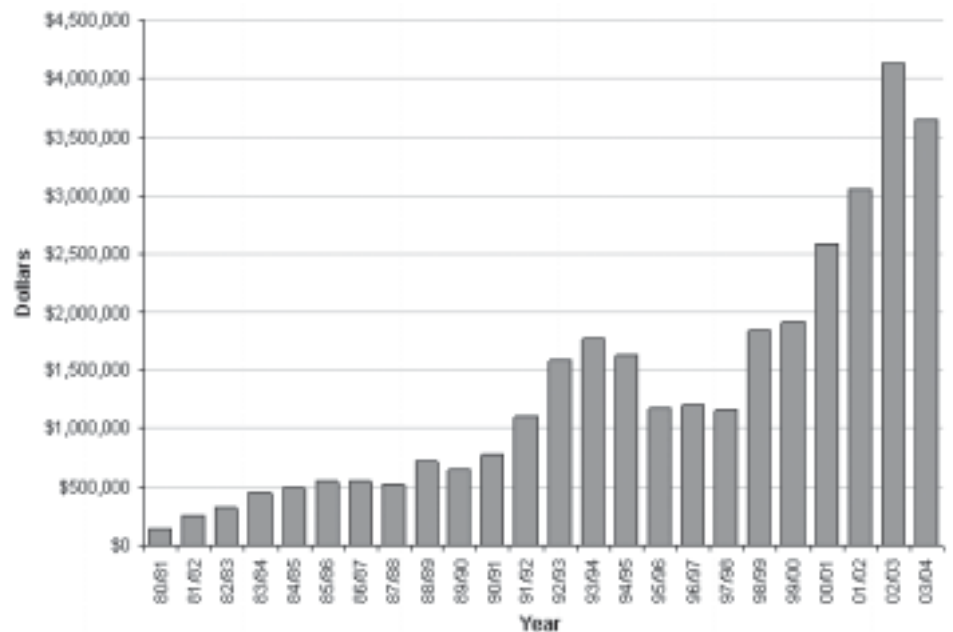


Figure 3: Growth in Annual Research Funding

Graduate and Research Program

Research and graduate studies were initially identified as priorities and efforts were focussed on gravity, positioning, statistical analysis, photogrammetry and high precision engineering surveys. Efforts in the area of positioning, headed by Drs. Schwarz and Krakowsky were especially noteworthy and were successfully expanded by those who came later (Lachapelle, Cannon, Gao, El-Sheimy, Skone). Thanks partly to the strong demand for related expertise and research, this area is now recognized for its excellence worldwide. Gravity research area was also pursued successfully by Dr. Sideris and others and is now a major strength of the Department. Throughout the years, other research areas were initiated and grew, namely remote sensing, cadastral studies, geospatial information systems, digital imaging and integrated systems. Faculty members have been active in organizing topical international conferences in Canada and abroad to disseminate research results.

Research funding has grown over the years and is currently \$4M per year as shown in Figure 3. The number of graduate students has also grown and is currently 80, with an expected increase to 100 within five years. Some twenty students with either a Masters or PhD degree complete their studies every year. The quality of the graduate students is very high as measured by external national and international awards and the demand from industry.

Research products, in the form of patents and software licenses, have been successfully transferred to industry, largely through University Technologies International, the

licensing arm of the University of Calgary. The cumulated revenue from this activity is of the order of \$10M, which constitutes strong testimony of the relevance, quality and impact of its research.

Links With Industry and the Profession

The Department created an Advisory Committee that has the responsibility of ensuring that the undergraduate, graduate and research programs are kept up to date with changing technology and that meet the needs of the country. The twelve-member committee is made of a mix of industrial and public sector representatives that meet annually.

In order to better serve the specific needs of the land surveying profession, a liaison committee with the land surveyor associations was created in 1999. This committee meets twice a year and organizes special cadastral surveying training sessions for the fourth year students to increase the profile of the land surveying profession among students. The links between the Department and the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association, thanks to their proximity and proactive programs, has especially been successful.

Since 1995, the Department has held an annual Career Day to provide an opportunity for students and industry to interface. The students, with strong advice and support from faculty members, organize this event. This highly successful event has grown steadily over the years and now attracts between 20 and 30 companies every year from across North America.

Many faculty members have served or are serving in various capacities on industry advisory boards and professional and learned societies,

including APEGGA, ACLS, CIG, IAG, ION, FIG and ISPRS. For example, Dr. Schwarz was president of the IAG (International Association of Geodesy) from 1995 to 1999, while Dr. Cannon was president of the ION (Institute of Navigation) in 1996-97. Numerous faculty members are Fellows of the IAG and Dr. Sideris is currently its Executive Vice President.

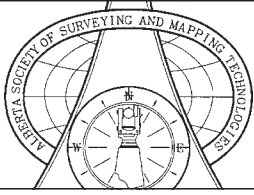
Outlook For The Future

Thanks to the strong engineering background of the undergraduate students, the excellence, diversity and strengths of the graduate program and the strong support from industry, the Department has matured into a permanent academic block vital to the continued success and health of the Canadian geomatics sector. Given the diversity of its faculty members and their constant renewal, the Department is poised to continue to excel. Vision, adaptation and excellence are key factors in meeting present and future challenges while providing opportunities for young people to achieve their full potential and to contribute to society. The Department will continue to build on its success and achievements to maintain its leadership in the decades ahead.

Acknowledgements

The Department's existence is due to the foresight and persistence of the western land surveying profession and the engineering profession. While scores of people contributed to the original Brief, a few individuals stand out and deserve recognition. They are Messrs. Bill Dabbs, Don Dawson, Alex Hittel, Ed Scovill, Dave Usher, Charlie Weir and Wally Youngs. Without their vision and efforts, the Department would not be in existence.

For further information, the U of C Website is
www.geomatics.ucalgary.ca



assmt notes

by Wayne Latam, CST – Executive Manager



As the new Executive Manager for the Alberta Society of Surveying and Mapping Technologies, I would like to start out by introducing myself. I will fill the position left open by the retirement of Mr. Stutt Pottruff, who

was a very dedicated executive manager for the Society. The Society was fortunate to have found someone as passionate as Stutt. It was a pleasure to work with Stutt over the years and now, as we enter a new era, I hope to be as influential as Stutt while assisting the enthusiastic volunteers who contribute countless hours to improve their chosen profession.

I was born and raised in Leamington in southern Ontario. One of Leamington's more notable amenities is Point Pelee National Park, the most southerly tip of Canada. I attended Fanshawe College in London, Ontario and received my diploma in survey technology in 1977. After a couple of years of working in Ontario I, like many, came to Alberta to catch the end of the boom in 1981, fell in love with the sunny blue skies and majestic mountains and decided to call Alberta home. I started out and continue to work in the Calgary area. I reside with my best friend, Jacqueline, and between us we share five kids and a dog.

I was certified by the Society in 1990 and it wasn't long before the Nominating Committee approached me about running for Council. I accepted a position on Council and was impressed to discover what a small group of volunteers were able to accomplish. I have been involved with the Society ever since and

continue to enjoy serving the Society today. My tenure has included President, Vice President and numerous years on Council. I've made a number of good friends along the way and seen many changes in the Society.

What's next? One of my goals as the Executive Manager will be to increase the profile of the Society and the contributions of its members. Experience in dealing with the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association and many of its members has been an excellent example of commitment to the survey profession. I've always been impressed with the accomplishments of the members within ALSA. The Association and the Society have been mutually supportive over the

years, however I believe this relationship can be strengthened and, I understand, steps are being taken to improve this relationship as I write.

In closing, I wish to extend a warm welcome to the new Council members of the Society and assure you, you will enjoy the experience. I wish to thank all the members who volunteer their time and efforts and look forward to sharing another successful year.

If you have any comments or questions, I would love to hear from you. My email address is manager@assmt.ab.ca or you can contact Cat, our Executive Assistant at catpause@telusplanet.net.

a moment of silence

Kasimir J. Sawicki, ALS August 29, 1927 to June 6, 2004

Kasimir John Sawicki was born into a military family in the town of Sejny, Poland on August 29, 1927.

His father was a professional officer in the Polish army, which meant that the family was always on the move. By the time of Germany's invasion of Poland in September of 1939, Kasimir had been enrolled in four different schools. Germany's and Russia's occupation of Poland was a difficult and challenging time for the Sawicki family. Kasimir was the oldest of two sons and was given the responsibility of providing for the family. His father was away in the army and his brother, Taduesz, was too young to contribute. Kasimir was put to work on farms, in forests and on a dairy. He enjoyed working at the dairy as he could smuggle an odd bit of cheese or butter from time to time. There was a risk in this practice as the penalty for smuggling food was severe.

Kasimir's father took part in the liberation of Holland and Western Europe and, in 1948, the family was reunited in Poland. In the meantime, Kasimir became a teacher and taught for a year before attending the Faculty of Engineering at the Gdansk Polytechnic Institute. From 1949 to 1951, he studied Mechanical Engineering and it was here that Kasimir and two of his friends developed a plan to escape to freedom. The plan was simple but the execution difficult. The plan was to travel to the border, swim the Oder River to East Germany and make their way to



Berlin. The plan was risky because Berlin, at the time, was divided into four zones of occupation and the trick was not to land in the Russian zone. It was at the height of the Cold War and Poland was in the grip of the oppressive regime. There was the risk of being shot swimming the river or being captured and serving a long term in prison. They knew they would require some help near the border as no one was allowed within the restricted zone without a pass. One night in the execution of the plan, they approached a local farmer near the restricted zone and asked if they could stay overnight. The farmer caught on quickly to what they were contemplating and offered food and lodging and wished them good luck.

Shortly before dawn on October 12, 1951 with frost on the ground, Kasimir and his friends swam the river. They encountered a local German resident on a bicycle who gave them an inquisitive look and pointed toward Poland. They nodded their heads and were given instructions which houses to avoid and directed them to a safe place. There they received some food and advice from a family whose son was still a prisoner of war in Russia. From then on, Kasimir and his friends stuck to side roads, slept in the forests during the day and walked during the night. Several days into their plan, Kasimir and his friends entered the British Zone of Berlin. The British intelligence were somewhat skeptical to see them but provided them with accommodation and debriefed them extensively over the next few weeks.

In December 1951, Kasimir and his friends left for Canada where they spent five months in Quebec City, and Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan arriving in Edmonton in late autumn 1952. Shortly before celebrating his first Christmas, Kasimir appeared at the Polish Hall in Edmonton where

the Nativity Pageant was being presented. With his refined manner, poise and eloquent command of the Polish language, he managed to make quite an impression on an angel in the pageant. The angel turned out to be Emma who later became his wife in 1955. The couple was blessed with a son Andrew in 1956 and, six years later, a daughter, Greta.

At times Kasimir would reflect that he was blessed with luck throughout his life, considering the war, his escape to freedom and meeting Emma. Early in his life, Kasimir studied in a small town about forty kilometres from where Emma resided until 1940. They were not aware of each other but, eleven years later, Kasimir traveled thousands of kilometres to the west and Emma traveled east through Siberia, Kazakhstan, Iran, India, Kenya and Uganda.

While in Edmonton, Kasimir worked on construction jobs and on various jobs at the Hotel Macdonald. On his return from working on the DEW line in the high Arctic, Kasimir found employment with the Surveys Branch, Department of Highways on April 21, 1958. He was employed as an assistant surveyor under Roman Skierkowski, ALS, surveying highways and roads west of Edmonton. Kasimir transferred to the office in Edmonton with the Surveys Branch on April 1, 1960 under M. Tarczynski, ALS and later under D.C. (Dave) Holmberg, ALS and R.F. (Bob) Baker, ALS. His duties were to examine plans of surveys prior to being registered in the Land Titles Offices.

Kasimir continued employment with the Surveys Branch working on examining the various types of survey plans that were submitted for review. In May 1967, Kasimir decided that an

Alberta Land Surveyor's certificate would be good advancement in his career and article to Bob Baker until April 1973. In order to complete his articles, it was necessary to do some field work. Making some adjustments with the family, Kasimir went into the field to further his articles with D.C.J. (Clayton) Bruce, ALS. Clayton kept Kasimir busy in the finer arts of field surveying from April 1973 to January 1975. Kasimir often expressed that this was one of the most enjoyable times of his life. He was not shy in remarking on the beauty of the lands, the wildlife they encountered and the experience gained while working with Clayton.

Kasimir transferred his articles to Bob Baker in the Plan Examination Section on January 2, 1975. He completed the examinations and registered as an ALS on September 12, 1975. From 1975 to 1981, Kasimir managed the Right-of-Way Section where he had the responsibility for the examination of rights-of-way and well location plans. In June 1981, he moved up the ladder to Assistant Director, Computations. In this capacity, he was involved in the activities for obtaining survey ties from the township system to the Alberta Survey Control System.

After twenty-eight years of service with the province, Kasimir retired on

April 30, 1986 to pursue his hobbies and enjoy travelling. Kasimir read extensively with his greatest interest on the subjects of philosophy, history and religion. Kasimir belonged to several organizations including the Polish Combatants Branch No. 6. He was also a member of the Board of Directors of the Polish Alliance Credit Union Ltd.

Kasimir was always thoughtful of others, a gentleman and well respected by his peers. He will be remembered as a person who would accept a challenge and carry it forward to completion. Above all, Kasimir will always be remembered as a good friend and colleague.

R.F. BAKER, ALS



discipline decision

Concerning the professional conduct of R.L. Haagsma, A.L.S. at a hearing held in Edmonton on May 12, 2004

Findings and Order of the Discipline Committee

Dated May 12, 2004

In the matter of the Land Surveyors Act (RSA 2000, Chapter L-3) and in the matter of a hearing of the Discipline Committee of the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association concerning the conduct of R.L. (Bob) Haagsma, A.L.S. held in Edmonton on May 12, 2004. The Discipline Committee hereby makes the following findings and order in respect of a complaint by the Practice Review Board dated January 22, 2004.

Allegation:

That R.L. (Bob) Haagsma, A.L.S. failed to respond to correspondence requiring a reply within a reasonable time and as such was in breach of Section 3 of the Professional Practice Regulation (AR 327/82).

Finding of Fact:

1. Mr. Haagsma was registered as an Alberta Land Surveyor on June 29, 1978. At all times referred to in these findings, he was registered as an Alberta Land Surveyor in good standing with the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association.
2. As part of a Phase 2 systematic practice review of Mr. Haagsma's practice, a letter was sent to Mr. Haagsma on July 10, 2003 by Lyall Pratt, Director of Practice Review, requesting a response by August 26, 2003.
3. October 20, 2003: Chad Finner, Chairman of the Practice Review Board, wrote a letter requesting the response by November 14, 2003.
4. Mr. Finner wrote another letter dated December 11, 2003 requesting the response by January 9,

2004. As these letters progressed each got more forceful in expressing the urgency of the situation.

5. Mr. Finner, Chairman of the Practice Review Board, filed a formal complaint dated January 22, 2004 against R. L. (Bob) Haagsma, A.L.S. with Mr. Dick Bassil, Registrar, alleging that Mr. Haagsma failed to respond to correspondence requiring a reply within a reasonable time.
6. As of the date of the hearing held on May 12, 2004, Mr. Haagsma still had not provided a written response to the Director of Practice Review in regards to his Phase 2 review.

Findings of the Hearing:

1. The Discipline Committee finds that R. L. (Bob) Haagsma, A.L.S. is guilty of unprofessional conduct for failing to respond to correspondence in a reasonable period of time.

Reasons:

1. Mr. Haagsma admits that he failed to respond to correspondence received from the Practice Review Board.
2. Mr. Haagsma during the past 12 months has experienced some extremely traumatic changes in his personal life and while these changes are not the whole cause of this non-response, they have certainly adversely contributed to this outcome.
3. Section 3 of the Professional Practice Regulation pursuant to the Land Surveyors Act states very clearly "every practitioner shall respond to correspondence requiring a reply within a reasonable time of receiving it." To the date of the hearing, Mr. Haagsma had not responded to the request of the Director of Practice Review dated

July 10, 2003. The Discipline Committee considers this unacceptable conduct.

4. At no time during this process did Mr. Haagsma respond to the Director of Practice Review or even acknowledge receipt of his correspondence. The Discipline Committee considers this unacceptable conduct.
5. Mr. Haagsma with the support of his current employer is scheduled to participate in a Project Management (Time Management) course this coming fall.
6. Mr. Haagsma's failure to respond has caused considerable delay and extra time and effort for the Director of Practice Review, the Practice Review Board and the Association. It is for this reason that he is held responsible for the costs of this hearing.

In consideration of these findings, the Discipline Committee hereby orders that:

1. R. L. (Bob) Haagsma be ordered to pay the costs of this hearing in regard to this matter as follows:

Court Reporter	149.80
Travel	820.82
Legal Counsel	1,594.12
Miscellaneous	180.69
Total	\$2,745.43

The full amount to be paid within ninety days of the date of this order.
2. R. L. (Bob) Haagsma be sent a letter of reprimand.
3. R. L. (Bob) Haagsma be ordered to complete the response to his Phase 2 review as outlined by the Practice Review Board in its letter dated July 10, 2003 and have it in the offices of the Association by the close of business on Friday June 18, 2004.
4. R. L. (Bob) Haagsma be ordered to respond in a very timely manner to

any further requests of the Director of Practice Review or the Practice Review Board pertaining to the completion of this Phase 2 review.

5. That this order and the letter of reprimand be published in *ALS News*.

Dated at the City of Edmonton this 26th Day of May, 2004

LAWRENCE M. PALS, ALS
VICE CHAIRMAN, DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

Letter of Reprimand

On May 12, 2004 the Discipline Committee found you guilty of unprofessional conduct for failing to respond to repeated requests for a response to your systematic practice review.

Your failure to respond in any way has caused the Director of Practice Review and the Practice Review Board considerable extra time and delay. You, through this non-response, have caused your Association to expend unnecessary additional costs to carry out this discipline process. You have been disciplined solely for your non-response.

We understand that over the past year you have experienced some very traumatic changes in your personal life and our thoughts are certainly with you in this regard. However, any communication of these difficulties to the Practice Review Board would have helped the Board to understand your situation. We believe

that they would have worked closely with you to come to a more acceptable outcome had you kept them informed in any way.

One of the orders of the hearing was to complete your response to your Phase 2 review. Should you not complete this review to the satisfaction of the Practice Review Board, you may find yourself back in front of the Discipline Committee for other reasons.

The Discipline Committee considers your conduct in this matter to be very poor judgement for a professional land surveyor. Any communication could have avoided this entire discipline process and hearing.

LARRY PALS, ALS
VICE CHAIRMAN, DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE



history

This is the fourth in a series of articles on the history of the ALSA and its members. The ALSA will be publishing a book on the history of surveying in Alberta in time for the 2005 AGM.

1915 – A Family Rift

Thirty-two members assembled to share this austerity at the Annual Meeting of January 1915, and the fight over the proposed tariff of fees continued. The committee appointed for that purpose had drafted a proposed tariff, copies of which were distributed to those present, and a motion for its adoption was made. Once again this brought the President out of the chair in opposition; this time it was Mr. R.W. Cautley who, seconded by the past-president, Mr. Charlesworth, moved an amendment that copies of the tariff be sent to every member of the Association, together with a ballot for the purpose of voting thereon, that the ballots be returned to the Secretary and dealt with by the Council on a straight majority vote. On being put to the meeting, the amendment was lost, and at the request of Mr. Cautley, a poll vote was then taken on the motion, which was carried by a vote of fourteen to seven. There was a rift in the Cautley family over this issue, R.W. voting against the motion and R.H. for it. The winning side then made and carried another motion to the effect that the tariff be printed and mailed to all members with a note stating that it had been approved at the Annual General Meeting.

At the same meeting, there was appointed a standing committee on land surveying field problems to answer questions submitted by members and to report the questions and answers at subsequent annual meetings. Five members were named to this committee, but there is no subsequent record of their activities, if any.

There was a glut of technical papers at this Annual Meeting but only two were published. Town planning came up again in the form of a paper presented by Mr. R.W. Cautley entitled "Government Con-

trol of Townsite Subdivisions" which, unfortunately, is lost to posterity. Two papers on the survey of railroad spirals and private spur lines, which seem relatively inconsequential today, were read by Mr. Horace Seymour and Professor Muir Edwards. Mr. Charlesworth also presented a paper on evidence, which must have been of some lasting value, but it was never published or placed in the files of the Association.

In February, 1915, there was a Council meeting at which the Secretary reported that he had written to the D.L.S. Board of Examiners in connection with the DLS-ALS reciprocity proposal made at the 1914 Annual Meeting. The DLS Board had given this proposal the cold shoulder and the Council concluded that this idea would have to be considered disposed of for the present.

The Council met again in December and, among other things, entertained a request for honorary membership in the Association which the Secretary had received from Mr. C.A. Magrath, a well-known civil engineer and Dominion Topographical Surveyor for whom the Town of Magrath in southern Alberta had earlier been named. Mr. Magrath already held commissions as a land surveyor in several provinces, and it appears that he cherished the ambition to become the first man in Canada to hold a commission in every province. He had made the grade almost everywhere else except in Alberta, and since he was not disposed to write any examinations, he suggested an honorary membership. After reviewing the correspondence, the Council was obliged to instruct the Secretary to inform Mr. Magrath that they found with extreme regret that they had no power to make him an honorary member. That seemed to be that, but this little matter stayed alive until 1932, when the Association finally

got around to enacting a by-law authorizing the election of honorary members, upon which Mr. Magrath, who had by then ascended to the chairmanship of the Ontario Hydroelectric Power Commission, had his wish granted and lived to enjoy it until his death in 1949 at the age of 89.

Horace Lleywellen Seymour

By the death of Mr. H.L. Seymour, Canada has lost one of her outstanding town planners.

Mr. Seymour was born at Burford, Ontario, in 1882, but later moved with his family to Toronto where he attended high school and university.

In 1903, he graduated from the S.P.S., Toronto University and in June of that same year he joined the staff of the Topographical Survey, Department of the Interior at Ottawa, where he remained until May 1907.

In 1906, Mr. Seymour qualified as a Dominion Land Surveyor and, in that capacity, he was in charge of survey parties engaged in the subdivision of townships in the western provinces during the years 1907 to 1910 inclusive.

In 1908, he qualified as a provincial land surveyor for Ontario. Later, he similarly qualified for Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Nova Scotia.

In 1912, he returned to Toronto University for postgraduate work and received the degrees of B.A.Sc. (Honours) and C.E.

During the War, he was Assistant to Mr. Thomas Adams, Federal Town Planning Adviser, and was engaged under his direction in the replanning of the devastated area in Halifax. Following this, he was three years in Vancouver as resident engineer for the Town Planning Commission. It is interesting to note that the report prepared on this work was used as a

textbook in Canada on the subject of Town Planning.

In 1925 and 1926 he was in South America surveying for an oil company, and while there was engaged by the City of Maracaibo, Venezuela, to prepare a plan for the proper development of that city.

From 1929 to 1932, he was Director of Town Planning for the province of Alberta. He was also one of the founders of the Town Planning Institute of Canada and was one of its first presidents.

He drafted the New Brunswick Town Planning Act in 1936 and a similar act for Nova Scotia in 1939. He had, in fact, practiced as engineer, surveyor or town planner in all of the provinces in Canada except Prince Edward Island.

During 1939, he was working with the commissions of Fort William and Port Arthur, and had succeeded in having ratified a town planning scheme to be undertaken jointly by both cities. This work was interrupted by his sudden death in April 1940.

H.G. BARBER

ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO LAND SURVEYORS

William Muir Edwards

William Muir Edwards was born at Ottawa, in the Province of Ontario, on November 14th, 1879, and was educated at Ottawa Collegiate and



McGill University. He graduated from McGill University in Applied Science in 1901 as head of his year, taking the British Association Medal for Applied Science, and the following year he graduated in Civil Engineering, again taking the British Association Medal.

He remained at McGill as lecturer in Mathematics and Civil Engineering, and in 1907 was appointed assistant professor in these subjects.

In 1908, he was appointed Professor of Science and Mathematics at the University of Alberta, where he did

most valuable work in organizing his Faculty.

Not only in science, did Professor Edwards distinguish himself at McGill; he played rugby for his university and, in 1902, carried off the Silver Medal of the McGill University Athletic Association by breaking the record in the two mile race.

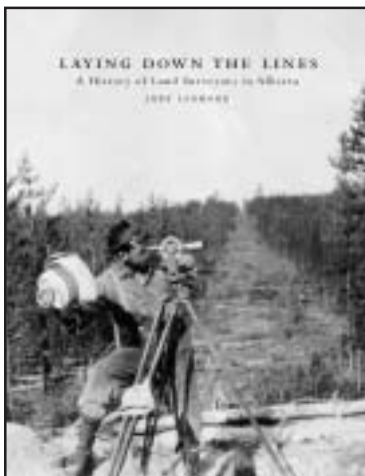
After coming to Alberta he continued his interest in athletics, becoming President of the A.A.A.U. and taking a very prominent part in the athletic life of the province.

He obtained his commission as a Dominion Land Surveyor in May 1913, and as an Alberta Land Surveyor shortly afterwards, and took a keen interest in the affairs of this Association.

He married Miss Evelyn Douglas, of Ottawa, and had three children. He died on November 14th, 1918, during the great epidemic of Spanish Influenza, which he contracted whilst acting as a volunteer nurse in an emergency hospital, where he worked unceasingly to help save others.

Pre-Order Now—Coming April 2005 Laying Down the Lines: A History of Surveying in Alberta

By Judy Larmour



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Historian Judy Larmour is putting the finishing touches on her latest book, *Laying Down the Lines: A History of Surveying in Alberta*. This Alberta Land Surveyors' Association commissioned publication includes legendary surveyors and explorers David Thompson and Peter Fidler right up to today's modern Alberta Land Surveyors.

This book tells the story of land surveyors and their incredible challenges and hardships as well as their often amusing stories. Read about the tragic death of Henry Selby and the surveyors' connection to Edmonton's infamous Cecil Hotel.

Chapters include Mastering A Dry Land: Land Surveyors and Irrigation (Chapter 4), The Challenge of Surveying Alberta's North (Chapter 6), and Urban Provincial and Professional Affairs in the Glory Days to World War I (Chapter 8).

To pre-order *Laying Down the Lines* by Judy Larmour please contact the Alberta Land Surveyors Association at (780) 429-8805 or order online at www.alsa.ab.ca/book.pdf. There is no payment required now. Books will be \$40 each plus shipping and handling when they become available in April 2005.