The Council of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association met on June 28, 2018. Here is a summary of Council’s discussions.

From the Registrar
Council approved applications from Jim Stuart and Stephen Nichol to be placed on the register of retired members.

Council approved the registration of a branch office of Explore Surveys Inc. in Edmonton under the supervision, direction and control of Connie Petersen, ALS.

Council approved the registration of a branch office of Explore Surveys Inc. in Edmonton under the supervision, direction and control of Sandy Davies, ALS.

Council approved the cancellation of Caltech Surveys Ltd. (with one business corporation number) upon finalization of the registration of Caltech Surveys Ltd. (with a different corporation number) and approved the transfer of permit number P162 from the previous Caltech Surveys Ltd. to the newly-registered Caltech Surveys Ltd.

Council appointed Brian Munday as acting registrar for the period July 19, 2018 to August 3, 2018 while Rosalind Broderick is on vacation.

Cancellation of Ministerial Order
The Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association was informed on June 27, 2018 by the Deputy Minister of Alberta Environment & Parks that the province is exercising its option to terminate the ministerial order that allows the ALSA to sell monuments.

Ministerial Order 54/88A will be terminated effective June 30, 2019.

The Director of Surveys, in a separate letter to the ALSA, stated that “the efficiency and effectiveness of survey post sales through the Association is not as relevant as it was thirty years ago.”

The Council of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association will meet with the Director of Surveys to discuss the impact of the government’s announcement. At this time, Council has more questions than answers.

The Council will also meet over the summer to chart a path forward and consider all of its options.

As president, I am committed to keeping the membership fully informed of Council’s deliberations, its impact on the Association and the impact it will have on you, the members.

W. Bruce Clark, ALS
President

Alternate Funding Ad Hoc Committee
Council approved the establishment of the Alternate Funding Ad Hoc Committee. The committee will review the funding alternatives previously investigated by Council and review Recommendation #12 from the 2018 AGM and bring back a report to Council for the 2019 AGM.

Committee Terms of Reference and Volunteers
Council approved the following committee appointments:
Katie Hunter (Communications & PR)
Al Jamieson (“consents for right-of-way plans” committee)
Andrew King (Registration)
Kris Kwiatkowski (Future)
Purdy Smith (Future)
Alex Spivak (Standards)

and accepted, with regret, the following resignations:
Bob Haagsma (Corner Recordation Index)
Trevor Pasika (Standards Committee)
Ryan Smith (Standards Committee)
Louis Wang (Boundary Panel)

How Much Does a Survey Cost?
Based on the discussion of Recommendation #11 at the 2018 AGM and the new business motion to consider publishing an updated version of the preamble presented as part of Recommendation #11 in a prominent place on the ALSA website, Council approved placing the following text on the ALSA website:

The Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association encourages the public to discuss potential survey projects with an Alberta Land Surveyors prior to initiating any project. Discussions with an Alberta Land Surveyor about the specifics of the project should be undertaken to develop a better understanding of the costs and the complexity associated with the project. Some of the considerations that may impact costs include:
1. Availability of survey evidence defining boundaries
2. Current and historical title searches
3. Other surveys in the area under consideration
4. An Alberta Land Surveyor’s experience and resources available at the time of the project
5. Travel and accommodation costs
6. Application, endorsement, approval or record searching fees.

This list of considerations is not exhaustive but should form the basis for discussion prior to any project starting. It is incumbent on the public and the members of the Association to discuss potential projects so that a fair and reasonable value for the services being offered can be reached.

The location of the text on the website will likely change as the ALSA website is overhauled this year.

Review of Scholarships
Council would like to thank the member who wrote to the Association asking that Council consider the establishment of a scholarship at a particular educational institution.

Council agreed to review all scholarships, looking at how much is provided and to which educational institutions, prior to the 2019-2020 budget deliberations.

Plan Correction
Council authorized Greg Boggs, ALS to consent to the correction of plan 152 0652 (Fred Hingley, ALS (Retired)) as per Section 92 of the Land Titles Act.

Council authorized Paul Dixon, ALS to make an application for an order under Section 91 of the Land Titles Act to vary plans 762 1359 and 882 0017 (Brian Dixon, ALS (Retired)).

Maternity & Parental Leave
Council gave second and final 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.

Project Reports
Council approved an internal manual for use by the Registration Committee on how to mark project reports for articling pupils.

Council then gave first reading to a recommendation from the Registration Committee that existing Council policy 2015.01.012 be amended to change the reimbursement rate for marking a project report from $25 to $50. The policy amendment 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.

Short Cuts
Council reviewed an update from Mike Lee, ALS, the Association's representative on the Pathways to Foreign Credential Recognition project.

The Administrative Law seminar will be Wednesday August 29th. The seminar is intended for members of the Discipline Committee, Council, the Practice Review Board, the Boundary Panel and the Registration Committee but all members are welcome to attend. Location and time to be confirmed.

Council approved an updated personnel manual for ALSA staff to ensure it is consistent with recent amendments to Alberta’s Employment Standards legislation.

Council held a brief discussion on how cadastral education is provided to post-secondary students in Canada. The executive director will bring these discussions forward to a meeting of all of the self-governing survey association executive directors in August.