



# COUNCIL REPORT

June 26, 2008

---

*The Council of the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association met on June 26, 2008. Here is a summary of their discussions.*

## **FROM THE REGISTRAR**

Council approved an application from **Bernard Rachansky** to be placed on the register of retired members subject to the May 7, 2008 discipline order. Mr. Rachansky is currently a suspended Alberta Land Surveyor. The Discipline Committee's decision will be published in the upcoming issue of *ALS News*.

The Registrar informed Council of the members whom he has cancelled due to non-payment of fees. Three associate members, one affiliate member and one retired member were cancelled.

## **CHANGES TO THE LIST OF COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS**

Since the May Council meeting, there were a number of members who volunteered for an Association committee or stepped down from an Association committee.

Council approved adding the following members to Association committees: Ryan Blommaert (Professional Development),

Carl Larsen (GPS Guidelines), David McArthur (ASSMT MOU Implementation), Troy Motz (ASSMT MOU Implementation), Wade Pennell (Registration), Nathan Prins (Standards), Don Wilson (Practice Review Board), and Bruce Winton (Discipline).

Council accepted the following members' resignations from Association committees with regret: Bob Conacher (Safety), Paul Densmore (Professional Development), Jiunhan Keong (GPS Guidelines), Clive MacKeen (Standards), David McArthur (Registration), and Steve Yanish (Registration). Committee action plans are available on the Association's web page at [www.alsa.ab.ca/MemberResources/internal\\_policies.htm](http://www.alsa.ab.ca/MemberResources/internal_policies.htm).

Council formally appointed members to the Association's committees. Many thanks to all those who put their names forward and to all those who are stepping down after years of service.

A calendar of Association meetings, seminars and other events is also available online.

## **REAL PROPERTY REPORT INITIATIVES**

The RPR Ad Hoc Committee, through the Public Relations Committee, has been authorized to review and update the RPR brochure and the benefits of the RPR and address the copyright and update issues.

Council also asked the Public Relations Committee, in conjunction with the RPR Ad Hoc Committee, to investigate creating a public relations initiative in support of the real property report in order to get the word out about the benefits of the real property report.

## **CORE AND ELECTIVE SYLLABUS**

Council endorsed a proposal from the CCLS Board of Examiners Coordinating Committee to change the syllabus for candidates attempting to earn their certificate of completion. Council endorsed the concept or requiring candidates to

complete eleven core subjects and two elective subjects.

**BURIED FACILITIES**

Council has asked Vice-President Don George to put together a small group of senior Alberta Land Surveyors to implement the recommendations of the ALSA buried facilities position paper and meet with government and agencies to promote the paper's recommendations.

**DIRECTOR OF SURVEYS**

Council welcomed the Director of Surveys to the meeting and discussed a number of issues.

The Director has referred the most recent version of the Association's agreement with the government to sell iron posts and marker posts to his superiors.

This latest version does not include a clause for the Association to take over responsibility for the EDM calibration baselines as it was felt such a change could require legislative amendments and may delay the signing of the new ministerial order. There was an understanding, however, to continue discussions about this concern.

The Alberta Law Reform Institute has indicated to the Director of Surveys that it has assigned a person to research the Association's proposal to give governing status to certain Part 3 monuments.

The Association and the Director held an open discussion concerning the future of the Director of Surveys office. The Director outlined steps he has taken to try to fill the vacant land surveyor positions in the department.

Council decided to review the tasks currently undertaken by the Director of Surveys office and meet with several people to better understand the scope of the issue and the government's concerns.

**THE ALBERTA LAND USE  
FRAMEWORK**

The Association submitted its response to the government's land use framework proposal. The ALSA commented that the document strikes the right balance between development and conservation and asked the government to commit the resources to ensure that the province has an accurate geographic information system that is publicly available and captures the location of our infrastructure.

**POTENTIAL****UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE**

Council was informed of several recent instances of alleged unauthorized practice.

In these cases, the person or the company that is alleged to have engaged in the practice of land surveying is contacted and informed of the provisions of the Surveys Act. If the matter persists, then further serious action is taken.

In one case, a telephone directory published the names of a number of non-land surveyors in the "surveyors-Alberta land" category and the telephone directory firm was informed of the errors.

If you have any information about a non-land surveyor engaging in the practice of land surveying, please contact the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association. The more details you have, the better position the Association will be in to do something about it.

**CANADIAN  
SURVEY LAW****IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY**

Council has endorsed the principle of a new Canadian survey law textbook.



Marie Robidoux put together the proposal for the new textbook and has contacted a number of potential authors.

The proposal was born out of the frustration in trying to get Survey Law in Canada reprinted and the desire for current study materials for CBEPS candidates. Council has not committed any funds to this project at this time as it hopes that enough organizations will

participate in order to keep the costs reasonable.

**WEBSITE**

**REDEVELOPMENT**

Council unanimously approved the expenditure of \$7,500 for the redevelopment of the ALSA website.

The site will be redesigned to make it more user friendly and easier to update.

**SHORT CUTS**

Council endorsed a request from Dr. Mike Barry to extend the multimedia land records system project by six months. No additional funding was requested.

Representatives from the ALSA Council and the ABCLS Council will meet by conference call on July 8 to discuss a possible agenda for a joint council meeting later in the year.

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

**ALS NEWS DEADLINES**

**SEPTEMBER 1**

**NOVEMBER 15**

**FEBRUARY 13**

**ALSA GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**AUGUST 15**

**LACOMBE**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**APRIL 23-26**

**BANFF**

**COUNCIL MEETINGS**

**AUGUST 26**

**SEPTEMBER 25**

**NOVEMBER 13**

**DECEMBER 10**

**JANUARY 29**