

**ALBERTA LAND SURVEYORS' ASSOCIATION  
PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
October 2005**

**THE SURVEYING PROFESSION  
(Closed Book Exam)**

**Note: This paper consists of 12 questions contained on 3 pages.  
Marks total 100.**

**Mark**

**Time Limit: 3 hours**

- 10** 1. Describe the purpose and role of the Director of Systematic Practice Review of the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association.
2. Past President Dave McWilliam, ALS in his President's Message contained in *ALS News* (March 2003 Volume 32-1 Issue) observed: "Our Code of Ethics is a doctrine of what we believe, as a collective profession, that adherence to, is characteristic of being a professional, and contravention of, deserves discipline.... After all, we are only human and, as such, we err. It is usually not the fact that we have erred that causes someone to be disciplined by his peers. More often, it is how we react to the problem at hand. If we truly and innocently have erred, we will be eager to address the problem in order to rectify the situation. Whether the reason for discipline is unprofessional conduct or unskilled practices, the effect on the public is the same, for they are not receiving the elevated level of trust that they deserve. Protection of the public is our most basic cornerstone and we must hold it above all else, for it alone is the foundation of self-governing professions...."
- 6** a) Discuss all possible outcomes when an Alberta Land Surveyor is found to be of unprofessional conduct or unskilled practice in a disciplinary process.
- 4** b) Describe the fundamental difference between unprofessional conduct and unskilled practice of an Alberta Land Surveyor.
- 5** 3. As a sole proprietor of a professional surveying firm in Alberta, please list five factors you should consider when setting a fee schedule for your practice.

**Mark**

4. Past Councillor Vince Ziegler, ALS in his Councillor's Forum contained in *ALS News* (June 2003 Volume 32-2 Issue) observed: "The term dormant plan is an umbrella term within our Alberta land surveying community to describe all plans that, for one reason or another, have not been registered at the Land Titles Office within the time allotted by the Surveys Act and our Manual of Standard Practice..."
- 3 (a) Discuss the allowable timeframe for the registration of a plan under each of the circumstances as described above and provide your opinion as to each situation contained therein.
- 2 (b) Discuss the article of ALSA Code of Ethics that a member would be in breach of if the ALS does not register his/her plan within the allowable timeframe as suggested above.
5. We think of engineering, law, and land surveying as professions.
- 5 a) Define a profession, within the context of the *Land Surveyors Act* in Alberta.
- b) What responsibilities do Alberta Land Surveyors have to their:
- 3 i) profession;
- 3 ii) practice;
- 3 iii) client;
- 3 iv) employer; and
- 3 v) employee/articled pupil?
6. The following questions pertain to a client request for an Alberta Land Surveyor's digital plan product from the land surveyor's place of previous employment/practice:
- 3 a) Explain whether digital plans from a previous employment should, or should not be released and provide the reason for this decision.
- 3 b) Discuss the land surveyor's, the client's, and the prior employer's ownership rights in respect to the digital plan product.
- 4 7. Define the following acronyms (one mark each):
- LTO
  - MSLR
  - SRD
  - ASSMT

**Mark**

8. Every time surveyors dig to find buried evidence or to place an Iron Post in the ground, they need to consider the potential impact of their Ground Disturbance.

- 1 a) In Alberta, what legislation discusses Ground Disturbance?  
4 b) What are some of the approaches that should be used in the field to avoid potential hazards as well as ensuring a safe work environment while working near potential buried facilities?

6 9. Land Surveyor A is approached by another Land Surveyor B who indicates that some obvious errors and omissions were evident in Surveyor A's registered survey plan. Surveyor A chooses not to take action as his plan is registered and he has been paid for his work and furthermore, the client is pleased with the work done. What section(s) of the ALSA Code of Ethics, if any, is Surveyor A contravening in not taking any action?

10. At the 2005 Annual General Meeting of the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association, the "Boundary Resolution Process" was discussed. The Boundary Resolution Process document describes two main components to the process, PART 1 and PART 2. The following questions deal with this "Boundary Resolution Process".

3 a) Describe the circumstances under which the Boundary Resolution Process may be initiated.

2 b) What is the first step in the process referred to as PART 1 ?

5 c) Under what circumstances is PART 2 initiated and briefly describe what the PART 2 process involves?

5 d) Why is this process necessary when Section 9 of the Surveys Act deals with boundary uncertainties?

7 11. List the 7 categories of membership under the General Bylaws of the ALSA.

7 12. One of the articles of the ALSA Code of Ethics is "Professional Judgement: An Alberta Land Surveyor has a duty to exercise unbiased independent professional judgement on behalf of his client, and shall represent his client competently".

Describe the principles of this article.

**100 Total**