



**Alberta
Land
Surveyors'
Association**

*A member
of the
Canadian
Council of Land
Surveyors*

G O O D P R A C T I C E
R E S O L U T I O N S — A P R I L
1 9 8 3

1. It shall be considered good practice in establishing a section or quarter section corner from a witness monument to proceed as follows:

The said corner shall be defined by producing the line through the witness monument from the nearest monument on the same side of the witnessed corner. The corner in question shall be placed at the distance indicated for the witness monument.

2. It shall be considered good practice in the surveying of roads or other rights of way across sections in which either quarter line has been run to make an intersection with the surveyed quarter lines and to plant an iron post to define the said point of intersection.
3. It shall be considered good practice, in the surveying of roads or other rights of way which run parallel and/or adjacent to established road allowances, to proceed as follows:
 - (a) If the limit of the right of way being posted is more than 30 metres from the posted boundary of the road allowance, then it shall be necessary to make an actual intersection with each surveyed line crossed.
 - (b) Where the limit of the right of way is 30 metres or less from the surveyed section line, said intersection may be made by an offset from the section line being paralleled. The bearing of the offset may be left to the discretion of the surveyor, but it is to be shown on the plan.
4. It shall be considered good practice, prior to registration of a subdivision plan, to plant 1 centimeter square iron bars not less than 50 centimeters long at the corners of each lot in a subdivision, excepting those lot corners which must be posted with Statutory Iron Posts under the provisions of the *Alberta Land Surveys Act*. The plan of survey shall have included in the legend a note stating that these iron bars have been established at all lot corners.
5. It shall be considered good practice when preparing plans of survey, to include on said plans notes with regard to the condition of monuments, and other data such as the position of iron posts with relation to corner fence posts.
6. It shall be considered good practice to show all calculated distances on plans in black followed by the abbreviation "(calc.)".
7. It shall be considered good practice when re-establishing lost corners in accordance with The *Alberta Surveys Act*, that due weight be given to the bearings as shown on the official or registered plan.
8. It shall be considered good practice to show on the plan of survey ties to iron posts placed at section or quarter section corners established from secondary evidence such as fence corners so that the position of that corner can be ascertained in relation to some supporting physical evidence on the ground.
9. It shall be considered good practice to obtain closure errors not exceeding 1 in 5000 in the surveyor's own work or 1 in 2500 in closing with section lines. In the event that in closing on older surveys this maximum is exceeded, sufficient information should be obtained to verify all new measurements taken.
10. It shall be considered good practice to show on a plan of survey:
 - (a) All linear measurements of less than five hundred feet to an accuracy of five hundredths of a foot and those exceeding five hundred feet to an accuracy of one tenth of a foot.
 - (b) All angular measurements to the nearest minute of arc unless greater accuracy is required to clarify a particular point.
11. It shall be considered good practice on surveys of roads or other rights of way which may terminate within the interior of a section to tie the terminal monument to some other known point in such a manner that a closure may be obtained from information shown on the plan.
12. It shall be considered good practice to place a note on the plan of survey describing the method used

- in establishing lost corners if the method is not otherwise clearly evident.
13. It shall be considered good practice, when conducting a right of way survey, to place iron posts in addition to those required by The Alberta Surveys Act, at intermediate points (preferably hilltops) such that any two consecutive points be intervisible and the distance between any two does not exceed one thousand metres.
 14. It shall be considered good practice, when conducting a survey which requires the establishment of a boundary of an unposted railway right of way by accepting centre line of tracks at an end of curve or at a section line, to place an iron post on that tangent about 30 metres away from the end of curve or section line and -to tie the said iron post or posts to the survey being conducted so that the position accepted may be ascertained during subsequent surveys.
 15. It shall be considered good practice, when establishing a boundary of an unposted railway right of way, the centre line of which is shown on the filed plan to be a spiraled curve, to replace the spiral with a compound curve in accordance with the following data:

Curve Data from Railway Plan					Replacement Curve Data
Degree and Radius of Central Curve	Length of Spiral	Spiral Angle	Delta of Replacement Curve	Replacement Curve Radius	Degree and Radius of Central Curve
2° 2864.9	180 168 120	1° 48' 1° 40' 1° 12'	1° 48' 1° 40' 1° 12'	3819.8 4331.2 3819.8	2° 2864.9
2° 30' 2292.0	210 200 150	2° 37.5' 2° 30' 1 ° 52.5'	2° 37.5' 2° 30' 1 ° 52.5'	3055.7 3359.2 3055.7	2° 30' 2292.0
3° 1910.1	240 234 180	3 ° 36' 3° 30' 2° 42'	3 ° 36' 3° 30' 2° 42'	2546.6 2765.7 2546.6	3° 1910.1
3° 30' 1637.3	270 204 210	4 ° 43.5' 3° 30' 3° 40.5'	4 ° 43.5' 3° 30' 3° 40.5'	2182.9 2412.2 2182.9	3° 30' 1637.3
4° 1432.7	300 231 240	6° 00' 4° 40' 4° 48'	6° 00' 4° 40' 4° 48'	1910.1 2024.7 1910.1	4° 1432.7
4° 30' 1432.7	300 264 270	6° 45' 6° 00' 6° 04.5'	6° 45' 6° 00' 6° 04.5'	1697.9 1786.0 1697.9	4° 30' 1432.7
5° 1146.3	300 248	7° 30' 6° 00'	7° 30' 6° 00'	1528.2 1677.2	5° 1146.3

5° 30' 1042.1	300 279 330	8° 15' 7° 30' 9° 04.5'	8° 15' 7° 30' 9° 04.5'	1389.3 1499.7 1389.3	5° 30' 1042.1
6° 955.4	300 310 360	9° 00' 9° 10' 10° 48'	9° 00' 9° 10' 10° 48'	1273.6 1357.2 1273.6	6° 955.4

16. It shall be considered good practice, when planting statutory iron posts in cultivated fields, to counte sink these posts below the depth of normal cultivation. When this is done or if posts are not planted in the ordinary way, a notation should be a notation on the plan of survey to that effect.
17. It shall be considered good practice; when conducting road or right-of-way surveys that intersect surveyed section or quarter section lines, to make the intersection by using the nearest section or quarter section corners on each side of the point of intersection. If the monuments at these corners are lost, they should be re-established giving due consideration to all available evidence.
18. It shall be considered good practice; to reference all statutory iron posts with marker posts or in the unsettled or forested areas of the province with at least three bearing trees or a combination of both
- Marker posts, shall be placed 0.3 m from the iron post and shall be situated within a surveyed right-of-way or road allowance and at right angles thereto.
 - Where the above does not apply or is prevented by other circumstances the distance and direction from the iron post to the marker post shall be shown on the plan of survey, e.g.: "Mp. 0.3 m N."
 - The marker post shall be placed so that the plaque faces directly away from the iron post.
 - Marker posts should not be placed in locations where they would be impractical and constitute a hazard to the public,
 - The position of marker posts used to reference iron posts on control or W/S traverses shall be clearly shown on the plan of survey.
19. It shall be considered good practice; when engaged to prepare a condominium plan to perform the perimeter survey in accordance with the Surveys Act and to complete the following affidavit as the certification required by Section 80 of the Condominium Property Act:

AFFIDAVIT

I, _____ of _____, Alberta Land Surveyor, make oath and say:

That the survey represented by this plan was made under my personal supervision:

That the survey was made in accordance with good surveying practices and in accordance with the provisions of the Surveys Act;

That the survey was performed between the dates of _____ and _____, 19 and tha this plan is true and correct, and is prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Condominium Property Act and the Land Titles Act;

That the building(s) situated on the parcel that is (are) the subject of this plan is (are) wholly within the external boundaries thereof; (in case of encroachment, this statement will be varied accordingly);
SWORN before me at

the _____ in the Province
of Alberta this _____ day of _____, 19__.

Alberta Land Surveyor

A Commissioner for Oaths in
and for the Province of Alberta

20. It shall be considered good practice; to observe the following minimum requirements for Building Location Certificates:
- The correct legal description of the property as confirmed by title search.
 - A site plan showing the land boundary and the location of all buildings (permanent buildings/foundations).

- (c) Dimensions of all permanent buildings/foundations the lot or lots, as per registered plans and the distances between the permanent buildings/foundations, and the side yards, set back and rear yard.
 - (d) A statement to the effect that there are no visible encroachments, that is the permanent buildings/foundation are entirely within the boundaries of the said lands and that there are no encroachments thereon by adjacent permanent buildings "except as shown".
 - (e) Affidavit:

"This is to certify that: The survey represented by this plan was done under my superintendence, that all dimensions are as shown and were obtained in accordance with good survey practices, that the survey was completed on (date), that the building(s) situated on (Lot) (Block) (Plan) in the (Municipality) is/are entirely within the boundaries of the said lands and there are no visible encroachments thereon by the adjacent buildings",

Footnote: (1) The description of the lands in question must be based on a title search which should be kept on file. (2) The certification refers to buildings as opposed to permanent building/foundations, It will therefore be assumed that the surveyor's certificate will not show buildings that are not of a permanent nature, and the sketch should indicate the stage of construction. (3) The certification could be expanded to include "except as shown" if there are any encroachments. (4) A permit stamp may be required (under new Land Surveyors Act. etc.).
 - (f) The location of registered easements and restriction areas covered by registered restrictive covenant that contain restrictions on only part of the parcel (for example, a municipal restriction contained in a registered restrictive covenant preventing the erection of any structure over a portion of the parcel sloping to a ravine).
 - (g) The signature of the Alberta Land Surveyor in original form.
 - (h) Designation on the certificate of the adjoining streets, lanes, walkways, etc.
21. It shall be considered good practice; that all statutory iron posts placed be marked with the surveyor's corporation or partnership permit number or the membership number of individual surveyors not affiliated with a surveyor's partnership or limited company.