The Driving Force

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**ON THE COVER**

The Association’s new trade show booth. See page 10.

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Deadline dates for submission of material to ensure printing are as follows: February 15th, June 1st, September 1st, and December 1st. Opinions expressed by the editor or individual writers are not necessarily endorsed by the Council of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association. Original articles may be reprinted with due credit given to the source and with permission of individual writers or where no writer is indicated, with the permission of the Editor. ALS News is published by the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association for circulation to the Association Membership. Address all correspondence to:

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CANADA POST PUBLICATION #1473905
Ensight
(repeat)

requested this page
Since our last ALS News, pretty steady. Council has met twice because post sales are remaining going gangbusters. You must be sure everyone in the oil patch is aware, the snow is not covering the grass.

Education continues to be a hot topic at Council. To bring everyone up to date with our current discussions and activities, I provide the following information:

- The previously discussed block week course as proposed by the University Geomatics Department was not approved by the Registrar of the University. So we will not be requiring presenters in early January 2001.
- At the strong urging and suggestions of the Geomatic Engineering Liaison Committee (GELC), research was carried out to determine if the content of the proposed block week course could be added to the survey camp at Kananaskis. We seem to have the full support of the Faculty. This would not be an additional course but would become part of the required survey camp.
- Another opinion, which recently has come to light, is the possibility of a full transfer program from NAIT to the University of Lethbridge to a Bachelor of Science Degree in Geography. This is a new option which will have to be researched fully. We are currently commencing this research and will come back with further information when it is available.
- In response to various questions Council has in regards to our current scholarship program, an ad-hoc committee has been created. Its task will be to gather some further information and bring some recommendations to Council. Should we create more scholarships and where should they be directed are some of the questions that need to be answered.
- Another discussion, which has recently arisen in the area of education, concerns the Western Canadian Board of Examiners (WCBE). Originally, the WCBE was intended to be a temporary board designed to be disbanded once a national board of examiners was established. Discussions have commenced in regards to a national board. Some of the questions we need to answer are:
  — Is the schedule of exams today current in the marketplace or do we need a complete revamp and redefinition of the educational path?
  — Should the CCLS (Canadian Council of Land Surveyors) or the ACLS (Association of Canada Land Surveyors) be responsible for a national board of examiners?

The labour mobility issue continues to occupy some time. For those who may not know, the federal government is requiring that by July 2001 we establish a process for surveyors to move from one jurisdiction to another with little or no testing. We are currently actively involved in these discussions and may have to strike an additional ad hoc committee to address the issues being raised. We will require member input on some of the issues being presented.

As many of you may be aware, the RPR Task Force has been busy looking into proposals to create an RPR index. This index would be a database of Real Property Reports completed on properties throughout Alberta. The information would include the legal description, municipal address, date of RPR, surveyor and company who performed the RPR. It would not include the RPR itself. Any surveyor performing an RPR would input his own information into the index if he decided there is value in doing so. Council has approved $20,000 for the development of this index. Already through the Real Estate Transaction Committee, we have received indications that it will be well-received and appreciated by the public. I look forward to the completion of the index and hope that all members will provide information in order that the index will be as complete and as current as possible.

The Metis Land Registry has recently informed us that some of us are not filing our survey plans with their Land Registry. Please ensure that this requirement is completed or you may find that your client’s interests are not being properly protected.

Council is in the process of establishing some guidelines, which could be used to assess a nomination for honourary life membership. The purpose of these guidelines is to assist Council in making the motion to confer this honour on any member. I hope you have contacted the office with your comments in regards to these guidelines.

...continued on page 14
Spectra Precision
(new - Peerless has)
Councillor’s Forum

ASSMT . . . . . . . .
Thirty Years Later

As a member of Council, one of my assignments is to be the liaison member to the Alberta Society of Surveying and Mapping Technologies.

A small group of land surveyors originally formulated the idea for a technician and technologist organization in 1965 and, by 1970, the Alberta Society of Survey Technicians and Technologists was formed. The original objectives of the Society were to:

- promote and increase through education, the knowledge, skill and proficiency of its members in all things relating to the business or occupation of non-professional persons employed directly or indirectly as technical assistants in the field of surveying and related fields;
- study and aid in the solution of problems with its members and their employers or prospective employers respecting standards required for employment;
- foster greater interest in, and a better understanding of, technicians and technologists by industry and the public at large.

The current name of “Alberta Society of Surveying and Mapping Technologies” was adopted in 1980 and a full-time executive manager’s position was created in 1989.

Currently, the Society’s membership stands at 225 and is governed by a council of nine that meet on a monthly basis. New applicants are reviewed by a panel of examiners and the Certification Board with certification based on a combination of education and experience gained in the surveying and mapping industry. New members may be certified in one of four categories: technicians, senior technicians, technologists or senior technologists. The Society also interrelates with our Association by way of liaison members involved with our Professional Development Committee, Standards Committee and Public Relations Committee.

More than once in the past, and most recently at its 1999 AGM, the Society has asked itself if there is justification to carry on and, if so, what direction it should pursue. Also arising is the question of whether or not Alberta Land Surveyors are willing to support the Society and what form that support should take. I believe that the fact that the ASSMT has persevered for thirty years can be attributed to the efforts of a limited group of individuals and, if the Society is to survive and prosper, then more involvement will be required from the membership.

As an alternative to asking what the Society does for you, as a member, why not be pro-active and tell your Council what services you would like to see provided. I am sure they would be interested in hearing your comments.

It has been suggested, in the past, that the face of land surveying in Alberta has changed from what it used to be in that today’s land surveyors, as a result of the establishment of university geomatics programs, are entering the profession without extensive field experience. The recent concerns expressed by the western provinces with respect to the cadastral content at the University of Calgary, combined with the issues of reciprocity among provinces, make these comments more valid today than they were ten years ago. The involvement of well-educated technologists with solid field experience as members of the surveying “team” will become more and more important in the future.

The ASSMT has been working towards raising the involvement level of its members in order to strengthen the Society. Their Council has suggested organizing social events that would draw members together and encourage them to interrelate. After attending one such function this past summer, I would encourage anyone to make the time to attend. Business updates took up a minimum of time with the remainder of the evening dedicated to an excellent guest speaker, meal and socializing.

The 2001 Annual General Meeting of the ASSMT will be held in Jasper in conjunction with our ALSA AGM. If you would like more information on the Society, I would suggest contacting President Farley McKenzie at 780-445-0155 or Executive Manager, Stutt Pottruf at 403-250-1279. The Society will also have a web page at www.assmt.ab.ca.

In closing, I wish to thank the membership for allowing me to represent you on Council and to wish all of you and your families the very best this Christmas.
Land Measurement Systems

*(repeat)*
As I sit down to write this article, there is one of those annoying television commercials which seems to come up again and again. The commercial is for Tim Hortons and it is the one where three office workers are standing around the water cooler bragging about various exploits. The punch line to the commercial is, “I had a really good bowl of stew... and then I ate the bowl.”

My version of the Tim Hortons commercial is, “I went to a really good video conference seminar... and the technology actually worked.” Perhaps that is a little unfair. In recent years, the Association has held two seminars by video conference. In both cases, the success of the seminars was thwarted by capable speakers who were unfamiliar with the technology and an audience that was also unfamiliar with video conferencing.

So it was with this in mind that I walked into the Telus Centre at the University of Alberta for a day-long video conference seminar entitled, The Brave New Workplace. And was I ever impressed and amazed!

Video conferencing can work. Video conferencing can work well for seminars that last longer than two or three hours. And sometimes, yes sometimes, video conferencing can be better than a live seminar. Of course, it did not hurt that the speakers included such formidable people such as former South African President Nelson Mandela, Stephen Covey (The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People) and Ken Blanchard (The One Minute Manager).

There were approximately two hundred of us at the University of Alberta with many more watching the same speakers from sites throughout Canada, the United States and the world. The seminar was based in San Antonio, Texas with speakers located in Washington, D.C. and San Francisco, California. The video conference was billed as the fifth annual world wide lesson in leadership series and as I mentioned before, it was entitled The Brave New Workplace: Strategies to Excel in a World of Change.

Leadership is a subject which has long fascinated me. During Pierre Trudeau’s tenure as Prime Minister, we often tried to define leadership in terms of a person’s charisma. Some people have it and some people don’t. You are either a leader or you are not—and there is nothing you can do about it. That seemed to be the prevailing wisdom at the time but I always felt that there was something more to it than that simplistic assessment. Since that time, I have had the opportunity to read a number of books and studies on the subject of leadership. I have found that, while some of the studies on leadership are quite good, many more treat the subject either too simplistically or try to confuse you with charts and graphs and lists. Some of the best opinions on the subject, in my opinion, have come from the speakers at this video conference seminar.

While each of the presenters was speaking on essentially the same subject, each one talked about leadership from a different perspective. Dr. Stephen Covey spoke about the internal nature of leadership; Martha Rogers spoke about leadership from a marketing perspective; and Don Tapscott spoke about leadership in the digital economy.

I thought I would share with you some personal thoughts about what I learned from each of these speakers. From Stephen Covey, who divided the four roles of leadership into pathfinding (the mind), aligning (the body), empowering (the heart) and modelling (the spirit), I learned that leadership comes from within. It does not matter whether you are the CEO of a private corporation or the Executive Director of an association, leadership comes from whomever is willing to provide it. That is, leadership is not defined by a position but by a choice.

From Ken Blanchard, I learned the difference between leadership and management. Management is the management of things while the role of leadership is to serve the people you are supposed to be leading. Dr. Blanchard related a story to us of a situation when he was a professor at an educational institution. It seems that the powers that be did not like him handing out the answers to the final exam on the first day of class. “You can’t do this,” they apparently cried.

However Dr. Blanchard simply wanted to tell the students that he wanted them to pass and, in order to pass, you need to know what the questions are. The message? You have to relate performance evaluation to the leader vision or goal and everyone must know, in advance, how they are going to be evaluated and what the vision is.

Dr. Martha Rogers promoted her idea of “one to one.” Simply put, one
to one is "treating different customers differently." Although land surveyors are required to produce plans to a certain standard, Dr. Rogers could not help but make one think of how a firm could develop a relationship with a client that enables the firm to treat one client differently from another. For example, Amazon.com recommends different books and videos to different customers depending on past purchases and preferences. How can this be done by the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association and individual survey firms?

Don Tapscott is co-author of Digital Capital, Growing Up Digital and the Digital Economy. From Mr. Tapscott, I learned that the way you and I traditionally think of business will be replaced by the “net generation.” Successful companies will allow other individuals and firms to self-organize. The Internet phenomenon, E-Bay, is such an example. E-Bay does not sell anything but does allow groups of individuals to come together to buy and sell almost anything. Mr. Tabscott called this a B-web. B-webs are distinct networks of suppliers, distributors and customers who conduct business communications and transactions on the Internet to produce value for end customers and for one another.

From Tom Peters, author of The Pursuit of WOW, I learned that it is possible to be phenomenally hyper and excited even though it is 3:30 in the afternoon and you are the last speaker of the day. Dr. Peters’ writings are like his presentation. Frenetic. Consider this quote from him: ‘Ordinary’ is death. That is the premise of manifesto. Standing out in these madcap times is no walk in the park. But the effort to stomp out ordinary is the ultimate adventure! How lucky we are, as I see it, to be alive in these extraordinary times. When leaders with grit, in all walks of life, at all ages, will re-invent the world...in the next ten or so years.

All of this talk about leadership and the Internet and the future scares me a little. OK, a lot. The way business has been done in the last ten years has changed and I think the only reasonable assumption is that it is going to change again—only quicker. So as we move forward, maybe all we can do is to keep trying new things—like having our soup and then eating the bowl.

****

With a little bit of courage and some fortitude, I believe we will enter the brave new (survey) workplace.

When we put together each issue of ALS News, we don’t sit around the boardroom table and talk about a theme for the issue or give anyone any topics about what they should be writing.

I found it very interesting, therefore, when I read so many articles that touched upon the same theme. The President wrote about educational initiatives and free trade amongst land surveyors, while the Vice President reiterated the theme of survey education and what our options are. The Director of Practice Review did not discuss education or the free movement of land surveyors from one jurisdiction to another, but he did make a strong argument that there could be a severe shortage of Alberta Land Surveyors by 2020.

And then I read Don Dawson’s biography of Jack Holloway. When Jack Holloway was Secretary Treasurer of the Association, there were the same concerns. “At the 1948 Annual Meeting, the Secretary Treasurer reported that although the number of young men who were interested in becoming land surveyors was high, the number actually attempting to become qualified remained small. This indicated the existence of certain obstacles and the difficulty which few candidates were able to overcome.” What followed was a number of years of unprecedented membership growth and twenty-four people receiving their commission as an Alberta Land Surveyors in 1952.

As I read Don Dawson’s article, I see a picture of myself and Sharon Wood and I am reminded of the incredible challenges and hardships that she went through. Anyone who was at the J.H. Holloway Scholarship Foundation 25th Anniversary Dinner will know what I mean.

Finally, I look back at my own article for this issue of ALS News. As the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association comes to grips with the required survey education for new members and the appropriate standards for surveyors commissioned in another jurisdiction coming to Alberta, this is certainly a time for the Association to assume the leadership role. Things are changing. Things will continue to change. With a little bit of courage and some fortitude, I believe we will enter the brave new (survey) workplace.

New ALSA Trade Show Booth

In the last issue of ALS News, Public Relations Committee Chairman, Ross Woolgar, urged the membership to participate in different trade shows and events.

The ALSA has a new trade show booth. The front cover of this issue of ALS News is the graphic used for the booth. The image is designed to portray the Association as a high-tech professional organization.

If you used the Association’s old trade show booth, you will find this one a breeze to set up and take down. If you would like to borrow the Association’s booth or the smaller pop-up display, contact Dawn Phelan at the Association office at 1-800-665-2572.
LPP

(repeat)

requested this page
International Federation of Surveyors (FIG)

I am writing you in my capacity as the current Canadian Delegate and former Chair of Commission I—Professional Practice, of the International Federation of Surveyors.

First, I am pleased to provide you with a copy of the Statement of Ethical Principles and Model Code of Professional Conduct which was adopted by FIG in 1998. This code was adopted after extensive research and review of several other existing codes including several Canadian codes of ethics.

Second, I want to advise you of the SSI Congress of the International Federation of Surveyors which is scheduled to take place in Washington, DC from April 21-26, 2002 under the chairmanship of President Robert Foster. Please visit the FIG website at www.fig.net for further details on the Congress and FIG in general.

Third, on behalf of John Parker, Chair of Commission I, we invite you to consider submitting a paper to the FIG Congress in Washington. Naturally, our primary interest is in the area of professional practice but we would invite papers from all fields.

The closing date for abstracts (250 words) is August 21, 2001 and the deadline for final papers is November 15, 2001. Abstracts can be submitted directly to the FIG office. We recommend that they be submitted by e-mail to Markku Villika, Executive Director at markku.villika@fig.net prior to August 21st.

Lastly, wearing my hat as Chair of the Canadian National Committee to FIG, I would be interested to know of anyone who might be interested in serving as a Canadian delegate to one of the nine FIG commissions. In the near future, we will be looking to fill a number of vacancies on the roster of Canadian delegates and we are always interested in learning the names of persons who are willing to represent the Canadian surveying profession in international endeavors.

If you have any questions or comments regarding FIG or Congress 2002, please feel free to contact me.

G.K. ALLRED, ALS
ghallred@telusplanet.net

A.D. (Denis) Hosford Scholarship Awarded to David Elliott

The A.D. (Denis) Hosford Scholarship in the amount of $2,500 was awarded to David Elliott.

The scholarship is offered annually to a student entering fourth year in the Geomatics Engineering program at the University of Calgary who has demonstrated a strong interest and ability in the area of photogrammetry or GIS. The award is based on academic standing in related courses provided a minimum grade point average of 3.20 has been attained in the previous academic year.

Donors to the scholarship are friends and colleagues in memory of Denis Hosford. They include:
- Foto Flight Surveys Ltd.
- GISmo Solutions Ltd.
- Land Data Technologies Inc.
- UMA Geomatics
- LH Systems, LLC
- Global Remote Sensing Ltd.
- HIW Surveys Ltd.
- Usher Canada Ltd.
- Maltais Associates Surveyors Ltd.
- North West Geomatics Canada Inc.
- Jack M. Byrne Consulting Ltd.
- Kodak Canada Inc.
- Universal Surveys Inc.
- The Cadastral Group Inc.
- All West Surveys Ltd.
- Challenger Surveys & Services Ltd.
- Schlencker Mapping Pty Ltd.
- Arthur E. Peterson

J.F. WELTER, ALS (RET.)

Congratulations

Dear Mr. Pals:

I would like to extend my personal congratulations to you for the part you and the Association played in the Land Titles’ Spatial Information System receiving the prestigious Canadian Information Productivity Awards. Congratulations, as well, on your part in SPIN receiving the gold medal “Government in Technology” award in the innovative service delivery category.

These are outstanding contributions to Alberta Government Services. I am very proud of the achievements with SPIN and very proud to be associated with a group of people who have demonstrated such a high degree of commitment to making innovation part of their everyday work.

Congratulations and thank you for a job well done.

PATRICIA L. NELSON
MINISTER OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES
Thank You From ALSA Bursary Recipient

I’m writing you this letter to thank the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association for the $2,500 bursary that I recently received.

When I initially began my engineering degree, I, like many other first year students, was quite uncertain about what type of engineering I wished to pursue. However, my love of the outdoors led me to consider a career in surveying. Wishing to gain some practical experience and knowledge prior to graduation, I obtained a job as a survey assistant with Midwest Surveys Inc. It was to be an evaluation period for both Midwest Surveys and myself. I had a wonderful experience that first summer, so I decided to stick with my decision to pursue surveying. Two years later, I am six and a half months from graduating with a Geomatics Engineering degree, and at the start of an exciting career as an Alberta Land Surveyor.

As you are well aware, a post secondary education is a significant but necessary financial investment these days. Students meet this financial commitment in a variety of ways, one of which is through scholarships and bursaries such as the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association Bursary. As a student who depends rather heavily on student loans, I am always very grateful when chosen as the recipient of such awards. I give you my sincerest thanks, and hope that the Association continues to support students in similar circumstances as myself.

JARL NOME

Old Transits for Schools

I received your packet about Geomatics yesterday. It was very timely as I just finished covering the trigonometry unit in the new Applied Math 10 program. I was able to use your poster to talk to students about the relevance of learning trigonometry.

I have a couple of requests for you.

1. The new Applied Math curriculum tries to link the working world and school. When I covered trigonometry, I phoned a couple of survey companies to try to get someone to come in to talk about transits. Unfortunately, they felt they were too busy to come in. I wondered if you would be able to help schools arrange for industry people to come in to speak to students. If you can, I could put you in contact with all of the math teachers in the Edmonton region.

2. I also wonder if your organization would be able to provide some old transits for schools. I realize the industry standard is the new laser GPS systems, but it is useful for us to teach students how to start with the basics. I imagine that there are a pile of old transits lying around in warehouses. I think it would be excellent public relations work and great for the students if we could develop some cooperation between industry and school.

I look forward to your response.

WES MERTA, CAREER COUNSELLOR/MATH TEACHER, STRATHCONA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

(If you have any instruments that could be donated to schools, please contact the ALSA)

Easement Brochure

Recently we had the opportunity to request and review copies of this brochure for our use. We concluded that this brochure will assist our staff greatly and appreciate the effort that has produced such a comprehensive and informative tool.

We would like to extend our thanks and appreciation for the copies you have provided us. We would like to take this opportunity to discuss a possible modest corporate donation towards one of your future functions. Please contact me if I can assist.

L.D. BLAIR, MARKETING REPRESENTATIVE EDMONTON BUSINESS UNIT, ATCO GAS

SPIN Project Wins Gold Medal

The Surveys Re-engineering/SPIN project won a gold medal for innovative service delivery in the provinces from the Technology in Government Conference in October, and will be receiving an Award of Distinction from the Canadian Information Processing Awards organization in November.

In recognition of the success of this project, and the contributions of our partners to its success, Government Services is hosting a luncheon for those who contributed to the success of this project.

The support of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association for this initiative was very important.

RAE A. RUNGE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ALBERTA REGISTRIES

Who Can Help?

I have a book on “The Registry of Land Property” in Italy in the year 1742. In the book, they mention land surface measurements—areas. I would like to be able to convert them into modern areas—as in square feet. They are:

- 1 tomolo = 2 mezzetti
- 1 mezzetto = 2 coppe
- 1 coppa = 6 misure

Can you help me with the conversion or suggest a place where I can get the information? I will appreciate any help you can give me.

ROBERT SANTONE
OVERLOOK11@RCN.COM

Subdivisions

It has been standard practice when creating single parcel subdivisions from quarter sections to label the new parcel as either a lot or block depending on its size, but rarely both.

This practice of creating subdivisions with out complete identifiers is now causing confusion with electronic data bases that are in wide use today. It would probably be advisable that all subdivisions in the future include lot, block and plan numbers for all parcels created, regardless of their size.

PETER A. WALKER, ALS – STANDARDS COMMITTEE
Corrections and Changes to the Register

A.C.S. Geomatics Corp. is now at 15002 - 76 Avenue T5R 2Z8; Tel: (780) 487-1263; Fax: (780) 487-1989.

Canadian Engineering & Surveys Inc. new e-mail address: ccessis@telusplanet.net; new website: www.ces-canada.com.

Capital City Geomatics Ltd. is a new corporation under the direct supervision and control of Bill Mintz, ALS. They are located at 10042 - 80 Avenue, Edmonton T6E 1T5; Tel: (780) 439-0770; Fax: (780) 439-6776.

Challenger Surveys & Services Ltd. has taken over the practice of Don Molesky, ALS and opened a branch office under the direct supervision of Vic Wolchansky, ALS in Sundre effective October 6, 2000. Address: PO Box 4, Site 9, RR1 T1P 1J6; Tel: (403) 9638-2812; Fax: (403) 638-2812. E-mail addresses remain the same as published in the ALSA Register.

Cridland and Associate Ltd.: Effective December 1, 2000, the e-mail addresses will be as follows: Fort McMurray: fortmcmurray@cridland.ab.ca Peace River: peaceriver@cridland.ab.ca Calgary: calgary@cridland.ab.ca Personal Addresses: jabbey@cridland.ab.ca lcriddland@cridland.ab.ca bbleay@cridland.ab.ca Lorraine Hortness, ALS is now employed with Caltech Surveys Ltd.

Peter Lapainis, ALS is now practicing as a sole proprietor effective September 11, 2000. His address is: 39 Thornbird Way, Airdrie, AB T4A 2C3; Tel: (403) 948-7132.

Maidment Surveys Ltd. has relocated to 4703 Bowness Road NW, Suite 13, T3B 0B5 in Calgary. Phone and fax numbers remain the same.

Midwest Surveys Inc. in Medicine Hat has moved to 1825 Bomford Crescent SW T1A 5E8. Phone and fax numbers remain the same.

Midwest Surveys Inc. in Lloydminster has a new street address: 5204 - 63 Street, Suite 2 T9V 2E6. The mailing address, phone and fax numbers remain the same.

Orion Geomatics Ltd. ceased operations as of October 31, 2000.

Brian Ross, ALS is now employed with Caltech Surveys Ltd.

Poir Strozyk, articled student, has a new e-mail address: pioeis@telusplanet.net.

D. Rae Sutherland new e-mail: raesutherland@ces-canada.com.

Tronnes Surveys (1976) Ltd.: correction to e-mail address: general.delivery@tronnesssurveys.com.

New Associate Member

Conrad Swenson (AS027) of Unity, Saskatchewan became an ALSA Associate Member on September 28, 2000.

Annual Interviews

The Registration Committee has set the following dates for the annual/transfer student/principal interviews:

**Calgary:** January 23 and 24, 2001; March 13 and 14, 2001

**Edmonton:** January 24, 2001 and March 13, 2001

Please note that the original notice mailed to articled students and principals indicated that there would be two days of interviews in Edmonton for January and March. This has changed due to the fact that there are only seventeen students in the northern area of the province that require interviews while there are more than twice that many in the southern area of the province.

Those of you who have received the information will notice that the Registration Committee requires that the Affidavit of Service for the year 2000 be submitted to the ALSA office before the interview date—that is, at least one week before January 23rd so that the information can be circulated to the Committee before the interviews. All other affidavits must be submitted by January 31, 2001.

The Committee is also asking articled students and principals to complete a new Annual of Transfer Student/principal Interview form this year which should be submitted with the Affidavit of Service. This form has been developed by the Registration Committee in order to streamline discussion at the the interview.

Included in the mailout was the Application for Professional Examinations. The exams will be held on April 2 and 3, 2001. The deadline date for submission of the application is March 15, 2001.

President’s Message

Judy and I attended the Manitoba Conference in September and the Nova Scotia Conference in October. The information exchange at these meetings is extremely valuable, as we are able to see how other areas of the country are dealing with the same problems that we are addressing in Alberta. The president’s forum, held in conjunction with each convention, is the place where each association is given the opportunity to update everyone on the activities taking place in its area. The value of this information may or may not be immediate. I have learned many things and have been able to apply some of their methods to activities within our own Association.
New Members

#671 WILSON, Brent M.

Brent Wilson was born in Woodstock, New Brunswick in 1968. He attended Woodstock High School, graduated in 1986, and went on to receive a B.Sc. in Surveying from the University of New Brunswick in 1992.

Alberta Land Surveyors Roger Leeman and Brian Wetter served as Brent’s principals during his term of articles. Submission of Digital Survey Plans for Registration in the Province of Alberta was the topic of the technical report submitted as part of the qualifying examination. Commission as an Alberta Land Surveyor was received on October 6, 2000.

Brent is also a member of APEGGA.

Surveying experience includes highway and dam deformation in New Brunswick; municipal, oilfield (surveyed and unsurveyed territory), geodetic control, GPS assisted mapping, and various deformation projects throughout Alberta. Brent is currently employed with Walker, Newby Surveys Inc. of Calgary.

Playing and watching sports is Brent’s favourite leisure activity. Brent and Jana Wilson and son Samuel reside in Calgary.

#672 WESTLUND, Scott W.

Scott Westlund was born in Thunder Bay, Ontario in 1973. He attended J.G. Diefenbaker High School in Calgary, graduated in 1991 and went on to receive a B.Sc. in Geomatics Engineering from the University of Calgary in 1996.

John VanBerkel, ALS served as Scott’s principal during his term of articles. The topic of the report submitted as part of the qualifying examination was Field Notes. Commission as an Alberta Land Surveyor was received on October 20, 2000.

Scott is also a professional engineer and serves on the APEGGA Student Liaison Committee and the ALSA Public Relations Committee.

Scott’s main area of expertise is in land development and he is currently employed with the Calgary office of Stantec Geomatics.

Leisure activities include hiking, skiing, curling and reading. Scott and Stephanie Westlund reside in Calgary.

You don’t have to golf . . . .

to enjoy wearing one of the ALSA’s new golf shirts. They are 100% cotton, ALSA logo and name on the sleeve, and come in a variety of sizes.

Only $40 plus GST.

Contact the ALSA office to get yours today!!!

Regional Meeting Dates

Edmonton
January 30, 2001

Calgary
February 1, 2001

Net Notes

Here are some more websites from the Association’s Professional Development Resource Centre. You can view the Resource Centre at www.alsa.ab.ca/member/resource_centre.htm. This time, the websites come from the business section.

All-Biz
www.all-biz.com/

All Business
www.allbusiness.com/

Business Management & Skills Training
www.ckga.com/harvard.html

CanadaOne: Canada’s small business resource
www.canadaone.com/

Just Business:
News and Events for Alberta’s Entrepreneurs and Small Business Community
www.justbus.com/

Lessons in Leadership
www.lessonsinleadership.com/

People Success
www.peoplesuccess.com/

Small Business Knowledge Base
www.bizmove.com/

You don’t have to golf . . . .

to enjoy wearing one of the ALSA’s new golf shirts. They are 100% cotton, ALSA logo and name on the sleeve, and come in a variety of sizes.

Only $40 plus GST.

Contact the ALSA office to get yours today!!!
CELL-TEL
(new)
Regular readers of the local morning newspaper will come across articles about land surveyors and land surveying from time to time. Sometimes the article is a result of a press release or a letter to the editor that the Association has circulated. Other times, a newspaper has printed an article on a subject of interest to land surveyors.

We are fortunate to have had so many articles published about land surveying. On balance, I believe that the media has adequately reflected land surveying in Alberta today—as this small sample of articles demonstrates. If you come across an article in a newspaper or magazine pertaining to land surveying or land survey issues, please let the Association know about it.

The following articles were reprinted with permission from the Edmonton Journal

**Surveyors were needed to map monster sandwich**

The world’s longest sandwich could finally capture fame in the *Guinness Book of Records*.

The sandwich, baked by a team at the University of Waterloo, used up 259 kg of dough, 119.25 kg of sausage, 22.5 kg of sauerkraut and 90 L of mustard.

“A team of land surveyors used a laser range finder to map and measure the monster at 502 feet, 6 1/2 inches,” says Mark Murdoch, director of food service at the university.

He says the baking team started mixing dough at 4 a.m. and the dough went into the oven at 4:30 a.m. that day.

Murdoch said the survey crew and judges arrived at 2 p.m. and completed the required measurements and observations. By 3:30 p.m. “the crowd began to devour the sandwich. An hour later the snack was history and work began on dismantling the custom-built oven.”

Nor Murdoch’s staff are compiling the required documentation for Guinness.

**Survey can avoid problems later**

The September 6 article, “Drawing the (property) line,” addresses a common problem throughout Alberta.

Often homeowners build fences, decks, garages, and other structures without really knowing where their property boundaries are.

Many of these ventures go undetected for years until they are unearthed by either a municipality or by an Alberta Land Surveyor producing a Real Property Report.

Then the fun starts. Before a property title can be mortgaged, the bank or lender wants to know that the property and improvements comply with all municipal bylaws. If the property does not, the owner has two options—often both expensive. The property can be brought into conformity by removal or relocation of the offending structure. Moving a garage or even a fence can be costly and can certainly delay or even stop a sale from going through.

The proposed bylaw in the City of Edmonton would impose fines that can reach $10,000 for encroachment onto river valley lands. That may mean property owners will not only be faced with fines but also with the requirements to remove the offending structures.

By having property boundaries identified before developments are undertaken, a landowner can save a lot of grief and possibly avoid this problem. Alberta Land Surveyors are the professionals who identify and mark property boundaries.

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR BY LARRY PALS, PRESIDENT, ALBERTA LAND SURVEYORS’ ASSOCIATION**

The following articles were reprinted with permission from the Edmonton Journal

**Surveyors were needed to map monster sandwich**

Surveyors were needed to map monster sandwich

Survey can avoid problems later

Alberta rewarded for fine Spin...

Surveyors in field can download data from system

Consider this frustrating scenario:

A surveyor in some remote location discovers he doesn’t have enough data to do his work. So he must leave the field, travel to a registry centre, file a request and lose a day or two of precious time waiting for a hard copy of his information to arrive.

Thanks to the Alberta government’s award-winning Spatial Plan Index (Spin) System, the scenario has turned into something like this:

Surveyors in field can download data from system

Consider this frustrating scenario:

A surveyor in some remote location discovers he doesn’t have enough data to do his work. So he quickly grabs his cellphone and his laptop computer, searches for and downloads the appropriate data off the Internet and gets right back to it.

Bill Elliott, technical services administrator with Registries, a division of Alberta Government Services, began to develop the database in 1997.

“The core technology allows searching in a number of ways, including visually…and the same easy-to-use search capability can be used for most kinds of land-related data,” says Elliott, of the system that has done away with paper forms, putting digitized plans into an encrypted environment where they can be registered, archived on a server and distributed via the Web. Clients can
also request prints, CDs or diskettes for delivery, and they can purchase Spin information either by establishing an account or via e-commerce.

After a slow rollout, volumes have doubled since September 1999 as users have embraced the new, more flexible system.

“We’ve seen significant changes as a result of being able to provide data 24 hours a day, seven days a week, any place in the world,” says Elliott, who received a gold medal “Government in Technology” award in Hull, Quebec, last month on behalf of Government Services, winning in the innovative service delivery category.

On Monday, he was in Toronto to receive the prestigious Canadian Information Productivity Award that recognized Spin’s innovation and practical application.

The system can be used to identify particular lots to assist in ordering land titles. Another big payoff is the elimination of the need for municipalities, survey firms and other stakeholders such as utility companies to maintain extensive hard-copy libraries of plans, says Elliott.

Spin has been so successful that moves are now under way to deliver other government land-related data via the Internet, including soils, cemetery location “and any number of other land-related information data sets the government holds.”

MAIRI MACLEAN, JOURNAL BUSINESS WRITER

The following article was reprinted with permission from the Edmonton Sun

Insurance doesn’t replace common sense

Problems begin from you not knowing anything about property before you buy it

Buying and selling a home has become a complicated process.

To expedite the process, some people consider completing the transaction using title insurance. Is title insurance right for you?

First of all, what is title insurance?

It is policy that you can buy that supposedly covers your losses if there is something wrong with the property.

Two styles

As I understand, the insurance comes in two styles: one is a lender’s policy, the other is a homeowner’s policy.

With the lender policy, you buy insurance for your mortgage lender against you defaulting on the mortgage or there being something that affects their investment on the property. You bear the costs of any changes unless you buy the homeowner’s policy, which is supposed to cover you.

But the problem begins from you not knowing anything about the property before you buy it. Also, remember that as the property owner, you are the one responsible in the eyes of the City for any problems that may be inadvertently buying. If action is taken, it is your name, not the insurance company, which will be on the letters.

Let’s say that the encroachment is quite large, and the agreement will cost $5,000. If your title insurance policy is still valid, you make a claim to pay for the costs.

The insurance company investigates and finds out that it will only cost $800 to pay to move the fence off City property and avoid the $5,000 cost of the encroachment. So all you get is $800, leaving you with the balance to pay for out of your own pocket to get the agreement.

Wouldn’t it have been better to find out about this before you bought the property?

I personally would never buy a property without seeing a real property report first. The real property report will show me how big the property is, where the property lines are and where the buildings are in relation to the property lines.

Site plan

It is also very useful should I decide to make any improvements on the property since I can use it as the site plan for my drawings.

Is title insurance right for you?

Only you can decide, since it is your money that you are spending to buy the property.

MAIRI MACLEAN, JOURNAL BUSINESS WRITER

Surveyors plot landowners’ rights

The Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association recently announced the publication of a brochure that deals with an issue affecting almost every landowner in Alberta. Understanding Easements and Rights-of-Way deals with utility routes, gas or oil pipelines and other development restrictions that affect how landowners use their property. Copies of the brochure are available free of charge from the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association at 1-800-665-2572.
Labour Mobility...
what it means to the ALSA

On July 18, 1994, Canada’s Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT) was signed by the premiers and the Prime Minister. The goal of the Agreement on Internal Trade is to have people, goods, services and investments moving freely across the country. The AIT came into effect on July 1, 1995 and the Labour Mobility Obligations are to be met no later than July 1, 2001. The purpose of the Labour Mobility Chapter is to enable any worker qualified for an occupation in a jurisdiction to be granted access to employment opportunities in that occupation in another Canadian jurisdiction. The Labour Mobility Chapter applies to measures adopted or maintained by an organization, like the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association, relating to occupational standards, licencing, certification, registration and residency requirements of workers, which create barriers to labour mobility.

The Canadian Council of Land Surveyors has been playing a lead role to coordinate discussions amongst the self-governing survey associations in Canada that would lead to a mutual recognition agreement. Ron Hall has been the Association’s representative at these meetings.

At these meetings which have been held in Ottawa, the representatives have had to deal with such topics as:
- scope of practice;
- competencies (knowledge, skills and abilities);
- education;
- examinations;
- experience;
- period of articling;
- internship;
- practice hours;
- conduct and ethics;
- temporary licencing;
- competency assurance and practice audits; and
- local knowledge.

Many members will be uncomfortable with some of the concepts discussed—such as no articling time if you are a member in good standing in another professional Canadian survey association. However, the point of these discussions is to challenge ourselves to determine in which areas we really need to test a candidate.

At this time, we do not know what will be in a mutual recognition agreement. However, we expect that it will be fully discussed at our upcoming Annual General Meeting and the membership is encouraged to participate in the debate.

BRIAN E. MUNDAY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Leica
(new)
Survey Education - What are the Options?

by G.K. Allred, ALS

It seems that no matter how much attention the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association pays to the subject of survey education, it is never enough. Certainly in the past ten months, the subject of survey education has taken up more Council time than any other single item.

In March, we were faced with a restructuring of the University of Calgary advisory process which, in my opinion, left us largely on the outside looking in. It is also apparent that we are likely to face some academic changes that give rise to concern as to whether the University of Calgary Geomatics Engineering department will continue to offer an adequate program in cadastral studies. This leads to the possibility that English Canada may be left with only a single program that is accredited for entrance into the profession.

These changes, both actual and perceived, have led Council to enter into dialogue with the University of Calgary, and force us to closely examine all of our educational options. The Chair of the Department of Geomatics Engineering has freely acknowledged that the survey profession should be looking at other options in the area of survey education.

What options are available?

First, there is the fallback position of writing the WCBExaminations. Due to the number of examinations and the difficulty of the subject matter, this is clearly a last resort option available only to the most dedicated students. It also does not give the candidate or the profession the rewards of a broad-based college education.

Second, there is the option of an advanced degree program through NAIT or SAIT. Both institutions have pursued the concept of the advanced degree, with SAIT actively working on an Advanced Degree program in Geographic Information Systems as an adjunct to a Diploma in Surveying.

A third option is to look at a transfer program between the technical schools and other university programs. The University of New Brunswick currently offers credit for several courses taken by NAIT and SAIT graduates transferring to the UNB Geomatics Engineering program. With a cooperative agreement between the institutions, the credit available could likely be broadened and optimized. Distance is, of course, a deterrent to going all the way across the country to obtain a degree.

Closer to home, NAIT is looking at entering into an articulation agreement with the University of Lethbridge’s Faculty of Geography. Under this agreement, survey graduates from NAIT could obtain two years credit, towards a degree in Geography with a specialization in Geographic Information Systems. Perhaps another possibility at the University of Lethbridge could be to offer a Specialization in Survey Science with NAIT offering the specific surveying subjects and the University offering the geography and science options. Such a degree program could be similar to the program formerly offered by the University of Alberta in the Department of Geography.

These are all potential options that Council is looking at. Together, with these options, we are examining our scholarship programs to see if they need to be more focussed to provide assistance to students seeking out other options for a survey career.

Council has also determined that we, as Alberta Land Surveyors, both individually and collectively must spend more time to assist the University of Calgary in building toward a Centre of Excellence in Cadastral Studies. We must work with students and faculty to show them that a career in Cadastral Surveying is just as prestigious and rewarding as working in other hi-tech industries. We must convince them that the breadth offered by a career as an Alberta Land Surveyor is an exciting challenge working with the public and other conveyancing professionals in complex land tenure and development matters.

Specifically it is Council’s intention to get involved with the proposed Block Week course on cadastral and professional matters and to assist the University of Calgary with the annual Kananaskis Survey Camp. We will continue to contribute guest lecturers to specific survey courses and to promote the surveying profession through the annual Beer and Bun event.

Be prepared to offer a hand when either the University of Calgary or our Executive Director comes calling for your expertise.

The Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association has a challenge ahead of us. We need to explore and enhance all options available to attract students into the surveying profession of the future.
The J.H. Holloway Scholarship Foundation celebrated its 25th year on October 20, 2000 at the Red and White Club in Calgary. Participants in the event included representatives from the U of C, NAIT and SAIT as well as Jack’s daughter Carolyn Holloway, grandchildren Michelle Miller and Bryan Miller and his wife Kimberly. The guest speaker was Sharon Wood, the first North American woman to climb Mount Everest. Also on hand were many people who knew Jack Holloway personally as well as present Directors of the Foundation: President Alex Hittel, Vice President Jerry Rasmuson, Secretary Treasurer Brian Munday, Dick Bassil, John Deyholos and Jack Hagen and past Directors Ken Allred and Bob Baker.

The following opening address was delivered by D.K.F. (Don) Dawson, ALS and is re-printed here for your reading enjoyment. Mr. Dawson was also the recipient of the ALSA 50 year pin for membership in the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association since October 24, 1950.

Mr. President, distinguished guests, fellow land surveyors, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It hadn’t occurred to me that my 50th anniversary as a registered Alberta Land Surveyor was approaching. A sobering thought!

I have been granted the privilege of relating some highlights in Jack Holloway’s life. I don’t know why I have been so rewarded other than the fact that I have managed to hang on a bit longer than many people. In fact, I was born nine years after Jack Holloway, who first looked into his mother’s eyes in 1909 in a small town called Chippingsodbury, not far from Bristol, England.

I had better get right to the task, as Dick Bassil and Brian Munday have allotted me fifteen minutes to say my piece. My dear wife, who has kept me pointed in the right direction for fifty-five years, warned me about my predilection for wandering from the subject. She fears that fifteen minutes is far too long. However, rest assured, like you, I am anxious to hear from Sharon Wood.

I’m grateful to several people for information about Jack Holloway—

- his daughter Carolyn who is present with us tonight;
- Ted Rippon;
- Charlie Weir;
- the reflection of Bob Baker as recounted in the March edition of ALS News; and
- the notes of the late Jack Hill.

Ted Rippon is undergoing eye surgery currently and cannot be here to enjoy this evening. Jack Hill was a soul mate to Jack Holloway—a fellow Englishman and something of an intellectual.

My story begins back in 1950. Peter Timoschuck, Ted Rippon and I were sent to Alberta from Ottawa with the task of subdividing the Hobbema Indian Reserves into quarter sections. When the job was done, Jack Holloway, by then the Director of Surveys for Alberta, noticed our work. He persuaded the three of us to seek our fortunes here in Alberta. I don’t know about Pete and Ted, but at the time I had an ongoing quarrel with the Surveyor General’s office—so the three of us
defected from federal service and managed to qualify as Alberta Land Surveyors. None of us, I would judge, have ever regretted that decision.

In his biographical sketch, Jack Hill tells us that Jack Holloway became a civil engineer with a M.Sc. degree from the University of Bristol. He arrived in Alberta in 1930, one year after the great stock market crash, when one was fortunate to have secured a paying job of any kind. Indeed, I find it comforting somehow that Jack and I both started our survey careers attached to the back end of a steel tape. We both went on to complete our DLS qualifications which, back then, was almost the required basic training for prairie surveyors.

Jack and I shared another thing. As a child, my British-born father instilled in me the great respect that British people confer upon their civil service. Jack carried to Canada that same dedication, sense of responsibility and reliability. It would be hard to find a person anywhere more dedicated in his office. I find it humbling to simply relate in some kind of order the progress of his various moves up the ladder.

- In 1930, Jack arrived in Alberta and went to work in highway construction surveys.
- In 1932, he married Joyce Pethram, a Canadian girl, at Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Edmonton. Joyce is resting comfortably in an Edmonton Nursing home and will turn 88 on the 28th of October.
- In 1934, Jack took his DLS commission and a year later he became an Alberta Land Surveyor. This led to his becoming the Surveyor to the Land Titles Office in Edmonton.
- In 1938, Jack was appointed Assistant Director of Surveys and Town Planning and, in 1947, rose to the directorship of both these branches.
- In rapid order, he also took on the chairmanship of the Prairie Provinces Rural Housing Advisory Commission, chairmanship of the Geographic Board of Alberta and pro-tem chairmanship of the Civil Service Commission and subsequent appointment to that job.

If this sounds like a pretty full schedule—well, you ain’t heard nothing yet!

Probably the single most significant job for Jack Holloway was that of chairman of the Civil Service Commission. But amongst his many duties, he also served as:

- Alberta Boundaries Commissioner on the Alberta/British Columbia and the Alberta/North West Territories Boundary Commissions;
- Chair of the Provincial Planning Board; and
- Vice President of the Civil Service Association.

The activity for which I personally remember him best, because I left government service myself in 1955, was that of Secretary Treasurer of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association. To use a common phrase, this was not his “day job.” But in this capacity, he was a one-man band whose conduct of Association affairs became exceptionally comprehensive considering the breadth of his activities in his official life and in his personal and private life.

Jack’s private life, Ted Rippon and Jack Hill have commented, included his love of gardening. Jack Hill pointed to his annual husbandry and display of 5,000 to 7,000 gladioli. As for my gardening, this year I personally managed to get a dozen glads to bloom and the deer ate them all.

He was always doing something and, in the course of events, he acquired five acres on Boag Lake in the Sherwood Park area. Here he chopped down some trees, debarked and chinked them and erected a 12 foot by 12 foot cabin all on his own. When he retired to the Coast in 1965, he promptly built a new house in Sidney for something to do.

It is not easy to summarize Jack Holloway’s professional accomplishments. However, Jack Hill had a nice turn of phrase and I can do no better than to quote him verbatim from some
of his biographical notes on the subject of Jack Holloway’s contributions:

“During Jack’s long productive and all-encompassing stewardship of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association, he was the initiator and driving force behind modernizing the Surveys Act, the Land Surveyors Act, the Planning Act, and had considerable input into revisions to the Land Titles Act and the Expropriation Act.

He was well-known and highly-respected in surveying circles across Canada and wrote at least nine articles for The Canadian Surveyor on various topics including The Discovery of Longitude, Northern Alberta Oil Sands and Their Development and, particularly, The Principles of Evidence which has become a classic in its field and required reading for a proper understanding of The Surveyor and The Law.

Jack had a lucid polished literary style and a well-developed sense of humour. In his younger days, he was a regular contributor to Punch in London England. He wrote a history of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association and composed articles and gave lectures on town planning.”

During the first couple of weeks when I reported to Jack Holloway, I had just driven out from Arnprior Ontario in our first new car—a 1951 Studebaker. I parked my family in the Clock Motel in Jasper Place and then drove to the Legislative Building. Jack arrived a little later on his motorbike—kind of putting us to shame. Jack was not a tall man and seated at my desk, I could see his head moving just above and along a bank of steel files to his office. I was most impressed with Jack’s office. He had his own private little bathroom there and, once or twice, he even let me use it. I personally have never managed to achieve this exalted distinction.

Jack had good help too. When I later had occasion as President of the Association to go and see him in his Commission Office, I would have to get past Mrs. Grace Taylor who protected him from intrusion. She was a wise lady who sat in his outer office that was laden with violets. She would carry on a lively conversation with visitors in such a charming way—all the time fending you off until Jack was good and ready to see you. That way, the stand-by was always enjoyable.

But just what kind of a guy was Jack Holloway? It would certainly be most presumptuous of me to make any categorical assessment of the man, but from all the evidence, it’s not hard to draw a general picture of the way he looked to most of those that knew him at all.

He encouraged surveyors to try out innovative techniques. About the time he retired, the tellurometer was coming into use, but I have often speculated how excited he might have become about satellite receivers. By the end of the Sixties, polar orbit satellite data was being published and receivers were in use in the off-shore for spotting drilling rigs. Jack would have revelled in the possibilities opened up by GPS.

He was well-organized in everything he did. He had to be in order to have accomplished so much. When there was clamour and confusion everywhere, Jack would be quietly making notes and preparing the plans for the next series of events.

Jack liked to be well informed too. He even started to read the Encyclopedia Britannica from cover to cover—never quite made it to the end.

He was very even-tempered and handled his problems quietly. Oddly, for a man so much in public life, he disliked public speaking very much. His daughter Carolyn related to me about the only time he really became agitated. He actually chased her around the garden with a newspaper once. Her crime? She had trampled some of his precious gladioli.

It’s funny how you remember the details of a person. Jack loved other flowers too. When we lived in Bowness in the early 1950s, he gave me a dahlia. I made the mistake of planting it in the gravel bed that I called my garden.

Jack liked driving and took frequent trips with his family to California and elsewhere. He liked Packards especially—didn’t we all—and managed to collect about eight of them. One day, his son-in-law left the key to one...

...Jack Holloway—gentleman, friend, intellectual, tireless worker and dedicated servant of land surveyors and the people of Alberta.

of these Packards in the ignition. The car was stolen and it was then smashed into a light standard. The city billed Jack for the damage.

So now, I suppose you are wondering, did Jack have any faults at all? I think we have to say yes to that one. Sadly, he was a heavy smoker.

He died on April 16, 1975 in Sidney BC—a man we all greatly admired and respected.

It has been my privilege and pleasure to recall for you a few of the aspects of the life and works of Jack Holloway—gentleman, friend, intellectual, tireless worker and dedicated servant of land surveyors and the people of Alberta.
2020 VISION

With the local economy humming along lately, I thought it might be interesting to look at the Association membership now and try to predict how many active members the Association might have in 2020. I used our current annual register of members to compile the numbers. I obtained Alberta census information from Statistics Canada.

As we are now out of the nineties, I used the membership numbers from the last five decades to project forward the next two decades and did not include the members commissioned in 2000 to date (see Figure 1).

The number of practicing members from the last five decades (January 1, 1950 to January 1, 2000) totals 280. This is composed of 278 Active members and 2 Honorary Life Members who are practicing.

By my count, there are currently 35 active members that do not provide land surveying services directly to the public in Alberta. They are either residing or practicing out of province, employed by government, education, or other organizations where land surveying services are not offered directly to the public. By my count, this means that 245 members provided land surveying services to the public in Alberta on January 1, 2000.

In the 1996 census, the population of the Province was 2,696,826 persons. Statistics Canada shows the estimated Alberta population in 1999 as 2,964,689. This would translate into one Alberta Land Surveyor for approximately every 12,100 people.

Let’s project the decade by decade numbers using the average number receiving their commissions in the past two decades to see where the numbers might be in 10 years and in 20 years.

Assuming that, by 2010, there are no members left practicing from the decade of the 50s and sliding the same percentages practicing one

*In this exercise I have assumed that new membership in the next decade will be the average of the last two decades. This should be reasonable as the register shows 66 articled pupils as of May 2000.
decade forward the numbers look like Figure 2.

If there are 261 active members in 2010, and as in 2000, 12.5% (35 out of 280) do not directly provide land survey services to the public, then there would be 228 Alberta Land Surveyors to provide services. This means that, to keep membership numbers constant, we would need 17 more new land surveyors in the coming decade than we have averaged in the past two decades. However, these membership numbers do not take into account a growing provincial population, nor the trend that more people may opt for early retirement today than in the past.

Let us look 20 years down the road (see Figure 3).

To keep the same number of practicing land surveyors that we have today, we will need 44 more new members over the next 20 years than these projections indicate we will have. This translates into 10 or 11 per year. The bad news is we have only averaged 7.5 per year for the past 10 years. The good news is that, in the last five years, we have averaged 10 per year.

Maybe the population of the Province will not continue to grow at the same rate over the next 20 years. Or maybe conventional oil and gas reserves will run out and the resource sector won’t need as many land surveys. But if the need for more land surveyors is to increase at the same rate as the population projections, there will be a severe shortage in 2020. Let us suppose that the population of the Province continues to grow at the present rate. Favorable taxation rates and the “Alberta Advantage” could see this growth continue. This would mean that by 2020 there would be an additional 1,785,753 people in the Province for a population of about 4,482,579. If we can continue to commission 10 or 11 land surveyors per year for the next 20 years, we may maintain 250 land surveyors providing land surveying services to the public. Alberta would then have a land surveyor for approximately every 18,000 people. Of course, technology may make it easier to provide today’s services, but what about tomorrow’s services? I suggest that the Province could support an Alberta Land Surveyor for every 15,000 people. That means there should be about 300 land surveyors providing land surveying services to the public by 2020, or about 50 more than there are today. Instead of 10 or 11 new members per year, we would require 13 or 14 per year for the next 20 years to reach the 300 level. Is there anything that we should be doing today to increase our membership per year? As the projections show, we need to increase our membership and not just maintain historic numbers.
Case Study No. 6: Chains, Feet, Metres

This is the sixth in a series of articles featuring problems commonly encountered in Systematic Practice Review. The purpose of these articles is purely educational and, although the material is taken from an actual practice review, no names or identifying legal descriptions are included. Opinions expressed in this article are those of the author.

The Problem
While all land surveyors are familiar with township plans and 40 chain quarter sections, registered plans—depending when they were registered—can have distances shown in chains, feet or metres. Many older registered plans show distances in chains. While I cannot find any exact date, most subdivision plans registered after the 1940s showed distances in feet. However, many ('tho not all) road plans registered until into the 1960s show linear dimensions in chains. Since metric conversion in 1978, all registered plans now show distances and areas in metric units. Surveyors sometimes confuse measurements in one unit for measurements in another.

The Project
The practitioner conducted a subdivision survey for a country residential parcel of approximately 4.5 hectares adjacent to a road plan that was registered in 1914 and later modified in 1932. The 1914 road survey essentially followed the east/west quarter line through Section 34 with two diversions. There was a northerly diversion near the centre of the section for a creek crossing and another diversion for topographic reasons near the east quarter of Section 34. The 1932 road survey altered the diversion for the creek crossing near the centre of Section 34 but the centre of the section still fell south of the road plan.

The subdivided parcel was within the south half of Section 34, abutting the road plan for access and the east/west quarter line where the road plan diverted north near the centre of the section (see Figure 1). This left a small portion of the north half of Section 34 between the road and the north limit of the subdivision. The surveyor ran the blind line and quartered the section in doing this subdivision survey. The north/south road allowance along the west side of Section 34 had been widened by a road survey, the plan of which was registered in 1952. Some re-establishment of survey evidence was required for monuments shown on all three of the road plans mentioned.

The Plan Examination
Both the 1914 and 1932 road plans show linear dimensions expressed in chains, but the 1952 road plan shows dimensions in feet. The 1914 road survey ran the east/west quarter line and took 0.50 chains each side of the said quarter line except for the two diversions. While the plan does not state that distances are in chains, the scale is shown as 4 chains = 1 inch. The one-half chain distance each side of the quarter line is shown as .50, with the decimal point in front of the five being nearly indistinguishable.

Figure 1

From an examination of the practitioner’s subdivision plan, it was clear that he read the .50 chains as 50 feet on each side of the quarter line — a difference of 17 feet. He re-established the three road posts on that basis and had a misclosure of nearly 17 feet at the first found road post. This revelation raised the question: Was the re-establishment of the three road posts required, as the practitioner was clearly re-establishing monuments 17 feet or so from where they likely were originally placed?

Re-establishing the road limit 17 feet further south of the correct position created a gap between the northerly limit of the subdivision parcel and the correct limit of the road, when they were intended to be...continued on page 29
LPP
(new)
coincident. This gap took away part of the legal access to the parcel. Not only would the incorrect re-establishments have to be resolved but the land in the gap would have to be purchased and added to the subdivided parcel.

The Legislation
Section 41(4) of the Surveys Act says: *All the boundary lines surveyed and established in accordance with subsection(1) shall be defined by the monuments placed for that purpose as shown on the plan of survey registered at the Land Titles Office or filed at the Metis Settlements Land Registry, whether or not the dimensions or areas expressed on the plan are found by re-measurement to be different.*

This means that the monuments placed by the original road survey govern the road limits, and the monuments placed by the subdivision survey define the limits of the parcel. As the SPR plan examination had already revealed, the re-established monuments were in error by about 17 feet.

The Corrected Survey and Plan
The practitioner recognized the error as soon as it was pointed out to him. He undertook a new subdivision and consolidation for the parcel after re-establishing the missing road monuments using the correct dimension from the quarter line. New subdivision approvals and transfer of land were required. The land between the correct location of the road limit and the originally subdivided parcel had to be purchased from the quarter section and consolidated with the original subdivided parcel (see Figure 2).

Needless to say, the correction took longer and cost more than the original survey and, of course, time and expenses were not billable to the original client.

The Message
This situation was created by a blunder in reading an old plan. Other surveyors have likely made the same blunder before but without the same consequences. The misclosure with the original survey should have been a clue that something was wrong. A second person examining the plan might have detected the blunder before the plan was registered. A combination of the 1952 plan with linear dimensions in feet, and difficult to read decimal point in the .50 chain distance came together to make the distance appear to be 50 feet. The ironic part of this case is that the practitioner recognized that all other dimensions on the 1914 plan were in chains. Once the blunder was made, and perhaps because it was such a simple mistake, it was not caught until the SPR plan examination; however it could and should have been caught by the surveyor’s plan examination.

There may be several messages here. Be careful when dealing with chains, feet and metres all in one survey. When something doesn’t close with the original survey, there is likely something wrong with your work. Finally, a good plan examination system should have caught this before the plan was registered. Check everything in your plan examinations and don’t assume anything.
his column is the third in a series written for sharing information with the ALSA membership on recent activities at Spatial Data Warehouse Ltd. and AltaLIS Ltd.

New Data Price & License Alternatives
Since March of this year, new licenses were introduced to allow greater access to AltaLIS Property, Base and Terrain digital base map datasets. More license alternatives mean AltaLIS can offer clients more flexible pricing including the Surveyor’s Project License & credit rebate. To date, nine member companies of the ALSA are taking advantage of our price rebate on property data used for registering plans by digital submission.

Since March, two more new data licenses have been added. This brings the total to six alternatives for user data access.

Six specific-use licenses:
1. Standard End User
2. End-User Subscription
3. Education & Research
4. Surveyor Project
5. Municipal Subscription
6. Publisher

The Subscription License now offers municipalities lower pricing (75% discount) on Property data with updates at $18 per township.

VASP Kit is priced at $10,000 for the first year plus a small annual fee per end-user seat. For smaller coverages, the Publisher license delivers similar benefits at a lower entry price.

More Information
For more information about any of our new data packages or licenses please contact the AltaLIS order desk directly (403-716-3490) or visit our website at www.altalis.com.

Cadastral Mapping Project & Digital Plan Submissions
Plan registrations at Alberta Registrars’ Land Titles Offices have leveled off from the peaks previously recorded; the average number of plans registered monthly is now about 700 (excluding Calgary & Edmonton).

The digital plan submission and integration process is functioning smoothly and efficiently. Approximately 85% of survey plans are being integrated into the AltaLIS databases within 5 days of registration.

The backlog was eliminated in the spring of this year. Although the Property (working cadastral data) dataset is updated with new plans continuously throughout the month, it is available for distribution only once a month. AltaLIS is currently reviewing the updating & distribution process to determine if the Property dataset can be updated for distribution on a weekly or semi-weekly basis in the future.

The property graphic files are currently undergoing a “cleaning” process to make the data more GIS compliant. Overshoots, undershoots, loss of connectivity, and redundant duplicate elements are being corrected. This process should be completed in the first quarter of 2001.

Topographic Data Update Study
Enhancement of Alberta’s topographic data collection represents a potential benefit for AltaLIS clients. A study was commissioned for the SDW-AltaLIS joint venture in December 1999 with the primary objective to:

“Conduct a topographic data study with the goal of generating a high level plan and funding model outlining the feasibility of updating the data.”

The topographic digital datasets are one of the anchor products within AltaLIS’s spatial data product line. Updating the currency & quality of the topographic dataset, re-engineering its update processes, and developing new distribution channels and mechanisms could potentially unleash a higher potential value.

Independent market research was conducted this spring through an extensive client telephone survey followed by a focus group in the summer. The research determined the needs of current and potential users as well as the size of Alberta’s topographic data marketplace. The study investigated various spatial data models and compared the costs of over a dozen methods for updating topographic base feature data. The update method alternatives fell into three categories: primary updating methods using aerial or satellite imagery; secondary type updates through the purchase and integration of third party data; and product line extensions through the resale of existing third party data.

Growth in ortho-imagery use is a continuing trend supporting topographic feature currency. Alberta Environment’s “Base Features” dataset (Figure 2) is one example of using satellite ortho-imagery to produce updated, GIS-ready topographic data.

AltaLIS completed its study in September and presented recommendations to the AltaLIS-SDW joint venture committee on October 18th in Calgary. A second presentation was made in Red Deer during the SDW strategic planning session on November 8th. The study’s recommendations will soon be released to the public and
preliminary results can be found on the project website: www.members.home.net/topostudy.

AltaLIS’s study makes several recommendations on changes needed to support the strategic, technical, operational and economic viability of topographic data in Alberta. Five-year sales forecasts for updated topographic data plus other related product lines, generally fall short of the costs required to create and distribute them. Of the best business cases presented, it will take more than five years to reach a financial break-even point. In general, the relatively small Alberta market size, combined with the price the marketplace will bear for purchasing topographic data, do not yet reflect the short-term costs of its production.

Mapping organizations around the world struggle with the same problem of outdated topographic map data and high update costs. Industry trends show a higher variety of data capture technologies being used and the entry of more private sector ventures into what was once a government domain. Better data, lower pricing and fewer data restrictions are the key expectations by spatial data clients and AltaLIS continues to move in this direction.

SDW Activities
SDW has established a cadastral mapping external advisory group (EAG). A broad base of customers and key stakeholders will be meeting on a regular basis to provide SDW and AltaLIS with important feedback and advice on the cadastral mapping products. The initial committee meeting was held on September 25th and the next meeting was on December 5th in Red Deer. The ALSA is represented on this EAG by Craig McBride of McElhanney Land Surveys (Alta.) Ltd.

SDW hosted a stakeholder roundtable discussion on the future of Alberta mapping data and the role of SDW on October 19th at the Red Deer Lodge. Doug Lunty of The Focus Corporation was there to represent the ALSA. The 27 participants recommended SDW focus on titles mapping, features based GIS ready data, licensing and redistribution issues, and the establishment of technical standards as its top priorities.

The board of directors of SDW has met recently to review the recommendations of the stakeholder roundtable and to strategize on the future. The board clearly established the creation and maintenance of titles mapping data as its top priority. Given the importance of titles mapping to municipalities, SDW is committed to extensive municipal involvement throughout this initiative. Alberta Government financial support for capturing historical titles mapping data will be a key factor in making the project viable.

What Is It?
An award, which recognizes all members of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association, Surveyors Corporations, and Surveyors Partnerships for their contributions to the advancement of geomatics.

Who Is Eligible?
The award is open to all members of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association who, along with their co-workers, have advanced the field of geomatics.

What Do I Have To Have Done?
Contributed to the advancement of geomatics in one of the following areas:
1. Use of technology;
2. New methods or procedures;
3. New software;
4. Innovations and inventions;
5. Anything else unique to the field of geomatics.

How Do I Get Nominated?
Submissions must be made to the Association office by February 2001. Submissions should be summary reports of the project or innovation and the reports be no more than two pages in length.

What Do I Win?
The award will be presented at the Annual General Meeting and the papers will be published in ALS News. A notice of the winner of the award, and the honourable mentions, will be published in the Calgary Herald and the Edmonton Journal.
Following are updates to initiatives underway within the Land Administration Division of Alberta Environment.

1) Land Administration Division Re-organization.
On October 24, 2000, in order to improve delivery of services and programs, the division was re-organized from five branches to three. The main goal of the streamlined organization is to enhance effective use of available resources. The three new branches under the Division Director, Glenn Selland, are as follows:

- Disposition Services Branch
  Val Hoover, Branch Head
  Includes program administration for commercial, sand & gravel, industrial, agriculture, and geophysical dispositions; and land sales and exchanges.

- Land Use Management Branch
  Murray Anderson, Branch Head
  Includes land use research and analysis, special projects, land reclamation and roads, land use and range management.

- Director of Surveys and Technical Services Branch
  Mike Michaud, Branch Head
  Combines the Director of Surveys Branch and Technical Services Branch into one new branch. Includes land surveys, geodetic control, Director of Surveys, land conveyance, disposition plans and mapping, and systems automation.

The Director of Surveys and Technical Services Branch has further been divided into four sections.

- Land Surveys
  Ron Cote, Program Manager

- Geodetic Control
  Geoff Banham, Project Leader

- Technical Services
  Marv Weiss, Program Manager

- ADEPT (Application/Disposition Processing and Tracking)
  Roger Harris, Project Leader

2) Monumentation Certificate form added to the regulations under the Land Titles Act.
Work continues with Alberta Registries.

3) Spatial Index (SPIN) access to survey control data.
Access to survey control data has been available since the end of August 2000. Distribution through the online MASCOT Data Distribution (MADD) system was terminated on November 15, 2000.

4) SPIN access to township plans.

5) Scanning township plan field notes.
A contractor is busy scanning the township survey field notes. Scanning is scheduled for completion by March 31, 2001. Indexing and collecting meta-data on the field notes will take a significant amount of work and SPIN access is not expected until sometime in 2002.

6) Enhanced survey and plan standards for Public Land dispositions.
On October 1, 2000 the enhanced standards for License of Occupation (LOC) access roads were implemented. LOC clients are now required to submit a preliminary plan upon application and an as-built survey plan within 90 days of the road being constructed.

7) Scanned activity plans/township plots.
A client survey was completed and the returns are being reviewed for future direction. Meetings with IHS Energy Group will be scheduled for early December 2000 to develop a project plan.

8) Land Administration Division web site.
Early in December 2000, the web site will be up and running at the following address: www.gov.ab.ca/env/land.html. The new site can be found under the heading Public Land Administration. The site includes general information about dispositions on public land, and provides digital access to forms and policy and procedure documents, including plan standards.

MIKE MICHAUD, ALS

Water Act Fact Sheet
Code of Practice for Pipelines and Telecommunication Lines Crossing a Water Body (effective April 1, 2000)
Code of Practice for Watercourse Crossings (effective May 1, 2000)

What are Codes of Practice (Codes)?
- Codes regulate activities under the Water Act (the Act) that would normally require an approval to be obtained. The Codes set out the standards and conditions to be met to ensure the activity minimizes the disturbance and impact on the environment when undertaking or conducting the activities governed by the Codes.

What projects or developments are covered by Codes?
- The placement, construction, installation, maintenance, replacement, or removal of a pipeline or telecommunication line crossing a water body is regulated under the Code of Practice for Pipelines and Telecommunication Lines Crossing a Water Body. These projects are typically oil, gas, and water pipelines and telecommunication lines.

- The placement, construction, installation, maintenance, replacement, or removal of a watercourse crossing a water body must ensure their activities are in compliance with the Code of Practice for Watercourse Crossing. Water course crossings include culvert...
crossings, bridges, or other types of structures used to provide access through, across, or over a water-course. The Water (Ministerial) Regulation sets out specific situations where certain water-course crossings are exempt from the requirement of obtaining an approval. Where there are exemptions, Codes do not apply. Schedules 1 and 2 of the Regulation identify the exemptions where there is no need to apply for an approval or follow the Codes.

How do the Codes change or deviate from the current regulatory processes?

- The Codes identify the objectives and a number of standards and conditions to be met when undertaking the activities. Before the Codes came into effect, the person responsible for the activity was required to obtain an approval.
- With the Codes in effect and upon notification to Alberta Environment, the activity may be undertaken without obtaining an approval. The activity must be carried out to comply with the objectives, standards, and conditions set out in the Codes. The person responsible has the duty to determine how best to achieve these objectives and standards.

Who enforces the Codes?

- The Codes fall within the Act and its Regulations. Alberta Environment is the government department responsible for the administration of the Act, and is responsible for its enforcement.

What are typical operating requirements under the Codes?

- The person undertaking the activity under a COP must first complete a plan to meet the COP objectives and standards. The person then provides a notice to the department before undertaking the activity. Records and plans of the activity to be undertaken must be retained and made available when requested by the department.
- Compliance monitoring will be conducted by the department.

Do the Codes affect obligations and responsibilities under other legislative requirements?

- Compliance with Codes does not relieve a person of their obligations and responsibilities under other legislation. Regulatory approvals may be required under provincial legislation such as the Public Lands Act, Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act or under federal legislation such as the Fisheries Act and the Navigable Waters Protection Act.

Submit notifications to your nearest regional office:

Office of the Regional Support Manager
Natural Resources Service, NWB Region
Bag 900-5, Prov. Bldg.
Peace River, Alberta T8 S I T4
Telephone: (780) 624-6167
Fax: (780) 624-6335

Office of the Regional Support Manager
Natural Resources Service, NEB Region
111, 4999 - 98 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T6B 2X3
Telephone: (780) 427-5296
Fax: (780) 422-0528

Office of the Regional Support Manager
Natural Resources Service, NES Region
52322 Golf Course Road
Stony Plain, Alberta T7Z 2K9
Telephone: (780) 963-6131
Fax: (780) 963-4651

Office of the Regional Water Manager
Natural Resources Service, Bow Region
200, 3115 - 12 Street, NE
Calgary, Alberta T2J 7J2
Telephone: (403) 297-6582
Fax: (403) 297-2749

Office of the Regional Water Manager
Natural Resources Service, Prairie Region
200 - 5 Avenue, S, Prov. Bldg.
Lethbridge, Alberta T1J 4L1
Telephone: (403) 382-4254
Fax: (403) 381-5337

How do I obtain a copy of the Codes and whom can I contact for more information on Codes?

- Copies of the two Codes are available in paper format from the Queen’s Printer as well as in electronic format through the Queen’s Printer Web page: http://www.gov.ab.ca/qp [click on Alberta’s Legislation]. The Codes and associated maps are also available through the Alberta Environment Web page.
- Information on the Codes can also be obtained through Alberta Environment’s regional offices.
The Public Relations Committee recently released its latest brochure "Understanding Easements & Rights-of-Way. More than 15,000 brochures have been distributed since its release and it is being very well received by the public. Surveyors now have access to another informative publication as a public service to clients and to promote the Association.

In the past, Alberta Land Surveyors used the Real Property Report and Subdivision Process brochures when working in an urban environment. With the addition of the Understanding Easements & Rights-of-Way brochure, we now have a method of informing rural property owners why survey personnel may be on their property. Providing brochures to the public assists property owners’ understanding of survey activities on private land and, at the same, promotes the image of the land survey profession.

In the last three years, more than 50,000 Real Property Report brochures and 18,000 Subdivision Process brochures were ordered or distributed. The newest brochure, Understanding Easements and Rights-of-Way, is the most popular yet. While researching stakeholder input, Robert Chisholm of Alberta First Call wrote, "We, too, get many questions on rights-of-way and easements. Thank you for taking the initiative to put a definitive document in place as a public resource.” In fact, at the recent Alberta Urban Municipalities Association trade show, nearly all visitors to the ALSA booth were pleased to see the publication and commented on how many questions occur with respect to rights-of-way.

The Public Relations Committee encourages you to use these tools as an effective way of informing the public, advertising to clients, and promoting the profession. Since most encounters with the public occur through field staff, they should be encouraged to keep several brochures with them for distribution. Circulating the brochures serves the public and benefits both your company and your Association.

All brochures can be ordered through the ALSA office or website.

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Total stations, GPS, cell phones, computers and related software, ink jet plotters, calculators, the World Wide Web, quads, snowmobiles, and so on are the tools of today. Contrast that with equipment and methods used to install the original survey fabric in the late 1800s or early 1900s.

Additionally, creature comforts such as heated shelter, hot meals eaten at a table, bright lights to read by, showers, a bed that is not made of spruce boughs and entertainment such as TV and radio were not available then.

So is it any wonder that, as we come to evidence that was set way back when, many of us stop and marvel at the work that has brought us to the same location separated only by time? Then an absolutely thunderous thought strikes us – this survey fabric that was built many years ago is the basis of today’s infrastructure. Without the foresight and perseverance of yesterday’s surveyor, the society we know today would not exist. Infrastructure that could not possibly have been visualized then – utility rights-of-ways, highways, pipelines, cell towers, airports and so on. When these men were working in the field doing their job, did they realize what an impact their work would have in the future? Or were they more concerned about getting warm and dry, or keeping the bugs from eating them alive?

In the day-to-day whirl of living and working today, do we sometimes lose sight of the fact that what we do today does have an impact on future generations?

Next time we see old evidence, maybe we should give pause as to what it is we are doing and why. Maybe we should pay homage to those that have come before us.

The foundations they laid are the foundations that we continue to build on. Let our contributions be as far-sighted and relevant tomorrow as theirs are today.
Leica
(new)
Advanced Pipe and Cable Locator Seminars

This widely acclaimed training presentation covers the basic principles involved in locating underground facilities and techniques for solving difficult locate problems. The presentation is generic in nature and does not promote specific manufacturers or models. The objective is to enlighten utility staff and supervisors to the increasingly complex functions involved in this important requirement. A better informed and better trained locate staff will result in safer, more cost-effective operations for any company involved in underground operations. The course will specifically:

- Using layman’s terms, explain how electromagnetic fields are created, propagated and detected;
- Illustrate how field distortion occurs and how it results in locate errors;
- Explain how to reduce or eliminate many causes of distortion and how to deal with remaining distortion;
- Illustrate the best techniques for grounding and frequency choice;
- Introduce cable fault types and fault-finding techniques for each type.

The courses are scheduled for:
- March 5, 2001 - Edmonton
- March 6, 2001 - Fort McMurray
- March 8, 2001 - Calgary

The speaker will be Dave Wulff, a factory Applications Specialist for Radiodetection Canada. Dave is an entertaining speaker who will keep this material interesting and relevant. The seminar will be a full-day event. Lunch and extensive course material will be included in the fee.

Please contact Radiodetection Canada at 1-800-665-7953 or www.radiodetection.ca (under Training) for the name of the organizer in your area.
SALE OF LAND
TITLE - Defects - Land title officer erroneously recorded joint tenancy as tenancy in common - Joint owner aware of error and intended it to be unchanged - Co-owner sought damages against lawyer who prepared property sale documents - Lawyer liable for co-owner's loss of his interest in the property, but co-owner was 25 per cent negligent.

In 1980, plaintiff purchased a property with his wife and his father. The three were registered as joint tenants. The next year, plaintiff and his wife separated and he purchased her interest in the property. Plaintiff again registered his joint interest with his father. (Plaintiff and his father had a 60-40 share of the joint interest.) In 1989, plaintiff and his father entered into an agreement with a developer for subdivision of the property. The transaction called for the sale of the entire property with plaintiff and his father receiving an option to purchase a small parcel of the lot. Defendant acted for plaintiff and his father in this sale transaction as well as when they later wanted to exercise the option to purchase. In preparing the necessary documents, the lawyer did not register the parties' interest as joint tenants. This was so because at some point in time prior to this transaction, the land titles office erroneously recorded the property as a tenancy in common. Plaintiff finally discovered the error in 1995 when his father died and the property became registered in the name of the estate of the father. Meanwhile, there was evidence that plaintiff was estranged from his father and that the latter was aware of but chose to ignore the error. Plaintiff sought damages against defendant lawyer for the loss of his interest in the property.

HELD: action allowed in part. The evidence was clear that plaintiff's father intended the property to be held as a tenancy in common and not as a joint tenancy. Plaintiff was 25 per cent negligent in not being aware of the state of title until the death of his father.


AGREEMENTS OF PURCHASE AND SALE - Frustration - Vendor and purchaser entering into contract for sale of property to be developed as a mixed residential and commercial project - Following execution of agreement and giving of deposit, city rezoned property which precluded project envisioned by plaintiff - Agreement was frustrated and purchaser was entitled to return of its deposit.

Defendant wished to sell his property in the city of Vancouver. They advertised the property as a prime redevelopment opportunity. The property was zoned C-2 which allowed for a maximum floor space ratio of 3.22. Plaintiff agreed to purchase the property in order to develop a mixed commercial and residential project. Both parties knew that the development was dependent on the floor area, which in turn was dependent on the maximum allowable floor space ratio. Plaintiff gave defendant a deposit of $150,000. After the contract was completed, the city's Director of Planning applied to have the property rezoned. The change in zoning would reduce the maximum floor space ratio to 0.3. Plaintiff claimed that the contract for the sale of land was frustrated and demanded return of the deposit. Defendant refused and the action was commenced. At trial, the judge held that the contract had been frustrated and that the deposit must be returned. Defendant appealed on the basis that the contract had been frustrated and demanded return of the deposit. Defendant refused and the action was commenced. At trial, the judge held that the contract had been frustrated and that the deposit must be returned. Defendant appealed on the basis that the purpose of the agreement was not the development of the property as prime commercial and residential property but rather the sale and purchase of property.

HELD: appeal dismissed. There was more than “mere knowledge of the vendor that land was being bought for development or even for a particular kind of development.” There was an intervening event and change of circumstances so fundamental as to be regarded as striking at the root of the agreement and as entirely beyond what was contemplated by the parties when they entered into the agreement. The contract was “radically altered.” The change did not amount to mere inconvenience to plaintiff but rather transformed the contract into something totally different that what the parties intended.

KBB No. 138 Ventures Ltd. v. Canada Safeway Ltd., B.C.C.A., per Braidwood (McEachern C.J.B.C. and Cumming J.A. concurring), May 9/00. Full Text Order No. 2007-010 (17 pp.)

Real Property
ADVERSE POSSESSION - A property owner was entitled to continued possession of a city easement in her backyard to the exclusion of her neighbour, where the easement had formed part of her fenced-in property for 44 years.

At issue was the entitlement to an easement. Applicant's and respondent's properties were directly opposite each other along their rear boundaries. Running between the two lots was a city easement. When applicant moved in her present property back in 1956, she extended the fence of her backyard to include the entire easement. Respondents moved in their property in 1971. They then removed applicant's fence and demanded enjoyment of the easement. Applicant moved for an order that she was entitled to exclusive occupation of the easement, relying on the doctrine of adverse possession.

HELD: order granted. Adverse possession did not apply in this case because the easement was owned by the city and could not be registered to
a third party. Section 71(2) of The Land Titles Act (Sask.) also precluded adverse possession against a registered owner. However, s. 18 of The Limitation of Actions Act (Sask.) barred any claim for recovery of land after 10 years. This prevented respondents from claiming any entitlement to the easement. The parties had been neighbours for 27 years and the lengthy delay in objecting to applicant’s possession of the easement had the effect of extinguishing any claim that respondents might have enjoyed. Applicant was entitled to continue in possession of the easement subject only to the rights of the city.


LAND TITLES—Indefeasibility of title—Plaintiff failed to perfect his title to a piece of property that was subsequently resold by the original vendor to a third party—The title of the third party was indefeasible and plaintiff was required to vacate the land.

Plaintiff purchased some lands from V in 1972. He perfected title to a portion of the land in the name of his company. He did not perfect title to the remainder of the property (“the disputed property”). He continued to reside on the disputed property until his death, and his family continued to reside on the disputed property. V subsequently sold some other lands to defendants, including the disputed property. Title to the disputed property was registered in the name of defendants. Defendants regarded the successors of plaintiff as squatters but allowed them to reside on the property until they became aware of the dispute as to title. Plaintiff estate brought an action for a declaration that it was the owner of the disputed property and defendants counterclaimed for the possession of the land and occupation rent. Plaintiff claimed that it fell within an exception to the indefeasibility of defendants’ title within s. 23 of the Land Titles Act (B.C.).

Held: action dismissed. Plaintiff required to vacate the disputed property within six months. The disputed property was not “improperly included” in the lands sold to defendants. The title was not perfected by plaintiff nor the person from whom plaintiff purchased the property. V did sell the land to two parties and his sale to defendants was fraudulent. However, defendants were bona fide purchasers for value. Plaintiff could not prove fraud in which defendants had participated in any way so as to bring it within the exceptions to indefeasibility of title. Defendants were entitled to possession of the disputed property but were not entitled to occupation rent. They were aware of the unlawful occupation of the disputed property by plaintiff from the date of the purchase of property and could not seek damages for a trespass which they had ignored. Leiterman Estate v. Karrer Holdings Ltd., B.C.S.C., Bauman J., Aug. 11/00. Full Text Order No. 2019-107 (30 pp.)

ADVERSE POSSESSION—Where a fence that encroached on a neighbour’s property had been in place for 22 years, the owner of the encroaching property was entitled to ownership of the encroached land.

At issue was the ownership of a certain piece of land that lay between the parties’ properties. The parties were neighbours whose properties were separated by a fence. The fence had been in existence for 22 years. It encroached on the property of respondent. A dispute arose over the encroachment, with each party claiming ownership of the encroachment. Respondent unilaterally removed the fence and erected a new fence on the original lot line. Applicant applied for a declaration that she was the owner of the encroachment. Respondent brought a counter-application for the same relief. The property had been surveyed three times. At one point along the fence there was a discrepancy over time as to the distance of a fence post.

Respondent alleged that this meant that the fence had been moved and that this disrupted applicant’s continuous use of the encroachment. Applicant alleged that the fence had not been moved and that she had enjoyed continuous, open and exclusive occupation of the encroachment for 22 years.

Held: applicant’s application granted. Applicant had actual possession of the disputed property for 22 years. The property was used by applicant and her family for recreational purposes. Applicant intended to exclude the actual owners of the land from its use during the period in question. There was no evidence that the previous owners of respondent’s property ever possessed or tried to possess the disputed property. The right of respondent to the property was barred by ss. 4 and 15 of the Limitations Act (Ont.). Applicant was entitled to a declaration that she was the owner of the disputed property and that respondent was required to remove the new fence at her own expense.


Damages

INTEFEERENCE WITH ENJOYMENT OF RIGHT-OF-WAY—Farm owner interfered with his neighbour’s enjoyment of a right-of-way by erecting four additional gates across it—Farm operator was ordered to remove the gates and liable for pecuniary damages ranging from $4,000 to $6,500—A permanent restraining order was also issued against further interference with plaintiffs’ use of the right-of-way.

Plaintiffs complained that their entitlement and enjoyment of a right-of-way had been interfered. Since 1925, plaintiffs and their predecessors in title had used a 15 foot right-of-way across defendants’ farm to their adjoining cottage properties. Defendants purchased their farming property
in 1995. Prior to their purchase, there was only one gate across the right-of-way. Defendants installed four additional gates. This action arose as a result of defendants’ failure to negotiate a relocation of the right-of-way. Defendants alleged that the right-of-way interfered with their farming operations. Plaintiffs ranged in age from the late 50s to 80s. 

**HELD:** action allowed. The four additional gates were clearly a burden, annoyance or impediment to plaintiffs. Defendants were aware of plaintiffs’ right-of-way prior to their purchase of their property and ought to have arranged their farming operations so as not to interfere with plaintiffs’ usual use of the right-of-way established over the previous 72 years. Defendants’ interference with plaintiffs’ entitlement and enjoyment of the right-of-way entitled plaintiffs to injunctive restraining relief and pecuniary damages. The inconvenience caused by the additional gates had caused plaintiffs stress and difficulty to travel. Damages to the three plaintiffs were: $6,500, $4,000 and $5,000. An order was issued permanently restraining defendants from interfering with plaintiffs’ use of the right-of-way. Defendants were also ordered to remove the four gates.


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**Barristers and Solicitors**

**DUTY TO CLIENT—Sale of Land**—A solicitor admitted his negligence in failing to advise his client of the existence and implications of a restrictive covenant in the title of a property—The solicitor could not look to the real estate agent for third party contribution for the loss sustained by his client—The solicitor was solely responsible for the loss.

At issue was whether the third party, a real estate agent, was liable for the loss plaintiff sustained from a restrictive covenant leak in the use of the property did not result from negotiation between plaintiff and the vendor. It was a matter of title. The duty to advise of the implications of the restrictive covenant was a legal question which was within the exclusive sphere of the lawyer. In view of the agent’s assertion about plaintiff’s position on the restriction, he had breached his duty to inform plaintiff about it. However, the lawyer’s duty to discuss the covenant with plaintiff was independent of the duty of the agent. Plaintiff failed to provide that the agent’s breach of duty caused any part of its loss. From the moment the lawyer either knew or ought to have known of the restrictive covenant, he became solely responsible for this issue.

Dr. Isabelle Couloignon
Appointed Faculty Member in Geomatics Engineering (Digital Imaging and Mapping)

The Department is pleased to announce that Dr. Isabelle Couloignon has been appointed to the tenure-track Digital Imaging and Mapping position.

Dr. Couloignon has an engineering diploma in Electronics, applied to detection and telecommunications from the École Louis de Broglie, Rennes (France). She obtained a DEA in “Signal Telecom Image Radar,” option “image processing” in 1995 from the Université de Rennes I. She spent 3 years at the “Remote-sensing and Modelling group” in École des Mines de Paris (France) and she received a PhD in 1998 in Sciences for Engineers, option “propagation, telecommunications and remote-sensing,” from the Université de Nice-Sophia Antipolis. Dr. Couloigner then joined the Centre for Research in Geomatics at the Université Laval in Québec in March 1999 as a post-doctoral fellow.

Since 1996, she has taught courses in image processing and in remote-sensing in France as well as at Université Laval. Dr. Couloignon’s research involves features modelling, pattern recognition, data fusion and wavelet transformation in very high spatial resolution and SAR imagery. Her research at the Centre for Research in Geomatics was supported by a FCAR-Joint Action Radarsat project with the Centre for Topographic Information in Sherbrooke (PQ) and the Canadian Space Agency.

In her new position, Dr. Couloigner will focus on the modelling of the spatial distribution of the relevant information in different kinds of images.

U of C Career Day 2001

Career Day 2001 is an opportunity for you to review the talented and energetic graduates and students that Geomatics Engineering at the University of Calgary has to offer. Our graduates and students have the skills you are looking for to keep your organization efficient and competitive. In addition to fundamental surveying and land tenure knowledge, the Geomatics Engineering program gives its graduates the edge in new technology.

Graduates are trained in GIS, GPS and signal processing, computer programming, hydrography, remote sensing, photogrammetry, geodetic positioning, gravity field, project management, land use planning, and survey law/property rights, in addition to fundamental mathematics and physics common to all first year engineering students.

Career Day 2001 is a chance to display opportunities for geomatics engineers within your organization, and demonstrate the possibilities of career advancement. At Career Day, your organization can set up a booth, give a presentation if you choose, and conduct or schedule interviews with prospective employees. This is a unique environment created for networking and interaction between students and employers.

In one day, you can meet dozens of qualified individuals who are interested in becoming part of your organization, either permanently or for a summer or internship term. For locating and evaluating candidates in person, there is no better venue than Geomatics Career Day 2001 at the University of Calgary.

We look forward to seeing you at Geomatics Career Day 2001 which will be held on the University of Calgary campus on February 8th. Please contact us either by e-mail at gess@geomatics.ucalgary.ca or visit our website at www.ensu.ucalgary.ca for more details.

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Howard Douglas Farnell
(repeat)
Here is a snapshot of the ASSMT at this busy time of year when we are preoccupied by work and the prospects of Christmas. Council decided in October to hold our Annual General Meeting in Jasper in conjunction with the ALSA. I know the weather will be better in 2001. We are meeting a week later, right?

The ASSMT was represented at SAIT’s Career Decision 2000 on November 8th by Barry Bleay and Ken Revoy. Cansel again favoured us with a beautiful Hewlett Packard Scientific Calculator for our draw which was won by Jeff Very. We were looking forward to appearances November 29th at Crescent Heights High School and the upcoming presentation on March 7th at John Diefenbaker High School both in Calgary.

Councillor Glen Erdely of our Education Committee has devised a Chain/Rod Person’s Course. We are discussing the possibility of holding the course at SAIT and NAIT where we could utilize their expertise and equipment.

President Farley McKenzie is featured in this issue’s PDC Corner. He led a discussion at our November Council meeting on the focus for the upcoming year. We decided to focus on fellowship and upgrading of our members’ skills.

Work continues on revamping our brochures and we certified six new members on December 14th.
J.H. Holloway Scholarship Foundation Transfer Scholarship Awards 2000

$1,250 annual scholarships for NAIT and SAIT graduates in Survey Technology are provided to students enrolled in the University of Calgary program in Geomatics Engineering. This award is based on academic merit in the technical school program and is awarded subsequent to acceptance into the University of Calgary program. Applications, together with official transcripts from NAIT or SAIT, must be submitted to the Foundation within 60 days of commencement of university studies (November 1st of each year). The winners for the year 2000 are Jeffery Blatz, Adam Brash, Mark Theuerkauf and Leslie Ewoniak.