The membership of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association met on April 19-21, 2012 in Banff, Alberta for its 103rd Annual General Meeting.

For the sake of brevity and clarity, motions to table and withdraw are not included in this summary.

**Recommendation #1: Definition of “Block”**
It was moved by John Lohnes, seconded by David Hagen, that Part C, Section 5.8 of the Manual of Standard Practice (Lost Monuments on Subdivision Surveys) be amended as follows:
In the following interpretation, a parcel is an area of land within a subdivision plan for which one certificate of title was issued. For the purposes of interpreting Section 45(5) of the Surveys Act, a block is a group of one or more parcels and any adjoining lanes within a subdivision plan that meets one of the following criteria:

- All those parcels that have the same block number shown on the subdivision plan;
- A single parcel or contiguous parcels designated only as lots; or
- A single parcel designated as a unique “Block”, “Parcel”, “Area”, or anything else other than a “Lot”.

Motion Carried

**Recommendation #2: Real Property Reports**
It was moved by John Lohnes, seconded by Piotr Strozyk, that Part D, Section 8.5 and Part D, Section 8.8 of the Manual of Standard Practice (Real Property Reports) be amended as follows:

D8.5 Improvements
The improvements to be shown on the plan for an Alberta Land Surveyor’s Real Property Report include, at minimum, the following:
1. All buildings and projections therefrom, together with their dimensions. Minimum setback dimensions shall be shown from the boundaries of the subject parcel to exterior walls and/or foundation as required by the municipality. A statement clarifying the extent of setback dimensions is to be shown.
This also includes:
   a) all permanent sheds,
   b) any shed that encroaches from or onto the property, and
   c) any non-permanent sheds that are larger than 10 square metres in footprint.

5. All permanent sheds and their dimensions.
(And all subsequent sections renumbered)

D8.8 Authentication
To identify original Real Property Reports, each original report shall bear a permit stamp in red, if applicable, and an original signature in blue. The colour of both the permit stamp and the original signature are to be different from the colour of the printed document.
Motion as Amended Defeated
Amendment moved by Bob Wallace, seconded by Kevin Nemrava, that “9.3 square metres” be changed to “10 square metres.”
Amendment Carried

**Recommendation #3: Monuments on Dispositions**

*It was moved by John Lohnes, seconded by Fred Cheng, that Part D, Section 5.2.2 (Reference Boundary) and Part D, Section 5.8.4 (Public Land Dispositions except License of Occupation) of the Manual of Standard Practice be amended as follows:*

2. An Alberta Land Surveyor performing a survey for the location of wellsites and related facilities in Unsurveyed Territory shall locate and confirm sufficient monuments to determine the position of the wellsite and related facilities in relation to the theoretical section boundaries. The word “monuments” here refers to:

- monuments placed in accordance with Part 2 or Part 3 of the *Surveys Act*;
- monuments shown on a Wellsite Control Plan on file with the Director of Surveys Office; or
- monuments shown on a Plan of Survey signed by an Alberta Land Surveyor and registered at Alberta Sustainable Resource Development on or after August 1, 2009; or
- Alberta Survey Control Markers directly connected to Part 2 or Part 3 monuments that define the theoretical section boundaries.

Theoretical section boundaries shall be determined using the *Supplement to the Manual of Instructions for the Survey of Canada Lands*.

4. In Unsurveyed Territory, locate and confirm sufficient monuments to define the theoretical section in which the disposition is located in order to determine the position of the disposition in relation to the theoretical section boundaries. The word “monuments” here refers to those placed in accordance with Part 2 or Part 3 of the *Surveys Act*, those shown on a Wellsite Control Plan on file with the Director of Surveys Office, monuments shown on a Plan of Survey signed by an Alberta Land Surveyor and registered at Alberta Sustainable Resource Development on or after August 1, 2009, or Alberta Survey Control Markers integrated with the Alberta Survey Control System.

*Motion Carried*

Amendment moved by Matt Forsyth, seconded by Craig McBride, that “on or after August 1, 2009” be removed.
Amendment Defeated

**Recommendation #4: Monumenting Intersections**

*It is moved by John Lohnes, seconded by Hugo Engler, that Part C, Section 3.4 (Intersections) and Part D, Section 5.8 (Public Land Dispositions Except License of Occupation) be amended as follows:*

**C3.4 Intersections**

*When surveying Public Land Dispositions requiring monumentation to be statutory iron posts, intersections must be made with any other Public Land Disposition boundary that is defined by statutory iron posts. The intersection shall be made by using the nearest governing monuments on either side of the point of intersection. If the monuments at these positions are lost, the lost monuments and all monuments between the survey evidence used to re-establish the lost*
monuments shall be re-established and monumented, giving due consideration to all available evidence.

D5.8 Public Land Dispositions Except LOC
3. Intersect and monument public land dispositions that are required to be defined by statutory iron posts. This applies to a public land disposition requiring the use of statutory iron posts that crosses another public land disposition that is already defined by statutory iron posts.
(And all subsequent sections renumbered)

4. 5. In Unsurveyed Territory, locate and confirm sufficient monuments to define the theoretical section in which the disposition is located in order to determine the position of the disposition in relation to the theoretical section boundaries. The word “monuments” here refers to those placed in accordance with Part 2 or Part 3 of the Surveys Act, those shown on a Wellsite Control Plan on file with the Director of Surveys Office, monuments shown on a Plan of Survey signed by an Alberta Land Surveyor and registered at Alberta Sustainable Resource Development on or after August 1, 2009, or Alberta Survey Control Markers integrated with the Alberta Survey Control System.
Motion as Amended Carried

Amendment moved by Les Frederick, seconded by Lyall Pratt, that “governing” be inserted between “nearest” and “monuments.”
Amendment Carried

Amendment moved by Michael Thompson, seconded by Reid Egger, that “between the survey evidence” be removed.
Amendment Carried

Recommendation #5: Restoration of Monuments
It was moved by John Lohnes, seconded by Jim Maidment, that Part C, Section 5.10 (Restoration of Monuments) be amended as follows:

All damaged or obliterated monuments used in a survey, whether urban or rural should be restored. However, pits, mounds, and trenches on original Township Surveys shall not be reconstructed or restored unless the Surveyor is instructed to do so by the Director of Surveys. All restored monuments must be recorded in the Corner Recordation Index or registered on a plan of survey at the Land Titles Office, Alberta Sustainable Resource Development (Lands Division), or the Metis Settlements Land Registry.
Motion Defeated

Recommendation #6: Permit Stamps
It was moved by John Lohnes, seconded by Alex Hittel, that Section 61 of the bylaws (Permit Stamps) be amended as follows:

61 (1) The permit stamp of a surveyor's corporation or surveyor's partnership shall be a rubber stamp engraved with or contain the following information:
(a) the name of the corporation or partnership to which the stamp is issued,
(b) the permit number of the corporation or partnership, and
(c) the words "ALBERTA LAND SURVEYORS' ASSOCIATION".

(2) The permit stamp shall be designed in the following form:

(3) The Registrar is the only person entitled to issue a stamp to a surveyor's corporation or surveyor's partnership.

(4) The cost of the permit stamp shall be borne by the surveyor's corporation or surveyor's partnership to whom it is issued.

(5) A surveyor's corporation or surveyor's partnership may apply to the Registrar for one or more duplicate rubber permit stamps to be issued to it.

(6) The Registrar may grant approval to a surveyor's corporation or partnership to integrate the permit stamp design issued by the Registrar into their computer assisted drafting system, to facilitate the use of the stamp on plans, drawings and documents, being certified by an Alberta Land Surveyor who is a member or an employee of the surveyor's corporation or surveyor's partnership to whom the permit was issued.

(7) The permit stamp of a surveyor's corporation or surveyor's partnership is owned by the Association and is issued to a surveyor's corporation or surveyor's partnership in accordance with the Act. The surveyor's corporation or surveyor's partnership must return any rubber permit stamps and confirm that it has stopped using a digital permit stamp, and must be returned:

   (a) if the corporation or partnership ceases to comply with the Act, regulations or bylaws,
   (b) if the corporation or partnership is wound up or otherwise ceases to be a surveyor's corporation or surveyor's partnership, and
   (c) if the registration of the corporation or partnership is suspended or cancelled.

(8) A surveyor's corporation or surveyor's partnership shall not use a stamp in the practice of surveying except the stamp issued to it by the Registrar or the stamp approved by the Registrar.

(9) The stamp of a surveyor's corporation or surveyor's partnership shall be used on plans, drawings and documents that are being certified by an Alberta Land Surveyor who is also a member or an employee of the surveyor's corporation or surveyor's partnership to whom the permit stamp was issued.

Motion Carried

Note: Council must still “make” the bylaws before they come into effect.

**Recommendation #7A: Governing Document in addition to Existing Ownership Requirements**

*It was moved by Michael Thompson, seconded by Greg Illchuk, that the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association prepare proposed revisions to the Professional Practice Regulation by requiring that, in addition to the existing ownership requirements, each surveyor’s corporation/partnership shall have a document outlining how the corporation/partnership and its Alberta Land Surveyors intend to govern their interaction.*

Motion Carried

**Recommendation #7B: Canadian Land Surveyors**

*It was moved by Michael Thompson, seconded by Greg Illchuk, that the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association prepare proposed revisions to the Professional Practice Regulation so that land surveyors licensed to practice land surveying in any Canadian jurisdiction (or corporations with whom the majority of whose voting shares are vested in one or more land surveyors licensed to practice in any Canadian jurisdiction) can hold the majority of the voting shares (and a majority of the director*
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positions) in an Alberta surveyor’s corporation provided they prepare a document outlining how the corporation/partnership and its Alberta Land Surveyors intend to govern their interaction.
Motion Carried

Recommendation #7C: Professional Engineers in Alberta
It was moved by Michael Thompson, seconded by Greg Illchuk, that the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association prepare proposed revisions to the Professional Practice Regulation so that professional engineers licensed in Alberta can hold the majority of the voting shares (and a majority of the director positions) in an Alberta surveyor’s corporation provided they prepare a document outlining how the corporation/partnership and its Alberta Land Surveyors intend to govern their interaction and providing that the corporation already has a valid APEGA permit to practice.
Motion Defeated

Recommendation #7D: Professional Engineers in Canada
It was moved by Michael Thompson, seconded by Greg Illchuk, that the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association prepare revisions to the Professional Practice Regulation so that professional engineers licensed in any Canadian jurisdiction can hold the majority of the voting shares (and a majority of the director positions) in an Alberta surveyor’s corporation provided they prepare a document outlining how the corporation/partnership and its Alberta Land Surveyors intend to govern their interaction.
Motion Defeated

Recommendation #7E: Other Professionals
It was moved by Michael Thompson, seconded by Jeff Johnston, that the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association prepare proposed revisions to the Professional Practice Regulation so that licensed professionals in Alberta can hold the majority of the voting shares (and a majority of the director positions) in an Alberta surveyor’s corporation provided they prepare a document outlining how the corporation/partnership and its Alberta Land Surveyors intend to govern their interaction.
Motion Defeated

Recommendation #7F: Governing Document
It was moved by Michael Thompson, seconded by Barry Fleece, that the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association prepare proposed revisions to the Professional Practice Regulation so that the existing voting shares and director requirements currently in the Professional Practice Regulation be removed and replaced with a requirement to have a document outlining how the corporation and its Alberta Land Surveyors intend to govern their interaction.
Motion Defeated

New Business #1: The Role of the Manual of Standard Practice
WHEREAS the Manual of Standard Practice is an all-encompassing record of supplementary information relevant to conducting surveys, preparation of plans and reference information and;
WHEREAS the Manual of Standard Practice has been and is being misinterpreted by Alberta Land Surveyors, approving authorities and the public;
THEREFORE it was moved by Bob Baker, seconded by Thomas Penner, that Council be directed to review the role and content of the Manual of Standard Practice with the intent of:
  • Determining the impact the MSP has on limiting Alberta Land Surveyors’ professional judgment.
• Formulating a workable plan that will allow Alberta Land Surveyors to retain their professional status and dignity in light of the requirements of the MSP.
• Carefully considering the relevance, necessity and benefit of any future additions to the MSP.

Motion Carried

New Business #2: Authority to the Boundary Panel
It was moved by Bob Wallace, seconded by George Smith, that Council enter into discussions with the Government of Alberta to change the existing legislation to give the ALSA Boundary Panel the legislative authority to:
• Approve solutions for boundary uncertainties;
• Repost areas deficient in survey pins;
• Register plans at Land Titles where necessary;
• Authorize re-surveys under Section 9 of the Surveys Act.

Motion Carried

New Business #3: Chainsaw Safety
It was moved by Al Jamieson, seconded by Bernie McKenna, that Council select an ad hoc committee to adopt an alternative chainsaw safety certification standard specific for the members of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association. This would include an attempt to gain recognition and approval from both CAPP and the Enform Chainsaw Safety Certification Committee.

Motion Carried

New Business #4: MSP Conflict with Surveys Act
It was moved by Lyall Pratt, seconded by Don George, that it is recommended that the Council of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association review the wording under Part C, Section 5.8 of the Manual of Standard Practice to ensure it matches the Surveys Act.

Motion Carried

From the Registrar
Mitch Ettinger was exempted from the provisions of the professional liability insurance bylaw as he is not practicing surveying in the province of Alberta.

Council approved requests to place Peter Brown, Ron Cote and Buster Davison on the register of retired members, effective April 30, 2012.

John Haggerty was appointed the ALSA’s official representative on the Canadian Board of Examiners for Professional Surveyors. Council is still seeking one additional volunteer to assist CBEPS with its duties and responsibilities.

Urban Land Survey Ltd. was approved as a surveyor’s corporation. Terry Hudema will be the Alberta Land Surveyor responsible for the supervision, direction and control of the practice.

Council is pleased to welcome Katelyn Axani as an associate member.
Honorary Life Member
Donald R. George

Honorary Member
Sharon D. Armstrong

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Public Member
Russ Barnes

Important Dates: May 2012
May 2: Boundary Panel
May 9: Practice Review Board
May 10: Collections Subcommittee
May 11: Registration Committee changed from May 16
May 17: Executive Committee & Leader’s Dinner
May 21: Victoria Day ALSA Office Closed
May 23: Council
May 24: Steering Committee
May 25: Collections Subcommittee

Important Dates: June 2012
June 1: ALS News Deadline
June 5: Safety Committee
June 6: Registration Committee & Professional Development Focus Group
June 7: Standards Committee
June 12: Public Relations Committee
June 13: Practice Review Board
June 14: Legislation Ad Hoc Committee
June 19: Executive Committee
June 20: Articling Pupil Process Ad Hoc Committee
June 21: Historical & Biographical Committee
June 28: Council