The Council of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association met on May 30, 2019. Here is a summary of Council’s discussions.

Council held an orientation session in Edmonton on May 14, 2019 and a strategic priorities planning session in Calgary on May 22, 2019.

From the Registrar
Council approved Titan Land Surveying Ltd. as a surveyor’s corporation under the supervision, direction and control of Patrick Boudreau, ALS.

Council approved Wilde Bros. Surveys Ltd. as a surveyor’s corporation under the supervision, direction and control of Randy Smith, ALS.

As always, companies are not registered as surveyor’s corporations until all of the fees have been, proof of professional liability insurance has been provided and a digital stamp has been approved by the registrar.

Council approved the registration of a branch office of Centerline Geomatics (AB) Ltd. in Calgary under the supervision, direction and control of Ross Woolgar, ALS.

Council approved the registration of a branch office of Pals Geomatics Corp. in Camrose under the supervision, direction and control of Evan Thompson, ALS.

Council approved placing Harvey Goosen, Jim Shape, Barrie Smith and Drew Suder on the register of retired members.

Council approved the cancellations of Eclipse Geomatics & Engineering Ltd. and Stonecrop Surveys Ltd. as surveyor’s corporations.

Council approved the cancellations of retired members Dave Armstrong and Stephen Nichol.

2019 Strategic Plan
Council has approved the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association’s 2019 strategic plan.

Council identified the following priorities for 2019:
1. Professional Governance. Have a modern act or governance structure that properly regulates the practice and is responsible to Albertans.
2. Improve execution of statutory obligations. Develop an unauthorized practice process and investigate an improved boundary uncertainty process.
3. Improve communication with stakeholders. Set additional financial policies and provide clarity on fees and budgets. Explore development of a public communications strategy.
4. Review the management of the ALSA. Review committee and Council structure to align with

Ministerial Order Update
The ministerial order that allows the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association to sell iron posts and marker posts is set to expire on June 28, 2019.

At this time, there is no agreement in place as to what will happen after that date.

The Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association has written to the new Minister of Environment & Parks and has been in constant contact with Alberta Environment & Parks officials.

Everyone is hopeful that the minister will make an announcement concerning post sales any day now.
strategic plan and expedite decision making and maximize resources.

5. Future of Surveying.
   Review the *Surveys Act* and make recommendations for changes considering current and new technologies.

Council recognizes that the work on these priorities will start now but that the initiatives will take a number of years to complete.

The full 2019 strategic plan is available here.

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 About the ALSA – Committee Terms of Reference and Policies.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered.

Tiered Fee Structure for Surveyor’s Corporations
At the 2019 AGM, it was recommended that the Council of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association consider amending the fee bylaw to include a tiered fee structure for surveyor’s corporations and surveyor’s partnerships and amending the bylaw to also include wording so that no fee, due or levy may be increased more than 10% year over year without prior approval of the membership at an AGM or SGM. This new business motion was referred to the Executive Committee for investigation.

Making CCR Revenue Neutral
At the 2019 AGM, it was recommended that the Council of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association consider making the CCR process a revenue neutral process. Ideas to achieve this may include but not be limited to:

1. Charge a fee when selected for a review;
2. Have a risk assessment tiered lottery system (ie: newer land surveyors reviewed more frequently; non-practicing members reviewed less frequently; score on previous review considered when setting next review)
3. If secondary review is required, charge a further fee.

Council deferred a wholesale review of CCR revenues and expenses at this time until Council's strategic review of professional governance is completed and any recommendations are made. However, Council did direct the secretary-treasurer to review the volume and costs of comprehensive reviews under the CCR program.

Standards for Unmanned Aerial System Data Collection
At the 2019 AGM, it was recommended that the Council of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association consider exploring options for creating standards regarding unmanned aerial system data collection. The Future Committee was tasked with identifying subject matter experts who can bring together small groups of people (not necessarily land surveyors) who will prepare documents that look at new survey products, technologies and standards. Their first priority will be to develop draft standards regarding unmanned aerial system data collection and make recommendations to Council.

Online Council Meetings
At the 2019 AGM, it was recommended that the Council of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association
consider holding some Council meetings each year online. These online meetings would address more routine/more administrative matters. The Executive Committee was tasked with this term of reference as part of Council’s strategic objective to review committee and Council structure to align with strategic plan and expedite decision making and maximize resources.

### Putting Budgetary Changes into Perspective
At the 2019 AGM, there was a new business motion that recommended that the Council of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association consider striking an ad hoc committee to work with the secretary-treasurer to put possible budgetary changes into perspective for the membership in terms of what budget changes would mean to the membership. Although this motion was defeated, the Executive Committee was tasked with considering putting possible budgetary changes into perspective for the membership in terms of what budget changes would mean to the membership.

### Sufficient Measurements for a Common Wall
Council directed the Standards Committee to determine if Part D Section 8 of the Manual of Standard Practice should be updated to include guidelines for taking sufficient field measurements to confirm that a property line is coincidental with the common wall of a semi-detached or attached dwelling.

Through CCR, the Practice Review Board has learned that there is variance amongst practitioners when it comes identifying and certifying boundaries at common or party walls within semi-detached or attached dwellings/structures on real property reports.

Council has asked the executive director to arrange a meeting with Land Titles for a small group of practitioners to discuss concerns that the Practice Review Board has with concerning Form 11.1 and SUR-2 of the Land Titles Procedures Manual and some practitioners’ interpretations of those provisions.

### Bylaws and Penalties
Council made the bylaws as approved by the membership at the 2019 AGM.

The updated bylaws are now available for download.

According to the bylaws, “If an Alberta Land Surveyor, surveyor's corporation or surveyor's partnership fails to notify the Registrar of a change in their current mailing address, email addresses and telephone numbers within twenty (20) business days, a fine of $50 per business day shall be payable to the Association.”

The penalty under this section of the bylaws is a maximum of $500.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by Council.

Council set the sum at $500.

### Roles and Relationships
In December, Council approved a proposal from Izaak de Rijcke, an Ontario Land Surveyor and lawyer, to prepare a report for the ALSA to help clarify the respective roles and responsibilities between a professional regulator, a government office with certain statutory duties and yet another government office that has other statutory duties which are
complementary but not identical.

The report is now complete and was approved by Council. Mr. de Rijcke will put the finishing touches on the report and then it will be circulated to the membership, government and our sister associations.

Interest on Overdue Accounts
Council gave second and final reading to a policy that specifies the interest rate on overdue accounts and what services will be withheld if invoices and any outstanding interest become overdue. The proposed policy reads:

The Association shall forward monthly statements of account to all its members and clients.

Anyone over 60 days in arrears will be:
- advised of their overdue account;
- advised that all services will be withheld (including but not limited to registering for regional meetings and AGM events);
- charged interest at the ATB prime rate.

Failure to pay any late penalty fees or interest on late penalty fees means that the practitioner will not be provided with their annual certificate or permit to practice.

Plan Corrections
Council authorized Michael Thompson, ALS to consent to the correction of plan 801 0156 (William Halma, ALS (Retired)) as per Section 92 of the Land Titles Act.

Council authorized Rheal Bourgouin, ALS to consent to the correction of plan 111 3052 (Don Molesky, ALS (Retired)) as per Section 92 of the Land Titles Act.

Council authorized Robin Arthurs, ALS to make an application for an order under Section 91 of the Land Titles Act to vary plans 911 2374 (J. Matthyssen, ALS (Retired)), 931 0508 (A. Nielsen, ALS (Former)) and plans 011 3170 and 021 0983 (J. Maidment,ALS (Retired)).

Welcome Government
Council welcomed Scott Milligan, (Executive Director, Environment and Parks) and Al Flim (Manager, Land Surveys Unit, Surveys Section, Environment and Parks) to the meeting.

Council asked for an update on the ministerial order. See above for the response.

Other items discussed included the new government's red tape reduction initiatives, the working group meetings with the ALSA and Environment & Parks to discuss a better relationship and a new Surveys Act, a Section 9 of the Surveys Act investigation request update, a Fort McMurray resurvey update, a need to work together on a new Boundary Panel, and an update from the ALSA on the Association's strategic priorities for 2019.

The Alberta Land Surveyors' Association has requested meetings with the ministers and deputy ministers of Environment & Parks (Surveys Act), Labour & Immigration (Land Surveyors Act) and Service Alberta (Land Titles Act) and has already met with the deputy minister of Service Alberta.

Salary Survey
Council approved the publication of the 2018 salary survey to the members.

In January, Alberta Land Surveyors and articling pupils were asked to complete a
salary and benefits questionnaire.

The 2018 salary survey is now available in the MyMember section of the ALSA website. Login and go to My Committees and then click on your member category.

Please note that the salary survey contains a large amount of detailed information and the text is very small.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING DATE
June 27, 2019

Council meetings are open to the membership. Certain portions of a Council meeting may be held in camera for confidentiality reasons.

If you are planning on attending a Council meeting, please notify the ALSA office to ensure there is adequate space.