The Council of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association met on September 9, 2020. Here is a summary of Council’s discussions.

Committee Changes
Council appointed the following vice-chairs:
- Mark Sutter (Practice Review Board)
- Kurt Popadynetz (Registration Committee)
- Bradley Middlemiss (Unauthorized Practice Review Committee)

Council also accepted, with regret, the resignation of Lydia Taylor from the Standards Committee.

Strategic Initiatives
For 2020-2021, Council established five strategic objectives for the year. At the August 27th Council meeting, there were reports and recommendations on four of the five strategic objectives totaling close to 100 recommendations.

The reports are now available on the ALSA website at https://www.alsa.ab.ca/About-the-ALSA/Committee-Terms-of-Reference-and-Policies

A prioritization of all of the recommendations and an implementation timeline will be presented to Council for its discussion at the next Council meeting.

Registration Committee Policies
Council gave second and final reading to the following three policies.

Marking Examinations
Council gave second and final reading to the proposed Registration Committee policy:

A mark of 75 percent must be obtained in each of the professional examinations.

The Registration Committee will assign a minimum of two markers per examination.

Where markers are assigned on a per question basis, a minimum of two markers will be assigned per question.

The candidate’s final mark will be an average of all the markers.

A mark of 75 percent makes it clear on what a pupil must achieve in order to pass an examination. By having a minimum of two markers, this ensures that the question and marking is fair. This allows for flexibility to have additional markers, if there are any discrepancies.

Committee Reimbursement
The Registration Committee updated the proposed policy to provide greater clarity.

Written examination questions are divided up between Registration Committee members. The policy previously was not clear that reimbursement was to be split amongst the markers.

The increase in attending a qualifying examination is to provide the same compensation as marking a project report. The lead marker responsibilities are outlined in the processes document.

Reimbursement 2015.01.012
The Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association shall pay a Registration Committee member for the following activities on receipt of an expense claim:

- Marking an examination question: $10
- Marking an examination appeal question: $10
- Lead Marker: $10 per examination
- Attending a qualifying examination: $25
- Marking a project report: $50
Prior Field Credit
The changes now include the provision to allow field service credit to be granted to those individuals that have been under articles previously and have applied for a new set of articles. The current policy does not allow for this. The Committee still wants to have the ability to use their discretion in these cases.

Prior field service credit may be recognized towards the articling requirements. No discretionary field service will be granted.

- Up to 25 percent, to a maximum of 12 months, of cadastral field service performed at the party chief level in Alberta prior to commencement of articles may, at the discretion of the Registration Committee, be recognized towards articling requirements provided it was served under an Alberta Land Surveyor qualified to article pupils and is certified by that Alberta Land Surveyor.

- Field service performed and approved under previous articles will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. If previous articles were terminated due to unsuccessful completion of examinations it is recommended that not all previous field service time be approved.

Short Cuts
Council reviewed a newsletter article entitled Radical Governance and Restrained Complaints Reforms in British Columbia which is available online at https://www.sml-law.com/resources/grey-areas/recent-issues/

Council was also made aware that the provincial government is currently reviewing the regulatory framework for registration under the Professional and Occupational Association Registration Act. The provincial government is also reviewing the public member appointment process. The government is then expected to look at independent professional legislation (ie: The Land Surveyors Act) in 2021.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING DATE
September 22, 2020