The Council of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association met on May 23, 2018. Here is a summary of Council’s discussions.

Council held an orientation session in Edmonton on May 8, 2018 and a strategic priorities planning session in Calgary on May 17, 2018.

From the Registrar
Council approved the registration of a branch office of Universal Geomatics Solutions Corp. in the County of Grande Prairie under the supervision, direction and control of Maurice Liboiron, ALS.

Council approved Iterstar Geomatics Ltd as a surveyor’s corporation under the supervision, direction and control of Ryan Gordon, ALS.

Council approved changing the name of surveyor’s corporation AMEC Geomatics Limited to Wood Geomatics Limited.

Council approved applications from Alberta Land Surveyors W. Bruce Clark, Sandy Davies, David Marquardt, Robert Molaski and Connie Petersen to be exempted from the provisions of the professional liability insurance bylaw as they are not currently practicing surveying in Alberta. In accordance with the amendments to the bylaws approved by the membership at the AGM, the registrar will be approving applications for exemption from this point forward.

Council approved applications from Blaine Benson, Andrew Christian, Leanne James, Derrick Lipinski, Paul Stoliker and Gerald Whaley to be placed on the register of retired members. Mr. Whaley’s application was approved subject to conditions.

Council approved, with regret, applications to cancel the memberships of Baseline Geomatics Group (surveyor’s corporation), Kurt Gesell (honorary member), Ian Emmerson (Alberta Land Surveyor), Amin Kassam (retired member) and Rod Zelli (affiliate member).

Strategic Plan 2018
Council approved a strategic plan for the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association for 2018.

To view the strategic plan, login to the ALSA website, click on MyMember and then “My Committee” and finally select your membership type.

The Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association is committed to enhance public confidence and earn recognition in the practice of surveying and geomatics.

Council identified seven key objectives for 2018. They are:
1. Work on alternate funding models for the ALSA.
2. Improve communication between Council and committees
3. Improve communication between Council and the membership
4. Improve communication between Council and the public
5. Review governance, standards and legislation affecting the ALSA
6. Identify stakeholders and cultivate stakeholder and strategic partnerships
7. Meet ALSA statutory obligations

For each of the seven priorities, specific action items were established with specific committees or people taking responsibility and specific time frames.

This year, Council members have been asked to liaise with members in major centres outside of Calgary and Edmonton to speak with them about what is happening at Council and bring their concerns back to the Council table.

Committee Terms of Reference and Volunteers
Council approved the terms of reference and volunteers for Association committees.

The complete list of terms of reference and committee members is available online at Members Resources – Reference Material – ALSA Policies and Position Papers.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered.

Council made several changes to committees for 2018-2019 to align more closely with its strategic plan.

The Communications & Public Relations Committee and the Convention & Social Group were divided into two separate committees again after a brief union last year. The Association is still looking for volunteers for both of these committees. Please contact Executive Director Brian Munday if you are interested.

Council agreed to establish a new committee on alternate funding and an ad hoc committee to develop a solution to the problem with being unable to register constructed right-of-way plans when land surveyors are unable to get the owner of the facility to sign the consent. Terms of reference and committee members will be set at a later date but shortly.

In addition, the ALSA has created the Corner Recordation Index Working Group and the Future Committee as new committees this year.

The Professional Development Committee has been tasked with re-tooling the Association’s professional development program and make recommendations to Council. The ALSA is also looking for more volunteers for this committee. Contact Executive Director Brian Munday.

Consents for Right-of-Way Plans
... that the Council of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association ask an existing committee or create a new committee to engage with Land Titles and other relevant regulatory authorities to come up with a solution to our
problem with being unable to register constructed right-of-way plans when we are unable to get the owner of the facility to sign the consent and present a report to next year’s AGM was referred to an ad hoc committee.

**Director of Surveys**  
Council welcomed the Director of Surveys to the meeting. The Director of Surveys updated Council on some of his activities; mostly for the benefit of the newly-elected Council members.

**Plan Correction**  
Council authorized Katie Hunter, ALS to consent to the correction of plan 822 1378 (Bill Boyztun, ALS (Retired)) as per Section 92 of the *Land Titles Act* and authorize Katie Hunter, ALS to make an application for an order under Section 91 of the *Land Titles Act* to vary plan 822 1378 (Bill Boyztun, ALS (Retired)).

Council authorized Katie Hunter, ALS to consent to the correction of plan 162 2918 (Steve Vollick, ALS (Retired)) as per Section 92 of the *Land Titles Act* and authorize Katie Hunter, ALS to make an application for an order under Section 91 of the *Land Titles Act* to vary plan 162 2918.

Council authorizes Jason Paziuk, ALS to make an application for an order under Section 91 of the *Land Titles Act* to vary plan 122 4318 (Warren Barlow, ALS (Deceased)).

**National Salary Survey**  
While Council fully supports the idea of a national salary survey, Council will not use the survey developed by the Association of Ontario Land Surveyors. Council determined that their salary survey did not meet Alberta’s needs and the proposed changes put forth by the ALSA were not accepted by the AOLS.

Instead, Council decided that the ALSA will do its own salary survey and charge-out rate survey in January 2019 for the year 2018 and share the data with its sister associations.

**Bylaws and MSP**  
Council made the bylaws as approved by the membership at the 2018 AGM.

The updated bylaws are now available for download.

The most recent version of the Manual of Standard Practice as approved by the
membership at the 2018 AGM is available online.

Council approved removing the index from the Manual of Standard Practice and that this be considered a housekeeping matter. The current Manual of Standard Practice includes the index but it will be removed for future issues. The decision to remove the index was made after the editor noted that errors can inadvertently creep into the index, particularly in years where there are significant changes to the MSP and sections get renumbered. Council felt that most members today will use the pdf search feature rather than an index.

Maternity & Parental Leave
Council gave first reading to a Registration Committee policy to increase the amount of maternity and parental leave for articling pupils to a maximum of 78 weeks. The amendment was proposed to be consistent with Alberta employment standards.

As this is a policy and the amended Examination & Training Regulation has not yet been approved by the government, the policy will come back to the next meeting of Council for second and final reading. If any member has any questions or concerns, please speak to any Council member or the ALSA staff.

Council would like to thank members who wrote to the ALSA on Alberta Employment Standards updated overtime requirements, funding for cadastral studies and Land Titles’ matters. Members who have questions or concerns on any professional matter are encouraged to contact any Council member.

Short Cuts
Council has written a letter to ACLS indicating its support to their proposed changes to their examination process for labour mobility candidates. The ACLS was concerned about the low success rate for labour mobility candidates. The ACLS is proposing modifying their online exam system to separate the exam into four modules covering a total of 4.5 hours.

The Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association has been asked if it would participate in the Alberta North American Waterfowl Management Plan’s wetland education network. Mike Fretwell has agreed to represent the ALSA.

The Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association was asked to comment on proposed amendments to the Professional Planner Regulation. Council had no concerns.

The Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association continues to have representation on the ACLS Professional Foreign Credential Recognition project regarding the assessment and evaluation of individuals who want to become land surveyors in Canada but were educated outside of the country. There will be a face-to-face national meeting later this year.