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Alberta Land Surveyors' Association
Suite 1000, 10020 – 101A Avenue — Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3G2
Tel: 780-429-8805 or 1-800-665-2572
Fax: 780-429-3374 info@alsa.ab.ca www.alsa.ab.ca

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president's message

by Stephen Green, ALSA

Thank you for choosing me to serve as your president for the 2005-2006 term. I have benefited personally and professionally from my twenty-one year membership in the ALSA and am, therefore, pleased to be able to give something back.

Over the next year, I plan to help our Association build and sustain relationships with other technical and professional groups that deal with geomatics within industry, government and educational institutions. We must demonstrate the value of our involvement in these processes to heighten awareness about the contribution we make to business, to government, and to the community. We also need to have "a voice at the table" when dealing with the development of the regulatory processes that impact our industry.

Future of the Association Ad Hoc Committee

Last year, the Future of the Association Ad Hoc Committee hired Strategy Summit to produce a report on the current state assessment of our Association. The assessment was done to:

- identify anticipated market demand factors that could influence the profession over the next 3-5 years;
- identify ways that the ALSA can mitigate factors that may negatively affect the viability of the profession.

The Committee asked them to research the following questions:

- What is the current and future market (i.e. demand for the profession)?
- Do membership demographics indicate a broad retirement is coming in the profession?
- At the current level of education and training standards, will the

We must demonstrate the value of our involvement in these processes to heighten awareness about the contribution we make to business, to government, and to the community.

trends and the availability of technical staff affect the ALSA's membership?

- Will membership have the ability to serve the ALSA's market?
- What challenges exist to marketing the profession and attracting new entrants?
- What bottlenecks exist to entry into the profession that the ALSA can help to address?
- What concerns do members have about the profession's long-term viability?
- What strategies and roles can the ALSA pursue to meet the long-term interests of the profession?

A report has been submitted to the Committee. They are reviewing the report's recommendations and will determine actions to be considered as the ALSA works to develop a long range strategic plan toward our preferred future.

Launch of Laying Down the Lines

ALSA's contribution to Alberta's 2005 centennial is a wonderful book written by Judy Larmour on the development of the land surveying profession in Alberta. The book is a tribute to our predecessors and a reminder of what an important contribution our profession has made,

and continues to make, to the growth and development of the province. Special thanks to Terry Hudema, who purchased a copy of the book (signed by Premier Klein) through an auction at the AGM for \$1,000. Proceeds went to the J.H. Holloway Foundation. Copies of the book are available from the ALSA.

Public Land Disposition Mapping

The Director of Surveys, Mike Michaud, announced that on August 1, 2005, Public Lands is going to proceed with a mapping program for all crown lands. We had an initial meeting with government on April 29th which included Al Nelson, Brian Munday and myself. The Director laid out his initial plans and a number of key issues were discussed. This was followed by an industry meeting with practicing land surveyors and the Director on May 5th. The issues discussed were:

- \$125.00 mapping application fee.
- Grandfathering existing plans.
- Security associated with signatures on digital documents.
- The layering of information.
- The need for development time to create systems within our offices to be able to service the upcoming unknown requirements for submission.
- The methodology for submission of digital drawings given that the ALS does not normally make the application.
- Ensuring the correct plan is submitted with the proper application.
- The difficulties with geo-referencing a multi-page document or with a drawing with several different scales.
- The ability to retrieve information back with little or no cost to ALSs.

The Director asked for typical files to be submitted to him to help understand the difficulties of the above concerns. He agreed to work with us to help develop a workable solution. At the time of me completing this message, there were no firm plans offered to define the process. I'll keep you posted.

Meeting with our Minister

On May 9th Brian Munday and I met with the Hon. David Coutts, Minister of Sustainable Resource Development and Brad Pickering, Deputy Minister. The Minister is responsible for the Surveys Act and the Director of Surveys Office. We discussed four topics:

- **Launch of Laying Down the Lines**

Copies of the book were presented to the Minister and Deputy Minister.

- **Public Land Disposition Mapping**

Two main issues were discussed. The ability to grandfather existing plans already in the system and a relaxed implementation date of August 1st. The Minister indicated he would consider both of these issues.

- **Part 2/ Part 3 Monuments**

We discussed the two motions recently passed at our AGM on Part 2 / Part 3 monuments. We expressed the reasoning behind this change to the Surveys Act and he asked us to send

him an official letter requesting this amendment. He indicated his legal department would review our request.

- **Boundary Resolution Panel**

We discussed our proposed "Boundary Resolution Panel" to be used when two or more Alberta Land Surveyors differ on the location of a boundary. The Minister was pleased with our approach to the problem. We indicated that occasionally the situation cannot be resolved by the panel and the only recourse is to use Section 9 of the Surveys Act. We requested that funds be provided for when this occurs to cover associated costs. The Minister indicated he would consider our request.

I am finishing off this message on an airplane returning from the Newfoundland (rhymes with 'understand' I'm told) AGM. It was an enjoyable and informative meeting. They are working hard on creating a land registry system that will be maintained by private practice. Their hospitality was warm and friendly as Janet and I are now official Newfoundlanders. We kissed the cod and were screeched in. With this being the first AGM on our tour across Canada, it should make for an interesting year!

Thank you for your confidence and your support.

AGM 2005 – Seminar



Deborah Rothermel of ideaWorks Leadership Management Systems presenting a seminar on Leadership



councillor's forum

by Dirk VandenBrink, ALS

A couple of years ago, I received a call from a gas utility company stating that they thought one of our legal iron posts might be responsible for a gas leak in a new residential area. Apparently the lot owner had stripped the lot in preparation for some black dirt and noticed a gas smell. The gas company came to repair the line and, when scraping the overburden away with a backhoe, hooked the post and effectively pulled the plug. Gas and gravel flew in all directions and several of the homes under construction in the near vicinity were evacuated until the pipe was repaired.

Fortunately, there were no injuries or damages other than to the pipe itself. Upon investigation of the incident, there was some question as to whether the post had gone through the pipe when it was originally placed approximately two years prior, or whether the post had been driven deeper into the ground during construction that was taking place. There was no doubt, however, that the iron post that had gone through both sides of the pipe was from our firm. The section of pipe was prominently displayed on their office counter and the legal iron post, with our permit number on it, had been re-inserted and was sticking out through both sides of the pipe.

I am relating this story in response to the growing concern with respect to ground disturbance and buried facilities and the impact it has in doing our work as land surveyors. As a response by our firm to this incident, most of our staff including myself took part in a Ground Disturbance Level II course. This course is meant to raise awareness and educate the attendees about the regulations and codes of practice related to ground disturbance. Upon referring to the Occupational Health and Safety Code and the Pipeline Act, it appears

While I think that it may be reasonable to consider the placement of a legal iron post as a ground disturbance, it is not practical, and logistically impossible, to consider every shovel full of dirt as a ground disturbance.

that the placement of a legal iron post should be considered a ground disturbance. Our particular course instructor was of the opinion that even digging a hole deeper than thirty centimetres with a shovel, prior to any utility locating, was technically a ground disturbance. If one took this view, and followed the code of practice, you would have to locate all buried facilities (presumably by contacting Alberta One Call) within thirty metres of each iron post found or placed in each of your surveys. You would be unable to place a post within one metre of a low pressure pipeline or other utility without hand exposing it first. (It is my understanding that the distance is five metres for high pressure pipelines.)

It is evident that this presents a real problem in terms of practically performing a survey, particularly in urban areas. For instance, consider the placement of legal iron posts at the lot corners of a subdivision where the adjoining utility is less than one metre away. It can be argued that to do this without hand exposing the utility technically contravenes the Occupational Health and Safety Code. What about the logistical nightmare for a survey firm doing numerous smaller jobs each day to arrange the Alberta One Calls for

each survey? To complicate this further, as I was writing this, an article from the *Edmonton Journal* was emailed to me, indicating that there is an increasing workload on those providing buried facility locating services, resulting in waiting times of up to six weeks. One can easily see that something has to change.

The issue of buried facilities and ground disturbance has certainly been one of the ongoing topics at our Council meetings and is included in the terms of reference for the Standards Committee for the coming year. If you have opinions, ideas or want to share how your particular firm deals with this issue, I am sure that the Standards Committee would appreciate your input.

It is my opinion that the solution to the problem, for the present time, is to adopt a work practice that combines the due diligence required in the legislation and the necessity of being able to practically and safely perform our field surveys. While I think that it may be reasonable to consider the placement of a legal iron post as a ground disturbance, it is not practical, and logistically impossible, to consider every shovel full of dirt as a ground disturbance.

The role of the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association in all of this is, in my view, to continue to promote a move towards the requirement for accurate as-builts for all underground facilities and to develop a code of practice with respect to field surveys and buried facilities that meets the requirements (and intent) of the Occupational Health and Safety Code and still provide a practical way for us to do the work that our clients and the public demand from us. Perhaps, a revised survey monument should also be considered as a part of the solution.



editor's notes

by Brian Munday, Executive Director

I'm a big fan of movies. I particularly enjoy the old Hollywood classic movies that had bigger-than-life actors and fantastic stories.

I was recently reminded of one of those classic movies. It was the 1942 movie *Yankee Doodle Dandy* starring James Cagney. Cagney plays George M. Cohan, a legendary American theatre actor, singer, dancer and composer. The movie is an American patriotic World War II classic which doesn't let the facts of George Cohan's life interfere with a good story. Anyway, at several points in the movie, the George M. Cohan character thanks the stage audience for their applause on behalf of his entire family.

I have my own version of that line from the movie. My parents thank you, my kids thank you, my wife thanks you and I thank you.

Thank you for the President's award. It was truly an honour to receive it. I enjoy working with the president, the Council, the committees and all the members. It would not be possible to put the kind of effort into this position if I didn't enjoy it. I thank the membership for their support and understanding and I look forward to continuing to serve the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association.

As I did at the Awards Lunch, I would like to particularly thank all of the ALSA staff. They are truly amazing and help me look very good indeed.

This is what I wanted to say at the Awards Lunch at the annual meeting. I'm not sure if that's what I did say or if I said as it eloquently as I meant it. I can hardly wait to read the Report of Proceedings to find out. I remember John Holmlund, when he received the Professional Recognition Award, quoting a Nova Scotia Land Surveyor saying that he could hardly wait to find out what he was going to say.

"here's to plain speaking and clear understanding."

This reminded me of a book that I read while pursuing my MBA studies. The book is called *Think on Your Feet: The Art of Thinking and Speaking Under Pressure* (ISBN 0-13-917807-4) by Kenneth Wydro. It was published in 1981 and I understand that it is now out of print. I have been told that Toastmasters would give this book out to their members. Recently, I pulled this book out of my home library to read it again, although I wish I had re-read it before the annual general meeting.

I would encourage anyone who has to do any form of public speaking to try to get a copy of this book. It's a short book, just 140 pages, that contains a lot of good ideas. Not all of us have to speak in front of an audience or speak to the media on a regular basis, but just speaking to a client or a landowner on the phone, might mean that we have to think and speak under pressure.

Chapter 2 covers the slight edge technique. On the pro golf tour, the difference between the golfer who ranked number one for the year and ranked number fifty, was less than two strokes per round but the dollar difference in earnings was almost \$250,000. What's the difference between a .200 and a .300 hitter in baseball? It's maybe one or two hits per week. What is the difference the good pro athlete and the great pro athlete? What is the difference between the good professional and the great professional? According to Wydro, the slight edge technique can turn good into great. the slight edge technique involves taking some quiet time in the morning and again in the evening and writing down a picture of what you want to happen in a

positive way. Each day, write down your idea for the day and then visualize yourself acting upon the idea. At the end of the day, write down how you accomplished your idea for the day. While this may sound hokey, it is apparently one element that separates the good from the great. It is a technique that allows you to think of the big picture goals as opposed to which phone calls need to be returned and which fires need to be put out.

Chapter 5 is entitled Blueprints and Game Plans. This chapter covers the key elements of thinking and speaking under pressure. Kenneth Wydro talks about the PREP formula when communicating, whether one on one or one to many. In the PREP formula, P= point of view which is your one sentence overview on the subject. R= reasons why you hold your point of view. E= evidence or examples to illustrate your point of view. P= your point of view restated, leading to an action.

Even if you don't have time to prepare a formal speech or presentation, this simple formula will help you collect your thoughts and help make a simple, but persuasive, point.

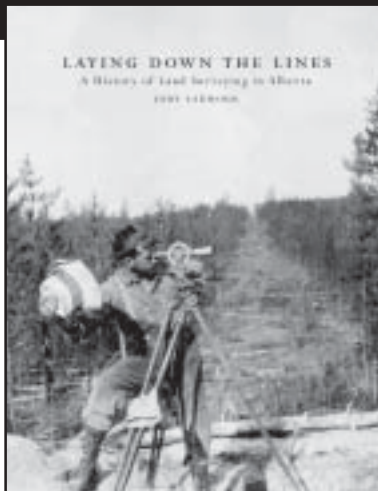
The slight edge technique helps you figure out what your point of view is and the PREP formula helps you communicate it to others.

I have always admired the career of Winston Churchill. Not only did he have successes and failures in both his military and political careers but he also was an accomplished author and artist. He was, above all else, a brilliant orator with phrases and speeches that are still remembered today. His speeches were always filled with wit and seemingly off-the-cuff. I learned later on that Winston Churchill often spent days working on one of those so-called off-the-cuff speeches to ensure that the phrasing, style and substance, hit the right note.

None of us is Winston Churchill and none of us would pretend to be. However, these simple approaches to communicating may make us feel more at ease when public speaking, help us organize our thoughts and even help committee meetings and other gatherings run smoother and one time.

As Kasper Gutman (played by Sydney Greenstreet) said in 1941's *The Maltese Falcon*, "here's to plain speaking and clear understanding."

net notes



Laying Down the Lines: A History of Land Surveying in Alberta has proven to be very popular with the membership and others.

The commemorative hardcover is available from the Association at:

ALSA Website

www.alsa.ab.ca/materialforsale.htm

ALSA Land Surveying History Website

www.landsurveyinghistory.ab.ca/For_Sale.htm

The softcover edition is available from the publisher and select retail outlets:

Brindle & Glass

www.brindleandglass.com/books/laying.htm

Amazon

www.amazon.ca/exec/obidos/ASIN/1897142048/qid%3D1116427315/702-8560767-4548822

Chapters/Indigo

www.chapters.indigo.ca/item.asp?Item=978189714204&Catalog=Books&N=35&Lang=en&Section=books&zxac=1



letters

A Sad Day

I felt a need to respond to somebody on this sad day with the passing of one great surveyor. I worked with John (Matthews) in the Arctic and it was an honour to survey under him. He will be sadly missed.

FRED ROGERS, ALS

I'd like to thank Bob Mayne for the well written tribute to Stormin' Norman Hanson which appeared in your March issue. I had the pleasure of working with Norm in the mid-seventies and it was indeed interesting to read this entertaining synopsis of the life of a unique surveyor.

IRWIN MALTAIS, ALS

CIG

We often hear complaints about the Canadian Institute of Geomatics and what it does for us. Most often these concerns are directed at *Geomatica* and that it is too scientific for most surveyors. The common response is that it needs to be world class to be recognized—after all it is the image of Canadian surveying and geomatics. Yes, it does represent the image of Canadian geomatics and yes, it is world class! But it is not a magazine for eggheads—it is a magazine for **all** professional surveyors. Why does it enjoy a subscription of 5% of its members from the international fraternity of surveyors—because it is world class.

But is it relevant to Canadian cadastral surveyors? Most definitely! Just in a brief review of the last four issues of *Geomatica* I find:

- Geomatics and the Law by Alec McEwen—regular articles on current court cases that are of interest specifically to cadastral surveyors.
- Association reports which keep us up-to-date on the activities of sister associations—particularly provin-

cial survey associations, the ACLS and CCLS.

- A Demographic Study of Land Surveyors in the Maritime Provinces—a concern in every province!
- 25 Years of Geomatics at the University of Calgary.
- Official Coordinates, Lawfully Established Monuments and South African Cadastral Surveys by Professor Michael Barry—Cadastral Chair at the U of C.
- Regular features of interest to all surveyors such as Bill Brookes' excellent articles entitled Field Notes & Office Memos and Survey Humour, Industry News, Book Reviews, Fifty Years Ago, President's Report, The International Scene and the Calendar of Events—general but information that is interesting and relevant to everyone of us!

If there is anyone in this profession that is a technical misfit, I am it, but I still find membership in CIG to be valuable and I enjoy receiving and reading *Geomatica*—a world class publication—even if I don't read articles with mathematical equations and technical jargon in them. There is enough meat in *Geomatica* for everyone.

Personally, I feel that as members of the Canadian surveying (geomatics) profession, membership in our national organization is a must. Membership is part of continuing professional development, membership is part of keeping in touch with colleagues and industry developments across the country and membership is being part of the Canadian surveying profession.

The CIG is at a crossroads—there have been a proliferation of new technical organizations springing up recently that compete directly with

the CIG and I appreciate that you can't belong to them all but CIG has a long, proud history of bringing the surveying profession together at the national level—we need to support it!

G.K. ALLRED, ALS

Recommendations 5(a) and 5(b) at the 2005 ALSA AGM

In my opinion, the members of the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association made two very poor decisions on April 23, 2005. It's as if we have forgotten some basic principles. What seems to have been forgotten is that undisturbed monuments don't always govern. It depends on whether they were placed to create new boundaries or to retrace boundaries.

To me, it's generally quite straight forward. If monuments are placed by a land surveyor with the intention to create boundaries and, if subsequently boundaries are lawfully created based on these monuments, then the undisturbed monuments govern.

If, on the other hand, the boundaries are lawfully created first (and they are not covered under some statutory deferred monumentation arrangement) and if, subsequently, a land surveyor places monuments to mark the boundaries, then the undisturbed monuments do not (and should not) necessarily govern.

When retracing boundaries, land surveyors can only go so far as to render an opinion.

Recommendations 5(a) and 5(b) do not follow these basic principles. I hope the Government of Alberta comes to recognize this and treats recommendations 5(a) and 5(b) accordingly.

STEPHEN HOWARD, ALS

Laying Down the Lines

I would like to thank you for the copy of *Laying Down the Lines* which the author, Judy Larmour, donated to the Glenbow Library on behalf of the Association. I am most impressed by the publication; it is both interesting and informative, and is very attractively designed. I'm very pleased that the Association chose to publish such a thorough account of the history of surveying in this province, and I know that it will be used, and appreciated, by both our curators and researchers for many years. Thank you again for thinking of Glenbow.

LINDSAY MOIR
SENIOR LIBRARIAN

I just read your book *Laying Down the Lines: A History of Land Surveying in Alberta*. Having worked with some of your sources (Alex Hittel, Dave Usher, Tom Swanby, Doug Barnett and others) in preparing course materials and presenting University of Calgary courses in the land surveying/cadastral surveying area in the early 1980s, I had some knowledge of the history of land surveying in Alberta. Your book, however, increased this level of knowledge by an order of magnitude! I was very impressed with your thorough research, and your documentation of this research in the book.

BILL TESKEY, ALS (RET.)

Thank You

Dear Colleagues:

Thank you for all your best wishes and gifts on the occasion of my retirement. I will especially enjoy the book, *Laying Down the Lines*.

Your support to me and to the office of Legal Surveys, Division of Geomatics Canada over the years has been greatly appreciated.

Thanks again and best wishes for the future.

MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN

Safety Warning

In mid-May, our company had a field personnel experience a quad incident/accident that we wish to share with you in hopes that it may help you avert such an occurrence in your work.

A survey assistant was driving an ATV on a slight side-slope with one hand on the handle bars with the other tending to their RTK equipment. Add a strategically located pot hole and an untimely rollover and a lost time injury is the likely outcome—and it most unfortunately was.

This person would not have been driving with just the one hand if there was a practical means of securing the equipment and not leaving the operator with a limited number of most likely unsafe options.

A frequently used solution among field crews is to weld a trussed pole with a quick-clamp to the existing ATV rack. Unfortunately, we encountered several instances of damage to the internal boards in RTK receivers as a result of the repeated and frequent vibration resulting in approximately a \$2,500 fix in each instance.

Therefore, our goal is to implement a mounting system on our ATVs to conveniently secure GPS equipment so as to prevent loss of satellite lock and will also minimize vibration. We are committed to safety and will share this information once we have an engineered solution.

In the mean time, to quote a favorite character from Hill Street Blues, "Let's be careful out there!"

JIM HALLIDAY, ALS
MIDWEST SURVEYS

One Fabulous Idea

Just thought I'd drop you a quick note to say thanks and to let your member companies know the importance of the voluntary RPR depository. Keep up the good work.

The RPR bank is not just vital from a homeowner's point of view, it's good for business—we got very lucky indeed. We just booked an updated survey report because our

original company (Global Surveys Group) was smart enough to participate, allowing us to track them down when we discovered missing documents.

Without that linkage, we would have been in quite a pickle—a lot of phone calls and web searches until we found you. Few people will remember the survey company's name amongst the six inch pile of real estate documents. If they go astray, it's poof, as there is no other way to track down the details. Believe it or not, in our case, the law firm went out of business. There is enough pressure closing property sales as it is.

To the chagrin of the average homeowner, city halls do not keep records of real property reports. If your documents are lost (fire, flood) it's back to the *Yellow Pages*.

We like the idea that it is still voluntary. In this day and age of government mandated procedures, it's not hard to foresee a time when they will be regulating this portion as well, unless the majority of your member companies jump on board.

When one can locate a green banana salesman in Ireland within ten minutes of a Google search, it's not unreasonable to expect an Albertan homeowner can hunt down who surveyed their piece of the planet—to do it all over again. The future RPR bank should allow us to download just a copy of the original document. That would quickly pay for itself at \$59 a pop!

JOHN R.

Guess Who Got Married



Lesley Ewoniak and Kevin Grover
Articled Students



association notes

Question Time

This is the first in a series of questions and answers commonly asked of the ALSA by the membership. Please contact the ALSA at info@alsa.ab.ca if you have a question that needs answering.

Question:

How does our surveyor's corporation get approval to establish a branch office?

Answer:

Send a letter to the Registrar requesting approval to establish a branch office. The letter should read something like:

This letter is to request that Council approve a branch office for (company name) at (address, town) pursuant to Section 4 of the Professional Practice Regulation under the Land Surveyors Act.

(Alberta Land Surveyor) will be the Alberta Land Surveyor responsible for the supervision, direction and control of the branch office.

The Registrar will review the letter and make sure everything is in order. If it is, he will then take the request to Council for approval; otherwise, he will contact the surveyor's corporation for clarification.

Please review Section 4 of the Professional Practice Regulation before submitting the request for a branch office.

Once the application has been approved, the surveyor's corporation will receive a letter from the Registrar confirming approval and requesting the fees to cover the cost of the permit stamp and certificate.

Changes to the Register

All West Surveys Ltd. has opened a branch office in Lloydminster effective May 25, 2005 under the supervision, direction and control of Reid Egger, ALS. The office address is: 4815 - 50 Street, Lloydminster, SK S9V 0M8. In addition, the branch office in Grande Prairie has moved to 11417 - 91 Avenue T8V 5Z3.

AMAR Surveys Ltd. new website address: www.amarsurveys.ca.

Warren Barlow, ALS is no longer with Maltais Geomatics Inc. in High Level. He can be reached at PO Box 1058, 10013 - 101 Avenue, La Crete T0H 2H0; Tel: (780) 926-3197 or 821-9403; Fax: (780) 928-4891.

Baseline Geomatics Group Ltd.

(**Vince Zeigler, ALS**) became a surveyor's corporation on April 4, 2005 under permit number P 227. Contact information is as follows: PO Box 6929, 5141 - 54 Street, Drayton Valley, AB T7A 1S3
Tel: (780) 542-5252
Fax: (780) 542-5044
E-mail: baseline.geomatics@telusplanet.net

Bruce Gudim, ALS took over the supervision, direction and control of Maltais Geomatics Inc. branch office in High Level as of March 10, 2005. Contact information: P.O. Box 89, 9802 - 100 Street High Level T0H 1Z0
Tel: (780) 926-4123
Fax: (780) 926-4550

Caltech Surveys Ltd. has moved to 110 - 12 Avenue SW, Suite 800, Calgary T2R 0G7. All other information remains the same.

Can-Am Geomatics Corp. main e-mail address in Edmonton is edmonton@canam.com.

Clayton Bruce, ALS new e-mail address: clayton.bruce@gmail.com.

Crape Geomatics Corporation

opened a branch office in Edmonton effective June 8th under the supervision, direction and control of A.J.Hume, ALS.

Greg Boggs, ALS joined Universal Surveys Inc. in Edmonton on May 2, 2005. His e-mail address is gboggs@universalsurveys.com.

Brian Doyle, ALS joined Pals Surveys and Associates Ltd. in Edmonton on March 14, 2005.

Caltech Surveys Ltd. main e-mail is caltech@caltechsurveys.com.

Delta Engineering Services Inc.

(**John Sung, ALS**) has been registered as a surveyor's corporation under permit number P 228. The contact information is as follows:

9811 - 89 Avenue
Edmonton T7A 1S3
Tel: (780) 431-0816
Fax: (780) 432-1024

Francois Dion, ALS is now employed with All West Surveys Ltd. in Calgary effective June 6, 2005. His e-mail address is francois.dion@allwest.ca.

Eclipse Planning, Geomatics and Engineering

is a new surveyor's corporation under the supervision, direction and control of Ross Woolgar, ALS, Mike Fretwell, ALS and Jeff Johnston, ALS. The contact information is as follows: rwoolgar@eclipseinc.ca
mfretwell@eclipseinc.ca
jjohnston@eclipseinc.ca
1936 - 25 Avenue NE, Suite 5,
Calgary T2E 6Z4; Tel: (403) 250-1278; Fax: (403) 291-0399

G.E. Hooper & Associates Ltd.—

new address:
105-150 Crowfoot Crescent NW,
Suite 204, Calgary T3kG 3T2
Tel: (403) 291-5014
Fax: (403) 451-6831

Connie Hanrahan, ALS: E-mail at NAIT is connieha@nait.ab.ca.

Dave Higgins, ALS: E-mail address is daveals@telus.net.

ISL Land Services Ltd. registration as a surveyor's corporation was cancelled on March 1, 2005.

Robert R. King, ALS has taken employment with Can-Am Geomatics Corp. in Calgary effective April 18, 2005. E-mail: robert.king@canam.com.

Kiriak Surveys Ltd. and Lew Rodney, ALS new e-mail address: kiriaksurveys@shaw.ca.

Andy Lee, ALS new e-mail address: andrewklee@amarsurveys.com.

Syd Loepky, ALS: mailing address at Beiramar Development Corporation is 521 - 3 Avenue SW, Suite 1600, Calgary T2P 3T3. All other contact information remains unchanged.

Matai Surveys Ltd. has relocated to 200 Country Hills Landing NW, Calgary T3K 5P3, effective June 1, 2005. All other contact information remains unchanged.

Bob Mayne, ALS: E-mail address: bob.mayne@uma.aecom.com

Lorne McNeice, ALS: E-mail is lorne.mcneice@nrca.gc.ca.

Art Miller, ALS is now with Crape Geomatics Corporation in Edmonton. His e-mail address is amiller@crape.com.

Jarl Nome, ALS has moved to the Peace River office of Midwest Surveys Inc. effective May 2, 2005. His e-mail address remains unchanged. The new mailing address is: 10401 - 77 Street, Peace River T8S 1R2.

Pals Surveys & Associates Ltd. Edmonton e-mail address is edmonton@palsurveys.com.

Point Geomatics Ltd. (Chris Tucker, ALS) was registered as a surveyor's corporation, effective March 1, 2005 under the permit number P 225). The contact information is as follows: 3423 Exshaw Road NW Calgary T2M 4G3 Tel: (403) 210-0661 or 554-7226 Fax: (403) 210-0665; E-mail: chris.tucker@pointgeomatics.ca Website: www.pointgeomatics.ca

Precision Geomatics Inc. in Calgary has moved to 2816 - 11 Street NE, Suite 260 T2E 7S7.

Pro-Site Surveys Inc. (D. Rae Sutherland, ALS) was registered as a surveyor's corporation under permit P 226, effective March 1, 2005. Contact information: 9837 - 44 Avenue, Unit 3, Edmonton T6E 5E3; Tel: (780) 438-1336; Fax: (780) 437-4640.

Raymac Surveys Ltd. has a new website address: www.raymacsurveys.ca.

Roger Ross, ALS is no longer with Can-Am Geomatics Corp. in Grande Prairie. He will be listed as a sole practitioner at the address below until he starts with his new employer in August 2005.

6102 - 93A Street Grande Prairie T8W 2E4 Tel: (780) 402-2900

Richard Schlachter, ALS is now employed by Information Services Corporation, 10 Research Drive, Suite 200, Regina, SK S4P 3V7 Tel: (306) 787-9885 Fax: (306) 787-4617 E-mail: richardschlachter@isc.ca Website: www.isc.ca

Rob Scott, ALS has joined Stantec Geomatics Ltd. in Calgary effective February 28th. E-mail: rWSCOTT@stantec.com.

Stewart, Weir & Co. Ltd. in Calgary has relocated to 1011 - 1 Street SW, Suite 500 T2R 1J2.

Poitr Strozyk, ALS: E-mail address is piotr.strozyk@telus.net.

Jim Stuart, ALS has taken employment with Global Surveys Group as of January 30, 2005. E-mail: jim.stuarttheglobalgroup.ca.

Arthur Tarapaski, ALS: E-mail address is arthurt@amarsurveys.ca.

Gary Tronnes, ALS can be reached at 85 Lister Crescent, Red Deer, AB T4R 2R3, Tel: (403) 342-1423, e-mail remains unchanged.

UMA Engineering Ltd. has changed its website address as follows: www.uma.aecom.com; the corporate e-mail address is art.washuta@uma.aecom.com.

Peter Walker, ALS: E-mail address is pwalker@precisiongeo.ca.

Gerald Whaley, ALS has joined Hagen Surveys (1982) Ltd. E-mail: whaley@hagensurveys.com.

New Associate Members

Jeffery M. Anderson (AS044)— May 19, 2005.

Jeremy Dawson (AS046)— May 19, 2005.

Yimy A. Garcia (AS045)— May 19, 2005.

Milton Lemke (AS047)— May 19, 2005.

Albert E. Shillingford (AS043)— March 1, 2005.

New Affiliate Members

Christopher D. Kuntz (AF028)— March 17, 2005.

David G. Pittman (AF029)— May 5, 2005.

Membership Status Changes

Retired to Former:

Lyle E. Ford

Associate to Former:

Alex Sekella

Active to Retired:

Amin Kassam

Len Leiman

Doug Pearce

Deceased

(full obituaries will be published in the September issue of ALS News)

Gunter M. Hohn passed away on June 2, 2005.

John W.P. Matthews passed away on March 1, 2005.

Changes of Note

SAIT's website has changed to www.sait.ca. This change also applies to all SAIT e-mail address (Paul Delorme, Tom Erdman and Greg Hebb).

Association of New Brunswick Land Surveyors has moved to: 212 Queen Street, Suite 408 Fredericton, NB E3B 1A8 All other contact information remains the same.



C.J.
(Courtney)
TRIPP



M.A.
(Mark)
MacDONALD



S.J.
(Steven)
Van BERKEL



A.M.
(Art)
MILLER



D.L.
(Dwayne)
EDMUNDSON



M.E.
(Mark)
KNOTT



L.P.
(Lee)
MORDEN



M.D.
(Mark)
WOYCHUK



S.C.
(Scott)
DuFOUR

New Members

#739 TRIPP, Courtney J.

Courtney James Tripp was born on March 21, 1962 in Medicine Hat, Alberta. He graduated from Medicine Hat High School in 1980.

Articles were served under Duane Haub from July 2003 to February 2005 when he received affiliate member status. He also holds a commission as a Canada Lands Surveyor. Courtney received his ALS commission on March 17, 2005.

Courtney serves on the ALSA Professional Development Committee and is a volunteer with Scout Pack #3.

Experience includes municipal surveying in Ontario, Alberta and the Northwest Territories. He has also been involved in the energy sector in Alberta. Courtney is presently employed with Midwest Surveys Inc. in Medicine Hat.

Courtney states that his hobbies and other interests include self-propelled outdoor pursuits and the jazz trombone.

Courtney and LeeAnne Tripp live in Medicine Hat and they have three children: Laurier (age 8), Suzanne (age 6) and Samuel (age 4).

#740 MacDONALD, Mark. A.

Mark Archibald MacDonald hails from Darnley, PEI. He was born on February 2, 1968.

Mark graduated from Kensington High School in 1988 and went on to receive a B.Sc. (Surveying) from the

University of New Brunswick in 1994.

Articles were served under Alberta Land Surveyors T.G. Martin (from 2000 to 2001) and B.D. Ross (from 2001 to 2005). He received his commission as an Alberta Land Surveyor on March 17, 2005. Mark also holds the designations, CLS, SLS and P.Eng. and served on the SLSA Public Relations Committee.

Mark started his surveying career as a rodman in 1986. After graduating from UNB in 1994, he worked in Alberta for Focus Surveys and Midwest Surveys from 1995 to 1998. He worked offshore (Canada and international) from 1999 to 2000 with Fugro Geomatics Ltd. He then returned to Alberta in 2001 and took employment with his present employer, Caltech Surveys Ltd.

Mark is married to Sandy Christophers. They reside in Calgary with their young son, Matthew.

#741 Van BERKEL, Steven J.

Steven James Van Berkel (son of John W. Van Berkel, ALS) was born in Edmonton, Alberta on June 8, 1977. He attended Edmonton Christian High and went on to receive a B.Sc. from the University of Calgary in 2002.

Articles were served under Alberta Land Surveyors R.O. Hall, L.S. Mehrer and most recently G.D. Cross from July 2002 to March 2005. Commission as an Alberta Land Surveyor was received on March 31, 2005. Steven presently serves on the

the ALSA Historical & Biographical Committee.

Surveying experience includes some oil and gas work, but he has mostly been involved in municipal surveying in Calgary, Medicine Hat and Edmonton. Steven is presently employed with Stantec Geomatics Ltd. in Edmonton.

He enjoys reading, music and spending time with his children.

Steven has two sons, Seth (age 5) and Benjamin (age 3).

#742 MILLER, Arthur M.

Art Miller was born in Kipling, Saskatchewan on May 18, 1969. He graduated from Kipling High School in 1987 and from SIAST Palliser Campus as a survey engineering technologist in 1991. He went on to receive a Geomatics Engineering B.Sc. from the University of Calgary in 1998.

Articles were served under J.D. Stephens, ALS. Art received his commission as an Alberta Land Surveyor on March 31, 2005. He was a member of the ALSA Convention & Social Committee for 2004-2005.

Art's surveying career began in Saskatchewan in 1988. He is currently employed with Crape Geomatics Corporation in Edmonton.

Motorcycle restoration and wine making are two of Art's hobbies.

He is married to Katrina and they have a new son, Lucas, born on April 19, 2005.

743 EDMUNDSON, Dwayne L.

Dwayne was born in Edmonton on February 14, 1971. He graduated from Harry Ainlay Composite High School and went on to receive a B.Sc. in Engineering from the University of Calgary in 2001.

Articles were served under Alberta Land Surveyors N.D. Krempien and K.T. Swabey from October 2001 until he received his commission on April 6, 2005. Dwayne is currently employed with Midwest Surveys Inc.

Dwayne enjoys backpacking, boxing and running.

Dwayne and Richelle Edmundson reside in Edmonton. They have two children—Jonah (age 4), Parker (age 2) with one more on the way in July.

#744 KNOTT, Mark E.

Mark Knott was born in Owen Sound, Ontario on June 17, 1972. He graduated from Park View Education Centre in 1990, received his diploma as a survey technician from COGS in 1991 and went on to receive a B.Sc. in Geomatics Engineering from UNB in 1996.

J.E. Abbey, ALS served as Mark's principal from June 2002 until April 2005. Mark received his commission as an Alberta Land Surveyor on April 6, 2005. He is currently on the ALSA Standards Committee.

Surveying experience includes oilfield and municipal in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario. Mark is currently employed with Midwest Surveys Inc.

Mark enjoys weightlifting, golf fishing and camping.

Mark and his partner Synba and her daughter Mana reside in Calgary.

#745 MORDEN, Lee P.

Lillie Pearl Morden was born in Chatham, Ontario on December 13, 1964. She graduated from Ridgetown District High School in 1983 and went on to receive a B.Sc. (Agr.) from the University of Guelph and a M.Sc. from the University of Saskatchewan. She obtained a B.Sc. (Engineering) from the University of Calgary in 1998.

Alberta Land Surveyors S.M. Loeppky, R.K. Jones, and I. Douglas served as principals from January 2000 until April 2005. Lee received her commission as an Alberta Land Surveyor on April 11, 2005. She is presently employed with Douglas Surveys Inc. in Calgary. Lee is presently on the Legislation Ad Hoc Committee and is also a member of Council for the Christ Lutheran Church in Calgary.

Surveying history includes residential and commercial construction surveys, real property reports and development products, condominium surveys (new construction) and conversions and subdivisions.

#746 WOYCHUK, Mark D.

Mark Woychuk was born in Calgary, Alberta on February 10, 1979. He graduated from St. Francis High School in 1997 and from the University of Calgary with a B.Sc in Geomatics Engineering in 2002.

Articles were served under J.W. Van Berkel, ALS from July 2002 to April 2005. Commission as an Alberta Land Surveyor was received on April 12, 2005. Mark is also an Engineer in Training with APEGGA.

Surveying experience includes subdivision surveys in the Calgary area with Stantec Geomatics and an articling exchange with All West Surveys in Grande Prairie. Present employment is with Stantec Geomatics Ltd. in Calgary.

Mark enjoys soccer, curling and history.

#747 DuFour, Scott C.

Scott Christopher DuFour was born in Alma, Quebec on June 24, 1970. He graduated from Charlottetown Rural High School in PEI in 1988 and went on to receive an engineering degree from the University of New Brunswick in 1997.

Articles were served under Craig Hughes, ALS from June 2000 to March 2003 when he became an affiliate member until he received his commission on April 14, 2005. Scott also holds a commission as a Canada Lands Surveyor.

Surveying experience includes eight years in oil and gas surveying in BC, Saskatchewan, Northwest Territories and Alberta. He also has three years of construction layout experience. He is presently employed in the Calgary office of McElhanney Land Surveys (Alta.) Ltd.

Skiing, woodworking, biking and fishing are a few leisure activities the Scott enjoys.

Scott is married to Teri Kerr.

New Technologist Joins ALSA Staff



Jeremy Dawson joined the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association on May 3, 2005 as the geomatics technologist with Systematic Practice Review.

Jeremy was born and raised in Grande Prairie, Alberta. After graduating from high school, he attended Grande Prairie Regional College for two years and worked in the service industry for eight years.

Desiring a career change, he went back to school, taking the Geomatics Engineering Technology program at NAIT and received his diploma in 2005.

Jeremy's surveying experience includes summer work with Usher Canada in Edmonton. His future plans are to take his Western Board exams over the next two or three years and then article for his commission as an Alberta Land Surveyor. Ultimately, he would like to be involved with residential subdivisions as he finds the design, engineering and legal aspects of these interesting as well as the political, economic and environmental issues.

Leisure activities include reading and travelling.

Analysis of Spring 2005 Professional Exams

Surveying Profession

Fifteen candidates attempted the April 2005 Surveying Profession Exam with eleven candidates successfully achieved the passing mark of 75% or greater. The fact that all passing marks were in the 80s and 90s is an indication that candidates were well prepared for this exam.

The following is a brief summary of the results from each of the areas being tested.

Question #1—Code of Ethics

Average 13.1 out of 14 marks—an extremely ethical group!

Question #2—CLS Jurisdiction

Average 2.8 out of 3 marks—no worries. One pupil advised the client that if they were willing to wait until his CLS commission was obtained, he would be happy to do the work.

Question #3—ALSA Affairs (Complaints Procedure)

Average 5.6 out of 8 - mixed results with some pupils not knowing the proper procedures.

Question #4—ALSA Affairs (Council Members)

Average 3.2 out of 5—mixed results with a few pupils believing Larry Pals to be our most recent president (prior to this year's AGM).

Question #5—Benefits of Continued Professional Development

Average 4 out of 5—good results.

Question #6—Acronyms

Average 4 out of 6—MISAM (municipal integrated survey and mapping) and SPIN (spatial information system) were not well known.

Question #7—Survey Integration

Average 9.8 out of 14—when integrating, how does the bearing note appear on the plan was the only trouble spot.

Question #8—Public Relations and Property Damage Mitigation

Average 9.5 out of 10—this group should keep Brian Munday very

happy.

Question #9—Deviating from the Manual of Standard Practice

Average 3.9 out of 4.0—impressive.

Question #10—Fd. No Mk. all about its use

Average 4.2 out of 5—must appear in the field notes and on the plan was most commonly missed.

Question #11—ALSA Affairs (Statutory and Non-Statutory Committees)

Average 14.1 out of 17—good results.

Question #12—Plan Correction Procedures and Issue of Changing a Section 47 Coordinate

Average 2.6 out of 4—two possibilities with only the Judge's Order issued pursuant to Section 91 of the Land Titles Act being commonly known; the other is an order issued pursuant to Section 9 of the Surveys Act.

Question #13—What is Geomatics?

Average 3.7 out of 5—definitions were all over the map with no one really nailing it but most pupils had the general idea. The following is one definition "Geomatics is the science and technology of gathering, analyzing, interpreting, managing, distributing and using geographically referenced information."

Statute Law

The Statute Law exam followed the same format as presented in past years. All questions were directly related to the acts and regulations that an Alberta Land Surveyor may have to deal with on a daily basis.

In the review of the exam answers, the following was noted:

1. The oil & gas spacing units as well as the description of targets areas within Schedule 13, Areas 1 and 2 was an issue for all candidates.
2. The Code of Ethics is the most frequently asked question from prior exams and seems to give students a problem. Please know each of the nine subject lines of

the Code and be able to give a brief explanation of each commentary.

3. Again it is noted that students who practice in oil & gas had a thorough knowledge of all the oil & gas related questions while the land development candidates knew the questions related to their business.

Overall, the exam results were higher than the fall sitting with seventeen candidates attempting the exam. The average score was 73.8%.

Again for those who are attempting the Fall 2005 sitting, it only can be reiterated that the pupils be aware of the following:

- Understand what each broad "part" of the Act covers. Then examine each section thoroughly.
- Discuss the sections (even those that you think you understand) with as many land surveyors as possible and with other articulated pupils.
- Be concise with your answers. Understand exactly what the question asks and answer only that.
- Save time with your answers. Do not re-write the question as part of your answer.
- And, if you are the type of candidate that likes to answer the questions in a disorderly fashion, make sure you place each question on a separate page and place the questions in order at the end of the sitting. A few who have failed in the past may have had a chance at passing if all the questions were answered.

Practical Surveying

The practical surveying exam was attempted by twenty-four candidates with fourteen receiving a passing grade (58% pass rate). Field notes and evidence assessment continues to be a stumbling block for most candidates. This has been true for every practical exam written under the new format. This Spring, the questions on integrated surveys and well sites in unsurveyed territory also showed a

below-average performance. Following is a question-by-question review of the spring exam:

1. Rural Survey

This question dealt with the posting of a public utility lot that affected several quarter sections as well as a government road allowance. The candidate was expected to be familiar with the statutory requirements for posting intersections with quarter section lines as well as the requirement for the closure of a road allowance. All candidates passed this question with an average mark of 7.7/10.

2. Natural Boundaries

This question dealt with the status of ownership of titles after a substantial change in the location of a river. The candidates were expected to be familiar with the principles of Alberta statute law and common law. All candidates passed this question with an average mark of 9.5/10.

3. Field Notes and Evidence Assessment

This question dealt with the re-establishment of a N ¼ post, taking into account the location of fences and witness testimony.

Twenty-one candidates passed this question with an average mark of 7.5/10.

4. Condominium

This question dealt with different types of condominium plans. The candidate was expected to be familiar with the plan headings for the different plans as well as the requirements for the determination of unit factors. Twenty-two candidates passed this question with an average mark of 7.8/10.

5. Rural Subdivision

This question dealt with the subdivision of a fractional section. The candidate was expected to know how to proportion LSD corners in a fractional section. All candidates passed this question with an average mark of 7.7/10.

6. Field Notes and Evidence Assessment

This question dealt with the re-establishment of a section corner. The candidate was expected to be familiar with Bulletin 38 in order to do the re-establishment properly as well as to sketch the monumentation one would expect to find. Eighteen candidates passed this question with an

average mark of 6.3/10.

7. Integrated Surveys

This question dealt with the derivation of elevations on a well site from observations to ASCMs. Eighteen candidates passed this question with an average mark of 5.8/10.

8. Real Property Report

This question dealt with the process of re-establishing a block in a subdivision plan as well as the requirements for information shown on an RPR. All candidates passed this question with an average mark of 8.4/10.

9. Wellsite in Unsurveyed Territory

This question dealt with information required to meet the current regulations in the survey of a wellsite in unsurveyed territory as well as the knowledge of current acronyms used. Eighteen candidates passed this question with an average mark of 5.8/10.

10. Pipeline in Surveyed Territory

This question dealt with the monumentation and preparation of a right-of-way plan. Twenty-one candidates passed this question with an average mark of 7.7/10.

Principal Certification Form Revamped

At its June 8th, 2005 meeting, the Registration Committee updated the current principal certification form with regards to the project report submission process. The primary goal of this revamp is to improve the overall quality of the reports, as well as increase the amount of pupil involvement. The new certification form will be effective September 1, 2005.

Replacing the previous requirement of a 5,000-word technical report on a pre-approved topic, the Registration Committee currently requires the submission of three project reports as partial fulfillment of the requirements

to achieve an Alberta Land Surveyor's commission. The idea is to allow the principal to provide the articling pupil with hands-on exposure and involvement in different types of surveying projects. The pupil can then choose three of his/her projects and use them as the topic of a report.

When filling out the principal certification form, the principal and pupil will identify by way of a checklist, the areas of involvement completed by the pupil on the project. Several areas were considered to be crucial to every report and, as such, have been designated as the minimum requirements. In addition, the Com-

mittee expects that the pupils will demonstrate increasing responsibilities and involvement with each report; therefore, the minimum requirements increase accordingly.

Pupils should also be aware that in addition to technical content, reports are judged based on writing skill as well as professional presentation and delivery. Hard copies of the reports are still required as standard submission for the time being.

For further information please visit the following project report guidelines at:

<http://alsa.ab.ca/pdf/guidelines.pdf>.

FRED CHENG, ALS
VICE CHAIRMAN, REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

Alberta Metis Settlements Land Registry

new place, new faces and upcoming changes

This article is to advise you of changes recently made to the Metis Settlements Land Registry (MSLR), located in the provincial department of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development (AAND), respecting the structure of the MSLR and changes underway.

Under current legislation, the province is responsible for the MSLR. From 1991 to 2002, administrative responsibility was assumed by the Metis Settlements Transition Commission (MSTC), an arm's-length provincial agency. With the dissolution of the MSTC in 2002, the province, through AAND, again assumed direct administrative responsibility for the MSLR.

Following the completion of an independent review of the MSLR conducted in 2003, a major effort has been underway to address the challenges identified so that this vital component of the Metis Settlements land and membership system can operate more effectively, efficiently and securely.

By May 2005, close to 300,000 documents within the MSLR were scanned for the purposes of security and backup purposes. Also, a rewrite of the MSLR operating system with the implementation of new software is underway so as to better serve the needs of users including Metis Settlements and industry. The design of the new software is expected to be completed by May 2006 with a web-based setup so as to be able to access information via the internet. At present we have a website at www.mslr.gov.ab.ca which provides a brief overview of our operations and history.

In terms of the MSLR structure, effective April 1, 2005, Mr. Ron Raitz is the Registrar. Mr. Thomas Droege,

who had been Registrar since 2003, is now the Executive Director, Metis Relations, AAND. Mr. Raitz's experience with and also extensive knowledge about the MSLR will help ensure continuity and effectiveness. His term as Registrar is on an interim basis (two years) given the potential for more significant changes which may result from the current discussions between the province and Metis Settlements respecting a broad review of the Metis Settlement legislation. The MSLR office undertakes the recording and registration processing and the filing of all survey plans relating to the Metis Settlements in Alberta. The Registrar has the final say in determining if interests submitted and the requested registration or recording satisfy legislative requirements.

The MSLR staff also includes a land examiner, Colleen Telischuk, a land clerk, Lisa Ladouceur, and a geomatics technician, Terry Wywal. Some of you have already been in contact with the MSLR staff to obtain title searches and file plans.

The Land Examiner and Land Clerk record and file all land interests affecting the eight Metis Settlements ensuring compliance with legislation, regulations and policy. They also provide assistance and information regarding title searches which are then administered by the Geomatics Technician for specified land descriptions for settlement members and off-settlement interests such as land acquisition companies, oil companies and survey firms.

The Geomatics Technician applies all thematic data to a digital mapping base showing all surveyed information affecting lands within all eight Metis Settlements in Alberta. This data has been gathered from surveys done prior to and after the establishment of the MSLR and is an ongoing process.

The Alberta Metis Settlements Land Registry staff is available to answer any questions you may have regarding the requirements for submission of documents and plans to

be recorded or registered at the MSLR. Their contact information is as follows:

Ron Raitz, Registrar

(780) 415-0168

ron.raitz@gov.ab.ca

Colleen Telischuk, Land Examiner

(780) 415-0167

colleen.telischuk@gov.ab.ca

Lisa Ladouceur, Land Clerk

(780) 644-7127

lisa.ladouceur@gov.ab.ca

Terry Wywal, Geomatics Technician

(780) 415-0162

terry.wywal@gov.ab.ca

The Alberta Metis Settlements Land Registry is located on the 13th floor of the Commerce Place, 10155-102 Street, Edmonton, Alberta. Our office hours are from 8:15 to 4:30, Mondays through Fridays. The general reception phone number is: (780) 427-1117 and the fax number is: (780) 427-3656.

TERRY WYWAL, GEOMATICS TECHNICIAN
FOR THE ALBERTA METIS
SETTLEMENTS LAND REGISTRY

AGM 2005 – Book Signing



Author Judy Larmour signing copies of Laying Down the Lines



book review

by Ken Allred, ALS

The Disputed Country Australia's Lost Border

by Bob Dunn

It is essential that the given boundary should be such as fixes the rights and duties of the people and their rulers, and this can only be done by its fixing a boundary on the surface of the earth which divides the two.

Lord Moulton

On my return from Cairo, I received a nice package from a survey colleague in Australia. I met Lindsay Perry at the XX FIG Congress in Melbourne in 1994. I told him that Norm Mattson, ALS and I had travelled to the northwest corner of the State of Victoria in order to observe the 3 km jog in the east boundary of South Australia. This jog was the result of a survey of the boundary carried out between 1847 and 1849 which erroneously located the 141° of east longitude 3,350 metres too far west. The location of the boundary was settled by a court case that went to the Privy Council in

1914 (see *ALS News* - Fall 1990, p. 31).

Lindsay had sent me a new book entitled *The Disputed Country - Australia's Lost Border*, which was the story of the 1847-49 survey and the problems that have transpired over the past 150 years since the boundary was marked on the ground. The book is just under 100 pages, soft cover and very well illustrated with excellent photographs, maps and illustrations. Author Bob Dunn tells the story of why the boundary came to be a legal issue and why the two states (they were British colonies at the time) determined that it needed to be marked on the ground. He tells about how the two surveyors were selected and the trials and tribulations of the survey through a very arid country. Alone in the desert, Edward White (one of the surveyors) drank the "stinking blood" from his dying horse in order to survive the last trek to the Murray River.

A fascinating book of technical and logistical problems that will appeal to all surveyors as well as anyone interested in travelling to

Australia. It is also a book about one of the landmark cases that established and uphold the long-standing principle of the monument on the ground governing the location, irrespective of the fact that the monuments were placed in conflict with the original intent. We sometimes have errors of one or two chains but this was an error of over 3 kilometres. The story also offers some justification for the recent motions adopted by the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association to have long-established monuments duly placed by land surveyors govern the location of the boundary.

I highly recommend the book and would also recommend a trip to Australia to drive the disputed boundary and see for yourself the hardships that some of our Australian counterparts go through in earning their daily bread. The book would be a great tour guide since it has detailed maps, photographs and descriptions of many of the historic sites and towns along the route.

Copies of the book are available from Westprint Heritage Maps, 6 Park Street, Nhill, Victoria 3418, Australia, www.westprint.com.au.

AGM 2005 —Awards



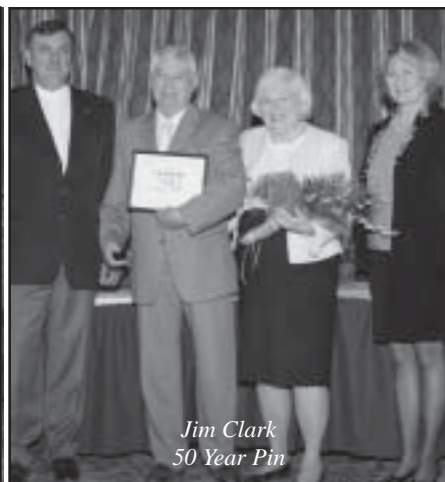
*Duncan Gillmore
Professional Recognition*



*Brian Munday
President's Award*



*Judy Larmour
Honorary
Membership*



*Jim Clark
50 Year Pin*



*Ken Berg
Honorary Life
Membership*

1904 Alberta Field Survey

The Diary of 21-Year Old Ernest Maxwell

Editor's Note: Many thanks to Don Maxwell and his sister, both of British Columbia, for providing the following diary and pictures to the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association. Their Dad was with survey teams in Alberta in the early 1900s and, with this being the centennial year, wanted to donate them. "The diary might mean more to someone who recognizes the places named."

Ernest E Maxwell was born in Manotick, Ontario in 1883. He attended a business school and, in 1904, he joined a survey team to work in Alberta. Some of his diary was written in Gregg shorthand which has been left out of the transcription. Someday, I may have it decoded. The whole activity went from May 3rd to October 15th.

I imagine land surveyors will understand the references to places and to lines and ranges.

Keep the photos and diary and I do hope they are of some interest to the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association.

DON MAXWELL

Diary

May 2

In Ottawa at 290 Queen Street. My father also here. He went home on 3 o'clock train. Played games all afternoon and night 'till 9:30. Father gave me \$5, had \$2, paid \$1.50 for photos.

May 3

Fair. Sent letter to Fred. Hopkins left for Edmonton on Soo train 1:20. Eskin in town.

May 4

Fine, in Ottawa.



May 5

Fine and warm.

May 6

Fine and warm. Eskin and Alfred drove in.

May 17

Camping on the Saskatchewan River with G.D. Bentley.

May 23

At Fort Saskatchewan waiting for water to rise. Pitched tent on shore.

May 30

We were stuck four days on a rock when Ed Carey and Tom, an Indian, came and helped us out. We came through Sucker Rapids and camped a couple of miles this side of Victoria.



June 2

Travelled for a couple of hours when we landed at Victoria (a few houses, a store and ferry). Unloaded Carey's goods, also had breakfast and dinner. After dinner started again, it raining. Travelled all day. Put up on a high bank. Rained all night. Slept till 9 next morning.

Started again. Arrived at Paradise Crossing. Stopped, got bread, etc. Moved on, passing through Crooked Rapids, arriving at Saddle Lake



Ernie Maxwell in middle.

crossing about nine. Chic and I walked about 3 miles to Mission, not open. Got back at twelve. Slept on shore. Next morning, Saturday, Chic went to Mission, got team. Geo, Harry, Ben, Tom and I unloaded. Had dinner. Scow left us. We loaded up goods on Indian teams, 3 in number, and started. Arrived at Saddle Lake in the evening, opposite Indian Agent's, Mr. Main.

June 5

Got up at 4 o'clock, got breakfast. Started about 5, got about half way, 9 o'clock had dinner, started again at 10. Got stuck a number of times. Reached St. Paul about 2. Received letter from Mother and Aunt M. Answered them Sunday.

Monday, Chic went with E. Poitras looking for Hopkins. Chic stayed at camp. Flarus (?) came out Tuesday morning and we sorted and loaded him up. Started for the camp about 2, arrived there about 6:30, had supper. Put up tent for three of us.

June 8

Started to work, working in water over our knees. Learning to chain with Ben. Travelled about four miles, had dinner in bush, stopped work at 5, then returned home having a walk of about four miles, good and tired. That night got a pair of overalls from Hopkins.

June 9

Started out at 11, worked till 7. I did nothing but look at other fellows' work.



Ernie Maxwell back row, second from left.

June 10

It rained all day and we did nothing but lay in the tent till dinner time when we went out and worked for an hour when we got soaking wet. We then came in.

June 11

Rained and blew all day. We stayed in camp. Rain came through our tent.

June 12

We did nothing but shoot ducks and also removed our goods out to dry.

June 13

Bentley and I started chaining. Came within 2 links of line. We got lots water to wade through. On Thursday up to our necks and a long distance to walk home.

June 18

Received six letters, one from Lucindia, Mrs. Potter, Anna, Mother, Chas. Kinny, L. Tevens; also a bundle of papers from home.

On Sunday, June 19, answered a few of them.

Monday chained over some terrible hills and through a lot of heavy bush; also started to carry the grub.

June 28

Day terrible hot; surveyed through some terrible hills, all bush, mosquitoes unbearable.

July 6

Hopkins started north to run N. boundaries of Township 58.

July 8

Moved camp to within 2 miles of the 2nd township.

July 15

Seen two deer as we were starting out to work.

July 17

Rained pretty near all day, slept and read newspapers; wrote one letter to Lucille.

July 26

In morning, walked five miles then did 2 triangled a lake, then a four mile home; caught 7 pike and 4 ducks.



July 27

Walked four miles to work. Bill and I went down to creek and caught four good pike, then chained about a mile and had dinner.

July 28

Walked from camp up centre line, thence West two. On our way home, we run across prairie literally covered with strawberries; had lots to eat. Also a walk of three miles home. tonight mail received, also big thundershowers with lots of lightning (sic) and thunder. Reading newspapers.

August 6

Finished the second township.



August 18

Started to pack horses from trail.

August 21

Sunday. Camped on second line near E. By of 57.7. Got no mail this week as yet.

September 19

Moved camp from a north township R. 7 down to the south of Rg T.52. Get your coat fixed. It is open back and front and I can see you. Get your coat fixed.

October 2

Left camp at about ten o'clock after shaking hands with the bunch. Drove up to Goose Lake and camped on IR near Indians. We had four old bucks visit us and they had a big talk. There were certainly Indians. It rained all day.

October 3

This morning it looks dreary looking and we are leaving Charlie to build camp for stores.

Arrived at St. Paul at 5:30 p.m., had supper at Poitras and sit on a chair for the first time in four months. We had dreary trip, it is trying to snow and rain. We had dinner at a creek about eight miles from Banks' house.

October 4

I spent most of the day loafing around Poitras store. My weight on my return from work, being weighed at Poitras, 122 lbs., a loss of 18 lbs. from when I began. (Two lines of shorthand). I enjoyed the day as well as could be expected, the P. boys being very nice and friendly.

Had breakfast and dinner at Poitras. Left there at 10:30 and after a long, cold journey we arrived at Saddle Lake. Mr. Main, Indian Agent, told of coming up 654 with Louie Derouche.

October 5

Stayed over night with a man called Sam Whitford, Saddle Lake, 25 cents. Started from there at 8:30. Arrived at a widow's at 1:00 where we had dinner at Mrs. Paradis. Seen Ed Carey at Andrew and a four or five shots at Bowick Hotel. Stayed at place called Noltons for night. 58 1/2.

Started again in morning through Star and arrived at a farmer's for dinner. Around at the fort at 4. Went to Queens Hotel and stayed there till 5:15 when we again started for Edmonton, arriving there at nine. I got my trunk up and changed clothes. Had supper at restaurant 25 cents and then went to bed.

October 8

Got up at 6, had breakfast, then got on bus to station. took the train to Strathcona where I land at station but could not get my ticket on account of my name being Bruce instead of E so have to wait till Monday. Bumming around station. Came over on trail to the Alberta and had dinner, also supper. Towards night felt pretty rotten, commenced to shiver like a rat and went to bed very early, didn't get much sleep.

October 9

Got up about nine, had breakfast, got Mother's letter, read it, than sat around for a while, then had a walk around the town; had supper, then went to bed.

October 10

Got up at six, dressed and waited for the bell to ring, then had breakfast. Then went in bus to station, on train

from there to Strathcona, again they refused to give me my ticket. Walked back to Ed and had dinner when I seen Hoppy and he telephoned over and he made arrangements that, giving me an order for Bruce, I could go.

October 11

Got up at 6:30, had breakfast then took the bus for Ed station; took the train to Strathcona, got my ticket without any trouble and left at 15 to 9 to Calgary. Day fine. Westaskiwin a swell town, growing to beat the band, very flourishing. Red Deer at 12:30. Had a good meal then which only cost me half a dollar.

Arrived in Ottawa at 3 o'clock p.m. 15 October.



SPR director's message

by Lyall Pratt, ALS

Phase 3 Practice Ratings

Each year, in the June issue of *ALS News* for the past five years, we have been reporting on the weighted practice ratings for the past year. If you recall, we looked at all the Phase 2 reports to look for trends over a five year period in June 2004. We also graphed the practice ratings for the five years of reports to view the trend in practice ratings.

All previous reports were Phase 2 statistics, so this report is the first report on Phase 3 ratings.

At this point, it might be a good idea to review what is actually shown in the numbers being reported here.

Item 1.6 of the Systematic Practice Review Phase 3 Framework Document states: *Statistical data from practice reviews will be collected and reported in a format similar to the product and practice ratings developed in Phase 2.* This article is that required report.

Item 2.3 of the Systematic Practice Review Phase 3 Framework Document states: *During Phase 3 of the SPR program, the DPR shall use the formal weighting system, for each component of the SPR checklists that was developed for Phase 2.*

In Phase 2, we implemented a weighting system that assigned weights to all individual items in the SPR checklists. In general, any individual item that could affect the location or determination of a boundary was assigned a much higher weight than minor, cosmetic or a lower impact item. For example, if a plan did not show making a required boundary intersection, the impact on the plan rating would be much more significant than, say, a missing assumed bearing on the plan. Thus, a product with no boundary-related deficiencies would score fairly high, unless there were a large number of lower-weighted deficiencies. If an

As Reported June 1, 2005

Categories	Plans			Field Notes			Field Inspections		
	Average (%)	High (%)	Low (%)	Average (%)	High (%)	Low (%)	Average (%)	High (%)	Low (%)
Subdivisions	85.06	97.92	70.05	72.40	98.91	41.71	85.13	99.00	61.54
Rights-of-Way	90.47	96.65	85.72	81.17	95.97	67.91	88.33	98.97	50.27
Wellsites	86.00	92.94	78.91	78.29	90.38	65.32	89.13	98.50	79.55
RPRs	83.98	95.17	75.23	71.75	87.52	47.92	87.61	97.05	71.46
Road Surveys	89.05	89.70	88.28	79.80	83.65	77.69	82.24	90.61	68.83
Other	86.70	91.97	82.06	75.10	83.44	69.85	92.24	96.82	86.41
All Categories	86.97	97.92	70.05	77.22	98.91	47.71	87.34	99.00	50.27

Practice Ratings

Average (%)	High (%)	Low (%)
83.05	93.40	73.83

item shown in the checklists was “not applicable” for that product, or was “not checked,” that item was not factored into the rating. Regardless of the assigned weights, only those items checked “Yes” or “No” made up 100% of the product rating. The rating assigned to a product depends upon the extent of compliance with each of the applicable items in the checklists. If the products selected for review are representative of the day-to-day practice of a firm, the final averages for all products reviewed should be representative of the overall profession. That is why we always ask the land surveyor when we select a product for review, if the product selected is typical of the work of that practice.

Components

There are three weighted components for each product reviewed:

- There is a plan examination; with a weight of 1.
- There is a field note examination; with a weight of 2.
- There is a field inspection; with a weight of 3.
- A total product evaluation is derived from the weighted average of the components for that product. A practice rating is the average of

all of the total product evaluations for that practice. Product evaluations are computed as the checklist items are entered, and the resulting rating for each component of the reviewed product and an overall practice rating are provided to the firm under review. An average of all practice ratings is then computed.

Due to the weighting of each component, the field inspection scores account for one half of the total product evaluation scores.

Observations

- Average Phase 3 Weighted Practice Rating to date = 83.05%.
- While this average Phase 3 weighted practice rating is down from the final year Phase 2 average by 0.76%, it is nearly identical to the fourth year Phase 2 average of 83.07%.
- All average field note and field inspection scores are higher than they were in the final reporting period for Phase 2, but average plan examination scores are lower.
- Field inspection scores for real property reports reviewed to date are higher than in any Phase 2 reporting period.

Case Study No. 24: Problems with Digital Plan Submissions

This is the twenty-fourth 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

Since June 1, 1999, other than the grandfathered ones, all plans submitted to the Land Titles Office for registration must be submitted digitally. Starting August 1, 2005, it appears that all submissions to public lands will also be in a digital format. Three times in the last few years, practice review has been advised by the practitioner that the wrong version of the plan was submitted to Land Titles for registration. Will the same problem occur with digital submissions to Public Lands?

First Case

The first plan involved a right-of-way survey. The practitioner's field notes showed a revision to the right-of-way that was not shown on the registered plan. They also showed removing two monuments that were still shown on the registered plan. The dates of survey shown on the registered plan did not include the date of the revision. This was pointed out to the practitioner in the report. During our field inspection we found the revision monuments, could not locate the monuments shown in the field notes as removed, and noted that the pipeline appeared to have been constructed within the revised portion of the right-of-way.

Given the limited number of registered plans examined in practice review in any given year, compared to the numbers registered, the wrong file may have been unknowingly submitted on many other plans and be undetected to date.

In his response to the report, the practitioner indicated that the right-of-way was revised in the field, the construction plan was revised, but the legal plan was not prepared until several months later, and the revision was missed. This error had gone undetected until our review. The plan was then corrected at the Land Titles Office.

Second Case

The second survey involved a subdivision survey with a portion for public roadway along the south limit of the subdivision. Our examination had no hint of anything being wrong with the plan or survey. Our field inspection failed to locate the monuments along the north limit of the road. The practitioner's field notes showed the placement of these monuments. However, they did not appear to be there.

In his response, the practitioner indicated that he had inadvertently sent the wrong version of the plan to the Land Titles Office for registration. The road was to have been removed from the plan, and he had removed the two monuments along the north limit of the road in the field, but had not prepared any field notes showing their removal. It appears that

the plan was corrected to remove the road; however, when the digital file was sent in to the Land Titles Office, the old version of the plan was erroneously sent. Corrections, while not yet complete for the registered plan, may now involve a road closure as well as a plan and title correction to account for the increase in parcel area due to the road removal. Again this error was undetected until the missing posts were noted in our field inspection.

Third Case

The third survey involved a subdivision file examined in the practitioner's office. In the file was a plan correction making several corrections to the registered plan only a few days after the plan was registered. The practitioner explained that he had submitted the check print version of the plan in error. Upon receipt of a copy of the registered plan, he noticed the error and promptly corrected the plan.

Message

The reasons that the wrong digital file was sent to Land Titles may vary from case to case, but in each case, plan corrections were required to remedy the faulty submission. In two of the three cases discussed in this article, the practitioner was not even aware that the wrong file had been submitted until our review noted the discrepancies between the field notes and the registered plan. Naturally, Systematic Practice Review was not aware that the wrong digital file had been sent to Land Titles until the practitioner pointed it out in his response to the report. Given the limited number of registered plans examined in practice review in any given year, compared to the numbers registered, the wrong file may have

been unknowingly submitted on many other plans and be undetected to date.

In each of these three cases, the error could have, and should have, been caught before the wrong plan was registered. In the days of hard copy submissions, there was only one final signed plan to submit. This is not to say that the final plan may not have been plotted from the wrong file; however, a visual inspection might capture this before the plan was signed or sent to Land Titles. Today, with digital submissions becoming the norm, land surveyors must be sure that the file they are submitting is the FINAL version. In my view, tracking the revisions made to a plan is the key, and perhaps one final review of a hard copy print of the actual file to be submitted may help.

With the pending submission of digital files to Public Lands, increasing the number of electronically sent files, practitioners must be aware of this potential for error and implement procedures to minimize the likelihood of sending the wrong file. All practitioners should examine their practice to minimize the likelihood of sending the wrong version of a plan to Land Titles or to Public Lands.

AGM 2005 – Members' Lunch





guardpost

by D. Russell Barnes, Public Member, Practice Review Board

An Outsider's Point of View

For more than thirty-five years, my job included working with information included on registered plans as prepared by an Alberta Land Surveyor. Throughout that period, I admired the accuracy of information included on the plans. Although I did find the odd error, I was very impressed with the usual quality of the product.

When appointed as Public Member of the Practice Review Board of the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association, I was surprised to learn the practice review process sometimes reveals that everything is not perfect in some projects prepared by some Alberta Land Surveyors.

In the process of conducting Systematic Practice Reviews, the Director of Practice Review places many reports on the Practice Review Board's agenda, which reflect a very high quality of work. Such reports are refreshing and a pleasure to deal with. On the other hand, a few reports reveal the process used or the final product does not meet certain legislative requirements or guidelines.

When contacted by the Director of Practice Review, most practitioners fully address all matters in a timely basis and the situation is often resolved after the initial communication. However, there are a few practitioners who reply with only a partial response or fail to respond at all.

I ask you to consider the fact that there is a possibility that you, your business and your customers may all benefit from upgraded or renewed direction in preparing future projects.

To those practitioners that respond with only a partial response or refuse to respond at all, I ask you to stop for a moment, go back and read your Code of Ethics. Then, consider the potential import of your conduct on your profession, your Association, your fellow surveyors and, possibly, the public—your customers.

I am sure you are aware that, as a practicing land surveyor, you are in one of only a few professions within the province of Alberta that operates under the authority of your own act.

With the privilege of having your own act comes the obligation and responsibility for you and your Association to protect both the public interest and maintain the integrity of your profession and the land surveying system. One step in the process to protect and monitor the system is the Systematic Practice Review process.

Reviews conducted by the Director of Practice Review, on behalf of the Practice Review Board, are intended to function as an educa-

tional process that allows individual practitioners, plus the Association, the opportunity to monitor or review the quality of product and the process applied in producing the actual product.

Since a review, as conducted by the Director, is only a small sample of the many projects completed within the practitioner's operation, it is important that any and all points noted by the Director be addressed by the practitioner, thereby allowing the practitioner the opportunity to educate himself and, possibly, implement changes to his system for the production of improved future products.

Please remember that this is your profession, operated in co-operation with your Association within the guidelines of your Manual of Standard Practice, as set by yourselves and operating under the authority of your Land Surveyors Act.

The success of your profession, your practice and the protection of your customers (the public) rests with you.

To those practitioners that fail to respond to or respect the recommendations in your Systematic Practice Review report, I ask you to consider the fact that there is a possibility that you, your business and your customers may all benefit from upgraded or renewed direction in preparing future projects. Therefore, I encourage you to consider the situation, take part in the educational process on a timely basis and allow all parties affected the opportunity to benefit from the process.

Next ALSA Annual General Meeting

April 20-22, 2006

Jasper Park Lodge



pdc corner

by Steve Keddy, ALS

Over and over, and most recently at the leadership seminar at the AGM, I hear that our people are our most valuable resource. In addition, I don't think anyone would argue that a shortage of people, *human capital* in consultant-speak, is a serious problem in our profession and across the geomatics industry in Alberta. This is evidenced by the number of ads in the newspaper and by the number of job offers that geomatics graduates are receiving.

I recently interviewed a university student and, at the end of the interview, he told me that mine was one of six offers he had received for summer employment. In light of the current shortages, which will likely continue, it seems that development and training of existing staff is of prime importance.

The Professional Development Committee does a good job of organizing a number of seminars each year for the benefit of members and articled pupils. As long as a member can make the time available, the opportunities for professional development are there. Some of you also take advantage of these opportunities to train your staff as well. The Getting It Right seminar is a prime example of an ALSA seminar that is well attended by our non-professional

Make the program as broad as you can and include the soft skills. Involve your staff in identifying the opportunities for training and development.

staff. But how many of us have tried to create ongoing opportunities for the professional development of our non-professional staff?

At the Grande Prairie regional meeting in March, the topic of staff shortages was discussed. A number of surveyors spoke about their frustrations in trying to get enough staff, which is even a tougher challenge in a smaller northern community like Grande Prairie. To deal with field staff shortages, some of them have started to train and develop existing staff by bringing NAIT instructors to Grande Prairie to put on courses and enrolling staff in correspondence training. This is a great idea which should bring good results. But are there other opportunities?

As an example, many CAD staff use AutoCAD. In most cases, they received some formal training in whatever version of AutoCAD that was current when they attended

school. AutoCAD, like most software, seems to create a new version on a regular (and frequent) basis. Under these conditions, it doesn't take long for a drafter to become outdated in his/her knowledge. It also doesn't take long for older versions of software not to be supported by the newer versions. There are companies that provide excellent training to keep drafters current and show them the new features and tricks of the software. An investment in this type of training has many benefits for both employee and employer.

This training does not need to be limited to technical skills. There are many training and development opportunities in the areas of soft skills. The Dale Carnegie program is one example that I am very familiar with, and which has been used by a number of survey companies to improve the skills of a variety of staff.

The particular examples listed above may not be applicable to your individual situation. The important thing is to make a commitment to a program of regular staff development. Make the program as broad as you can and include the soft skills. Involve your staff in identifying the opportunities for training and development. They may surprise you.

Upcoming Seminars

Land Titles Documents/Procedures
(October 14, 2005 - Calgary)

Municipal Government Act
(November 14, 2005 - Edmonton
November 18, 2005 - Calgary)

Boundary Re-establishment
(January 19, 2006 - Red Deer)

Land Use Issues in Resource Development
(February 2006 - Calgary)

Getting It Right
(March 16 and 17, 2006 - Red Deer)

Exam Preparation
(March 18, 2006 - Red Deer)

Ethics and the Land Surveyors Act
(April 2006 - AGM)

Getting It Right
(June 2006 - Edmonton)



public relations

by Kevin Grover, Articled Student

Free money for geomatics students and Alberta Land Surveyors!! I hope this will draw your attention for while. This article is focused towards students enrolled in a geomatics program, but it may be of interest to ALSs interested in continuing their education.

There are numerous scholarships available from both the ALSA and the J.H. Holloway Scholarship Foundation, and every year, many of them go unclaimed. This could be due to not fulfilling the proper requirements for the scholarships, or simply the students are unaware of their existence. This lack of knowledge is one of the many reasons why the ALSA student membership category has been created. This category will allow students to receive the quarterly *ALS News* issues and other mailout material to keep the students informed of new issues of the ALSA.

ALSA Student Membership

It has always been difficult to communicate between the ALSA and students either currently enrolled in a geomatics program, or just even having an interest in the field of geomatics. There is the odd social event with the students, career days, or field camps, but it is also necessary to draw new students in the programs. This past year, it was put forth by the Public Relations Committee to discuss and implement a student membership category within the Association.

A trial membership was conducted, with much success with the various geomatics institutions around not only Alberta, but other provinces as well. As of June 14, 2005, there were 123 students enrolled as student members.

For those interested in the membership, you can go to the following link on the ALSA website,

There are numerous scholarships available from both the ALSA and the J.H. Holloway Scholarship Foundation, and every year, many of them go unclaimed.

www.alsa.ab.ca/student.htm. There is no application fee and, as a member, the ALSA will provide you with a copy of *ALS News* and other periodic material. It is intended to keep the students up to date with the current affairs of the Association, the industry, and answer questions they may have.

ALSA Scholarships

Through the ALSA and the J.H. Holloway Scholarship Foundation, numerous scholarships are available to students who wish to pursue a career in surveying. The J.H. Holloway Scholarship Foundation, offers students at the University of Calgary, NAIT and SAIT. The ALSA also offers scholarships to students at these schools as well as to students at the University of Lethbridge and University of New Brunswick.

To apply for a scholarship, go to the link, www.alsa.ab.ca/scholarships.htm, on the ALSA website. This page details the available scholarships for the various institutions offering a geomatics program. I don't want to duplicate what the ALSA website outlines, but I will discuss several of the major scholarships.

For students enrolled at NAIT and SAIT, an academic achievement scholarship is awarded annually at both institutions for students entering second year. The scholarship is

\$1,250 and no application is necessary. If a NAIT or SAIT student then decides to pursue a degree at the University of Calgary, a \$1,250 scholarship is available on acceptance into the program. Many students believe that this award is only for the year entering the program, but one can also apply every successive year they are enrolled in the geomatics engineering program at the University of Calgary.

The University of Calgary has many scholarships available to undergraduate and graduate students. One of those is a \$2,500 scholarship through the J.H. Holloway Scholarship Foundation, which is awarded to a fourth year student.

Also offered through the J.H. Holloway Foundation is a \$1,000 scholarship available to an active member of the ALSA. This is for ALSs who haven't yet had enough of post-secondary school, and would like to broaden their horizons by pursuing a related degree.

For those students at the University of Lethbridge enrolled in the Geographic Information Science program, a \$1,250 scholarship is available. There is no application needed for this award.

To entice the eastern Canadian students to venture their way out west, a \$2,500 scholarship is available to a University of New Brunswick student who is enrolled in two of the four cadastral surveying option courses. The award is made through the University of New Brunswick Awards Office.

These are just some of the awards that are available from the ALSA and the J.H. Holloway Scholarship Foundation. Be sure to visit the awards offices at the schools listed here to apply for the various awards. It could make your university degree or technical diploma a little bit easier.

AGM 2005 – Past Presidents' Breakfast

The Association welcomed twenty-nine new members during the 2004-2005 year. Twenty-three were in attendance at the breakfast.



Casino Night



Watercolour Workshop



The Surveys and Technical Services Section of Alberta Sustainable Resource Development is working on several initiatives designed to improve and update our services to you and all Albertans.

New Executive Director Named For Resource Information Management Branch (RIMB)

On January 17, 2005, Mr. Craig Barnes took over the position of Executive Director, Resource Information Management Branch (RIMB). Mr. Barnes, who is a Canada Lands Surveyor and has extensive background with Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, comes to RIMB from his previous position in Strategic Forestry Initiatives. Craig took over the reins of RIMB from Dr. Stephen R. Moran, who served in the position since November 1, 2004. Dr. Moran took up his new duties as Director of Strategic Planning and Corporate Development with the Alberta Research Council in Edmonton on Monday, January 17.

March 2005 Alberta Township System (ATS) File Becomes the Standard

The March 2005 ATS replacement file is now available for distribution from AltaLIS Ltd. More details can be found at their web site at altalis.com/altalisandannouncements/index.html. The March 2005 version of the ATS file is static and available at no charge.

Standards and Procedures for Digital Plan Submissions Nearing Completion

Discussions are nearing completion to develop standards and procedures for disposition sketch and survey plan digital submissions. At stakeholder

meetings on April 29 and May 5, 2005, an overview of the Digital Integrated Disposition (DIDs) mapping program was provided and valuable input was received. August 1, 2005 is the implementation date and revised standards and procedures will be communicated within the next few weeks.

Digital Field Book Images for Official Plans Available Online

Official field notes used to create official township plans, which were distributed by the Data Distribution Unit of Resource Information Management Branch, Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, are now available from Alberta Government Services, Alberta Registries online Spatial Information (SPIN) System website at www.spin.gov.ab.ca. These are available at no charge.

Additional information is available by visiting the Director of Surveys website at www3.gov.ab.ca/srd/land/dos/LSPProducts.html. Users are strongly advised to review the help file available on both the SPIN and Director of Surveys websites.

Please note that the original documents are the property of the Provincial Archives of Alberta. To order a copy or view original field books containing poor quality images, please contact the Provincial Archives of Alberta and quote their reference – Accession # 83.376.

Please report any problems and forward any questions or comments regarding the field book images on SPIN to Edward Titanich, Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, 14th Floor Oxbridge Place, 9820-106 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, T5K 2J6 Telephone: (780) 422-0051 Fax: (780) 427-1493 Email: Ed.Titanich@gov.ab.ca

Hardcopies can be ordered from Alberta Government Services, Al-

berta Registries. A cost will be associated with this service.

The Data Distribution Unit will also continue to distribute the above hardcopy products until June 1, 2005.

Non-Monumented Survey Plans (Section 47, Surveys Act) 2003 Review

The Director of Surveys office continues to monitor plans registered under Section 47 of the Surveys Act. The review of registrations for 2003 has been completed and the following statistics are available:

- Total number of Section 47 plans = 343 (211 North and 132 South)
- Section 47 Subdivision Plans = 307 (199 North and 108 South)
- Number of Section 47 plans, as of May 1, 2005, with Form 11.1 incomplete = 16 (4 North and 12 South)
- Total number of Section 47 plans that did not comply with the Surveys Act (registration of Form 11.1 within 12 months) = 97 or 28.3%.

Surveyors' cooperation is requested to ensure that the requirements of Section 47(3) are fully met.

Director of Surveys Approves and Confirms Official Surveys

During the 2004-05 fiscal year (April 2004 to March 2005), the Director of Surveys approved and confirmed a total of five official surveys in accordance with sections 29 and 33 of the Surveys Act.

- Nordegg Industrial Settlement (approved and confirmed on July 14, 2004) and registered at LTO as #0424106 on July 15, 2004.
- Susa Creek Settlement (approved and confirmed on December 9, 2004) and registered at LTO as #0426973 on December 17, 2004.

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- First Edition of Township Plan 74-25-5 was approved and confirmed on December 15, 2004. The north half of section 31-74-25-5 was surveyed.
 - Cougar Rock Settlement (approved and confirmed on February 4, 2005) and registered at LTO as #0520771 on February 8, 2005.
 - Shunda Creek Settlement (approved and confirmed on March 23, 2005) and registered at LTO as #0521683 on April 7, 2005.

Reminder - Revised SRD contact for Obtaining Consents Involving Changes in Waterbody Boundaries

Alberta Land Surveyors are reminded that, as of April 1, 2005, all enquiries

regarding waterbody ownership, changes in water boundary locations, accretion, and so on, are to be directed to the Land Use Operations Branch of Alberta Sustainable Resource Development as follows:

All correspondence sent by e-mail should be addressed to the "File Review Coordinator" at water.boundaries@gov.ab.ca.

All enquiries received by e-mail will be acknowledged by the "File Review Coordinator" with a copy to the analyst who has been assigned the file. This will alert the client as to who the file was assigned to and whom to contact for review status updates.

All correspondence and material sent by mail should be addressed as follows:

File Review Coordinator
Waterbody Ownership, Boundary
Assessment, and Research
(WOBAR) Program
Riparian Land Management & Water
Boundaries Unit
Land Use Operations Branch, Public
Lands and Forests Division
Alberta Sustainable Resource
Development
3rd Floor, South Petroleum Plaza
9915-108 Street
Edmonton, AB T5K 2G8

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education news

University of Calgary Dr. Naser El-Sheimy Wins APEGGA Excellence in Education Award

The Department is pleased to announce that Dr. Naser El-Sheimy has been awarded the Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists (APEGGA) Excellence in Education award for exemplary contributions to teaching and learning. Dr. El-Sheimy was commended for his teaching effectiveness and efforts that have been recognized through numerous teaching awards from the students, the Faculty of Engineering and the University of Calgary. The award was presented at the APEGGA Summit Awards held in Calgary on April 22, 2005.

Dr. Ayman Habib Wins Geomatics Teaching Excellence Award

The Department is pleased to announce that Dr. Ayman Habib has won the Geomatics Engineering Teaching Excellence Award from the fourth year Engineering students. The award was announced at the graduation dinner held March 19.

Jayanti Sharma Receives Sir James Loughheed Provincial Scholarship

Jayanti Sharma has been awarded the Sir James Loughheed (provincial scholarship) and one from the German exchange office. After some difficult decision making, she has decided to go to DLR-German Aerospace Center in Munich, Germany where she will work with Dr. Moreira who is very prominent in the radar field.

University of New Brunswick

Congratulations to Willis Roberts, the “Father of Geomatics in Atlantic Canada” who received a doctor of science honoris causa from the University of New Brunswick during its 176th Encaenia on the afternoon of May 19, 2005. Mr. Roberts is a charter member of the Association of New Brunswick Land Surveyors as well as the Association’s first president.

In 1959, on a train bound for Ottawa, Willis Roberts (then Director of Surveys for New Brunswick), Bill Hilborn (then professor of photogrammetry in the Faculty of Forestry), Ira Beattie (then Head, Civil Engineering Department), and Gottfried Konecny (then Assistant Professor, Civil Engineering), had a dream of a surveying engineering department at UNB. In 1960, their dream was brought to fruition with the help of Jim Dineen (then Dean of Engineering), Colin B. McKay (then President of UNB), and Archie McLaughlin (then a surveyor with the New Brunswick Lands Branch). The Department was renamed the Department of Geodesy and Geomatics Engineering in 1994.

Two decades before the information highway became a buzzword, Willis Roberts had a vision of a computer-based system for the management of all land-related data. To make the vision a reality, he initiated discussions that led to the establishment of the Atlantic Provinces Surveying and Mapping Program in 1968. A UNB forestry graduate, Mr. Roberts served as its technical director, then as executive

director of its successor, the Land Registration and Information Service. In 1979, he was named president of LRIS International, a Council of Maritime Premiers’ agency that marketed surveying, mapping and land information services. In 1983, he received the Massey Medal from the Royal Canadian Geographical Society for outstanding personal achievement in the description of the geography of Canada.

NSERC Discovery Grants Success

It is with pleasure that the Department announces that Dr. Don Kim, and professors Hughes Clarke and Dare have been awarded Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Discovery Grants. These NSERC grants are especially important as they are often the key to getting funding from additional sources.

The success of these researchers enables the Department to proudly say that every one of our professors and research associates has an NSERC Discovery Grant. Dr. Kim should be especially congratulated as this was his first attempt at Discovery Grant funding.

Dr. Kim’s grant project is entitled “Development of Remote-Controlled Autonomous RTK System Using Global Navigation Satellite Systems,” while Professor Hughes Clarke’s is “Improved Mapping and Monitoring Techniques to Resolve Seabed Change and Associated Coupling with the Water Column” and Professor Dare’s is “Creation of High-quality Global Navigation Satellite System Investigative Methods.”



legal notes

REAL PROPERTY

ROAD ACCESS—Appellants were not entitled to a declaration under the *Road Access Act (Ont.)*. They failed to demonstrate that legal access was not available over alternate routes.

Appeal from a judgment dismissing appellants' claim for a declaration under the Road Access Act (Ont.) and their claim for a prescriptive easement under s. 31 of the Limitations Act (Ont.).

In 1999, appellants purchased 1,700 acres of land from respondent's brother. Respondent owned 40 acres of land that bordered the southern limit of appellant's property. Respondent refused to permit appellants to use two roads on his property, which appellants claimed have provided long-standing access to the 1,700 acres. One of the roads was consistent with historical findings of a trail dating back to 1964. The other road was constructed by respondent's father in 1976 and used to haul timber away from the 1,700 acres. The trial judge dismissed appellants' claim because they failed to prove that they did not have alternate access to their property. The trial judge also found that respondent's predecessor in title had occupied the 40-acre parcel from 1973 to 1999 to the exclusion of all others. Appellants were not, therefore, entitled to a prescriptive easement.

HELD: appeal dismissed. To succeed under the Road Access Act, appellants had to, prove that there was no alternate access to their property. Assuming that alternate access meant legal access, the fact that available alternate access routes traverse private property did not preclude them from constituting legal access routes. Legal access could be achieved over private property

...appellants failed to demonstrate that legal access was not available over the alternate routes...

either by permission or by demonstrating that they are access roads under the Act. As appellants failed to demonstrate that legal access was not available over the alternate routes, they failed to meet the burden of proving their claim. The trial judge did not err by failing to raise a presumption of lost grant. Appellants failed to establish sufficient prior use to raise the presumption.

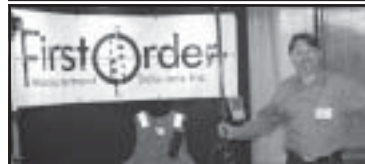
Ebare v. Winter, (2005] O.J. No. 14, Ont. C.A., per Simmons J.A. (Rosenberg and Moldaver J.J.A. concurring), Jan. 10/05. Digest No. 2439015 (Approx. 15 pp.)

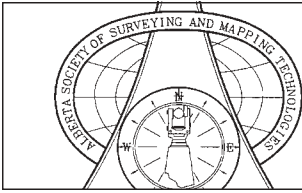
LEAVE TO APPEAL DISMISSED

REAL PROPERTY: ACCRETION

The applicants owned riparian lands which originally were adjacent to Buffalo Lake; however, the lake has since receded. The Crown expropriated lands adjacent to Buffalo Lake. Are the accretions to the Applicants' lands limited by the theoretical or legal section, quarter section, or legal subdivision lines within the relevant Townships? The motions judge said yes, and the Court of Appeal agreed. **William Walter Johnson et al v. Her Majesty the Queen in Right of the Province of Alberta et al (Alta. C.A., January 13, 2005) (30766) "with costs."**

AGM 2005 Exhibitors





assmt notes

by Clint Johnson, CST

The Alberta Society of Surveying and Mapping Technologies recently held its annual general meeting in Red Deer. Once again, it has proven to be a useful and meaningful instrument for the membership and Council to convene and deal with issues relevant to our profession and topics of interest as individuals. This particular meeting was no exception and hopefully it will serve to set a direction for the coming year.

Acknowledgment of the new and returning Council members is in order, as is a sincere thank you to outgoing Council and committee members. Your efforts are genuinely appreciated and your commitment should serve as an example to other technicians and technologists to get involved. Congratulations to the organizing committee and those who helped with the success of the 33rd AGM.

As much as the AGM serves as a useful forum, most attendees would agree that the venue does not allow adequate time for a meaningful dialogue to set a direction for the Society beyond the coming year. As with any business or organization, the importance of long-term planning for the ASSMT should be given ongoing consideration. Although secession planning by the outgoing Council, Executive, and committee members helps to ensure a more efficient transition from year to year, long-term planning helps to identify critical objectives and helps to ensure the longevity of the Society and maintain the fundamental ideals.

The ASSMT recently held a business planning meeting to address this issue. The attendance reflected the strong commitment to the future of the organization. Past and present Council members as well as committee members participated. There was a review of the mission statement as well as identification of strengths and

Given the current economy and the strong core membership, there appears to be ample opportunity for ASSMT to capitalize on strengths and build a stronger organization.

weaknesses. The longevity of ASSMT and the diversity of membership have proven to be strengths, as have our association with other organizations and our continued commitment to education. An affordable membership that includes certification is also a relevant strength. Some of the noteworthy weaknesses included a weak profile, an inefficient and lengthy certification process, and ongoing credibility concerns. These concerns warrant attention and an ongoing commitment in all future planning.

Recognition of opportunities also plays a vital role in the planning process. Given the current economy and the strong core membership, there appears to be ample opportunity for ASSMT to capitalize on strengths and build a stronger organization. There is a very large group of potential members in our geographic area. The existence of technology and the development of a new website offers the ability to reach potential members and communicate with current members and employers on an ongoing basis.

The meeting recognized the recent Society initiatives and the successes of these initiatives to build a strong framework for the future. The efforts of various committees were also identified and continued commitment was made to further these objectives.

The Membership Committee has been looking at ways to increase

membership and improve the quality of member services. Member involvement and geographic concerns have also been prevailing concerns for this Committee.

The Education Committee has been very active in its effort to establish strong relationships with post-secondary institutions. There have been significant gains in this area and their efforts are to be commended.

The Certification Committee is cognizant of issues pertaining to ASSMT certification and has been actively engaged in efforts to ensure our certification process is efficient and credible. This initiative has been a collaborative effort involving the Education and Certification committees and is an exciting and challenging objective. The Public Relations Committee has concentrated on increasing the profile of the Society and using networking opportunities to promote ASSMT. The ongoing maintenance of the website will be the responsibility of the Public Relations Committee in the future and is a key component of many other initiatives of the Society and other committees.

Most of the issues discussed in this meeting are not new or unique to the ASSMT. The majority have existed in the past and are likely to exist in the future. The Alberta Society of Surveying and Mapping Technologies has taken a significant step in assuring the future success of this organization. We are at a crossroads and the ongoing commitment of all the current and future members will be critical. It is hoped that this meeting will provide a basis for the future operations of this group and a continued success representing the interests of surveying and mapping technicians and technologists.



history

This is the seventh in a series of articles on the history of the ALSA and its members. For more information, check out www.landsurveyinghistory.ab.ca.

1919–1920 A Protest Over Pay Scales

During 1919, Association affairs became somewhat more animated. It was decided at the annual meeting to publish a special memorial report to commemorate the services of those Association members who had entered the armed forces during the war, to present a submission to the provincial Attorney General on the need for the appointment of a properly qualified surveyor to the Edmonton Land Titles Office, to file a protest with the provincial government concerning the scale of pay assigned to land surveyors in provincial employ and to send a representative to the DLS Association's annual meeting at Ottawa to press the claims of surveyors in the federal service for a higher classification and rate of pay than had been assigned to them by the Civil Service Commission.

Eventually, the special memorial report was published in 1922, being incorporated in the annual report for that year, which was the first again issued in printed form since 1915. Apparently, the submission with reference to the appointment of a surveyor to the Edmonton Land Titles Office got some attention for, in 1920, the Council noted with satisfaction that Mr. M.W. Hopkins had been appointed to that position but in their opinion his salary ought to have been substantially higher. A similar feeling prevailed with regard to the salaries of other surveyors employed by the Province. The minutes of the 1920 Annual Meeting record a discussion of this subject in which it was stated that the current salary for district surveyors employed by the Alberta government was \$2,400.00 per year, as compared with \$2,880.00 in Manitoba, \$2,100.00 in Saskatchewan and \$9.00 to \$12.00 per day for Dominion Land Surveyors employed by the federal government. The pay range for the Surveyor General of

The fact is that in those years, the supply of land surveyors far exceeded the demand, and regardless of the professional worth or social value of their activities, their services could readily be bought for the low rates of pay which then prevailed.

Canada was said to be from \$3,900.00 to \$4,800.00 per year. It was fairly evident that general dissatisfaction over these pay rates prevailed throughout the country, and this seems to have stimulated the first moves towards togetherness amongst the various surveying organizations that are evident in the Association's history.

The strength of this co-operative sentiment is indicated by a resolution which was presented on behalf of the Association by its official delegate, Mr. A.G. Stewart, to the 1920 Annual Meeting of the Dominion Land Surveyors Association. This resolution advocated the formation of a national association of land surveyors for the purpose of protecting and advancing the interests and promoting the good and welfare of the land surveying profession and asked the DLS Association to solicit the co-operation of the various associations with that end in view. The DLS Association gave this proposal a favourable reception and immediately set up a committee to study the matter. The committee, on the final day of the DLS Association's meeting, brought in a report which declared that the profession of the land surveyor is the highest, the most

honourable and the oldest profession in the world, and after citing the feats of earlier surveyors who were alleged to have built the St. Clair Tunnel, the Canadian Pacific Railway and the pyramids of Egypt and claiming professional kinship with Christopher Columbus, Amundsen and Scott and the Governor of Alaska, it concluded with a recommendation that the Alberta resolution be adopted. That was done and a committee of five was set up to pursue the matter further. It was a long time before the pursuers attained their goal but finally, in 1934, the organization known as the Canadian Institute of Surveying was formed. Meanwhile, the land surveyors of Canada continued to suffer from the impact of rising prices upon small incomes.

The fact is that in those years, the supply of land surveyors far exceeded the demand and, regardless of the professional worth or social value of their activities, their services could readily be bought for the low rates of pay which then prevailed. As Dr. Deville said at the 1918 meeting of DLS Association, "with the war, many land surveyors have seen their private practice go, and as to government work, that has been cut down by hundreds of thousands of dollars." Ten years later, the situation was still much the same. In 1928, the President of the DLS Association, Mr. J.W. Pierce, said "the Dominion Land Surveyor's work has been gradually disappearing, and today not one-tenth of our members are engaged in actual land surveying." The surveyors in the provinces were perhaps a little better off, but throughout the period during and between the two wars, any signs of even moderate prosperity in the land surveying business were conspicuous mainly by their absence.

Under those conditions many land surveyors left the profession for other

occupations and the number of new entrants to the profession was exceedingly small. In 1919, the year after the first war, when large numbers of returned veterans were taking up civilian careers, the Alberta Association acquired eight new members, but during the next 28 years, only 18 new members were added to the register and many of these were men to whom occasional survey work was only incidental to some other means of livelihood. From 1950 to 1959, the resulting deficiency was made up by the enrollment of over 80 new surveyors, and the estimated average age of Alberta Land Surveyors fell from an elderly 58 in 1950 to a youth-ful 34 in 1959.

In 1920, Mr. B.F. Mitchell succeeded Mr. R.H. Cautley as Secretary-Treasurer and Registrar of the Association, and a verbatim record of the proceedings of the annual meeting was made by a legal stenographer. Mr. George MacLeod, a member of the Association who was also a member of the executive of the Engineering Association, assured the meeting that the engineers had no intention of overriding the statutes affecting land surveyors. He said that most surveyors in private practice were making a large part of their living out of engineering work, and they should be prepared to help the other members of the engineering profession who were not protected by legislation. "Surveying," said Mr. MacLeod prophetically, "is on the wane and engineering is the great hope of our Association for the future." Later at that meeting, it was agreed that the Association would not oppose the principles of the legislation which the engineers were promoting, but a committee was set up "to watch the bill as it went through the Legislative Assembly and safeguard the interests of land surveyors."

It was at this meeting that the resolution concerning the formation of a national organization was approved, after another motion recommending that everybody should join the DLS Association had been car-

ried. There seems to have been some confusion as to means, but there was not much doubt as to the end being sought and that was a greater degree of unity amongst land surveyors throughout the country. Mr. Stewart was appointed to travel to Ottawa and to seek support for the Association's resolution from the Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario associations. It was also agreed that the Alberta Association would provide a sum of money to help pay the costs of organizing a national body of land surveyors. As things turned out, none of the provincial associations took any active part in the matter after the DLS Association adopted the proposal and in the end it was through the agency of that Association alone that the Canadian Institute of Surveying came into existence.

The provincial Public Works Department came in for some criticism on two counts at this meeting. It was felt that the payment to the Department of a \$50.00 approval fee on each plan of subdivision, even when only a couple of lots were to be registered, was unreasonable, and a committee was appointed to seek some moderation in this charge. The Department was also criticized for hogging all the municipal road survey work, it being the practice at that time for the Department to make these surveys, afterwards billing the municipalities for half the cost, and also to pay the compensation for the land taken. It was said that the Department did not have enough surveyors on its staff to keep up with the demand for this work, and the members in private practice thought it was about time that their services should be made available to any municipality that might choose to hire them, thus helping to reduce the delay in getting municipal road plans registered and also providing the surveyor with a much-needed source of income. This question was assigned to another committee, and apparently the pressure thus brought to bear was effective, for within a short time the Department saw the light and gra-

Mr. Knight suggested that one of the farms might be improved to provide a home for worn-out surveyors...

ciously reduced the approval fee for small subdivisions and eventually turned all municipal road survey work over to the tender mercies of the private surveyors.

This enterprising mood continued throughout the meeting. Mr. Seibert told the members all about the newly-formed Town Planning Institute of Canada, and since any registered land surveyor was eligible to join that organization without the formality of an examination, it was agreed that copies of the Institute's constitution and by-laws should be sent to all members so that no one would miss the opportunity of becoming a professional town planner. There was also a strong feeling that the Association ought to do something about its unhappy investments. Through mortgage foreclosures, it was now the owner of two farms and a city lot, on which it was paying taxes and other expenses instead of earning revenue, and the incoming Council was instructed to try and cut the Association's losses as soon as possible. Mr. Knight suggested that one of the farms might be improved to provide a home for worn-out surveyors, but this constructive idea was not even seconded.

This problem got a thorough going over at the next Council meeting, but the Council did not appear to be much perturbed. In the minutes there is a complacent entry to the effect that the general feeling of the Council was that the Association had been quite fortunate in all its investments except the mortgage on the lot in Norwood. However, it was finally decided that the President and Secretary should bend every effort to liquidate these questionable assets, and that the proceeds should be invested in government bonds.

AGM 2005 —President's Ball

