Report of Proceedings of the Ninety-seventh Annual General Meeting

April 21st to April 22nd, 2006
Jasper Park Lodge
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Past Presidents (from left to right)
Past Presidents of the Association

1911 - W. Pearce
1912 - L.C. Charlesworth
1913 - L.C. Charlesworth
1914 - R.W. Cautley
1915 - A.C. Talbot
1916 - J.L. Cote
1917 - H.H. Moore
1918 - A.S. Weekes
1919 - P.N. Johnson
1920 - G.W. McLeod
1921 - R.H. Knight
1922 - A.P.C. Belyea
1923 - C.M. Hoar
1924 - J.L. Doupe
1925 - P.N. Johnson
1926 - B.J. Saunders
1927 - O. Inkster
1928 - D.T. Townsend
1929 - C.H. Snell
1930 - C.M. Hoar
1931 - R.H. Cautley
1932 - E.D. Robertson
1933 - D.T. Townsend
1934 - C.H. Snell
1935 - P.N. Johnson
1936 - T.W. Brown
1937 - D.T. Townsend
1938 - N.H. Bradley
1939 - C.B. Atkins
1940 - H.S. Day
1941 - A. Cormack
1942 - W.E. Zinkan
1943 - C.H. Snell
1944 - W. Humphreys
1945 - J.W. Doze
1946 - R.M. Hardy
1947 - G.Z. Pinder
1948 - C.H. Snell
1949 - J.H. Holloway
1950 - R. McCutcheon
1951 - G.C. Hamilton
1952 - G.C. Hamilton
1953 - R. McCutcheon
1954 - C.W. Lester
1955 - W.D. Usher
1956 - D.K.F. Dawson
1957 - C.H. Weir
1958 - W.A. Wolley-Dod

1959 - L.O. Olsen
1960 - C.W. Youngs
1961 - E.J. Clark
1962 - G.C. Walker
1963 - A.J. Edwards
1964 - G. Oslund
1965 - W.E. Bright
1966 - T.E. Rippon
1967 - T.C. Swanby
1968 - D.C. Holmberg
1969 - D.B. Gillmore
1970 - M.A. MacCrimmon
1971 - R.A.F. Tate
1972 - T. Okamura
1973 - M.L. Sexauer
1974 - R.J. Watson
1975 - J.W. Hill
1976 - J. Deyholos
1977 - A. Hittel
1978 - E.J. Tessari
1979 - N.R. Mattson
1980 - J.E. Rasmuson
1981 - B.R. Bishop
1982 - W.R. Hunter
1983 - R.A. Bassil
1984 - R.J. Fulton
1985 - A.D. Hosford
1986 - R.E.D. McCuaig
1987 - L.W. Breton
1988 - G.E. Olsson
1989 - I.C. Maltais
1990 - S.M. Loepky
1991 - G.L. Haggerty
1993 - H.E. Impey
1994 - L.H. Pratt
1995 - J.H. Holmlund
1996 - W.R. Dabbs
1997 - S.J. Longson
1998 - A. Hittel
1999 - D.R. Jaques
2000 - L.M. Pals
2001 - G.K. Allred
2002 - D.R. McWilliam
2003 - J.G. Halliday
2004 - A.W. Nelson
2005 - S.C. Green
2006 - S.C. Green, ALS

President 2005-2006
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<td>Thompson, J.</td>
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Active Members ........................................ 198
Honorary Life Members .................................. 9
Retired Members ........................................ 3
Articled Pupils ....................................... 27
Affiliate Members ..................................... 7
Associate Members .................................... 3
Student Members ....................................... 1
Total ................................................... 248
**Officers and Staff of the Association 2006-2007**

**PRESIDENT**  
D.H. VandenBrink, Red Deer

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
R.M. Wallace, Calgary

**PAST PRESIDENT**  
S.C. Green, Calgary

**SECRETARY TREASURER**  
L.M. Pals, Edmonton (2004-2007)

**MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**  
B.A. Beairsto, Grande Prairie (2006-2008)  
T.A. Brown, Edmonton (2005-2007)  
T. Harding, Edmonton (2006-2008)  
T.W. Hudema, Calgary (2006-2008)  
V.G. Hut, Edmonton (2005-2007)  
M.H. Young, Red Deer (2005-2007)

**PUBLIC MEMBERS**  
L. Kluthe, Morinville (Council)  
R. Barnes, Medicine Hat (Practice Review Board)

**REGISTRAR**  
R.A. Bassil, ALS (Hon. Life)

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
B.E. Munday

**OFFICE STAFF**  
L. Cederland ----------------------------- Administrative Assistant  
F.S. Cheng ----------------------------- Director of Practice Review  
C. Chomlak ----------------------------- Administrative Assistant  
J. Dawson ----------------------------- Technologist  
D.R. George ----------------- Assistant to the Director of Practice Review  
D.A. Phelan ---------------- Information Services Administrator  
S.D. Stecyk ------------------------ Executive Assistant  
M. Woywitka ----------------------------- Administrative Assistant
2006-2007 Committees

**STATUTORY COMMITTEES**

**Discipline Committee**
S.C. Green

**Practice Review Board**
D.A. Wiberg

**Registration Committee**
B.P. Bates

**Boundary Panel**
D.R. McWilliam

**Editorial Board**
D.J. McArthur

**Future of the Association**
R. Radovanovic

**Historical & Biographical Committee**
A.R. Main

**Nominating Committee**
S.C. Green

**Professional Development Committee**
N.R. Woolgar

**Public Relations Committee**
D. Gillis

**Safety Committee**
A. Hittel

**Standards Committee**
J.E. Landry

**Steering Committee**
D.H. VandenBrink

**ALSA/DOS/LTO/Metis Settlements Liaison**
D.H. VandenBrink

**Convention & Social Group**
B.E. Munday

**Legislation Ad Hoc**
L.R. Olson

**Oil and Gas Ad Hoc**
D.A. Jamieson

**Title Insurance/RPR Ad Hoc**
R.M. Wallace

**STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Council Liaison**
B.A. Beirsto

D.H. VandenBrink

T.W. Hudema

T. Harding

M.H. Young

T.A. Brown

V.G. Hutt

M.H. Young

D.H. VandenBrink

T.W. Hudema

OTHER COMMITTEES/GROUPS
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<th>Committee</th>
<th>Members/Leaders</th>
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<tr>
<td>ASSMT</td>
<td>Liaison: T. Harding</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAPP Geomatics and CAPP Resource Access</td>
<td>Liaison: S.C. Green, J.D. Wallace</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canadian Board of Examiners for Professional Surveyors (CBEPS)</td>
<td>Members: V.G. Hut, L.M. Pals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canadian Council of Land Surveyors (CCLS)</td>
<td>Director: L.M. Pals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canadian Council of Land Surveyors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional Liability Insurance Committee</td>
<td>Member: M.E. Kinloch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geomatics Engineering Liaison Committee (GELC)</td>
<td>Members: A.O. Amundrud, V.G. Hut</td>
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<td>Multi-Stakeholder Damage Prevention Task Force</td>
<td>Member: J.G. Halliday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Real Estate Transaction Committee</td>
<td>Members: R.L. Haagsma, S.M. Loeppky, R.M. Wallace</td>
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<tr>
<td>U of C Research</td>
<td>Members: S. Green, D. McArthur, R. Radovanovic</td>
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President Stephen Green officially called the 97th Annual General Meeting of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association to order at 9:04 a.m.

The assembly rose for the Canadian national anthem.

The assembly was advised that the meeting would follow Robert's Rules of Order with Public Member Lawrence Kluthe acting as parliamentarian. Mr. Green announced the voting privileges of different categories membership. He also advised that, for the first time, voting cards will be used.

President Green introduced the 2005-2006 Council members as well as the public member on the Practice Review Board, Russell Barnes who was recently appointed to a second three-year term by the Minister of Human Resources & Employment. Mr. Green commended Public Members Kluthe and Barnes for bringing their perspectives to the Council and Board tables.

Mr. Green presented a brief history of the Association's relationship with Jasper as follows:

The Alberta Land Surveyors' Association first came to Jasper for an annual meeting in 1972 and this is our eighteenth annual general meeting to be held here. The membership enjoys coming to these beautiful surroundings as witnessed by the tremendous turnout this year and every year.

Many of the lakes in the Jasper area were named by Hugh Matheson, DLS. From 1911 to 1913, he was occupied with miscellaneous surveys with the Department of Interior, of which perhaps the most important, was a topographical survey of Jasper Park including laying out the original town-site of Jasper.

If you have the opportunity to go for a walk around the Lodge grounds, you might come across Annette Lake, Beauvert Lake, or the Trefoil Lakes—just three of the many lakes named by him during his survey work.

President Green then introduced the Town of Jasper Acting Mayor, Brian Nesbitt, who was born and raised in Montreal, but has called Jasper home since 1975.
The assembly learned that Mr. Nesbitt is currently President of the Teamsters Canada Rail Conference, has previously served as a member on the Jasper Culture and Recreation Board and is very active as a coach for the local junior rugby team.

Mr. Green advised that Mr. Nesbitt was first elected to the Council of the Municipality of Jasper in October 2004 and serves on a variety of committees including Foothills Model Forest/ForeSmart, Jasper Housing Corporation, Yellowhead Regional Education Consortium, Emergency Services and Ambulance and Finance and Facility Review.

The assembly welcomed Acting Mayor Brian Nesbitt who presented the following welcome:

On behalf of the municipality of Jasper, I would like to welcome you and your Association to Jasper National Park and the municipality of Jasper.

The municipality of Jasper was created on July 20, 2001. We are only five years old as a proper municipality. Jasper Park Lodge was built in 1915 by the Grand Trunk Pacific Railroad. It originally was a tent city, hence, the bar downstairs still has that name. The Grand Trunk Railroad came through Jasper in 1911 and that was the start of Jasper’s town. The first recorded visit of this Athabasca Valley was by David Thompson, a surveyor and mapper, as seen by this display at the back of the room.

I am sure that you will enjoy your stay at Jasper Park Lodge and that Amanda Robinson and her staff will take care of you.

If you have the time, please take the opportunity to drive across the Athabasca River and visit the Town of Jasper. Enjoy its small town atmosphere and its many shops and restaurants.

I would also like to say that we are putting the final touches on our new town trail which runs eight kilometres around the town. There are some great views on the trail and I would encourage you to walk it.

In closing, I thank you for choosing Jasper Park Lodge and Jasper for your annual general meeting and I hope you keep returning.

President Green presented Mr. Nesbitt with a copy of *Laying Down the Lines*.

Mr. Green introduced Ms. Amanda Robinson, General Manager of the Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge as follows:

Amanda Robinson joined the Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge about this time last year from her most recent position as hotel manager at the Fairmont Banff Springs—the site of the Association’s centennial AGM. Amanda brings with her, twenty-five years of management experience and more than fifteen years with Fairmont to this position.

After spending seven years with another hotel company in a variety of positions, Amanda joined Fairmont in 1990 as front office manager at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver. She quickly pro-
gressed to the positions of senior assistant manager, executive assistant manager and director of operations at this hotel before her promotion to general manager at the Delta Calgary Airport.

Amanda graduated from BCIT with a hospitality and tourism diploma. She also completed the advanced management program for the hospitality industry and the HMDC finance and accounting program at the University of Guelph.

Ms. Robinson addressed the assembly as follows:

It is my pleasure, once again, to welcome the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association to the Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge. We have certainly enjoyed a long association with you and we look forward to welcoming you back a few years from now.

Since you were here last year, there are a few things that went on at the hotel that I'd just like to mention. We welcomed Her Majesty The Queen in May of last year. We had a bit of a rough season on the golf course last year, but I am very happy to report that it is in absolutely fabulous condition and we are looking to open it next week. For those of you who want to come to Jasper in the summer for some golf, it really look fabulous.

We successfully completed negotiations with Parks Canada for a new lease for the Lodge which involved quite a but of surveying work. As a company, we successfully fought of a hostile take-over and are in the process of being purchased. The purchase of the company will result in Fairmont having 123 hotels in nineteen countries.

It's great to have you back and the team is pumped to have you start off the convention season for us. Thank you so much for your business; we sincerely appreciate it. We look forward to your meeting over the next few days.

Thank you for being here.

Mr. Green presented Ms. Robinson with a copy of *Mapper of Mountains*.

Ms. Lyn Johnson, Liaison Officer with the Professions and Occupations, Department of Alberta Human Resources addressed the assembly as follows:

It is my pleasure to bring greetings and best wishes from the Government of Alberta and particularly, the Honourable Mike Cardinal, Minister of Human Resources and Employment. In his portfolio, Minister Cardinal is responsible for the governing legislation of twenty-four self-regulating professional associations, including the Land Surveyors Act.

On a personal note, I'd like to thank you for inviting me this year. It is the fourth year I've had the opportunity to attend. It gives me more of an opportunity to learn about your profession and its ongoing business activities first-hand.

Alberta has a long history of strong cooperation between government and the province's various professions. Professions and Occupations' relationship with your Association is an excellent ex-
ample of how the Alberta Government and a professional regulatory organization can work together to benefit the people of this province. Your Association is to be respected for its progressive, cooperative, working relationship with the Alberta Government, with other professions, the academic community and, above all, land surveyors within Alberta and across Canada. The services you provide are essential to Albertans and to Alberta’s continuing growth. Land surveyor’s services were essential in mapping Alberta as a province at the beginning and continue to do so.

We in Professions and Occupations are committed to continue to work with your Association to ensure that the professionalism demonstrated by yourself and its members remains strong a vital for the years to come.

Once again, I thank you for inviting me and I wish you continued success at this year’s annual general meeting.

Mr. Green presented Ms. Johnson with a copy of Mapper of Mountains.

The assembly was asked to rise to observe a moment of silence for those Alberta Land Surveyors who passed away during the 2005-2006 year. Mr. Green also asked that the assembly to pay respects to G.W. (Gerald) Bernard (ALS 151) who passed away before the 2005 annual general meeting.

G.M. (Gunter) Hohn (ALS 338) June 2, 2005
B.A. (Bruce) Lawrence (ALS 283) July 6, 2005
M.T. (Michael) Tarczynski (ALS 243) September 19, 2005
H.E. (Herb) Kiel (ALS 461) October 26, 2005
W.H. (Bill) Jones (ALS 188) February 28, 2006

President Green introduced the following special guests and representatives:

Richard Redfern, President
Association of British Columbia Land Surveyors

Peter Unger, President
Saskatchewan Land Surveyors' Association

David Quirk, President
Association of Manitoba Land Surveyors

Doug Culham, President
Association of Ontario Land Surveyors

Fraser Smith, President
Association of New Brunswick Land Surveyors

Garry Parker, President
Association of Nova Scotia Land Surveyors

Hal Janes, Past President
Association of Canada Lands Surveyors

Robert Hull, President
Idaho Society of Professional Land Surveyors

Bert Hol, President
Canadian Council of Land Surveyors
<table>
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<th>Introduction of Honorary Life Members</th>
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<td>Honorary life members were introduced as follows:</td>
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<tr>
<td>R.F. (Bob) Baker</td>
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<tr>
<td>R.A. (Dick) Bassil</td>
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<tr>
<td>K.F. (Ken) Berg</td>
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<tr>
<td>W.R. (Bill) Dabbs</td>
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<tr>
<td>D.R. (Don) Jaques</td>
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<tr>
<td>L.O. (Buck) Olsen</td>
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<tr>
<td>R.A.F. (Ross) Tate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.H. (Jack) Webb</td>
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<td>C.H. (Charlie) Weir</td>
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<th>Introduction of Retired Members</th>
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<td>President Green introduced the following retired members:</td>
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<tr>
<td>G.W. (George) Baerg</td>
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<td>J.W. (John) Christenson</td>
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<td>G.R. (George) Moore</td>
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<tr>
<th>Introduction of Associate Members</th>
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<tr>
<td>The following associate members were introduced:</td>
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<tr>
<td>A.K.Y. (Anthony) Choy</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. (Darren) Connatty</td>
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<tr>
<td>J.F. (Jeremy) Dawson</td>
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<tr>
<td>T.G. (Tim) Grusie</td>
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<tr>
<td>M. (Milton) Lemke</td>
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<tr>
<td>J.R. (Janet) MacPhee</td>
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<th>Introduction of New Members</th>
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<td>President Green introduced the new members as follows:</td>
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<tr>
<td>#748  T.M. (Mark) Dempsey</td>
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<tr>
<td>#749  C.A. (Craig) White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#750  M.P. (Mark) Theuerkauf</td>
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<tr>
<td>#751  R. (Réal) Comeau</td>
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<td>#752  M.G. (Murray) Radoux</td>
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<td>#753  J.T. (Jeffrey) Skelton</td>
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<td>#754  M. (Metin) Timocin</td>
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<tr>
<td>#755  J.D. (Jessica) Barich</td>
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<tr>
<td>#756  J.W. (Jeffery) Blatz</td>
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<tr>
<td>#757  M.J. (Mitchell) Ettinger</td>
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<tr>
<td>#758  L.L. (Leslie) Ewoniak</td>
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<tr>
<td>#759  J.R. (Jacek) Pyć</td>
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<tr>
<td>#760  C.L. (Chad) Taylor</td>
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<tr>
<td>#761  K.T. (Kevin) Grenkie</td>
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<tr>
<td>#762  J.D. (Jonathan) Phillips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#763  K.D. (Kevin) Grover</td>
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<tr>
<td>#764  R. (Rocky) Annett</td>
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Mr. Green stated that articled students and affiliate members are the people who revitalize the land surveying profession. He added that approximately 23% of all Alberta Land Surveyors today, have had their commission five years or less.

Mr. Green went on to say that it appears that the trend will continue. There are currently seventy-one articling students and nineteen affiliate members in the system. Affiliate members are land surveyors commissioned in another Canadian jurisdiction who are working towards their Alberta Land Surveyor commission. Thirty-four articled students and affiliate members came on board since May 1st of last year.

The following articled students and affiliate members were introduced:
- Jeffrey Adair
- Mathiew Bourgeois
- Matthew Chandler
- Jeff Fehr
- Al Flim (affiliate member)
- Matt Forsyth
- Ray Guy
- Andrew Hall
- Paul Hatch
- Jiunhan Keong
- Byron Laurie
- Constance Marufu
- Michael McEachern
- Clive MacKeen (affiliate member)
- Donald McKee
- Rich Nixon
- Justin Plante
- Bill Powley
- Sara Prescott
- Elwyn Rose (affiliate member)
- Lesley Sick
- Jeffrey Stockdale
- Michael Thompson
- Cory Tucker
- Steve Vollick (affiliate member)
- Randy Waye
- Patrick Wetherup

Mr. Green introduced educational institution representatives as follows:
- University of Calgary—Elizabeth Cannon; Mike Barry
- SAIT—Tom Erdman; Greg Hebb
- NAIT—Allan Theriault; Dwayne Westacott

The assembly learned that Lethbridge Community College sent their regrets.

Jeff Thompson, a student at the University of Calgary, was welcomed by the assembly.

Director of Surveys, Mike Michaud, ALS addressed the assembly as follows:

**Survey Control**
The Department is still doing some work on the NAD’83 CSRS coordinate file. Geoff Banham has indicated that forty new markers have been added to NAD’83 CSRS for a total of 1,100 markers. Work continues on high precision networks (HPN). The cities of Edmonton, Calgary, Medicine Hat and Okotoks have been installing or taking existing markers and converting them to the HPN level of accuracy.

Another issue in the survey control area is the height modernization initiative. This involves replacing the spirit level model for elevations with a gravity based model. This is a national program that is just beginning. The Standards Commit-
The issue is looking at the issue and trying to determine what it means to Association members and when things might change. It is anticipated that the profession will have approximately four years to look at how a new gravity model can be implemented.

The last point is the Calgary EDM baseline. You have probably read in ALS News and been aware, generally, that the Calgary EDM baseline is not in the best shape. There have been a number of discussions with Council and the hope is to see if there might be funds within the Department’s 2007-2008 budget to replace the baseline. The baseline, from the department’s perspective, is still usable for cadastral surveys. There are some obvious obstacles but, generally speaking, it can be used to confirm your instruments.

**Land Surveys Unit**

Within the last year, the Department was able to put all the original township field notes on SPIN. As it is felt that this is a significant accomplishment and benefit to the members, it is hoped that the data is being used and it is helping with evidence assessment.

For the past year, we have been involved with ten official surveys—land claims, township surveys within Metis settlement and straight settlement lots. We have also been involved in two boards of investigation. One was sent by the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association. It is expected that information from the land surveyors will be sent in May or June of 2006. The second one was submitted to the Department through a land owner. We are expecting more information from the surveyors involved shortly. We hope to be able to conclude our investigation and determine whether a Board of Investigation is to be set.

Section 47 monitoring is ongoing. Section 47 is the deferred monumentation section that allows members to defer monumentation for up to one year. The legislation is clear that if you need to go beyond a year, you need to apply to the government for an extension. The results from the last number of years still suggest that we are at 20-25% deficiency. The members seem to be having a hard time meeting the requirements of the legislation. The ALSA Council and I have discussed this issue on a number of occasions. In my opinion, 25% is not a good track record.

At this time last year, we had considerable debate on amendments to the Surveys Act. At the government executive level, there is support to take the recommendation from the Association to bring it forward to the Alberta Law Reform Institute for a thorough review. The Institute has a number of projects, and there, most likely, will not be anything forthcoming in the short term.

**Public Lands and Forests Division**

The name of the division will be changing shortly. In August of 2005, the disposition mapping program was implemented as well as digital plan submissions and collection of the mapping fee for dispositions. As well, the program to map all the activities on
public lands over a four year period began. We have just had an opportunity to look at the first 107 townships that were completed. We don't expect the data to be available until October 2006. The area in the northeast corner of Alberta may also be available in October. Some test files will be out in June. The data will be available through AltaLIS which will also be distributing the disposition mapping products. It is anticipated that, for the first year, the fee will be $500 to get access to the data. Every year after that for the subsequent four years the fee will go up another $500. At the end of the four years, there will be a $2,000 annual subscription fee for unlimited access to the data.

In the next couple of months, two new systems will be developed which will be related to submitting dispositions on public land. The first one is the EDS (Electronic Disposition System) which is for oil and gas applications. On June 5th, your oil and gas clients will be required to submit all their applications through a website. The EDS system will change the current process of how plans are submitted. The application will be available in an online form which is filled out by the client. The application will require the attachment of EFRs (Environmental Field Reports), consents, codes of practice and a plan package. The EDS system will help streamline the processes within the section.

The next system is called PCS (Plan Checking Service) which will change the current process of how you submit your digital plans. It will be a new website which will require a new password and user name. We tried to use your existing passwords and user names but because of the government requirements and standardization across all departments it was not possible. PCS will allow you to log in and it will ask you to attach your CAD file. In the background, PCS will do a number of basic level checks to confirm that the correct information is on each level, that levels are not empty or levels don't contain any unexpected elements. PCS will also do a virus scan and will send you back an encrypted package and a confirmation number. The client transaction number will be replaced with a confirmation number. When the client makes a submission through EDS, the confirmation number will need to be in the meta data that comes along with the submission. The division website will be updated in May and, as well, some workshops will be offered to assist you in getting through the process.

In the coming week there will be some sessions with CAPP who has lined up some members to do a test run of the EDS system.

Tim Grusie, Director of the Edmonton and Calgary Land Titles Offices presented the following report to the assembly.

You have been very busy since the last time I attended your AGM two years ago. In 2000 there were 8,351 plans registered resulting in the creation of approximately 32,000 parcels of land in Alberta. In 2004, there were 11,760 plans registered which resulted in the creation of approximately 49,000 parcels. Last
year, in 2005, another 11,250 plans registered which created approximately 50,000 new parcels. Looking ahead into 2006 and based on the numbers of the first quarter, it looks like there will be over 12,000 plans creating 55,000 new parcels. This is approaching double of what the profession has done in as little as five years ago. At the end of 2001, there were 297 practicing Alberta Land Surveyors in Alberta. At the end of 2005, the number increased by only 44 new practicing members. You guys must be really busy.

Land Titles also continued to experience record setting numbers again, by registering over 1.2 million documents in the province last year. Land Titles staff has been working many extra hours to try and keep turn-around time for documents somewhat reasonable. To help address turn-around time, twelve new positions have been approved between Edmonton and Calgary. Survey staff has remained stable over the last couple of years. Turn-around time is also stable at about an average of two to three days for registered plans. There has been one retirement in the Edmonton office but Land Titles has also been able to hire three new tech interns who have graduated and will become full time staff shortly. This will help us decrease or maintain the turn-around time because it appears it will get busier.

I am pleased to report that SPIN II has remained fairly stable since the incident about a year and a half ago. I need to thank all of the members for their support as you were very understanding during that time. A number of our other stakeholders were not quite as cordial. The members of this Association became very ingenious and inventive in finding ways of sharing what plans you had in your offices. Thank you again and, hopefully, that will not happen again.

Last year, through SPIN, there were over 300,000 plans searched online. There were approximately 425,000 documents searched and over 2.4 million titles searched remotely from your desktops. It is just amazing. The members have really taken up the electronic way of doing business and really embraced it in your practices. We are in the process of bringing out a new version of SPIN. Land Titles Technical Services Manager, Bill Elliott, will bring you up to speed on the new version.

Over the past year, I have had the privilege to be involved with the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association through membership on the Standards Committee, chaired by Kevin Swabey. Also, more recently, I have been a member on the Legislation Ad Hoc Committee, chaired by Terry Hudema. I can tell you that from my participation on these committees, it is very evident to me that both of these gentlemen, along with all the Committee members, represented the interests of your Association extremely well, very professionally and with the best interests of the members guiding them in their decisions and recommendations. While some of the issues these committees were tasked with were fairly straightforward, there were a number of them that involved a great deal of time, research and thought and certainly produced some very well thought out discussions. I would like to thank the chairs and the committees for allowing me to be
involved and to consider my thoughts whenever they thought I could contribute. In my opinion, Land Titles certainly enjoys a very good working relationship with your Association. My participation on these committees certainly helps maintain that.

I would like, again, to thank the Association for inviting me to the AGM. It has been my pleasure to work with all of you.

Mr. Swabey, Chairman of the Standards Committee, thanked Mr. Grusie for his involvement with the Committee. His input has been invaluable not only with issues that deal with Land Titles but also with recommendations put forward to Council.

Mr. Bill Elliott, Land Titles Technical Services Manager addressed the assembly as follows.

We thought that this would be an opportune time to give you a brief overview of where SPIN has come from. Starting out in 1998-1999, we built an Internet-based system that allowed the distribution of about a quarter of a million plans and it has certainly grown significantly since then. Based on that original experience, and the way that the Association and its membership received and used that system over time, it gave Land Titles a significant degree of confidence to push forward with further initiatives that automated our data and made it available online, not only for the survey community but for the general public as well.

We now run 1.8 million current titles on line as well as 2.8 million historical titles. There are some 18,000,500 registered documents including rights-of-way, caveats, easements, mortgages, liens, and approximately 150 registered instruments. Registered survey plans now top the 280,000 mark. Township plans, which we run for Sustainable Resource Development, are sitting at 44,000, field notes are at 44,000 and Alberta survey control monuments are at 20,000. We also provide some other land-related services not necessarily of interest to the membership, but they do give an example of how we are expanding into broader data sets with SPIN. We have coverage for the province on soils and Canada land inventory. We also have a cemetery system online for anyone who wants to look up where someone might be interred.

We also have day-forward imaging of documents which allows us to get documents available back out to the user community within a twenty-four hour period. We are very pleased with that and are very close to real-time in many of the products that we register and put online. A new service, Volume Data Services, was instituted some months back. You now have the ability to actually search thousands, if not tens of thousands, of titles at a time.

Phase III high level feature is what we have coming out in the next couple of months—perhaps as quick as four to six weeks. It includes features such as the capability of doing multiple survey plan searches. You will have the ability to do coordinate-based searches from the field. If you have a laptop and a cell phone,
you will actually be able to search, on a coordinate basis, for corresponding data for a particular parcel. ATS grid searches will be enhanced. You will be able to order reports of all rights-of-way or easements that may be registered against a group of titles. You will not have to bring the whole set of titles in. You will be able to just get a report based on whatever document type you are looking for. There will be enhanced search and view order screens to allow you to put in job numbers and so on.

There will be new capabilities on the spatial side including a buffer line search for linear runs of properties. This will be beneficial to you in searching for titles and/or plans when you are working along a right-of-way or road. Radius searches out from a point and cancelled title searches have been expanded.

One of the biggest upcoming features is called web services which will dramatically change the way we deliver some of our data in the future. Those clients that are large enough and have certain technology capabilities, will actually be able to talk to our database directly. If you are looking for titles or plans through web services you would actually be able to look at our server on your site directly. If you wanted to do a search from your system, you would be able to submit a polygon to us and, as long as it's done to our mapping fabric standard, you will be able to read that polygon on our system and it will reply to you with any corresponding data that you are looking for.

Online today, you are able to access titles and registered documents, township plans, field notes, Alberta survey control monuments, soils, survey plans, updates on registration information, cemetery searches, and volume data searches. I know that some land surveyors have never gone in and played with SPIN. Basically, it is very straightforward. You can go in under the guest log, crash around and it won't hurt a thing. I highly promote some experimentation from any of you that haven't had the experience of using SPIN because it is only when you are actually closing out of the application that you would actually be billed for something. We have some products that are charged for and some that are free.

We deliver products in a pdf format which has an embedded encryption key in order to protect our land title. In Alberta we guarantee the title and take that very seriously. If anybody tampers with the title, we are actually able to discern that fact. Believe it or not, it does happen periodically. Fraud is committed by removing interest from titles.

We have had a lot of comments and feedback with respect to the visibility of ACSMs regarding the mapping fabric of SPIN. We will be trying to see if we can't improve that capability with respect to legibility and readability.

Township plan and field note searches have a very straightforward interface that is used for all of our product delivery. For the individuals that might look at ordering thousands or tens of thousands titles at a time, there is a very straightforward file upload process. You basically create a word file with a list of legals that you have, submit it to the system and then we respond
a short time later with the corresponding data delivered to you via e-mail.

The map search capability on SPIN is continually being enhanced. The big step forward this year is that we have turned every property title into a polygon. What that means is that now, and in the future, when you do searches on SPIN, if you even touch a lot with your search polygon, you will get that data back. Previously, you may have missed it because it was based on a node in the middle of a parcel that may or may not have been touched on when you actually drew your boundary around the area you wanted to search in for data.

The government is looking at web services very seriously in order to promote the integration of land information, in general, in government.

Mr. Elliott encouraged the membership to drop by the Alberta Land Titles booth as he would be happy to demonstrate some of the new technology.

Mr. MacDormand expressed concern about reporting errors in plans. He suspected that many errors are going unreported and are not being fixed because people do not know who to contact.

Mr. Elliott responded that there is a SPIN II help desk and the number for the help desk is available on the SPIN II website. He added that the mapping system is not perfect but work is being done to improve the system on a daily basis. Mr. Elliott indicated that he can be contacted directly whenever problems arise.

Mr. Elliott responded to the plan correction issue and indicated that there is a special area in the plan search section of the SPIN site on a menu item called amended plans whereby a search can be done on a date, municipality or plan number to check if a plan has been corrected in the system.

Mr. Lin asked whether there was any chance that the Land Titles Office will be increasing its hours of operation during these busy times.

Mr. Elliott responded that SPIN was originally a twenty-four hour service. When the ability to search for titles was added, that tied SPIN to the ALTA main frame system which has certain hours of operation. Through the early morning hours, batch process are being run to update the file information on the services both on ALTA and SPIN II. In order to expand the capability of the system, it had to be tied to ALTA as it is the registration system used to perform updates. Typically the system is up by 7:00 a.m. Mr. Elliott went on to say that, short of maintenance, SPIN should be available all day Saturday as well as Sunday from 12:00 noon on.

Mr. Elliot informed the assembly that, over the next four years, the registration system for surveys, titles and registered documents, will be replatformed and, at the end of that process, it is hoped that SPIN will be available twenty-four hours a day.
The Association’s solicitor, David Jardine was introduced and welcomed by the membership.

Mr. Green announced that Scott DuFour, ALS was the early bird prize winner of a complimentary evening stay for two at the Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge.

Mr. Green further announced that if there were going to be any further nominees for the elections to get the biographies to the Executive Director as soon as possible. He also encouraged the members to consider volunteering for the Discipline Committee as it is the core of being a self-governing profession.

President Green introduced the staff at the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association office as follows:
- Brian Munday, Executive Director
- Dick Basil, Registrar
- Fred Cheng, Director of Practice Review
- Don George, Assistant to the Director of Practice Review
- Sharon Stecyk, Executive Assistant
- Dawn Phelan, Information Services Administrator
- Michelle Woywitka, Administrative Assistant
- Cindy Chomlak, Administrative Assistant
- Jeremy Dawson, Geomatics Technologist
- Lynnette Cedarland, Administrative Assistant

It was MOVED by Mr. Pals, seconded by Mr. Pratt, that the 2005 Report of Proceedings be adopted.

Motion Carried

It is hard for me to believe that my time as your president is already up. The year was active, challenging, and memorable, with all the opportunities I had to represent you with our colleagues across Canada and in the US. It was a voyage of discovery as I learned how much we share with our counterparts in other locations and the collective strength we possess through our national organization (CCLS).

In my acceptance speech one short year ago, I indicated that I was taking on the challenge of building some critical relationships with the groups, and around the issues, that are driving changes to our industry, so that we can have a voice at the table about matters that have an impact on us and our profession. I have tried to remain true to that promise and wish to report to you on some of the more significant contacts that have been made over the past year.

- In May last year, Brian Munday and I met with David Coutts, Minister of Sustainable Resource Development, and his Deputy Minister, Brad Pickering. The Minister is responsible for the Surveys Act and the Director of Surveys Office. We discussed — Public Lands Disposition Mapping,
  — the two motions we passed at our last AGM on Part 2/Part 3 monuments, and
  — the proposed Boundary Resolution Panel to be used when
Alberta Land Surveyors differ on the location of a boundary.
The Minister was receptive to our concerns and ideas.

- Last year ALSA joined the organization known as CAPP, the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers. This allows us membership on two critical committees—CAPP Geomatics Committee and CAPP Resource Access Committee.
  — CAPP Geomatics Committee: this committee works on all issues dealing with geomatics. Some examples of issues being discussed include:
    - Federal Permit System migration to NAD’83: proposed new regulations,
    - CAPP - NAD'83 Industry communication & education initiatives,
    - NAD’83 Conversion Cost Benefit Analysis,
    - Canadian Height Modernization,
    - Alberta Sustainable Resource Development DIDs delivery plan,
  — CAPP Resource Access Committee: this committee is a much larger, broader committee dealing with a variety issues in which geomatics is one of them.
These committees deal with critical issues that directly influence our industry, and in which our profession previously had no voice at the table. Joining these committees has given ALSA a significant voice.

- The Energy Utilities Board—The ALSA continues to enjoy a great relationship with EUB. They proactively seek our opinion on all geomatics issues impacting the oil and gas industry.

- In August last year, Sustainable Resource Development pushed forward the implementation of the disposition mapping program. SRD and ALSA continue to work closely together to achieve workable solutions for industry and land surveyors.

- In November, the ALSA met with representatives from CMHC to discuss issues surrounding title insurance. The meeting was a tremendous opportunity for the frank exchange of thoughts and ideas dealing with this issue. Again, our ideas were well received.

- As I travelled across Canada to our sister organization meetings, I realized that the ALSA was missing an ongoing, critical relationship, that most of our sister organizations enjoyed. These organizations had their Director of Surveys (or equivalent) attending council meetings on a regular basis. This enabled regular reporting to their respective councils. As I indicated to you earlier, we asked our Director of Surveys if he would be interested in attending our Council meetings to report on their activities. He accepted our offer and has been attending our ALSA Council meetings on a regular basis since January. These meetings have been a great success and Council looks forward to this increased level of communication.

- In an effort to positively influence the development of cadastral studies at the University of Calgary and to foster quality re-
search in our field, Council approved the Cadastral Research Fund. A new University Research Project Ad Hoc Committee, consisting of three Alberta Land Surveyors, will work with representatives from the U of C to approve research projects.

While we made some significant headway during the past year, there is still much to be done to bring our ideas and concerns to the right tables. I hope this initiative will continue in the future.

I have been blessed this past year with an energetic and committed Council. I wish to thank all of you for your efforts.

I am also grateful for the opportunity to discuss the issues and successes of Alberta Land Surveyors with our many sister associations. It is clear we have many common interests.

It has been a tremendous honour for me to work on your behalf as your president. Thank you for your confidence and support.

It was MOVED by Mr. Pals to accept, seconded by Mr. Nelson, that the 2004-2005 financial statements be received.

Motion Carried

Mr. Pratt asked for an explanation of the $92,550 unrealized gain.

Mr. Munday explained that when the market value of an asset drops below the book value, the standard accounting procedure is to write that down to the lesser of the book value even though the asset has not been sold. The value of the asset had recovered by $92,550 for the year 2005. In other words, it is the unrealized gain on assets that had been previously written down when then market was not good.

Mr. Allred indicated that a number of years ago, the ALSA entered into an arrangement with TAL Investments to invest a fairly substantial amount of funds. He continued by stating that very shortly after that, the market went into a decline. He asked for an update on how the investments are currently performing.

Mr. Pals indicated that the Association's asset value is $1,538,000. Over a fifteen month period, the ALSA has realized an 8.3% gain in value.

Mr. Allred felt it would be interesting for the ALSA to provide the membership with an update on how the investments are performing. He further indicated that he thought a report could be presented to the membership at every AGM as an information item.

Mr. Pals advised that changes were made to the budgeting process as a result of motions from the previous year's AGM. He pointed out that the iron post and market post sales have increased substantially over what was budgeted last year. Rather than budgeting on the four year average for posts, the ALSA is now taking into account the consumer price index along with a few economic indicators to try and more realistically estimate the costs and the sales. As a result, the 2005-2006 budget has a 17% increase in revenues. Mr.
Pals went on to say that the budget indicates a 16% increase in overall expenses.

Mr. Allred asked for an explanation of why there was an increase in the price of iron posts and marker posts.

The assembly learned that the manufacturer of the iron posts and marker posts has increased the cost to the ALSA as the price of steel has gone up. The increase amounted to approximately 7%.

Mr. Allred asked if it was necessary to pass that increase on to the membership, in view of the ALSA’s substantial increase in revenues.

Mr. Pals responded that Council felt it should keep the same amount between what the government allows the ALSA to charge over and above the cost of the iron posts and marker posts.

President Stephen Green introduced the committee chairs as follows:

- **Boundary Panel** ......................... David McWilliam
- **Convention & Social** ..................... Brian Munday
- **Discipline** ............................................. Al Nelson
- **Editorial Board** ............................. David McArthur
- **Future of the Association Ad Hoc** ...... Arlin Amundrud
- **Historical & Biographical** ............... Allan Main
- **Legislation Ad Hoc** ....................... Terry Hudema
- **Nominating** ........................................ Al Nelson
- **Oil & Gas Ad Hoc** ............................ Al Jamieson
- **Practice Review Board** ................. Dwight Wiberg
- **Professional Development** .............. Ross Woolgar
- **Public Relations** .............................. Scott Partridge
- **Registration** ................................. Connie Petersen
- **Safety** ................................................. Mike Fretwell
- **Standards** ........................................... Kevin Swabey

Mr. Green also pointed out that the ALSA also has representation on the following external committees:

- **CAPP (Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers)**
  - CAPP Geomatics/CAPP Resource Access
    - Stephen Green/John Wallace
- **GELC (Geomatics Engineering Liaison Committee)**
  - Victor Hut/Rob King
- **WCBE (Western Canadian Board of Examiners) now changed to CBEPS (Canadian Board of Examiners for Professional Surveyors)**
  - Victor Hut/Larry Pals

*It was MOVED by Mr. Hudema, seconded by Mr. Scott, that the 2005-2006 committee reports be received.*

*Motion Carried*
Mr. Allred, in referring to the Editorial Board and the survey law text, recalled that the contract with the authors was to publish the final product. He pointed out that it appeared that the product will be published digitally. Mr. Allred supported the idea of publishing the text digitally, but felt it was important, having spent considerable time and money, to at least publish a hard copy because of the public relations value. He felt that, if the ALSA has a survey law text with the name of the ALSA as the publisher on it in every law library, it would be a very valuable public relations endeavour. Mr. Allred also suspected that most members of the ALSA would want to purchase one as well. There is also a public relations benefit involved and, as well, it is much easier to use the text as a reference if a hard copy is available. Mr. Allred encouraged Council to rethink how the text is going to be published. He felt that there was much value in publishing in the traditional sense.

Mr. Partridge, Chairman of the Public Relations Committee, apologized for not having his report ready for the AGM package and presented a verbal report as follows:

It has been a very exciting year for the Public Relations Committee. It began by going through a polling exercise with Rose Country Communications Ltd. which led the Committee into a new five-year plan. The plan is an ambitious document with sixty-three separate items that are taking the ALSA past its centennial through to 2010. One item that we are hoping to complete is a one-hour television documentary. Some preliminary work has been done on that.

The Committee is also working hard in developing a mathematics competition for the high schools in Alberta. We invested in the Science in a Crate program, we were involved in a Scout Jamboree, leading a geocaching exercise with 400 scouts. I have been invited to lead the same type of activity with the Canadian jamboree in Montreal in 2007.

The Committee also participates in a number of trade shows throughout the year with varying degrees of success. There would be a satellite image of a municipality available and trade show participants were invited to guess which municipality it was with a hand-held GPS unit as a prize.

The Committee is always looking for new members. We have had the luxury of having a very well organized committee. The Committee has many exciting ventures to undertake and is always looking for people to help move those items forward.

Mr. Hut took the opportunity to speak about the Geomatics Engineering Liaison Committee and survey camp as follows:

Every year the University of Calgary has a survey camp for the third and fourth year students. The survey camp has been going on since the inception of the program in the early 80s and it is a very valuable opportunity for the students to experience some aspects of actual field surveys. As such, the Geomatics Engineering Liaison Committee is actively seeking volunteers and presenters to participate in the survey camp during the last week of August. Presen-
tations are thirty to forty-five minutes on a project that was worked on or the type of work students can expect to work on as a professional. The subject can be on international work, GIS and so on. The invitation is also extended to the ALSA’s sister associations.

President Green called upon Legislation Committee Ad Hoc Chairman, Terry Hudema, to present the bylaw amendment. He added that everyone but honorary members may vote on bylaw amendments.

Mr. Green pointed out that there is a change to Section 40(1) of the bylaws dealing with signing authority.

It was MOVED by Mr. Hudema, seconded by Mr. Frederick, that the bylaws of the Alberta Land Surveyors Association be amended as follows:

**13(4) Council Meetings - Use of mail**
Unless otherwise agreed by every member of Council, written notice of each Council meeting shall be sent mailed by the Executive Director to each Council member at least seven 40 days before the date of the meeting.

**30(7) Conduct of Election**
At the annual general meeting, the President Registrar shall appoint at least three (3) Alberta Land Surveyors to act as scrutineers.

**40(1) Signing Authority**
Except as authorized by Council, no money shall be withdrawn from the Association’s account except by cheque (a) signed by the Executive Director and one of the following officers: the president, vice-president, past president or secretary-treasurer or (b) in the absence of the executive director, by any two of the following officers: the president, vice-president, past-president, secretary-treasurer signed by the Executive Director for amounts under $5,000 or, in the absence of the Executive Director, by any two of the following officers: President, Vice-President, Past-President or Secretary-Treasurer. A cheque for $5,000 or over must be signed by any two of the following: the Executive Director, the President, Vice-President, Past-President or Secretary-Treasurer.

**51(1) Honorary Life Member**
(a) Council, in its discretion, may confer honorary life membership in the Association upon any Alberta Land Surveyor or retired member who has rendered signal service to the Association and the betterment of mankind.
(b) An honorary life member is not required to pay an annual fee or any levy payable to the Association.
(c) An honorary life member may not engage in the practice of surveying unless otherwise authorized by Council.
52(1) Fees
(a) on application for registration as an Alberta Land Surveyor, surveyor’s corporation or surveyor’s partnership; $20.00
(b) for registration with the Association as an Alberta Land Surveyor, surveyor’s corporation or surveyor’s partnership; $100.00
(c) for an Alberta Land Surveyor, a sum not exceeding annually; $700.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by the Council;
(d) for retired membership, a sum not exceeding annually; $100.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by the Council;
(e) for associate membership, a sum not exceeding annually; $200.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by the Council;
(f) for affiliate membership, a sum not exceeding annually; $100.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by the Council;
(g) for a surveyor’s corporation or surveyor’s partnership, a sum not exceeding annually; $500.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by the Council
(h) for the filing of articles of service; $50.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by Council until the articles are terminated,
(i) for the filing of each transfer of articles of service; $20.00
(j) for late payment of any fees, dues or levies; $50.00
(k) for reinstatement, in addition to other fees, dues and levies payable; $100.00
(l) for pupils, a sum not exceeding annually; $100.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by Council;
(m) for branch offices, a sum not exceeding annually; $300.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by Council

53(c)
(c) the annual register.

56 Annual Register
(1) The Annual Register shall contain the names, current addresses, and date of registration for all members, surveyor’s corporations and surveyor’s partnerships registered as of April 30 and shall be published on the Association website.
(2) The Registrar shall prepare a supplement to the Annual Register to include all members, surveyor’s corporations or surveyor’s partnerships registered after April 30 in any year and send a copy to the Registrar of each Land Titles Office and the Director of Surveys.
(3) Additions or deletions to the Annual Register shall be published in the Association newsletter or other Association publication.
(4) On or before August 1 June 1, in each year, the Registrar shall send a copy of the Annual Register to each member, to the Director of Surveys and to the Registrar of each Land Titles Office.
(5) When a member dies, is suspended or has their registration cancelled, the Registrar shall strike that member’s name from the Annual Register and shall forthwith notify the Director of Surveys and the Registrar of each Land Titles Office.

61(5) Duplicate Permit Stamp
A surveyor’s corporation or surveyor’s partnership may apply to the Registrar for one or more duplicate stamps to be issued to it.

65(6) Mandatory Insurance
A member who applies to Council for retired membership pursuant to Section 51(2) of the general bylaws, or requests Council to cancel the member’s registration pursuant to Section 28 of the Land Surveyors Act, must establish to Council’s satisfaction that he has provided for adequate insurance coverage.

65(7) Mandatory Insurance
A practitioner shall notify the Registrar of particulars of all claims made against his professional liability insurance.

66 Notice
(1) When a notice or any other thing is permitted or required to be given to
   (a) an Alberta Land Surveyors, a surveyor’s corporation or surveyor’s partnership or other member of the Association, the notice may be given
      (i) by delivering or mailing the notice to that person’s mailing address shown on the appropriate register or record of the Association, whether by mail, courier, fax or electronic means, or
      (ii) by personal service;

Mr. Hudema addressed the membership as follows:

The Legislation Ad Hoc Committee was asked by Council to look at a number of changes so that the bylaws reflected actual practice with respect to some of the contents. Many of the changes are housekeeping amendments. Mr. Hudema went through the bylaws highlighting the changes in concert with the rationale for each change.

AMENDMENT MOVED by Mr. Frederick, seconded by Mr. Marquardt, that the word “land” be added in front of survey in clause 51(1)(c).

Amendment Carried

Mr. Hagen asked whether the changes to the fees have been taken into account for the current year’s budget.

Mr. Pals advised that the changes have to be approved by the membership before they can be put in place. He went on to say that the new fees would come into effect for the next budget year.
Mr. Main asked whether the changes to Section 56 mean that a printed copy of the register would not be circulated.

Mr. Hudema clarified that the date for publication of the register has just been extended to August 1st instead of June 1st.

Mr. Main suggested that an amendment be made that clarifies that the register is to be a hard copy.

The assembly was assured that there is no intent to change the publication procedures of the register; only to change the date.

**AMENDMENT MOVED by Mr. Halliday, seconded by Mr. Stephens, that section 52(1)(m) be struck in its entirety.**

*Amendment Carried*

Mr. Halliday did not believe that, because the fees schedule has not been amended since 1996, is enough of a reason to amend Section 51(1)(m). He further referred to the statement in the rationale document that branches offices require the approval of Council and are subject to practice review. Mr. Halliday indicated that he understood that practice review was funded by post sales. He did not believe that the Association needs to institute a $300 fee to cover off practice review.

Mr. Pals responded that the intent is not necessarily to set the fee at $300, it is to give the future Council's the availability to set a fee if required. He added that he felt it was appropriate to look to the future to cover off any financial need that arises.

Mr. Stephens felt it was important for the assembly to pass the amendment. He pointed out that the Systematic Practice Review budget for the coming year is $330,000. The post sales revenue for the first six months is $456,000. He questioned the need for the ALSA to penalize business to fund SPR which is currently well-funded. Mr. Stephens further felt that, while there may not currently be a fee attached to the amendment, once the opportunity to exists to charge a fee, it can be guaranteed that the fee will be instituted. He added that if there is a requirement in the future for funding, Council can return to the membership with a request for adjustments to the fee structure of the bylaws at that time.

Mr. Hagen spoke against the amendment and felt it was fair that branch offices be charged a fee.

Mr. Pratt asked for an explanation of why Section 52(1)(j) was going up 500%.

Mr. Pals responded that it is called a deterrent increase.

Mr. Allred suspected that Section 56 was being amended because he has complained about the register not being available until mid-August. For ninety years, the Association office was able to pub-
lish the register within a month. He added with advances in technology the register could be out by the first week of May. Mr. Allred commented that one of the primary penalties of a land surveyor not paying fees on time is that the name is not in the register. He went on to say that the register is one of the most valuable publications published by the ALSA. He recognized that the publication is not just the register, but a small phone and address book which is very valuable. Mr. Allred asked whether it was not a priority for the Association office to publish the register right away. In past years, as soon as the April 30th date passed, the register was published. Mr. Allred indicated that he had no concerns with the electronic edition of the register on the ALSA website.

**AMENDMENT MOVED by Mr. Allred, seconded by Mr. Wesolowsky, to delete amendments to Section 56 entirely.**

_Amendment Carried_

Mr. Pals indicated that a thirty day notice from the Registrar is sent to those members who are late in submitting fees. He added that, according to legislation, if the fees are not received in the first thirty days, then the Registrar gives written notice to the delinquent member that their name will be struck from the register if the fees are not received within another thirty day time period. The assembly learned that the register can not be really finalized until those time periods have passed. The amendment to the late payment penalty is to remind members to pay their fees.

Mr. Allred disagreed and indicated that one of the requirements to continue practicing is the payment of annual fees. He added that the supplement to the register is for those members who forget to pay their fees. Mr. Allred stated that the register does not need the approval of Council, so he did not see any reason why it could not be published as soon as possible. He commented that the bylaw changes would hold up the process for the very few members that are delinquent in paying their fees.

Mr. Holmlund pointed out that in the rationale for the bylaw amendments it is very clearly pointed out that there are, on average, a dozen late payment invoices issued to, usually, the same members. He added that he did not believe that the same people forget every year and felt that was not a reasonable rationale for delaying the register.

Mr. Pals advised that, in the first two week period after the deadline of April 30th, there are many members who have not submitted fees. The Registrar spends a considerable amount of time contacting members and reminding them that payment has not been received.

Mr. Bassil acknowledged the rationale behind the recommended amendments. He added that there are many friendly phone calls made, the first of which will take place after this AGM, to a few members who have not paid their fees so far. That is followed up by
more tracking to try and encourage them to pay their fees before the first Council meeting after the 30th of April. Mr. Bassil indicated that there is nothing formally done to remove anyone from the register until the 30 day notices have lapsed.

Mr. Holmlund commented that, if the amendment is passed, it will encourage members to continue to be late in paying their fees.

Mr. Allred commented that the bylaw section in question is not required to have the real-time register published on the ALSA website. He indicated that what is being considered is the official annual register of the ALSA membership. The basic principle of the register is that, as of April 30th, if a member has not paid their fees, they are no longer entitled to practice. Mr. Allred went on to say that there is provision for a supplement to the register. He indicated that the dates that are currently in the bylaws have been practical for ninety years.

Mr. Gillmore commented that Council has given its assurance that honorary life members would be allowed to continue to practice. He asked Council why they changed the bylaws so that an honorary life member has to ask Council for permission to practice.

Mr. Hudema responded that the amendment is to give Council the ability to make the decision based on the issues of insurance and amount of time the member has been retired from practice.

**AMENDMENT MOVED by Mr. Rachynski, seconded by Mr. Kocher, that section 52(1)(j) be changed to read “double the registration fee” in place of $200.**

*Amendment Defeated*

Mr. Pratt asked whether the intent was to double the registration fees for all membership categories.

Mr. Rachynski confirmed that the amendment would be to double all membership category fees that are delinquent.

Mr. Stoliker asked whether the amendment would override subsection (k).

Mr. Pals advised that the amendment would not override subsection (k) as that fee is put in place after a member is struck from the register. For clarification he indicated that a delinquent member would owe double all of the fees plus $500.

**AMENDMENT MOVED by Mr. Allred, seconded by Mr. Baker, that there be a new section 51(1)(d) added to read: notwithstanding subsection (c) this amendment shall not apply to honorary life members in uninterrupted active practice prior to enactment of this amendment.**
Mr. Allred felt that the bylaws should contain a clause to ensure that the continuing practice of current honorary life members is validated.

Mr. Baker added that he supported the amendment as it would clarify that he, as an honorary life member, can continue to practice without making application to Council.

Mr. Holmlund supported the amendment in principle as long as the individual continues to practice in an uninterrupted fashion. The way the amendment is put forward, it would allow an existing member to quit practicing for three years and then start up again. He suggested that the mover and seconder could change the wording to include interrupted practice.

*It was MOVED by Mr. Holmlund, seconded by Mr. Stoliker, that the motion be tabled until after the coffee break*

*Motion Carried*

*(Note: debate is continued on page 42.)*

Mr. Green called upon Standards Committee Chairman Kevin Swabey to present recommendation #2.

*It was MOVED by Mr. Swabey, seconded by Mr. Landry, that Part D, Section 5.1.2 of the Manual of Standard Practice be revised to read as:*

> 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 allow the determination of the position of the wellsite and related facilities in relation to the theoretic section boundaries.

Monuments in this section refer to:

- monuments placed in accordance with Part 2 and Part 3 of the Surveys Act or
- monuments shown on Wellsite Traverse Plans on file with the Director of Surveys Office or
- Alberta Survey Control Markers directly connected to Part 2 or Part 3 monuments that define the theoretic section boundaries.

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

*Motion Carried*

Mr. Lachance expressed concern about the recommendation and the rationale. He went on to say that the recommendation redefines what a monument is. In referring to point #2 of the rationale document, he asked what kind of study was done to determine that an ASCM in unsurveyed territory not tied to the survey fabric is not good evidence. Mr. Lachance also wondered if an ASCM not tied to the survey fabric in surveyed territory is good evidence.
Mr. Lachance further expressed concern that the recommendation mentioned Part 2 and Part 3 monuments, but pointed out that point #4 of the rationale document refers to a direct tie to the baseline. He asked whether that was the same thing. He also asked whether there is a problem with the way things are done at the present time.

Mr. Swabey responded that the Standards Committee felt that the Manual of Standard Practice should define which monuments were acceptable. He further advised that it was the opinion of the Standards Committee that the ASCM monuments tied to the survey fabric would be more precise in relationship to the fabric. There would be a question on how the monuments that were not tied to the fabric would fit.

Mr. Michaud advised that there is a fully integrated survey control network so that markers are integrated with each. He went on to say that there is also a survey control network tied to the land survey system. On a baseline in unsurveyed territory, there are ties at each township corner or every second township corner. He surmised that Mr. Lachance was asking if it is an integrated survey control fabric, why can't a marker be used that does not have a direct tie. Mr. Michaud made the comment that the Committee felt that the direct ties are important to ensure that there is a good relationship between the two fabrics.

In response to Mr. Lachance's question about the monuments not tied to the survey fabric in surveyed territory, Mr. Swabey indicated that the intent is to include ties through other plans to the baseline.

He advised that there appeared to be two ways of doing things in unsurveyed territory and the Committee construed that as being a problem.

Mr. Halliday spoke in favour of the motion as he felt that the standard practice for working in unsurveyed territory was to calculate the sections out of the blue book, based on the baselines. He commented that he was unclear when it ever became acceptable to use survey control monuments based on an ever-changing ATS file.

In response to Mr. Halliday's comment, Mr. Pratt suggested that it was not accepted practice but was never prohibited as the Manual of Standard Practice did not say one way or another what the correct practice was.

Mr. Breau felt that there was a misconception among the members that the ATS file is not good. He indicated that, as far as he was aware, the ATS file was built from cadastral ties from the blue book. Mr Breau felt that the motion was a step backwards. He asked what the digital submissions to the Director of Surveys should be based on.
Mr. Michaud clarified that the ATS file was never intended to replace monuments or survey practices, but was developed for mapping purposes. He added that every second township could be tied on a baseline. There are a number of points on a baseline that have never been tied. Mr. Michaud continued by indicating that, in the process of generating the ATS file, there were a number of liberties taken in how to calculate it. The intent was to follow the blue book as best as possible. He cited an example where each tier of sections on the westerly boundary in the ATS file has a deflection which is not consistent with the ATS file. It was never intended that surveyors should take the proper ties to found monuments with the ATS file.

Mr. J.D. Wallace spoke in favour of the motion and indicated that he felt that if a step was ever taken backwards, it was from the moment ATS coordinates started to be used.

Mr. Hume spoke against the motion as he felt that there was a lot of good information put into the ATS project which took into account existing surveys, whereas, the blue book is strictly theoretical. He went on to say that the ATS takes into account existing surveys, range line or central meridian surveys. Mr. Hume added that he has asked the Director of Surveys Office to provide instructions for the defining of section boundaries and was instructed to use the ATS coordinate for the NE corner of section 2 or the NE corner of section 11. He continued by stating that he felt the ATS fabric does have its place and it is good information. He further stated that the blue book also has its place and is also good information. Mr. Hume felt that the membership needs to take all information into account in their decision making.

*It was MOVED by Mr. Pals, seconded by Mr. Hudema, that the vote on Recommendation #2 be conducted by secret ballot.*

*Motion Carried*

Mr. Schirrmacher commented that many wells were surveyed from the blue book. He went on to say that, recently, where he has tried to compute or draft from the ATS file, he found that there was a difference between the ATS file and blue book as, in some cases, different techniques were applied. He commented that he believed the motion was in order.

Mr. Oh was against the motion and commented that the most important component of surveying is analyzing the best evidence. He went on to say that with GPS technology, theoretical bearings of each monument tied into in unsurveyed territory can be calculated. Mr. Oh felt that land surveyors should be able to use their professional judgement.

Mr. Harding indicated that, in his experience, on an east-west line, a couple of minutes error in the traverse for six or eight miles can result in metres of error. He commented that he did not agree with the part of the motion that referred to monuments shown on wellsites.
traverse plans on file with the Directors of Surveys Office. Mr. Harding added that there are many surveyors who would not touch the ATS. He went on to say that he felt that the motion was a step backwards, as it was his opinion that a coordinate based cadastre will be used in the future. Mr. Harding added that, as a professional, he uses both methods and sometimes he chooses to use the ATS. He felt that motion took away his ability to use his professional judgement to use the ATS as a tool.

Mr. Gillmore asked the Director of Surveys to respond in the case of a previously unsurveyed township, with the work being contracted to a private surveyor to complete an official township survey, whether the baseline in the blue book should be used or should the ATS system be used.

Mr. Michaud responded that, at the regional meeting in Edmonton, he commented on how the ATS file was used in the past. There was a study done which involved eleven projects. He went on to say that the ATS file is recommended to be used as an option and as a tool but it is also recommended that the baselines be used. Depending on where the survey is, both methods are evaluated. Out of the eleven cases, over the last four years, it was determined that the ATS files were close enough to the blue book and it was recommended that coordinates be used in two cases. Mr. Michaud commented that in some cases, the ATS file fits very well with the blue book.

Mr. Holmlund spoke in favour of the motion. He expressed concern with using the ATS as a basis for calculating the township system. Mr. Holmlund felt that the ATS file was designed as a mapping tool. He added that, when he received his commission there was a publication available that made it very clear as to how the township system was to be laid out and how the deflections were to be handled in tying into meridians, boundaries of Indian reserves, river lots and so on. Mr. Holmlund felt that those instructions have not changed. He felt that was still how the boundaries should be calculated because land surveyors are bound by legislation to define the position of a well in relation to section boundaries in the best manner that they know how. Mr. Holmlund added that, unless he can be convinced that the ATS file is absolutely correct and the Director of Surveys will then base the further subdivision of land exclusively on the ATS file, he suggested that everyone should support the motion.

Mr. Maloney felt that the recommendation dealt with two independent topics: whether to use the ATS file or blue book to determine offsets for wellsite plans, and so on, and whether the ACSMs tied to the baselines are a good starting points for a survey. He asked the membership to consider whether the motion should be split into two separate topics.
Mr. Lachance thanked those members who pointed out that the ATS file is a tool and commented that if the membership approves the motion, that tool will be removed. He added that his firm does tie to Part 2 and Part 3 monuments and ASCMs by evaluating both methods.

Mr. Wiberg asked what is meant by sufficient monuments in the motion. He also pointed out that the third bullet in the recommendation refers to a Part 3 monument defining a section boundary. Mr. Wiberg did not believe that a Part 3 monument defines a section boundary. He went on to say that he would use both the ATS file and the blue book in determining theoretic section boundaries. Mr. Wiberg concluded that he is only in favour of parts of the recommendation.

Mr. Jamieson commented that, at present, a surveyor could put a wellsite in Fox Creek from an ASCM monument located in Medicine Hat. He advised that it seems nonsensical, but examples have been provided where ASCMs up to eighty kilometres away had been used to do a facility site plan. Mr. Jamieson indicated that was one of the issues that the Standards Committee was trying to solve in presenting the recommendation.

Mr. Ironstone felt that both the systems have errors in them. In the blue book, depending on which monument is used, the results could be different. The ATS system is not perfect, but in the areas where there are problems, they should be fixed up by the Director of Surveys so that one system could be used.

Mr. Fretwell commented that, in his experience, an ASCM in the general vicinity of a well that is not directly tied to the baseline is, in fact, much better than using a wellsite traverse plan. Its accuracy is integrated to those ASCMs that are in fact directly tied to the baseline.

Mr. Michaud advised that the last versions of the ATS were published in 1996 and 2005. There are roughly 700,000 coordinates involved. He went on to say that the difference between 1996 and 2005 was that 695 positions changed between one and three metres. There were also 192 position changes that were larger than three metres. Mr. Michaud expressed concern about finding more differences in the next five years. He asked the membership to consider whether they would want to position any right or interest in a boundary based on a coordinate that moves periodically. Mr. Michaud advised that he has received fourteen dispositions that were related to public land based on one survey control marker in a particular city that was 340 kilometres away. He went on to say that after debate with the surveyor and understanding what other practices have gone on and reviewing the Manual of Standard Practice, the plans were accepted. Mr. Michaud advised that in the Surveys Act it states that monuments govern boundaries. In unsurveyed ter-

Al Jamieson, ALS
ritory, there are monumented baselines which define theoretical quarter sections in unsurveyed territory. He indicated that he struggles with the concept of using a coordinate to define a boundary. Mr. Michaud indicated that there is no basis in the legislation to do that.

Mr. Partridge spoke in support of the motion and indicated that the pins in the ground are what govern the boundaries. He added that he would be hesitant to sign off on a plan that was not tied directly to the section fabric.

Mr. MacDormand felt that the ATS fabric was as good as the baseline surveys.

Mr. Prevost felt that the membership needed to be reminded that, as land surveyors, they need to establish a standard practice. Individuals should not be adapting technology to their own needs. He went on to say that it has been said several times that coordinates can be calculated in unsurveyed territory using the supplement or by accepting what is in the ATS file to calculate wellsite offsets. Mr. Prevost felt it was wise to do both; calculate manually and do the checks with the digital fabric. He went on to say that the land surveyors, as a group, have to have a standard, thus the term "Manual of Standard Practice." Mr. Prevost went on to say that the good and appropriate standard to be followed is the use of the supplement as the accepted method of calculating the coordinates and using whatever other method to verify the results.

Mr. Main indicated that he was troubled by the idea that two different levels of monuments were being created. He added that last year a step was taken to move towards unifying the type of monuments being placed in the ground.

Mr. Swabey closed discussion by indicated that baseline plans are official plans approved by the Director of Surveys office. Part 2 and Part 3 surveys are signed by Alberta Land Surveyors. The ATS file is not approved or signed by either.

New members C.M. Dempsey and M.P. Theuerkauf agreed to act as scrutineers for the secret ballot.

The ballots were distributed and collected. The scrutineers retired from the room to count the ballots.

_It was MOVED by Mr. Dempsey, seconded by Mr. Theuerkauf that the ballots be destroyed._

*Motion Carried*

President Green introduced Dr. Elizabeth Cannon from the University of Calgary who presented the following address to the assembly.
I was here last year and I am pleased to be back this year to give you an update on what is happening in the Department of Geomatics Engineering.

Overall, things are extremely positive and I have some good things to share in terms of our future. We have had some additions to and some departures from the Department. We hired Danielle Marceau from the University of Montreal as a full professor in the GIS area which we are continuing to try to strengthen. Nico Sneuw in the geodesy area, Melei Rakai in the land tenure area, and Darka Meuk in the GIS area have left the Department. This is a new reality for the academic sector, which is not too different from industry, that there is going to be some turnover and we are in a constant hiring mode. We will have another departure in the summer as Bo Whang is going back to Hong Kong. In the academic sector, universities are putting a lot more money into research and growing their activities. It gets quite competitive in terms of hiring and retaining people.

This year started as a transition year. We have moved to a slightly different curriculum. A few enhancements that I talked about last year are rolling out and we feel that they are going to better serve our stakeholders including the surveying community. The students are better prepared to hit the ground running when they graduate.

We had an engineering accreditation visit last October. This is a parallel activity to our accreditation in the land surveying side. It was a very positive visit and we will know the results of that in June. We are very optimistic that we will get a very strong bill of health in terms of our ongoing engineering accreditation.

Another very important development, which is the result of your support, is the funding that was announced whereby you are contributing to a research envelope to support research in the land surveying/land tenure area. We are looking forward to working with a newly developed committee of your members to identify areas of research that our faculty members can apply to get support. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you very much for spearheading that initiative. It is very critical because, not only are our academics involved in teaching, but also in knowledge development. To be able to retain them in Alberta, we have to ensure that there is solid research support which includes funding. We very much appreciate that coming from your Association.

In terms of departmental statistics, we now have twenty faculty positions. That makes us the largest geomatics engineering program worldwide. There is another position that we are hiring for as well as opportunity for growth. We see this number expanding in the future. We have 170 undergraduate students and we have 41 graduating this spring. This number is not as high as we would like; the number fluctuates a bit, year to year, depending on who is out on internship and who takes the five plus years to finish their program as opposed to the four years. We expect that number to be higher next year, as more students return from internship. We have about 80 graduates, of which half are international. We also have approximately $3.5 million per year in funded research from a number of sources.
One of the key things that changed in June of last year was the naming of the faculty to the Schulich School of Engineering. This was due to a large donation by Mr. Seymour Schulich of Toronto who committed $25 million to the school which is being matched by the Province of Alberta. So far he has given $15 million which has been matched by $15 million from the province with another $10 million to come in the next year or so, again, matched by the province. This is very significant. We have renamed our school in his honour. He has actually funded other programs in Canada. The business school at York University was renamed the Schulich School of Business which is the top business school in Canada and internationally. He has also contributed to the medical school at Western and the music program at McGill. For him to come and invest in Calgary in our engineering program is quite significant. He has very strong ties to Calgary and particularly to the oil industry.

The funding is being used for a number of things. Most critically the initial funding is being used to support scholarships. These are large scholarships aimed at students not only in Calgary, but outside of Calgary. They are valued at $10,000 per year for students in Calgary and $20,000 for students outside of Calgary. The scholarships are aimed at students who not only have strong academic merit but also at those involved in community service and entrepreneurship. In addition, there is funding for some research chairs and $400,000 spent per year to support student groups. For example, the Geomatics Engineering Student Association has tapped in to some of those funds to support our career day and other activities. Scholarships have grown and I would like to thank many of the organizations here today that have committed funding. I can't say enough on behalf of the students. Education is extremely expensive and companies stepping up and contributing to their education is highly appreciated. In the past year, we had two new scholarships, both set up by organizations within the land surveying community—Midwest Surveys and Crape Geomatics set up scholarships to support our students and I would like to encourage any other company that would be interested in doing that to please let me know.

The accreditation process happened in the last year. I won't dwell on that other than to say that it is a very rigorous process. We are really put through our paces and it takes us about a year to prepare for it. It was very positive. We received some excellent feedback in terms of our strengths. One of the things that the visiting team does is to sit down with the students and talk to them about how they feel about the program. They are asked what they feel works well and where improvements can be made. Our students were extremely positive in terms of the program. They did highlight an area that has a direct impact on your community and that is that they want more hands on experience in the surveying side of things. I am going to talk more about that later as that is an area of focus for us over the next few years.

One of the things that was announced about a month ago by the provincial government is major funding to the University of Calgary to expand in the energy and environment areas. The way
the funding works is that the University makes application to what is called the access program to grow students, both undergraduate and graduate, in key areas of focus. Energy and the environment is one of the flagship programs at the University of Calgary and significant funding was received to build strength in this area. The impact in engineering is several-fold but the one that will impact our Department is the creation of the energy and the environment specialization. The way this will work is that students will come into engineering, they can select geomatics engineering but, within that, they can have an engineering and the environment specialization. They will take core geomatics courses but they will also be able to take environment or energy-related courses to supplement their geomatics program so they will graduate with this geomatic engineering degree with specialization in energy and the environment. We will be developing some new courses to be able to fit into that new model. There will be new students coming into engineering and this will also allow us to expand our program. About this time next year, we will be taking more students into geomatics engineering to fill the quota for this program. It will also allow us to grow our graduate program as well as our number of faculty positions by two or three new professors.

Geomatics is also involved in the bio-medical engineering specialization. There are some synergies in terms of close range imaging, using photogrammetry and other techniques for analyzing joints. There is hiring for a new faculty member that will work with us on the bio-medical side and tie in to other geomatics activities.

The Faculty of Law approached engineering to look at a joint engineering law program whereby students would be able to enter into engineering and, after the second year, apply to the law school. After a five or six year time frame, the students would be able to graduate with both degrees. The interesting thing from geomatics is that the specialization within law will tie our strengths to some of the strengths within law in the natural resource side. This is in the very early stages of discussion.

Dr. Mike Barry is working on developing better skills for the students in surveying. Many of our students are coming through high school or engineering without having experience in the field or through a technical school prior to entering our program. We need to ensure, through our curriculum, that the students have multiple entry points to be able to have their hands on the equipment and to feel comfortable with the equipment. We are starting to enhance our curriculum and courses in the cadastral area so that students are able to develop and maintain their skills through the program. Our field camp is critical for that, but we need to ensure that it is embedded throughout our whole curriculum. Dr. Barry has also come up with a list of skills that he feels students need to develop, not only in our program, but when they go out to work with companies represented by your community. Dr. Barry would be happy to provide you with the list so that you know what we would like you to invest in in the education of our students as well.
Feedback from the students last year indicated that employment is guaranteed for every student and the cost of hiring is going up. The students, in May of last year, were surveyed on salary and indications were that the mid points were from the high forty to fifty thousand per year range on average. More experienced students would get paid more. This year companies are having to pay $50,000 to $55,000 per year for a starting graduate. In the exit survey, students were asked what their overall experience was in geomatics engineering. The response was very positive in that 80% of the students rated their experience as good or very good. That was significantly higher than the average across the school of engineering. We are continually trying to improve our program but we feel that the students that are coming through are generally very pleased with what we can deliver.

In summary, we are looking to grow. In the last six months, Dr. Mele Rakai left our program. Hopefully you have seen the advertisement that is out for a new position in that area of land tenure. The close of that competition will be at the end of April after which we will be short listing and interviewing. Stephen Green is a member of our hiring committee to represent your community as we feel it is very important to select the right candidate who can not only deliver on the teaching and research mandate, but is also able to reach out and continue our close relationship with yourselves.

There are many opportunities with the Schulich naming and lots of new funding and opportunities. We will hopefully continue to get good students into the program to meet the demand that we foresee for the future.

It was MOVED by Mr. Pals, seconded by Mr. VandenBrink, that Recommendation #1 be raised from the table.

Motion Carried

Mr. Allred stated that he and seconder, Mr. Baker, agreed to withdraw their amendment to the motion to add a new section 51(1)(d).

The assembly agreed.

AMENDMENT MOVED by Mr. Allred, seconded by Mr. Baker that recommendation #1 be amended to delete section 51(1)(c).

Motion Carried

AMENDMENT MOVED by Mr. Allred, seconded by Mr. Hagen, to delete the amendment to section 53(c).

Motion Carried

Mr. Hudema clarified that section 53(c) was to remove the reference to the annual register, assuming that amendments to section 56 would pass. Passing of the amendment would leave section 53 as it has been.

Mr. Stoliker felt that there was a problem in leaving "or retired member" in 51(1)(a) as it is not clear whether the member would
be an honorary life member or a retired member and what the rights of that membership would be.

The Association Solicitor David Jardine responded that active membership is not covered under section 51. He went on to say that active membership in the Association is dealt with under the Land Surveyors Act. Mr. Jardine stated that an honorary life member could be actively practicing or could be retired. He added that section 51 only states that the honorary life member no longer has to pay an annual fee or any levy to the Association. Mr. Jardine clarified that honorary life member is simply a category of membership and has nothing to do with practicing as an Alberta Land Surveyor dealt with under the Act.

**MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED**

13(4) Council Meetings - Use of Mail
Unless otherwise agreed by every member of Council, written notice of each Council meeting shall be sent by the Executive Director to each Council member at least seven (7) days before the date of the meeting.

30(7) Conduct of Election
At the annual general meeting, the Registrar shall appoint at least three (3) Alberta Land Surveyors to act as scrutineers.

40(1) Signing Authority
Except as authorized by Council, no money shall be withdrawn from the Association’s account except by cheque signed by the Executive Director for amounts under $5,000 or, in the absence of the Executive Director, by any two of the following officers: President, Vice-President, Past-President or Secretary-Treasurer. A cheque for $5,000 or over must be signed by any two of the following: the Executive Director, the President, Vice-President, Past-President or Secretary-Treasurer.

51(1) Honorary Life Member
(a) Council, in its discretion, may confer honorary life membership in the Association upon any Alberta Land Surveyor or retired member who has rendered signal service to the Association and the betterment of mankind.
(b) An honorary life member is not required to pay an annual fee or any levy payable to the Association.

52(1) Fees
The following fees, dues and levies shall be paid to the Association:
(a) on application for registration as an Alberta Land Surveyor, surveyor’s corporation or surveyor’s partnership; $50.00
(b) for registration with the Association as an Alberta Land Surveyor, surveyor’s corporation or surveyor’s partnership; $200.00
(c) for an Alberta Land Surveyor, a sum not exceeding annually $700.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by the Council;
(d) for retired membership, a sum not exceeding annually $100.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by the Council;
(e) for associate membership, a sum not exceeding annually $200.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by the Council;
(f) for affiliate membership, a sum not exceeding annually $100.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by the Council;
(g) for a surveyor’s corporation or surveyor’s partnership, a sum not exceeding annually $500.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by the Council;
(h) for the filing of articles of service $50.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by Council until the articles are terminated,
(i) for the filing of each transfer of articles of service; $50.00
(j) for late payment of any fees, dues or levies; $200.00
(k) for reinstatement, in addition to other fees, dues and levies payable; $500.00
(l) for pupils, a sum not exceeding annually $100.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by Council.

53(c)  No changes were made to this section.

56   Annual Register
No changes were made to this section.

61(5) Duplicate Permit Stamp
A surveyor’s corporation or surveyor’s partnership may apply to the Registrar for one or more duplicate stamps to be issued to it.

65(6) Mandatory Insurance
A member who applies to Council for retired membership pursuant to Section 51(2) of the general bylaws, or requests Council to cancel the member’s registration pursuant to Section 28 of the Land Surveyors Act, must establish to Council’s satisfaction that he has provided for adequate insurance coverage.

65(7) Mandatory Insurance
This section was deleted.

66(a) Notices
When a notice or any other thing is permitted or required to be given to
(a) an Alberta Land Surveyors, a surveyor’s corporation or surveyor’s partnership or other member of the Association, the notice may be given
   (i) by delivering the notice to that person’s address shown on the appropriate register or record of the Association, whether by mail, courier, fax or electronic means, or
   (ii) by personal service;

Motion Carried
On behalf of the Legislation Ad Hoc Committee, Mr. Hudema thanked Mr. Grusie for bringing insights from outside of the Committee’s realm of thought to the discussions.

\textit{It was MOVED by Mr. Swabey, seconded by Mr. Jamieson, that Part D, Section 5.8.7 of the Manual of Standard Practice be revised to read as: Make sufficient field measurements to ensure that there are no errors of layout or measurement and show same on plan.}

\textit{Motion Carried}

Mr. Swabey advised that one of the items on the Standards Committee action plan was to review Part D, section 5.8 and section 5.9 to make them more consistent. The proposed amendment to the Manual of Standard Practice would bring section 5.8 more in line with the wording in section 5.9 as they are both related to the survey of dispositions on public lands.

President Green commented that all land surveyors are aware of how difficult it has become to find not only Alberta Land Surveyors and articling students but also party chiefs, assistants, CAD operators and clerical staff. He went on to say that the land surveying profession is not alone in this problem in Alberta. All professions are facing the same crunch.

Mr. Green advised that the Government of Alberta has released a consultation document entitled "Building and Educating Tomorrow’s Workforce: A Framework to Enhance Alberta’s People Capacity" which provides a general framework for attracting and educating a high-performance workforce for the next ten years.

President Green introduced Christine Couture, the Director of Labour Force Development with Alberta Human Resources and Employment to provide an overview of the labour force document and answer any questions the Association might have.

Ms. Couture address the assembly as follows:

I am here to provide you with an update on the proposed, Government of Alberta ten-year labour force development strategy we are working on in order to address the shortages that you are certainly experiencing, both for general labour and skilled labour. Partnerships are key to this strategy and your input and thoughts on this very important topic are important to us. We are looking for feedback on whether there is a good balance between the initiatives and priority actions that government in partnership with industry is willing to move forward on, whether there is a good balance between meeting the short-term needs of industry and the long-term needs to develop and train Albertans. We would be interested in your thoughts on whether we have identified the right actions and whether we have identified the actions from your perspective that are going to meet your needs.

We, as government, have been collaborating with industry to develop a multi-pronged approach to addressing labour and skill shortages. In order to set the stage, we developed the paper titled

\textbf{Recommendation #3}

\textit{Public Land Dispositions Except License of Occupation (Standards)}

(See Appendix D for Rationale Document)
"Understanding Alberta's Labour Force: Looking to the Future."
This paper took us beyond the statistics and gave us a way to engage with industry in discussion around how to resolve the issues that everyone was feeling.
In "Understanding Alberta's Labour Force: Looking to the Future" there were two key findings. One is that the labour market is entering a period of shortages in selected occupations. In your particular sector, you are experiencing a severe shortage. That shortage is across the province for all businesses in your line of work. We don't see that level of shortage across all industry sectors in all regions of the province. An example we often use is that you hear there is a shortage of welders in Fort McMurray. In southern Alberta there are a number of welders who are not working at this time but, for lifestyle or personal reasons of their own, they are not choosing to move or travel to Fort McMurray for work. Personal choice is also why we are seeing and experiencing shortages in different regions of the province.

The second key finding is that the face of work is changing. There is more investment being made in technology to do work. As I walked through your trade show; the tripod was about the only thing I recognized. The equipment has very much been influenced by technology and technology has influenced the kinds of skills that are required of the people that you are looking to hire. We see that the skill set in most jobs will change over the next ten years and a higher level of skill will continued to be required as technology influences the work that is done across all sectors.

There has also been a change in attitude and perception around work/life balance and safety in the workplace. It appears that the average work week is sixty to eighty hours a week and potentially more. As we tend to have families, get older and start to appreciate that life is getting shorter, we start to want to have balanced work and life. That will influence the way that our children enter into the workforce; the expectations that they have as well as our own expectations.

We also see that today, young people are more sophisticated with technology and the world around it. They also know that they are in high demand. As you are looking for young people to enter into your sector, so are others. I know that when I first applied for a job, if there were parts of the job I didn't like, it didn't weigh that heavily because, if I didn't take the job, there were ten others behind me that would. In today's world, young people know that they are in high demand so they are making requests that employers are now having to consider in the type of work they do, the hours of work and salary. They are more sophisticated than we were when we were entering the workforce. Some have noticed that their parents fall in and out of the labour market and employers are not providing much security. As a result, they are not loyal to their employers.

As you know, the Alberta economy is booming and the economic outlook is bright for the next ten years. In 2003, our economy created 47,900 jobs. In 2004, we added another 40,000 jobs. In 2005, we added 28,500 jobs. We've seen a slight decline in the number of jobs created and we think that the supply of labour is...
starting to impact the actual number of jobs that can be filled. Having said that, the labour force numbers in Alberta continue to be very positive with the lowest unemployment rate in Canada in 2005 at 3.9%. At the end of April in 2006, the unemployment rate was lower yet at 3.1%. The highest overall participation rate in 2005 across Canada was 72.8% and the highest overall employment rate was 69.9%. In 2005, the unemployment rate for land surveyors was 1.4%. We consider a balanced labour market at 5% unemployment. At 3%, we consider a sector to be in shortage. At 1.4%, as earlier speakers have mentioned, the situation is very critical. In addition to very low unemployment rates, according to our 2005 wage and salary survey, 40% of the employers in your sector confirmed that they were having hiring difficulty in the last two years. What this tells us is that there is little unused labour in Alberta and the people who can work are working. We know that there is no magic labour bullet that will solve the problems.

There are a number of labour force pressures contributing to the shortage. First, we have an aging workforce. Baby boomers will start reaching the traditional age of retirement by 2010. By 2026, 20% of Alberta's population will be over the age of 65 as compared to 12% today. Some sectors will be more heavily impacted by a workforce that is fast approaching retirement age. Your sector is one of these. The average age of workers in your sector is 41 and the average age of retirement is 57.

Along with an aging population, we have declining population growth. In the past, Canada's fertility rates have been around 1.7 babies per woman, well below the replacement average of 2.1. There are simply fewer young people to choose from. These factors, along with the relatively low percentage of young workers, mean that there is mounting concern as to how sectors will retain their institutional knowledge and their intellectual capital as workers retire. Some questions that you need to think about are: what would your sector need to do to retain, not only the potential retirees, but also youth who enter into your sector and are looking for the best workplaces, the best jobs, the best benefits and the best opportunities.

We also see that new jobs are requiring higher skills and education. Approximately 65% of jobs created in the coming years will require post-secondary education. The lure of a strong job market competing with high schools and post secondary institutions for Alberta's youth, is another troubling trend. Youth are postponing their entry into post secondary training and such trends work against the drive to develop a value added, knowledge based economy where we need highly educated and skilled workers.

Another trend that we are seeing is that the economy in other provinces has begun to pick up. Currently, there are workers coming in from other provinces. The Prince Rupert Fort expansion has impacted Alberta's ability to attract labour from BC. In the Maritimes, there are nuclear energy plants that are starting to go into their maintenance and upgrading which is also impacting the flow of workers.

The trends that we are describing are not just provincial or national; they are international in scope. Other developed countries
are facing aging populations and declining labour forces. The result is that they are all looking for workers. Right now we have the UK and Australia recruiting our youth. Think about the recruiters who are coming from other countries, think about youth who want international work experience and also think about our highly skilled, highly knowledge based workers who are attracted to other countries. Much like Canada is going abroad to the UK, Germany, Denmark and France to recruit, other countries are coming here to recruit our brightest and our best.

The challenge is not unique to Alberta. What is unique to Alberta is the unprecedented investment in energy. We know that oil and gas, both conventional and oil sands, pull workers from other sectors because they can. They can pay big wages, they offer signing bonuses and a whole host of other types of incentives. This has significant implications on the manufacturing sector, on your sector, the transportation sector as well as others. The labour and skill shortage issues are exacerbated as you go down the skill chain with retail, hospitality and the agri-food sectors bearing the biggest brunt. They can’t compete and they are struggling.

Alberta is very fortunate in that we have one of the first comprehensive occupational demand and supply outlook models developed. It gives us a ten-year forecast for 140 occupations. We have had the demand information for many years and now we have added the supply information. The demand information comes from employers and the supply information comes from our post-secondary institution, high school and apprenticeship graduates. The forecast from 2005 to 2015 the model, projects the labour demand will grow by approximately 400,000 workers for new jobs. Over that same period, there will be a supply of just over 300,000 new workers, meaning that by 2015, there could be a shortage of up to 100,000 workers in Alberta. The figures that we are looking at are based on $111 billion of investment in Alberta. From the time that this model was run, we have had additional investment in Alberta of $17 billion. We already know that the shortage of 100,000 is a conservative number. In another view, at the current unemployment rate of 3-4%, it means that there are about 60,000 people looking for work. Just think what it will be like to find workers when we have the anticipated shortage of 100,000. Think about the related pay benefits and the incentives that will be needed to keep people working for you. The problem will be deeper and more severe. Knowing this, it is important to look at sources of labour to ensure that we are utilizing all populations. Unrepresented groups in the province are an important component of this.

Increasing the labour force participation of aboriginal Albertans continues to be a priority for the Government of Alberta. Nationally, the aboriginal population is currently growing at an annual rate of more than twice the rate of the general population. They are a population that defies the general trend. Aboriginal people are also starting to make very positive gains as we are starting to see that their skill and education levels are increasing and that there are programs in place that address the specific training needs of aboriginal people. We also see that the unemployment rate, especially for off-reserve aboriginal people is on the decrease and is at the
same rate as the Canadian average of 6%. However, there are still significant unemployment issues for aboriginal people living on reserves. Issues are low literacy, high drop-out rates at a very early age (by Grade 8 most often), cultural sensitivity issues and issues around visible minority and integration into communities. On average, about 4,500 aboriginal youths will turn 18 years of age every year and are able to enter the workforce. There is an opportunity for us to work to ensure they are getting the education and skills they need to develop to their full potential and enter into employment or post-secondary education.

Another important group are immigrants. Immigrants continue to experience barriers entering the labour market and are under-utilized in the Alberta economy. Approximately half of the newcomers to Alberta arrive with English skills and have higher education levels. However, 60% of new immigrants did not find employment in the same occupation that they had prior to arriving in Canada. Most were looking for survival jobs so that they could feed their families. The most commonly cited problem for immigrants entering into the labour force is the lack of technical language skills to the Canadian standard. I suspect that your business sector has acronyms that are industry-specific to Alberta. A lack of Canadian work experience is also cited as well as the transferability of foreign credentials. We have not done a good job in recognizing the competencies of foreign-trained individuals. Often, they come to Canada and are expected to start their educational attainment right from scratch rather than being accredited for what they have and the competencies that they have already developed.

While increasing the participation rates of under-represented groups such as aboriginals, immigrants and people with disabilities will help, it will only add an extra 6,000 maximum over ten years which will provide 60,000 new workers. There will still be a shortage of 40,000. Increasing the supply is not the only strategy that must be used. Somehow, we also need to start to limit the demand for labour.

"Building and Educating Tomorrow's Workforce" is Alberta's proposed ten-year labour force development strategy. It provides a vision for an Alberta that has the people with the knowledge and skills to meet its potential to be the best place to live, work and do business. The principles underlying this strategy include a focus on people and quality; people with the right skills, knowledge and ideas will secure Alberta's well-being and quality of life for future generations and position Alberta to compete in an increasing global economy. Our commitment is to maximize the skills and talent of Albertans first, including under-represented groups such as First Nations, Metis, people with disabilities and immigrants.

We need to provide Albertans with opportunities to use and create new technologies. Innovation is not just about technology; it is about people. This focus will develop a culture of learning and idea development in Alberta. Our aim is to build a life-long learning system that is responsive to the needs of Albertans, our economy and our community. Building and educating tomorrow's workforce focuses on the long-term development of Alberta's people capacity while, at the same time, addressing immediate labour force pres-
sures. Achieving the outcomes of this strategy will require strong collaboration between all stakeholders; industry, employers, labour groups, professional associations, community agencies, education and training providers as well as all orders of government. We must all work together to implement the strategy if it is to be successful.

The proposed strategy focuses on four themes: inform, attract, develop and retain. These themes have resonated well with the stakeholders.

The inform theme focuses on education, career, work place, labour market information and the development, analysis and distribution of this information. This theme provides information to support, not only individuals in making good career choices, but also business, industry association and labour groups involved in labour force planning. The attract theme focuses on immigration and mobility and attracting workers from outside the province. The develop theme is referred to as "grow your own." It focuses on education and training and developing the skills and knowledge of all current and potential workers already in Alberta. It also focuses on transforming workplaces through innovation, technology adoption and process improvement. The retain theme focuses on work attractiveness and retaining the skills and experienced workers already engaged in the workforce. Under each of these themes, there are a number of priority actions that have been recommended.

Under the inform theme, the priority actions include:

- Working with partners to raise awareness of prominent labour market issues and initiatives. The better informed you are about the future and the labour market and where pools of labour exist, the better decisions you, as employers, can make.
- Raising the awareness of higher education and training and improving the support available to help Albertans make informed learning and career decisions. Spending time with young people to ensure that they have the information to make good decisions.
- Helping employers address their labour needs through promoting industry-specific career paths with youths. Do the young people you know have any understanding of what a land surveyor does? That is probably one of the key factors in attracting individuals into your labour pool.
- Creating knowledge and innovation. Rather than having every employer start from scratch to create a new idea—share ideas and partnering as employers to lever the next level of invention.
- Expanding the resources available to help match employers and potential pools of labour.

Under the attract theme, because it focuses specifically on bringing new people into the province, the actions that have been proposed are:

- Encourage the federal government to simplify and speed up the immigration and temporary foreign worker process. For those who are looking for expertise abroad and have had the opportunity to make application for a temporary foreign worker, you know that the process is very cumbersome and very slow. We
are working right now with the federal government and are making significant gains to expedite that process.

- Work with partners to recognize the credentials, competencies, prior learning and work experience of immigrants and interprovincial migrants.
- Develop a coordinated marketing strategy to increase awareness about Alberta and position the province as a "destination of choice" for international immigrants. When immigrants look to come to Canada, they are aware of three places: Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver. We think that they are beginning to know Calgary but don’t know about Alberta as a province. Most immigrants to Alberta are secondary immigrants that land in another city in Canada. They either know of someone who lives in one of the cities or communities in Alberta or they hear about training programs which would expedite them moving into their profession. These are called bridging programs. There is one available for engineers where foreign-trained engineers can come to both Edmonton and Calgary and participate in a program that upgrades their technical skills and English, places them with an employer for work experience, and then they indenture through an engineering firm to get Canadian work experience so that they can actually become members with APEGGA.

The develop theme has two focuses. The high performance workforce which speaks to the education and training programs and a high performance work environment.

The priority actions that we have proposed for the high performance workforce are:
- Working with education and training providers to increase participation in training and post-secondary education. Making more seats available and tuition more affordable for full-time learners. The provincial budget announcement included making money available for increasing the seats for full-time learners and there was a cap placed on tuition.
- Working with employers to increase training and learning opportunities that allow Albertans to upgrade their skills while they are working. As technology moves along, you all know within your organization, you have a training requirement that needs to keep pace with the new equipment or new safety regulations. There is a need to support part-time training for mentoring programs, for employer and industry specific training through tax incentives or tax rebates—something along that line.
- Develop and implement comprehensive provincial strategies to increase high school completion rates.
- Working with industry to develop innovative approaches to improve participation in apprenticeship and industry training. We have seen a marked increase in the number of apprentices and we hope to continue that flow.
The develop theme also focuses on high performance work places. Priority actions proposed are:

- Continue to promote a streamlined regulatory regime to enhance business competitiveness and ensure existing and new regulations are not a burden to employers.
- Work with employers to improve administrative processes, production floor and product-to-market efficiencies and technology assisted delivery or programs and services.

The retain theme is about enhancing work attractiveness to encourage people to continue to participate in Alberta's labour force. It will likely not be freedom 55 any longer. It will likely be freedom 70. Retirement will be redefined. As we age, many of us are healthier, we are more engaged and we want to stay connected. We may not want to do the kind of work we are doing today, but we want to do something meaningful. When we talk about addressing the short-term skill shortages in Alberta, there are really only two policy levers that can be pulled. One is around immigration and temporary foreign workers and also delaying retirement.

The following priority actions focus on the longer term. There is very little that can be done to address industry's needs in the short term.

- Working with industry, employer groups and labour groups to increase the retention of mature workers—flexible work arrangements and pension programs. Looking at how pension programs are structured so that you can use your pension along with your work income so that you are not being penalized by taxation.
- Working with partners to increase the retention of knowledge workers with specialized skills including skills critical to bringing scientific, technological innovations to market. Professors, graduate students, researchers and faculty are an important part of what makes Alberta leading edge and we need to come up with strategies that are going to keep those individuals in our training institutions so that we can produce the brightest and the best.
- Working with community agencies, employers and other partners to provide the social infrastructure, support programs and networks for integrating First Nations people, Metis people, immigrants and other under-represented populations into work places and into communities.

The strategy is not just a list of actions; it is ensuring that we hold ourselves accountable to achieve particular milestones and outcomes. Because of this, we have developed a set of outcomes with short and long-term indicators and targets. For example, in the short term, for the outcome of improving the supply of workers with the right skills, we are looking at a target of 2.2% annual increase in employment to 2009. By 2009, we also want an increase of approximately 12,000 spaces in post-secondary learning and training systems.

For the outcome of developing a highly skilled educated and innovative people, some of our targets include increasing the per-
percentage of youth that have completed a high school education. Within a five year window, we are hoping to increase from the current 75% completing to 77% in 2008, increasing the percentage of Albertans who have completed a post secondary education from the current 58% in 2005 to 62% in 2009. Increasing the number of new apprentices to new registrations totalling 18,000, up from 13,800 in 2005—an increase of approximately 5,000. We have also set long-term targets for these two outcomes. Alberta will have among the highest level of employment growth in the country. Participation by Albertans in learning opportunities in Alberta's advanced education system will increase by 60,000 by the year 2020. Alberta will have the highest level of educational attainment in the country.

Our third outcome of fostering working environments that can leverage innovation and technology will be measured through labour force productivity. As changes in productivity are best considered over the long term period, we have identified a long-term target for this outcome. We will be looking at this annually with the target being that Alberta's annual productivity rate will continue to be higher than the national average.

As for next steps, we will be developing a series of sixteen sub-strategies some of which include construction, oil and gas, transportation and logistics, retail industry, professional and scientific services, and so on. We have already developed two sub-strategies as test models; one for aboriginal people and one for the oil sands industry.

"Building and Educating Tomorrow's Workforce" will enter the provincial government process and we will go to cabinet in June 2006. Input that you have will be very timely as we are now starting the re-drafting phase of the strategy. While we say that implementation will not begin until the fall, many of the initiatives are already starting to get under way. We will also be looking at sub-strategy working groups. As we develop the sub-strategies, we will be inviting industry to the table to work with us through small focus groups that will target issues within the industry.

Mr. R.M. Wallace applauded what the Government of Alberta was doing in a forward thinking strategy. There is tremendous opportunity in Alberta at the present time and Alberta has the opportunity to set itself apart from the rest of the country and the rest of the world because of its financial stability. He added that most youth are short-term thinkers and would rather take a well-paying job than continue on in post-secondary education. Mr. Wallace suggested that Alberta has the opportunity to address post secondary education. He felt that more technical schools and universities are needed. A bigger commitment is also needed by government to reduce tuition and the financial burdens of our students. Mr. Wallace felt that would solidify Alberta's future and make it a destination point for students not only within Alberta, but students that come to Alberta to seek training.

Mr. Wallace went on to say that, as an employer, he finds that training people is a very expensive endeavour. Most firms do not have the facilities and cash to train people. He added that he would
be willing to engage in training if there was a bigger commitment by government through taxes or subsidies. Mr. Wallace felt that it was a good investment for the province in the longer term because it will reap the benefits in the future.

Ms. Couture indicated that Mr. Wallace's comments were very consistent with what they have already heard and steps are being taken on initiatives to address those suggestions.

Mr. Amundrud asked what progress was being made with respect to foreign credentials.

Ms. Couture advised that NAIT has put a proposal before government to take its training abroad whereby individuals waiting to be processed through federal channels can be educated so that they will be able to work in Canada. She further advised that Red Deer College and the universities are also considering options in that type of educating.

Ms. Couture commented that the provincial government is working with professional associations to encourage them to set national standards. Most professional associations have provincial standards that either align somewhat with the federal standards or are quite distinct. She further commented that there is much work yet to be done on foreign credential recognition. The federal government does recognize that it is a priority for all provincial governments so that we can utilize foreign-trained professionals that are already here and the ones that are immigrating.

Mr. Allred commented that it would be a very difficult job for a small, professional association to analyze and evaluate the competency of a foreign immigrant. He felt that was an area that the provincial and federal governments and universities do help in providing that kind of evaluation. Mr. Allred indicated that he would not like to see lower standards result because of competency evaluation. He felt it would help if a national registry was established that had the competency to evaluate foreign credentials.

Ms. Couture responded that rather than looking at credentialling an individual, thought has been given to credentialling a country or an institution. She added that it is more complicated than initially thought, but well worth the effort to move toward that type of model.

Mr. Allred advised that he came across a Government of Alberta website and was astounded that it indicated that the survey profession is amply provided with surveyors for the future.

Ms. Couture responded that the website has been recently been updated. She continued by indicating that land surveyors are sometimes clustered with urban planners and architects, but through the occupational and supply and demand model, it was evident that the land surveying profession is in a critical shortage.
President Green thanked Ms. Couture for her presentation and presented her with a copy of *Laying Down the Lines*.

The meeting was adjourned until Saturday, April 22nd.

President Green called the meeting back to order by announcing that all motions for new business must be in writing and signed by a mover and a seconder.

Council was asked to step down and Registrar Bassil was asked to take the podium to conduct the elections.

Mr. Bassil announced that new members, J.W. Blatz, L.L. Ewoniak, M.G. Radoux and M. Timocin agreed to act as scrutineers for the election.

The assembly was advised that the biographies of the candidates submitted by the Nominating Committee were received 55 days prior to the Annual General Meeting and were included in the March issue of *ALS News*. The slate of candidates was also included in the recommendations package.

Mr. Bassil announced that the Nominating Committee has put forward the name of Mr. D.H. VandenBrink for the position of president of the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association for 2006-2007. He called for further nominations for the position of president.

As there were no further nominations, the assembly congratulated Mr. D.H. (Dirk) VandenBrink on his election as president.

Mr. Bassil announced that the Nominating Committee has put forward the name of Mr. R.M. Wallace for the position of vice president of the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association for 2006-2007. He called for further nominations for the position of vice president.

As there were no further nominations, the assembly congratulated Mr. R.M. (Bob) Wallace on his election as vice president.

Mr. Wallace addressed the membership as follows:

I guess most of you know me as the RPR guy. For those of you working in the energy industry, our firm is heavily committed to the oil and gas work so you can be assured that I can be dedicated to all aspects of the scope of practice of Alberta Land Surveyors. I realize that the office of vice president carries with it a large time commitment. If I am fortunate enough to carry on and assume the office of president, I am prepared to make a commitment to best represent our Association in all matters. I have been fortunate, over the years, to work with many of the presidents of the Association and I think I am able to determine what qualities would best represent our Association.

I see representing the Association as a multi-faceted position. The job requires the maintenance of Association business and rep-
resenting and being a spokesman in areas that concern your Association. There is also a need to work closely on issues that face our profession in the future. I subscribe to the philosophy, as many of you do, that we must constantly be pro-active with the people and agencies that use our products. We must continue to be forward thinking to preserve our field of practice and to explore potential new areas where our expertise can be used. The geomatics, land information and positioning fields are exploding world-wide. There are many ongoing issues that continue for Council’s consideration. There are some new looming issues that will affect our profession in the near future. I would just like to elaborate on a few of them.

The challenges facing our profession seem to be varied in nature. When I graduated from university, a job was really hard to find as are CAD technologists are today. In our business over the years, we have seen many different issues which dramatically affect what we do and how we do it. There were difficult times in the 1980s and 1990s where we lost many good people in our profession. With the big rebound in Alberta and the global economy, we are faced with a considerable personnel shortage but, we have the work. I agree with the theory that this part of the country will continue to have good economic growth for the next decade. As an association, we must prepare ourselves with this growth. There is tremendous competition for people that have training in the geomatics field. We must continue to work closely with the University of Calgary in order to ensure that students have cadastral opportunities and training. Other institutions such as NAIT, SAIT and BCIT have excellent programs providing training for technical positions. Hopefully we can continue to provide input and suggest expansion in these programs.

Technology has dramatically affected how we do our work with the accuracy of RTK and the wealth of information at our fingers tips. We must continue to monitor and encourage the development of future research and provide the technology enhancements in the future. An area I think we must continue to work at is the perception of the Alberta Land Surveyor by the public. Most oil and gas companies, engineers, developers, realtors and municipalities have a good working knowledge of who we are and what we do. But, the public is often confused and frustrated with us due to a lack of knowledge. How do we get there? I don't think it's an easy solution. Brian Stecyk's work with the Public Relations Committee has definitely heightened our profile in many areas but we must get the word out on the street. Many landowners use our products either begrudgingly or unknowingly through a lawyer or a realtor. Our brochures have gone a long way to provide information.

What do you get when you vote for Bob Wallace? Many of you know me; I am a person who is not afraid to speak up and be assured my opinions are representative of members of our Association.

Mr. Bassil announced that there were seven nominations for the three positions on Council. Mr. Finner removed his name from the ballot for personal reasons. The remaining candidates were: Bruce

*It was MOVED by Mr. Pratt, seconded by Mr. Young, that nominations cease.*

**Motion Carried**

The assembly learned that Mr. Van Berkel was not able to attend the AGM this year.

Mr. Bassil invited the remaining candidates to the podium to address the membership.

The assembly was advised that only honorary life and active member may vote.

The ballots were distributed and collected. The scrutineers retired from the room to count the ballots.

President Green invited Mr. Allan Theriault of NAIT to the podium.

Mr. Theriault addressed the assembly as follows:

I’d like to thank the membership and the Association for their strong support of the geomatics engineering program at NAIT and the many things that they do for our students. It was a good year for NAIT in general; not just our program, but the whole institution. There is some construction taking place at NAIT and, like other educational institutions, we have had to generate more space for new students. NAIT has a plan for expansion that goes up to 2012.

Presently NAIT employs more than 3,000 staff overall. In the geomatics engineering program, there are five. There are 200 different programs at NAIT. NAIT also announced that it has 120,000 alumni world-wide.

Last year there were 22 graduates from the geomatics engineering program. Employment in the geomatics industry for the graduates was 100%. This year, there are another 22 graduates who will be entering into the work force. Enrolment for this year started at 32 and at 28 last year. For the fall, there is excellent enrolment. The quota was filled up two months earlier than usual. There are presently 31 students accepted and 10 on a waiting list.

The program had $25,000 worth of scholarships and bursaries that were received by our students. Many of the member companies of this Association help to make this happen. The Association itself, as you know, contributes yearly. I would like to thank everyone who helps out with scholarships and I encourage others to try to help out. The students really appreciate the funding. The scholarships can be geared towards academic achievement, financial reasons, a combination of both or academic achievement in a certain course.
In the fall of 2005, NAIT received its national accreditation renewal for two more years. National accreditation is something that we are very proud of. We have to put in a submission every two years and have a national panel of the Canadian Technology Accreditation Board look at our curriculum and they give us their comments and feedback. Shortly after that news, we received news from the University of New Brunswick that an agreement has been entered into for a formalized transfer program so that students from our program can transfer to the University of New Brunswick. They will get credit for specific courses that are named in the UNB curriculum as long as the marks are above a certain point. The maximum credit at UNB at present, for a NAIT graduate is eight courses.

It was a really good year for our survey equipment room. As you know, NAIT is a hands-on learning institution. In October, we received a donation from Spatial Technologies Inc. which was publicized in ALS News and was very much appreciated. We received eleven Leica System 1200 RTK Receivers. We also received free data corrections from Pleiades Data Corp. This puts our students in a good position to get their hands on the latest technology. As a result of this, we also changed the order of our curriculum by moving GPS theory and field classes into the first year. This means that the first year students that enter the work force in the summer, will have had exposure to GPS theory and use of the equipment.

NAIT administration continues to strongly support the geomatics program. They have given us the means to purchase the latest technology and provide funding to operate initiatives with industry such as our initiative with Cansel, Trimble and Stantec where people from those firms work with our students directly in an RTK environment. As well, they help us with computers every year and, through our relationships with other industry partners, we have a situation where 170 computers are brought in each year for our labs.

It was a good year for our students. We received word from the Western Board of Examiners (WCBE) that our recent application for more exemptions from the WCBE exams was favourably received. A graduate from NAIT will now receive six exemptions which makes it easier to obtain a certificate of completion. There is a seemingly endless opportunity for jobs for the NAIT students.

Mr. Theriault thanked the assembly for the opportunity to speak to it and indicated that he would be pleased to answer any questions.

Mr. Hagen asked whether NAIT was considering an expansion of the program as there is a huge ongoing demand for personnel.

Mr. Theriault responded that there are many sectors experiencing growth and NAIT is constantly looking for ways to keep up with the growth. He encouraged the membership to contact NAIT with any comments. Mr. Theriault indicated that factors such as funding, space and enrolment pressure play a significant role. At the present time there are 41 individuals trying to get into a program that only has 30 seats available. NAIT would look more favourably
on expanding a program that has more enrolment pressure. He added that, if the industry needs were strong enough, NAIT would also look at that consideration.

President Green invited Mr. Greg Hebb, an instructor in the geomatics engineering technology program at SAIT, to the podium.

Mr. Hebb addressed the assembly as follows:

We have quite a few changes this year. We are taking steps to accommodate the needs of the work force. The program used to take in approximately 32 students every September. We have suspended the summer courses and doubled our intake in the fall to 60 students in trying to meet the industry demands looking for trained staff. We are now running two first year classes. In the winter semester, students make the choice as to whether they want to go into the mapping selection or the surveying selection. Usually there are 40 students that choose surveying and 20 that choose mapping.

With growing the class size, new Leica equipment has been added. The new total stations are being used by both the first year and second year students. The GPS equipment has also been upgraded.

There is a high demand for our graduates which is really appreciated by SAIT. Geomatics Engineering Technology graduates benefit from 100% employment rate. The most rewarding aspect is the options that the graduates have as far as the number of job offers and signing bonus offers. It is amazing and makes a huge difference to the students. Eighty to ninety percent of students get a job in industry between the first and second year. This makes a world of difference in the second year studies as the students realize what is taking place in industry and have a better concept of the type of instruction they are getting. From my side, in the field work, students know how they want to tackle the job. The annual median salary in 2004 was $34,200 and is probably low in today's job market.

We've made some additions to the curriculum as well. Last year, I called and asked companies to take students for work week. A big detriment was not having the proper safety training so that our students could go out in the field. With safety becoming a bigger issue every year, I found that students not having H2S Alive and WHMIS was a detriment. In this semester that just ended, the first year students took H2S Alive and WHMIS training. They already have standard first aid as part of the curriculum. If there are any additional seminars or courses that you think should take place at SAIT, please let us know.

We have an annual student mixer in January where you can meet our first and second year students. The mixer takes place on campus and is put together by the Geomatics Club. If you would like to be part of this event, please contact Paul Delorme at SAIT.

To grow the program, we need more instructors. There is no way you can grow a program without increasing the staff. You can't grow a survey office without increasing the staff. We are looking to try to coax more people to teach at SAIT. We are looking for survey
instructors with a geomatics diploma or a university degree with a
minimum of five years relevant industrial experience. We want peo-
ple to teach that have a knowledge of total stations software, GPS
equipment and MicroSurvey. Previous instructional experience is
considered an asset as well as current knowledge of the survey in-
dustry. We do our own training as far as class delivery and class
preparation. SAIT is also looking for instructors in the mapping
program. This individual should have a working knowledge of
softcopy photogrammetry software, aerial triangulation, and
MicroStation. These positions are posted on our website.

Thank you very much for your time. We appreciate the con-
tinued strong support from the survey industry and from the Associa-
tion.

Mr. Green advised that Lethbridge Community College was also
invited to make a presentation but, unfortunately, their schedule
prevented them from doing so. Lethbridge Community College has
provided a written report of their activities.

Mr. Bassil announced that the successful candidates for the posi-
tion of councillor for 2006-2007 were B.A. (Bruce) Beairsto, T.

*It was MOVED by Ms. Ewoniak, seconded by Mr. Blatz, that the
ballots be destroyed.*

*Motion Carried*

Mr. Swabey, Chairman of the Standards Committee was called upon
to do a presentation on the Corner Recordation Index website.

Mr. Swabey introduced the Corner Recordation Index as follows:

Imagine the following situation. In the course of a wellsite or real
property report survey, you are searching for a section corner and
are unable to find the original monument. You do, however, find
the next best thing—traces on the ground of the original monu-
ment. Many surveyors have stated that they do not want to incur
the cost of drafting and registering a plan of survey at the Land
Titles Office, so we have created another option. The Corner
Recordation Index will be free for surveyors to upload and download
information about restored monuments. Just place an appropriately
stamped monument and file a sketch along with the description in
the Corner Recordation Index.

When should the Corner Recordation Index be used? The index
should only be used for restoring survey monuments and should
not be used for re-establishing monuments.

Mr. Swabey took the assembly through a PowerPoint presentation
which went through submitting a monument restoration, logging
onto the Corner Recordation Index and retrieving a monument res-
toration.
Mr. Allred thanked all of the candidates that let their name stand for election. He added that, having been a chairman of the Nominating Committee in the past, it has always been a very difficult job to get a good slate. Mr. Allred congratulated Mr. Nelson and the Nominating Committee for having a good slate and encouraged the candidates that were not successful to submit their names for election in future.

President Green invited Monroe Kinloch to the podium.

Mr. Kinloch informed the assembly that the David Thompson Bicentennial Celebration will run from 2006 to 2011. A canoe trip, which will run from Rocky Mountain House to Thunder Bay, will take place in 2008. Mr. Kinloch advised he was soliciting participation in the event. The whole event would take about eight weeks. Anyone could choose to participate in any part of the trip and join a brigade comprised of seven to ten paddlers in a canoe. The assembly learned that the trip would also include portaging as well.

Mr. Kinloch pointed out that brochures and forms were on a table at the back of the meeting room.

Following an open forum session, Mr. Green encouraged the members of the Association to consider sitting on the Practice Review Board. He added that it is an opportunity for members to offer expertise within their scope of practice in terms of educating the up-and-coming land surveyors.

President Green thanked all members who put their names forward for election. He encouraged the unsuccessful members to put their names forward again next year. Mr. Green also encouraged all members to consider volunteering for a committee in the coming year.

Bert Hol, the president of the Canadian Council of Land Surveyors, was asked to address the membership.

CCLS has a number of people in your Association who have been involved with its initiatives over a long period of time. Your CCLS Director, Larry Pals, is the individual you should be communicating with about CCLS ideas or concerns. Monroe Kinloch, ALS sits on the CCLS Professional Liability Insurance Committee as an active member. He would be your direct line of communication for any concerns you have about insurance. Scott Partridge, ALS is a member of our Public Relations Committee and Andy Miles, ALS is a member of our Distance Learning Committee.

Another issue I know that Alberta Land Surveyors are concerned about is safety; specifically chainsaw use and safety in doing survey work. We will be communicating through Victor Hut, ALS to see if there is anything that CCLS can take on as an initiative in the future. I have some experience with that sort of work in BC so I have some ideas that I can lend to your Association. Hopefully, we can work in concert to find some successful solutions.
Mr. Hol turned the podium over to CCLS Director Larry Pals who addressed the assembly as follows.

A couple of years ago when I was elected Secretary Treasurer, along with the job, came the task of being the CCLS Director. I have another year to serve as CCLS Director.

Over this past year, the CCLS office has been working very hard in trying to put a consistent message out across Canada as to what CCLS is and what CCLS does. I'm hoping that most of you have heard about CCLS and that many of you know that it is a Council created by the surveying associations themselves to provide a means to interact at a national level.

We were introduced to presidents and representatives of several of the other associations earlier in the meeting. They have taken the opportunity at our convention, and at many conventions and future conventions across the country, in the presidents' forum to discuss issues of a national nature. This same thing was done in the mid-seventies and that is where CCLS came from. Today, CCLS has approximately fifteen issues on its agenda. The first four are governance, communication, strategic planning and a revised letter of patents to reassess CCLS's role and effectiveness. This effort began in 2003.

Another seven initiatives have come from the associations across the country. Each has a strategy and each is being worked on by a group of volunteers from member associations with representation from across the country. Three of those seven initiatives came from the National Forum on the Harmonization of Entry Standards to the Profession which was hosted by CCLS in 2004. It was attended by all associations across the country. The forum resulted in six resolutions being drafted by the participants which were taken back to the association councils for consideration. All of the councils adopted the resolutions and are working toward their implementation.

Another four initiatives were added in 2006. With respect to railway access, New Brunswick has a very tough time with the railways and, as a result, the Association of New Brunswick Land Surveyors brought it forward to the CCLS.

In order to build a national agenda with a clearly defined governance structure and policies in place, CCLS has the tools to carry out its mandate to develop and work on a national agenda for surveyors. National strategies are being developed and will include funding strategies. The strategies will be based on consensus among associations. Consensus is needed in order to have the buy-in of the associations which will implement the strategies. There must be consensus in setting priorities, developing the strategies and funding the implementations. We are not trying to be project-oriented for one big reason; we don't have the resources. We can only try and look at the issues and if there is enough buy-in, then the member associations will have to commit resources to fund the strategies.

The mandate to build a national consensus makes CCLS truly Canadian. It is an interactive process and success depends on two-way communication and active participation of our associations. It
depends heavily on the participation of association volunteers but we would welcome anyone who would like to be involved on a national basis for some of the national issues. Consensus does not mean having 100% agreement or participation by all eleven member associations, but it must be national in scope.

Some of the issues we are currently working on include:

• Public Awareness: This is a priority issue for all associations. CCLS has set a specific target for developing a web-based resource for teachers and career councillors to encourage awareness of high school and junior college aged students to consider surveying as a career. It will be a catalogue and access point for existing materials and resources and may pave the way for identifying gaps in those resources and strategies to fill those gaps. The initiative is not a duplication or replacement of association-based public relations work and it is not a national advertising campaign. It will combine information resources and experts from the associations and provide a national web-based tool that associations can use in their local and regional communications and public relations plans. A task force is in place with an educator, a public relations specialist and regional representation from the associations. We have currently budgeted $12,000 to try and develop a strategy.

• Review of Core Syllabus: This is an in-depth review of the core academic syllabus currently used by ACLS, the Western Canadian Board of Examiners and the Atlantic Board of Examiners. The ACLS and WCBE have just recently combined as the Canadian Board of Examiners for Professional Surveyors (CBEPS). We have various examiners writing learning outcomes on their examinations in hoping to assist students who may want to go through the ACLS exams to get their certificate of completion.

• Expanded Profession: A CCLS task force researched how the expanded profession has been dealt with across the country. The detailed report produced by the task force includes a description of the various models that are in place or are being developed by the Association as well as other organizations. The conclusions of the report include broad recommendations for follow-up work for a more coordinated approach to the issue. CCLS will facilitate a task force to review the recommendations made in the report in the coming months.

• Railway Access: We have until the 10th of May to get any situations that you have come across in your daily work to CCLS so that results can be compiled.

• Buried Facilities: In 2006, a small task force will be struck to research and draft policies for the consideration of the associations.

• International Representation: CCLS’ role in international representation has been put on the shelf. There is still work being done, but the Americans have more or less withdrawn.

Continuing programs include the professional liability insurance program and the Board of Examiners Coordinating Committee.
Mr. Kinloch addressed the assembly as follows:

The CCLS Professional Liability Insurance Committee is one of the longest standing committees. Its purpose is to find a common program that will operate across Canada for the member associations. The two provinces of Ontario and Quebec are not part of the program.

The Committee was first formed in 1978 and is made up of five members, each of which has a four-year term. My term will be up next year and we are looking for another representative from Alberta. The reason Alberta has been so pro-active in the program is because it makes up about 60% of the program by volume. Insurance matters are confidential and are a relationship between you, as the insured, and the insurer. The Committee's purpose is to try and bring forth some rational experience to the settlement of certain claims which exceed $20,000. We provide advice to the insurer relating to professional opinions on survey-related matters.

The Committee members are Gordon Webster, SLS, CLS—Chairman; Sarah Cornett, OLS—Secretary; and members: Greg Browne, BCLS, Monroe Kinloch, ALS and Lester W. Berrigan, NSLS. The purpose of the Committee is to oversee the program and hire the insurer. We change insurers when necessary and we negotiate with the insurer to try to keep a reasonable level of communication with them. Last year, we successfully negotiated a two-year premium with the insurer. This year we were able to get that extended to a third year. When you get back to your offices, you will begin to receive notices from your broker, Jardine Lloyd Thompson Canada indicating that your premiums will be remaining the same. We have had minimal increases and we have also completed an actuarial study which helps us manage the program. The study looks at all the claims, where they came from, time periods, and so on. It also tries to forecast the future.

Your premiums are based on total income of practice, number of licensed land surveyors, type of work engaged in and your claims frequency. Obviously, as you might expect, if there are individuals with high frequencies of claims, then they receive a surcharge. The types of claims involved are either construction (resource, marine, mining, oil and gas surveys) or title and boundary survey claims. Construction claims occur predominantly in Western Canada and mostly relate to vertical errors or horizontal stakeout errors. The good news is that, with the insurer that we have and with the people and staff that they have and the experts that we use, the intention is to solve the claims in as short a time frame as is possible to minimize delay costs.

Title and boundary claims take place mostly in Eastern Canada. (That is not to say that we don't have boundary problems in Western Canada.) Reasons include missed conveyance out of subject lot, missed right-of-way out of subject lot, incorrect road allowance shown, marked boundary incorrectly, and failed to show encroachment on RPR/surveyor's location certificate. Claim settlement time has been known to take up to nine years.
The program had three previous insurers: Gestas Insurance Managers (1978 to 1980), Kansa Insurance Company (1980 to 1988), Encon Group operating with Simcoe & Erie (1988 to 1994) and the present insurer, Encon Group, which uses a pool of insurers. The Encon Group has forty years of insurance experience and provides in-house claims analysis and handling. The Group employs lawyers, adjusters and experts in provinces when required.

If you have had claims and you haven't reported a dissatisfaction to us, then we can only think we are handling the claims in a very positive way. We do take a survey on this to get a reaction on claims handling and the results are very good. The Encon Group provides loss control seminars and bulletins which are distributed through the associations and posted on the CCLS/PLIC website in the Loss Prevention and Practice Management Guide. We have just had a new brochure printed which is available on the table at the back of the room. Also available is a sheet which asks whether you are comparing the type of insurance you are getting. There is nothing prohibiting you to get insurance from a different source but you should make sure you are comparing apples to apples and oranges to oranges to make sure you are covered.

The Encon policy is worded specifically for land surveyors and covers whatever is in the definition of surveying in your province. Encon offers full prior acts coverage (work prior to the policy start date), past acts/retirement coverage and first dollar defence coverage (frivolous claim or not). The current program covers close to 800 licensed land surveyors in eight provinces and the territories.

Mr. Stoliker asked how the fees are calculated and whether the land surveyor is rewarded for a higher level of professional supervision. He cited an example of two almost identical companies involved in performing real property reports where they do the identical amount of work and do the same amount of business dollar-wise on a yearly basis. The only difference is that one company has one ALS and the other company has four ALSs. The company with one ALS would have to supervise twenty products per day and with the other company, each land surveyor would have to supervise five products per day. Mr. Stoliker asked which one of those two companies would pay the higher premium.

Mr. Kinloch replied that it would be the one with four land surveyors, because it is based on the number of land surveyors. He added that particular aspect has not entered into the Committee's evaluation of premiums.

In response to a question by Dr. Radovanovic, Mr. Kinloch advised that there have been claims with respect to CADD drawings and errors therein as well as errors that result in transfers. He went on to say that if information is transferred, the corporate seal should be removed. Mr. Kinloch also suggested that a hard copy should also be sent in conjunction with the digital product so that any errors in the digital product can be picked up. An agreement should
also accompany the product that states if there are any differences between the digital and the hard copy, the hard copy governs.

President Green announced that the annual general meeting of the Alberta Society of Surveying & Mapping Technologies (ASSMT) is on May 12 and 13, 2006 in Drumheller. He encouraged the assembly to support the meeting, either through direct financial sponsorship or through allowing staff to attend, or both.

Mr. Green invited Ken Revoy, President of ASSMT to provide an update on ASSMT's activities.

Mr. Revoy addressed the assembly as follows.

The Society has 272 members which includes 35 student members. So far this year, there were 31 certifications which is ten more than last year at this time. The Society presently gives bursaries to NAIT, SAIT and Olds College as well as distributing all course information to the ASSMT and AGG membership.

The mission statement of ASSMT is to promote the knowledge, skill and proficiency of technicians and technologists involved in the fields of surveying and mapping. We are:

• an independent society governed by its council and members;
• a society that provinces recognition and certification for all qualified personnel employed in surveying, mapping and related geomatics disciplines,
• striving to promote continuing education, recognition of members and improvement of the standards and standing of survey and mapping technicians and technologies.

Anyone involved in surveying, mapping and related occupations within Alberta, Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories can become a member of ASSMT. Membership privileges include:

• use of the initials CST (Certified Survey Technologist/Technician),
• certificate of membership,
• recognition and support by a professional society intent on improving standards.

Membership benefits include:

• opportunity to meet fellow surveying and mapping technologists,
• free online career hunting assistance,
• reduced fees for all Society and ALSA organized technical sessions,
• representation and support with the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association (ALSA) and other geomatic organization including the Alberta Geomatics Group (AGG),
• free subscription to ALS News,
• Society published newsletter—The Link,
• membership rates at other industry functions such as AGG luncheons and GeoAlberta.

Membership for surveying and mapping students is free.
How to become a member:
• applications are reviewed by a panel of examiners and by the Certificate Board,
• approval by the ASSMT Executive/Council,
• certification is granted at four levels:
  — Technician,
  — Senior Technician,
  — Technologist,
  — Senior Technologist.

ASSMT is a great society. In order to get to the next level, we need to grow. Please encourage your employees to become members.

Have a great 97th annual general meeting and thank you, once again, for your continued support.

President Green called upon Mr. Allred to say a few words about the FIG congress in Munich in October 2006.

Mr. Allred addressed the assembly as follows.

I am pleased to make a short presentation with regard to FIG. I currently sit as one of four vice presidents on the FIG Council. My term goes until 2008.

FIG has ninety-one members from eighty-four countries. Some countries have more than one member. FIG includes a very broad spectrum of the survey profession and, in many countries, the survey profession does not encompass that broad spectrum so there are two organizations who are members. There are fourteen affiliate members which are members that do not have a full professional association. There are eighty-one academic members from fifty countries. This is a recently introduced category of membership where universities can join FIG as academic members and participate fully in the organization except that they do not have a vote. Only the full members, which are member associations, have a vote. There are fourteen correspondents which are countries that do not have any kind of an organization. Usually it is the surveyor general or someone from that country that is interested in FIG functions and wants to keep abreast of international happenings.

FIG has three permanent institutions:
• International Office of the Cadastre and Land Records—located in the Netherlands and has a mammoth organization of cadastral land records;
• FIG Multilingual Dictionary Board—has been in the process of compiling volumes of dictionaries with various surveying terms. They have approximately five different publications to date which include all categories in different areas such as photogrammetry, cadastral and so on.
• International Institution for Surveying and Measurement—John Brock, our speaker this morning, is very active in that organization. This has becomes a very active institution. In 1998, when the FIG Congress was in Brighton, UK, they put on a four-day conference on the history of surveying. There was a
day and a half with presentations and, for the rest of the time, they had tours and an exhibit of survey art.

The real workhorse of FIG is the commissions. There are ten commissions in different categories of surveying and each commission has one or two or three working groups that do the work to come up with different things related to the various categories. I was Chair of Commission I, Professional Practice from 1994 to 1998. We dealt with things like ethics and we came up with the FIG ethical code. They are very involved with business practice issues, and under-represented groups. The Commission is also very involved with many people in the academic community with respect to professional education. They have developed a special website that links to all of the academic institutions that have survey programs.

There is also a Spatial Information Management Commission as well as the Hydrography Commission of which Canada is one of the strongest members.

Commission 5 is Positioning and Measurement, Commission 6 is Engineering Surveys and Commission 7 is Cadastre and Land Management. Commission 7 is a very active commission which has its own annual working week of very intense discussion dealing with cadastral problems and new types of land tenure. They have been involved in producing a number of publications that have been adopted by the United Nations. John Holmlund, ALS has been Canada's representative on Commission 7 for quite a number of years.

The Canadian member association of FIG is the Canadian Institute of Geomatics. For many years, CIG had a practice of asking the CCLS to nominate the Canadian delegate for Commission 1. I was initially nominated for Commission 1 in 1982. That position has become vacant since I have become vice president and I don't believe there is a replacement as yet.

Commission 8, Spatial Planning and Development, is involved in town planning but has also moved into the area of disaster management with the advent of the tsunami destruction in Southeast Asia.

Evaluation of Management and Real Estate is one of the areas that Canada does not have a delegate. The group that should be involved in that Commission is the Appraisal Institute of Canada. They were members of FIG for a four-year period and then dropped out. They expressed some interest in belonging a number of years ago, but that has not really been followed up.

Construction, Economics and Management is a new commission and Canada is not active in that area. It is basically quantity surveying. That body should be represented by the quantity surveyors in Canada.

The Munich Congress will take place from October 8th to 13 of this year. It will probably be one of the biggest survey congresses ever. There could be as many as 20,000 delegates, including the student and the day-pass delegates. It will have 500 exhibitors. The program will be very active with about five days of technical ses-
sessions as well as five or six parallel technical sessions at the same time.

Every four years there is a congress which is the major function of FIG. The annual working weeks are smaller functions, although in the last number of years, they are becoming quite large as well. The next working week will be in Hong Kong in May 2007, followed in 2008 in Stockholm and in Israel in 2009. As John Brock mentioned, the 24th Congress will be held in Sydney, Australia in 2010. Canada put forward a bid against Sydney and Vienna for the 2010 congress. Unfortunately, we certainly couldn't beat Sydney with some of their wonderful international venues but the Canadian Institute of Geomatics is considering putting in a bid for either a further congress, which would be in 2014, or a working week.

FIG has also had a number of regional conferences which are aimed at some of the underdeveloped countries. I was in Guyana in March at a very successful regional conference which had about 800 people attending. There will probably be one in the fall of 2007 in Costa Rica but that has not been confirmed as yet.

I have given a number of papers in the last number of years on things that are happening here in Alberta and in Canada, such as buried facilities, that are very pertinent around the world. I have been doing a bit of a travelling road show on marketing the profession, in three different times in different countries. Some of the things that we are doing in Alberta are common in every country around the world. A major university in the Netherlands had to close a few years ago and there is concern that the University of Capetown in South Africa might have to close. The career day, barbecue and survey camp that we have been doing with the University of Calgary as well as the "Surveyor in a Crate" and the MLA night, are things that all organizations seem to very interested in. The things we are doing here in Alberta and Canada are very pertinent to most organizations in the world. I would really encourage members to consider giving a presentation on some of the things you are doing in your practice and in your associations for FIG because they will be very well received. In addition, you will learn much about what is going on in other countries. I always say that if you sit in the back of the room in any surveying meeting anywhere in the world, shut your eyes, and you think you are right at home.

We have a Malaysian delegation coming to Canada May 12th to 17th. I've organized a number of meetings in Victoria, Edmonton and Calgary with some of the government offices, the ALSA and some private practice firms. Hopefully CIG will have a regional meeting in Edmonton to host the delegation.

After a short open forum session, President Green presented a gift of appreciation to committee chairs and asked that the assembly join him in thanking all committee members for the sacrifices they make.

Mr. Green presented a gift of appreciation to retiring Council members Al Nelson, Clayton Bruce, Grant Cross and David Marquardt. He also presented a gift of appreciation to Messrs. Tony Brown, Saturday April 22, 2006 AFTERNOON SESSION
### President's Oath of Office

President Green asked incoming President Dirk VandenBrink to take the Oath of Office as follows:

> I, Dirk VandenBrink, do solemnly and sincerely swear, that I will execute the duties of the office of President of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association to the best of my ability, and in accordance with the laws of the Province of Alberta; and uphold the traditions established by my predecessors.

> This function I will perform without affection, partiality, or prejudice to any member of this Association; or any member of the public. The importance of the rights of the public and minorities; and the protection of these rights; will always be considered paramount in all matters brought before me. I will treat all confidential information presented to me as privileged; and will maintain the honour and dignity of this office as if it were my own; so help me God.

### Councillor's Oath of Office

President VandenBrink asked the retiring Council members to step down and asked the newly elected Council members to take their place on the stage.

All members of Council were asked to take the following Oath of Office:

> I do solemnly swear, that I will fulfil the duties and responsibilities of Councillor of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association to the best of my ability, and in accordance with the laws of the Province of Alberta; and uphold the traditions established by my predecessors.

> As Councillor, I will serve without affection, partiality, or prejudice to any member of this Association; or to any member of the public.

> I will treat all confidential information presented to me as privileged; and will maintain the honour and dignity of this office as if it were my own; so help me God.

### President's Address

President VandenBrink presented Stephen Green with the past president’s plaque and pin signifying that he faithfully served as president of the Association.

Mr. Green presented President VandenBrink with the gavel.

President Dirk VandenBrink addressed the assembly as follows:

First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the membership for allowing me the privilege to serve as your president for the coming 2006-2007 term. I am proud to be a member of this Association and it is indeed an honour to be given the opportunity to represent my peers in this capacity. I promise that I will do my best to represent the members of this Association and the public that we serve.
Congratulations to our now past president, Stephen Green, on a job well done. I hope that I can live up to the standard set by yourself, Stephen, and the other past presidents of this Association. Congratulations also to our new vice president, Bob Wallace, and the three newly elected Council members, Bruce Beairasto, Tim Harding and Terry Hudema. I look forward to working with you all on Council in the coming year.

I would also like to take this opportunity to personally thank the outgoing Council members Al Nelson, Grant Cross, David Marquardt, and Clayton Bruce. It was a pleasure to work with you over the last couple of years, and I hope you will stay involved in the affairs of this Association in other capacities.

My vision for the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association in the coming year is not one of any wholesale change but rather one of maintaining the status quo within our Association. It is my opinion that the present structure of our Association, combined with the hard work and professionalism of our staff, committee and Council, allows our affairs, for the most part, to run efficiently and smoothly. That being said, we know there are definitely some challenges ahead.

We are very fortunate in Alberta, at the present time, to be experiencing an economy that is stronger than it has been for quite some time and there is a high demand for our services in all sectors of our industry. Unfortunately, there is also a shortage of all types of skilled labour, especially in the geomatics sector. We are being challenged in our own practices to find the necessary people so that we can provide services to our clients in a timely manner. We will be challenged as members of this Association balance the demands that we have on our own time in our practices with the time that we volunteer to our Association. As Council, we will have to ensure that we maintain the priorities we have set to ensure that we make efficient use of the volunteer time spent in our various committees. We will have to look for new and innovative ways to communicate and streamline the way we conduct the affairs of our Association.

We are increasingly being challenged to keep up with the technological changes and the regulatory changes that directly impact our industry and the way that we serve the public. The digital plan requirements for public lands and the requirements when dealing with buried facilities are two recent examples. It is very important that the ALSA keep on top of these issues by maintaining the existing relationships that we have with other organizations and regulatory bodies that affect us.

Earlier in this convention, we gave certificates to seventeen new Alberta Land Surveyors. That is great, and congratulations to all of you. Welcome, and I encourage you to take an active role in the affairs of this Association. Last year, we gave out twenty-nine certificates. I would like to say that we are getting such a large number of new members each year because of the great job we are doing through the work of our Public Relations Committee in promoting the career of surveying to students. Undoubtedly, that is part of the reason, for that Committee is doing very good work, but I suspect that the present state of the economy in our province is also a major factor. A demographic projection that was presented to Council two
years ago, predicted a severe shortage of practicing land surveyors in Alberta and probably Canada-wide within ten to fifteen years. The Council of the day, identified this as one of the main issues that our Association should be focused on and, in my humble opinion, this is the number one challenge that our Association will face in the years to come. This is probably dating myself, but when I was attending the University of Calgary, there was a well-known professor who, at every opportunity, promoted least squares as the statistical method of the future. I remember him telling us many time to go out and preach least squares. Similarly, I urge all of you as members of this Association to go out and preach the benefits of a career as a land surveyor.

In closing, I would like to say that I am looking forward to the coming year. If anyone has an idea to share, questions about an issue or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone, e-mail or through the Association office.

New Business

President VandenBrink advised that new business recommendations must be in writing and signed by the mover and seconder. New business recommendations are not binding on Council, but Council is obliged to consider the matter if passed by the membership. The assembly was advised that when members are voting, they are voting to have Council consider the matter. It does not necessarily mean that the decision will be implemented by Council.

It was MOVED by Mr. Stephens, seconded by Mr. McArthur, that Council consider funding research at the University of New Brunswick equal to any amounts being provided to the University of Calgary.

Motion Carried

Mr. Stephens spoke to the motion, indicating that it is felt that Council is very generous in the donation to the University of Calgary. He felt that the members are aware that graduates come from two primary universities, the other being the University of New Brunswick. Mr. Stephens continued by indicating that many professionals are making the trip to the University of New Brunswick to try to employ its graduates. He added that, in his own firm, there are currently four articled students from the University of New Brunswick. Mr. Stephens felt it was very important for the profession and the Association to not limit support to one institution. The intent is to ensure that a viable program is kept at the University of New Brunswick as well as at the University of Calgary.

Dr. Radovanovic agreed in principle with the idea to not favour the University of Calgary, but he advised that there are a number of different methods by which the Association provides funds to the various educational institutions throughout the country. He asked if there was any consideration given as to how the ratio of funding would be established.
Mr. Stephens pointed out that there was a $90,000 research fund set up for the University of Calgary. He continued by stating that the intent is not to try to tell Council how to arrange their finances, but suggested that they enhance what the Association is doing as far as support to the universities. Mr. Stephens added that the intent is to create an equilibrium in the situation.

*It was MOVED by Mr. Breau, seconded by Mr. Harding, that Council consider setting up a research project at U of C or UNB to compare the use of the ATS file vs. the blue book.*

*Motion Carried*

Mr. Breau advised that he did not have a problem with the vote that took place the previous day where it was decided that members follow the Manual of Standard Practice in using baselines and the blue book in calculating coordinates for wellsites. He felt, however, that a good tool, being the ATS file, to calculate wellsites in unsurveyed territory is no longer an option. Mr. Breau went on to say that much time and money has been put into building the ATS file and he felt that it would be a good idea to find out what the pros and cons of the ATS and the blue book are.

Mr. Stoliker indicated he would be in favour of a motion that would read similar to the one presented. He did not feel that the motion was worded the way it should be. Mr. Stoliker suggested that if he was writing the motion it would state that Council consider establishing a committee with the purpose of promoting and working with stakeholders towards the adoption of an ATS file representing universally accepted positions of unposted section and quarter section corners in unsurveyed territory. He felt that the motion would be better served by appointing a committee to determine what the best method of approaching working towards an ATS file and getting rid of the blue book. He also felt that, as surveyors serving the public, there is an obligation to provide surveys that are consistent and surveys that are cost efficient. Mr. Stoliker felt that those two requirements are not met in using the blue book. He added that he felt that the profession needs to move to a fixed ATS file in unsurveyed territory, whether it is done through a University of Calgary project or through a committee.

Mr. Green asked for a definition of the term "compare the use" that is used in the motion.

Mr. Breau responded by advising that research be done on how to generate local coordinates for wellsites in unsurveyed territory—by using the ATS file or the blue book.

*It was MOVED by Mr. Prevost, seconded by Mr. Hudema, that Council consider the appropriate committee review the possibility of inviting affiliate members to attend the annual interviews held by the Registration Committee.*

*Motion Carried*
Mr. Prevost indicated that there are many affiliate members who are in the process of attempting to obtain their commission as Alberta Land Surveyors. He has become aware that affiliate members are not invited to participate in the annual interview process. Mr. Prevost felt that the annual interview process was a valuable experience as it gets them used to meeting with the Registration Committee and keeps them on track as far as project reports go.

Mike Fretwell spoke in favour of the motion as a former affiliate member. He felt that any affiliate member would appreciate the ability to build more of a network to be able to garner more valuable information from a knowledgeable peer group.

Mr. Scott felt it was a good idea to invite the affiliate members but did not feel that it should be made mandatory.

It was MOVED by Dr. Radovanovic, seconded by Mr. Kocher, that Council consider investigating issues surrounding the transmission of digital drawing files to the public and return recommendations with regards to this practice to the Association’s general meeting in 2007.

Motion Carried

Dr. Radovanovic was concerned about the increasing practice of transmission of digital data to the public. He continued by indicating that the common practice of transmitting pdf files and web-based services is reasonably safe as they are static products. Dr. Radovanovic indicated that there are increasing requests to transmit dynamic or extractable products, such as drawing files. He felt it was new territory for the Association and the profession as a whole in that it is something that has never before existed. There is increasing market pressure on the profession to provide these types of files. Dr. Radovanovic continued by saying that, unfortunately, because of these pressures and the different agencies that are asking for them, he believed that the industry is becoming a patchwork framework where every single surveyor and corporation has a different attitude of philosophy with regards to the transmission of the data. He felt it was a dangerous situation in that there is no base guideline to follow.

Dr. Radovanovic saw three potential pitfalls without a guideline or recommendation with regard to the practice. Currently, there are four cases before the courts regarding drawing files transmitted by surveyors to the public. He believed that this will continue with the increasing number of drawings that are being sent out. Dr. Radovanovic saw an issue with regard to the permanency of the data. Once a dwg or microstation file is shipped out, the control is lost. He continued by stating that the third issue is respecting licencing of third party data incorporated into drawing products. Dr. Radovanovic felt that the pertinent licencing issues should be established or, perhaps, new licencing schemes should be developed with a provider such as AltaLIS to address the new scheme of transmitting digital data. He indicated that he is asking Council to look at the issue and, through whatever means necessary, come back to
the annual general meeting next year with recommendations for a base guideline for how the profession can proceed with providing the product that the public is demanding.

Mr. R.M. Wallace spoke in favour of the motion and indicated that he encountered one of his drawings, with his signature, on a set of building drawings. He expressed concern about what his liability was when his file, with his signature, was taken and a building was incorporated into it. Mr. Wallace felt it was incumbent upon Council to review the issue to perhaps come up with a legal solution that would work for the profession.

Mr. Allred indicated that there was some work done on the issue by the CCLS in the early 1990s. He also indicated that there was a seminar presented by a lawyer from Field & Field in Edmonton on copyright which might have touched on the issue as well.

Mr. Blatz indicated that, in his situation, clients often request that they be provided with the drawing file. He did not have a problem with sending the drawing file and felt that members get carried away occasionally by legislating how members should act as professionals. Mr. Blatz went on to say that he takes responsibility for the work that the people do and checks it before it is sent out. He did not feel that everything that the members do as professionals needs to be legislated.

Mr. Moloney spoke in favour of the motion and suggested that the Association request legal advice on using AltaLis’s line work as part of a drawing. He understood that when the data is bought, it cannot be resold.

Mr. Fretwell recalled an instance where he encountered a plan that he had drafted more than a year earlier on an architectural plan that had no indication of where it came from. He felt it was essential that the profession recognize, not only the fact that it produces a valuable product and that it should be publicized, but also that there are certain copyrights as well as liability involved. Mr. Fretwell also recalled that in the 1990s there was a presentation at a regional meeting by a lawyer with respect to copyright issues. He also commented that, in the United States, one of the large oil companies was purchasing copyright from their surveyors for an exorbitant amount of money to ensure that they had sole use of that product.

Mr. Kinloch spoke in favour of the motion because if a professional gets into litigation, the court will consider what the common practice is. He added that if a common practice is established, it will be more protective of the profession as a whole.

Mr. Kocher felt that what is needed is a base guideline in the Manual of Standard Practice to give guidance as to what to do when land surveyors are requested to send a drawing with information as to what may happen so that the land surveyor can make an informed decision.
Mr. Rose asked what was done years ago when hard copy plans were issued to engineering firms. He commented that they were using our information back then in hard copy form and today it is in digital form. Mr. Rose asked what the difference was as they will be using the information one way or the other.

Mr. Stephens recalled that the Association delved into the issue some years ago by considering embedding watermarks. He advised that the Association spent funds along that line and asked what the outcome of that exercise was.

Mr. Munday responded that Council authorized Mike Chapman, who was then at the University of Calgary, to prepare a software program that would embed a digital watermark on a plan. This arose as a result of Land Titles going to digital plan submissions. He went on to say that Dr. Chapman and a programmer worked on putting together the program, however, there were many limitations on it and unfortunately, the program was not practical in its application.

Dr. Radovanovic commented that the research into the digital watermark project was specifically geared toward embedding a digital watermark into a tiff plan for submission or distribution. He advised that what he was concerned about is not static digital data such as a pdf or a tiff file. Dr. Radovanovic indicated that what he was more concerned about is, in the new universe of digital data, control is lost when someone else uses the product much further down the road in a way that it should not be used. He asked whether the issue can be looked at to see whether some of the fears are unfounded or can be resolved; that is, what are the potentials and the pitfalls of the new product and can we get some guidelines in place.

President VandenBrink invited remarks from one visiting delegate.

Mr. Peter Unger, President of the Saskatchewan Land Surveyors’ Association, addressed the assembly as follows.

On behalf of the visiting delegates and our accompanying persons, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to attend your AGM. Wow, what a glorious site to have your AGM in—the Jasper Park Lodge and the Rocky Mountains in sunny Alberta.

The education seminars about the future of self-regulating organizations and ethics were very thought provoking and I would like to congratulate you and your Council on being pro-active, especially in the area of attracting new members. Your success with the "Surveyor in a Crate" program has inspired other associations across the country to look at following your example.

I have been asked to issue a challenge to the five western provinces to get involved with the David Thompson Brigade. The David Thompson Brigade in 2008 provides an opportunity to honour this great surveyor and mapper by participating in a canoe voyage from
Rocky Mountain House to Thunder Bay and also to promote the concept of surveying and mapping.

Dirk, I would like to welcome you to the tour as an official president and I know that you and Judy already know how much fun and camaraderie there is. I’m sure you will do well as president and enjoy yourselves too.

Stephen—so much to say and so little time. You and Janet started touring in January 2005 in New Brunswick with a half dozen other vice presidents. We started referring to ourselves as the vice squad because we were all vice presidents at that time. Over a year later, the vice squad is down to you and me. I’m not sure if you are vice and I am squad or if it is the other way around. I know that you have mellowed since then because I have noticed that lately, when you have been on the tour, you have been waiting at least until the end of the presentation on retention of surveyors in foreign provinces before you start offering everyone higher paying jobs in Alberta. I also know that you used to ask people not to use the English word, focus, in their language and now you are one. You have represented your Association and Alberta very well and you and Janet have been welcomed guests wherever you have travelled. Your company on the tour will be missed.

I now have the privilege to introduced guitarist extraordinaire and entertainer, Fraser Smith, President of the Association of New Brunswick Land Surveyors, to make the presentation to the J.H. Holloway Scholarship Foundation.

Mr. Smith donated funds of $126.08 collected in the open guitar case at the ALSA hospitality suite.

President VandenBrink declared the 97th Annual General Meeting of the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association closed at 3:05 p.m.
New 2006-2007 Council taking the Oath of Office

Presentation of the Past President's Plaque

Presentation of the Gavel

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April 30, 2005

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Appendix G
Fifty Year Pin Recipients

Appendix H
Twenty-Five Year Pin Recipients

Appendix I
Presentation of Professional Recognition Award

Appendix J
Presentation of Honorary Life Membership

Appendix K
Ethics and the Professional Land Surveyor

Appendix L
List of Exhibitors and Sponsors
Sports Pub Night

Past President's Breakfast

Members' Lunch

President's Ball
# Financial Statement for the year ending April 30, 2005

Statement of Financial Position as at April 30, 2005
as prepared by Peterson Walker, Chartered Accountants
and approved by Council

## ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and short-term investments (note 3)</td>
<td>$1,676,654</td>
<td>$1,737,757</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>309,038</td>
<td>302,453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses (note 4)</td>
<td>34,118</td>
<td>26,818</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2,019,810</td>
<td>2,067,028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Equipment (note 5)</strong></td>
<td>65,319</td>
<td>85,049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$2,085,129</td>
<td>$2,152,077</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

**Current Liabilities**
- Accounts payable and accrued liabilities: $36,229, $302,265
- Goods and Services Tax payable: 14,462, 22,072
- Deferred contributions (note 6): 255,222, 246,275

**Deferred Lease Inducements (note 7)**: 33,956, 0

**Due to RPR Index Revolving Fund (note 8)**: 555, 650

**Net Assets**
- Invested in equipment: 65,319, 85,049
- Internally restricted: 1,679,396, 1,495,766

**Net Assets**: $2,085,129, $2,152,077
### Statement of Operations

#### Unrestricted

**General Fund**

**Revenue**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005 Actual</th>
<th>2005 Budget</th>
<th>Budget Variance</th>
<th>2004 Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operating Revenue</strong></td>
<td>$2,400,278</td>
<td>$1,963,420</td>
<td>$436,858</td>
<td>$2,369,944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees and levies</td>
<td>271,994</td>
<td>260,500</td>
<td>11,494</td>
<td>250,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrealized gain on recovery of investments written-down in previous years</td>
<td>92,550</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>92,550</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sublease</td>
<td>17,500</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>17,500</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examinations</td>
<td>15,191</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15,191</td>
<td>14,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>2,700</td>
<td>(3,678)</td>
<td>1,085</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain on disposal of investments</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain on disposal of equipment</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5,017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1,151,264</td>
<td>916,671</td>
<td>234,593</td>
<td>865,902</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Expenses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005 Actual</th>
<th>2005 Budget</th>
<th>Budget Variance</th>
<th>2004 Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Council and committees</td>
<td>158,641</td>
<td>177,550</td>
<td>(18,909)</td>
<td>160,865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Systematic practice review</td>
<td>326,168</td>
<td>325,542</td>
<td>626</td>
<td>319,647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration expenses</td>
<td>460,570</td>
<td>448,135</td>
<td>12,435</td>
<td>409,113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>1,531,134</td>
<td>1,275,682</td>
<td>255,452</td>
<td>1,508,046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss on disposal of equipment</td>
<td>8,637</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8,637</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss on disposal of investments</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4,289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>2,484,880</td>
<td>2,226,909</td>
<td>257,971</td>
<td>2,401,960</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**312,838**

**711**

**312,127**

**239,276**

#### Internally Restricted Funds

**Revenue (expenses)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund Name</th>
<th>2005 Actual</th>
<th>2005 Budget</th>
<th>Budget Variance</th>
<th>2004 Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discipline Revolving Fund:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disciplinary recoveries</td>
<td>2,566</td>
<td></td>
<td>8,627</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disciplinary expenses</td>
<td>(4,019)</td>
<td>(10,262)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Transfer and Education Fund</td>
<td>(5,628)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications and Public Relations Fund</td>
<td>(57,967)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(15,550)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambassadors’ Reserve Fund</td>
<td>(10,369)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History of Surveying in Alberta Publication Fund:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Sales</td>
<td>3,626</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Publishing Expense</td>
<td>(43,632)</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Council of Land Surveyrs Fund:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td>21,710</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>(19,400)</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Stabilization Fund:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant</td>
<td>4,393</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(40,228)</td>
<td>(5,912)</td>
<td>(23,097)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Revenue Over Expenses**

$163,890

$216,179
### Statement of Changes in Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund Description</th>
<th>Balance at Beginning of Year</th>
<th>Revenue Over (under) Expenses</th>
<th>Net Additions To Equipment</th>
<th>Transfers</th>
<th>Balance At End Of Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unrestricted</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$350,731</td>
<td>(18,163)</td>
<td>$(332,568)</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Invested in Equipment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85,049</td>
<td>(37,893)</td>
<td>18,163</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(332,568)</td>
<td>65,319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Internally Restricted</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Stabilization Fund</td>
<td>1,075,766</td>
<td>(35,835)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>151,794</td>
<td>1,191,725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discipline Revolving Fund</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>(1,453)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,453</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications and Public Relations Development Fund</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>(57,967)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>57,967</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Transfer and Education Fund</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>(5,628)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(5,628)</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambassadors’ Reserve Fund</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>(10,369)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(10,369)</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History of Surveying in Alberta Publication Fund</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>(40,006)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>59,994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provincial Centennial Fund</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centennial AGM Fund</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar Presenter Revolving Fund</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alberta Survey Textbook Fund</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Council of Land Surveyors Fund</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,310</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGM Stabilization Fund</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leasehold Allowance Fund</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5,357</td>
<td>5,357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,495,766</td>
<td>(148,948)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>332,568</td>
<td>1,679,386</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$1,580,815  $163,890  $0  $0  $1,744,705
Statement of Cash Flows

2005                2004

Cash flow provided by (used in)
Operating activities:
  Revenue over (under) expenses          $163,890       $216,179
  Charges not affecting cash:
    Amortization                          29,526         34,195
    Loss on disposal of equipment          8,367          0
    Gain on disposal of equipment          0             (5,017)
  Net changes in non-cash working capital items (note 11)  (244,628)       138,050
                                                               (42,845)       383,407

Investing activities:
  Proceeds on disposal of equipment       200            14,000
  Purchase of equipment                   (18,363)       (59,558)
  Investment in RPR Revolving Index Fund  (95)           (90)
                                             (18,258)       (45,648)

Cash (Decrease) Increase                   (61,103)       337,759

Cash and short-term investments at beginning of year  1,737,757       1,399,998

Cash and Short-Term Investments at End of Year    $1,676,654       $1,737,757

Notes to Financial Statements
for the year ended April 30, 2005

1. Purpose of the Organization
The Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association is a non-profit, self-governing professional association legislated under the Land Surveyors Act. The Association regulates the practice of land surveying for the protection of the public and the administration of the profession. As a non-profit organization under the Income Tax Act, the Association is exempt from income taxes.

2. Significant Accounting Policies
Basis of Presentation: These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Donated Services: Volunteers donate time to the Association to assist the Association in carrying out its services. Due to the difficulty in determining their fair value, donated services are not recognized in the financial statements.

Equipment: Equipment is recorded at cost. Amortization is provided over the estimated useful lives of the assets using the declining balance method at the following rates:
Office equipment .......... 20%  Automotive equipment 30%
Furniture and fixtures ..... 20%  Computer equipment .. 30%
Survey equipment .......... 20%

A full year’s amortization is taken in the year of acquisition and none in the year of disposal.

*Revenue Recognition:* The Association follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Contributions are included in revenue in the year they are received or receivable, with the exception that contributions to fund a specific future period’s operating expenses are included in revenue in that later period.

*Use of Estimates:* The preparation of financial statements, in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles, requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements. By their nature, these estimates are subject to measurement uncertainty and actual results could differ.

3. Cash and Short-Term Investments
Cash and short-term investments include $1,679,386 (2004—$1,495,766) which have been designated for specific programs that are described in Note 10.

4. Prepaid Expenses
Prepaid expenses are comprised of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rent deposit</td>
<td>$18,692</td>
<td>$18,692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposits</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>3,274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>2,426</td>
<td>2,852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$26,818</strong></td>
<td><strong>$24,859</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Equipment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated Cost</td>
<td>Net Book Value</td>
<td>Accumulated Cost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office equipment</td>
<td>$46,682</td>
<td>$27,774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and fixtures</td>
<td>16,694</td>
<td>9,239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer equipment</td>
<td>34,334</td>
<td>25,075</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer software</td>
<td>7,128</td>
<td>7,128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>104,838</strong></td>
<td><strong>69,216</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Administration Equipment:*

Practice Review Equipment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and fixtures</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey equipment</td>
<td>6,315</td>
<td>4,246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automotive equipment</td>
<td>70,926</td>
<td>47,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer equipment</td>
<td>16,412</td>
<td>12,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>95,153</td>
<td>65,456</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$$199,991 \quad \$134,672 \quad \$ 65,319 \quad \$ 85,049$$

6. Deferred Contributions

The Association assesses its members an annual membership fee at the beginning of its fiscal year. Membership fees and levies received in advance for the subsequent fiscal year are recognized as deferred contributions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance at beginning of year</td>
<td>$246,275</td>
<td>$231,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions received during the year</td>
<td>255,222</td>
<td>246,275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounts recognized as revenue</td>
<td>(246,275)</td>
<td>(231,295)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Balance at End of Year</strong></td>
<td>$255,222</td>
<td>$246,275</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Deferred Lease Inducements

Lease inducements received from the landlord, in the current year, totalling $33,956 will be amortized on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

8. Investment In/Due to RPR Index Revolving Fund

The investment in RPR Index Revolving Fund represents the Association’s net equity in the fund. The fund is reported as a liability at the end of the current year because the Association is committed to provide further financial support to the fund.

9. Lease Commitments

The Association leases office space under an agreement which expires June 30, 2005. The Association also pays a proportionate share of operating costs.

The Association also leases office space under an agreement which expires June 30, 2014. The Association will pay a proportionate share of operating costs.

During the year, the Association entered into a new lease agreement for a photocopier which expires September 30, 2009.

Future minimum lease payments, including operating costs, due within the next five years under these operating leases will be approximately as follows:
2005/2006 ------------------------ $ 41,683
2006/2007 ------------------------ 48,474
2007/2008 ------------------------ 48,474
2008/2009 ------------------------ 48,474
2009/2010 ------------------------ 48,112

$235,217

10. Internally Restricted Funds

Financial Stabilization Fund: This fund is used for special projects, overruns of expenses of the operating budget and any other approved non-budgeted expenses. Surpluses from the operating accounts are transferred to the Financial Stabilization Fund at year end. Any year end deficit in the operating accounts shall be balanced with funds from the Financial Stabilization Fund. Council may allocate funds for extraordinary expenses.

Discipline Revolving Fund: This fund is used for expenses relating to discipline hearings, discipline related education seminars and administrative matters pertaining to the Discipline Committee. At the start of each fiscal year, Council sets the fund at $20,000.

Communications and Public Relations Development Fund: This fund is used for special initiatives that promote the profession to the public. At the start of each fiscal year, Council sets the fund at $50,000.

Technology Transfer and Education Fund: This fund is used for non-capital expenses that allow the Association to take better advantage of technology and to educate members about subjects that will allow them to better serve the public.

Ambassadors’ Reserve Fund: This fund is used to reimburse members who are either acknowledged delegates, invited speakers or participants at conferences or meetings outside of Alberta.

History of Surveying in Alberta Publication Fund: This fund was established to cover all or a part of costs associated with publishing a history of surveying in Alberta.

Provincial Centennial Fund: This fund was established to promote the surveying profession’s involvement in Alberta during the past 100 years. Any money not allocated to a specific project as at December 31, 2005 shall be transferred to the Financial Stabilization Fund.

Centennial AGM Fund: This fund was established to reduce the ticket price of events so that more members may attend the centennial AGM, bringing in high profile guest speakers and putting together displays or other materials associated with promoting the Association’s centennial.

Seminar Presenter Revolving Fund: This fund was established to reimburse members who develop and present Association approved seminars to the membership, other professional organizations or the general public.
Alberta Survey Textbook Fund: This fund was established to fund the research, writing and publication of an Alberta-written survey textbook.

Canadian Council of Land Surveyors: This fund was established to accumulate surplus funds collected on behalf of the Canadian Council of Land Surveyors. The surplus may be applied, at the discretion of the Council, to reduce future levies to members.

AGM Stabilization Fund: The AGM Stabilization Fund is to be used to cover excess expenses incurred for the annual general meeting up to $15,000 per year at the discretion of Council.

Leasehold Allowance Fund: The Leasehold Allowance Fund is to be used at the discretion of the Executive Director, to update or maintain the Association’s office space. Funds received from any unused leasehold allowance from a landlord shall be put in the Leasehold Allowance Fund.

11. Cash Flow Information

Net Changes in Non-Cash Working Capital Items:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>$(6,585)</td>
<td>$(122,231)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>(7,300)</td>
<td>(1,959)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>accrued liabilities</td>
<td>(266,036)</td>
<td>241,780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goods and Services Tax payable</td>
<td>(7,610)</td>
<td>5,480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred contributions</td>
<td>8,947</td>
<td>14,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred lease inducements</td>
<td>33,956</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$(244,628)</td>
<td>$138,050</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Schedules

Schedules 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 compare actual revenue and expenses for the year to budgeted amounts. The budgets were prepared by management and approved by Council.

13. Use of Estimates

For cash and short-term investments, accounts receivable and accounts payable, the carrying amounts of these financial instruments approximate their fair value due to their short-term maturity or capacity for prompt liquidation.

The Association does not believe it is subject to any significant concentration of credit risk. Cash and short-term investments are in place with major financial institutions. Accounts receivable are generally the result of services to members.

14. Comparative Figures

Certain of the 2004 comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with the current year’s presentation.
## Schedule 1

### Operating Revenue for the year ended April 30, 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005 Actual</th>
<th>2005 Budget</th>
<th>Budget Variance</th>
<th>2004 Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iron posts</td>
<td>$1,576,078</td>
<td>$1,280,159</td>
<td>$295,919</td>
<td>$1,621,714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marker posts</td>
<td>554,221</td>
<td>446,500</td>
<td>107,721</td>
<td>507,245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual General Meeting</td>
<td>116,547</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>(3,453)</td>
<td>125,858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividends</td>
<td>45,151</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>45,151</td>
<td>14,914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALS News</td>
<td>41,450</td>
<td>22,000</td>
<td>19,450</td>
<td>38,802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminars</td>
<td>22,212</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>2,212</td>
<td>21,036</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf tournament</td>
<td>19,325</td>
<td>19,000</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>23,153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>11,923</td>
<td>45,261</td>
<td>(33,338)</td>
<td>8,643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional meetings</td>
<td>7,360</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>3,325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications and manuals</td>
<td>5,278</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>2,278</td>
<td>4,630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificates and stamps</td>
<td>733</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>624</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: $2,400,278  $1,963,420 $  436,858 $2,369,944

## Schedule 2

### Council and Committees for the year ended April 30, 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005 Actual</th>
<th>2005 Budget</th>
<th>Budget Variance</th>
<th>2004 Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registration and Examination</td>
<td>$ 32,997</td>
<td>$ 29,000</td>
<td>$ 3,997</td>
<td>$ 35,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council</td>
<td>31,378</td>
<td>26,000</td>
<td>5,738</td>
<td>33,872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Relations</td>
<td>25,666</td>
<td>34,000</td>
<td>(8,334)</td>
<td>30,712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President’s Travel</td>
<td>22,153</td>
<td>24,000</td>
<td>(1,847)</td>
<td>16,388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practice Review Board</td>
<td>8,941</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>(1,059)</td>
<td>8,353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standards</td>
<td>5,871</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>(120)</td>
<td>5,133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President’s Tour within Alberta</td>
<td>5,667</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>667</td>
<td>3,787</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislation</td>
<td>5,293</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>(707)</td>
<td>4,368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional development</td>
<td>3,798</td>
<td>2,750</td>
<td>1,048</td>
<td>2,515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive</td>
<td>3,263</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>(2,737)</td>
<td>4,373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steering</td>
<td>2,918</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>418</td>
<td>2,556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RPR</td>
<td>2,814</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>(1,186)</td>
<td>3,554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical and biographical</td>
<td>2,534</td>
<td>4,500</td>
<td>(1,966)</td>
<td>2,801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention and social</td>
<td>2,106</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>606</td>
<td>824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future</td>
<td>1,190</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>(1,810)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 9</td>
<td>735</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>(4,265)</td>
<td>891</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geomatics Engineering Liaison</td>
<td>523</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>(977)</td>
<td>861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standards Dispositions</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>(2,746)</td>
<td>2,164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>(849)</td>
<td>897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editorial Board</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>(2,471)</td>
<td>1,509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Council of Land Surveyors</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>(300)</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Association Finances</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: $158,641  $177,550 $ (18,909) $160,865
### Schedule 3

**Systematic Practice Review for the year ended April 30, 2005**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2005 Actual</th>
<th>2005 Budget</th>
<th>Budget Variance</th>
<th>2004 Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and Benefits</td>
<td>$275,899</td>
<td>$278,056</td>
<td>$(2,157)</td>
<td>$260,368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subsistence</td>
<td>12,686</td>
<td>11,500</td>
<td>1,186</td>
<td>15,054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amortization</td>
<td>12,342</td>
<td>8,036</td>
<td>4,306</td>
<td>17,866</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maps and Plans</td>
<td>10,291</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>2,291</td>
<td>7,232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel and Transportation</td>
<td>8,028</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>7,136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>4,365</td>
<td>5,600</td>
<td>(1,235)</td>
<td>2,207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment and maintenance</td>
<td>744</td>
<td>1,100</td>
<td>(356)</td>
<td>4,125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and training</td>
<td>634</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>(1,366)</td>
<td>900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership and dues</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>(1,500)</td>
<td>3,932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courier</td>
<td>383</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>(67)</td>
<td>662</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Supplies</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>(4)</td>
<td>165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment Rentals</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>(500)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$326,168 $325,542 $ 626 $319,647

### Schedule 4

**Administration Expenses for the year ended April 30, 2005**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2005 Actual</th>
<th>2005 Budget</th>
<th>Budget Variance</th>
<th>2004 Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries, Benefits and Contract Staff</td>
<td>$228,895</td>
<td>$225,837</td>
<td>$3,058</td>
<td>$206,259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Operations</td>
<td>111,242</td>
<td>90,086</td>
<td>21,156</td>
<td>74,752</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office supplies and Photocopying</td>
<td>21,882</td>
<td>17,000</td>
<td>4,882</td>
<td>18,249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage and Courier</td>
<td>17,444</td>
<td>19,000</td>
<td>(1,556)</td>
<td>14,939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amortization</td>
<td>17,184</td>
<td>16,462</td>
<td>722</td>
<td>16,329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarships and donations</td>
<td>13,750</td>
<td>13,750</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment and maintenance</td>
<td>7,084</td>
<td>9,000</td>
<td>(1,916)</td>
<td>5,163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing and stationery</td>
<td>7,070</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>(3,930)</td>
<td>10,046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>6,472</td>
<td>6,200</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>6,175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td>5,569</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>1,569</td>
<td>5,873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer, internet and database</td>
<td>3,984</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>(16)</td>
<td>5,001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCBE levy</td>
<td>3,860</td>
<td>4,100</td>
<td>(240)</td>
<td>4,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>3,056</td>
<td>3,500</td>
<td>(444)</td>
<td>4,096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>2,466</td>
<td>3,200</td>
<td>(734)</td>
<td>5,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memberships and subscriptions</td>
<td>2,356</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>(644)</td>
<td>2,591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subsistence and travel</td>
<td>1,998</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>(502)</td>
<td>1,277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical file management</td>
<td>1,937</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>(63)</td>
<td>1,511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>1,623</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>1,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education, training and library</td>
<td>1,371</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>(629)</td>
<td>2,194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal</td>
<td>1,327</td>
<td>9,000</td>
<td>(7,673)</td>
<td>7,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bad debts</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>(1,000)</td>
<td>2,141</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$460,570 $448,135 $ 12,435 $409,113
### Schedule 5

**Operating Expenses**

*for the year ended April 30, 2005*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005 Actual</th>
<th>2005 Budget</th>
<th>Budget Variance</th>
<th>2004 Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iron posts</td>
<td>$863,328</td>
<td>$705,072</td>
<td>$158,256</td>
<td>$880,946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marker posts</td>
<td>387,596</td>
<td>312,550</td>
<td>75,046</td>
<td>351,520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual General Meeting</td>
<td>162,782</td>
<td>151,000</td>
<td>11,782</td>
<td>160,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALS News</td>
<td>35,652</td>
<td>28,000</td>
<td>7,652</td>
<td>36,433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminars</td>
<td>21,152</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>1,152</td>
<td>18,059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf tournament</td>
<td>17,980</td>
<td>19,000</td>
<td>(1,020)</td>
<td>23,095</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank charges and management fees</td>
<td>17,727</td>
<td>16,297</td>
<td>1,430</td>
<td>15,176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freight</td>
<td>14,455</td>
<td>12,763</td>
<td>1,692</td>
<td>13,161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional meetings</td>
<td>9,211</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>2,211</td>
<td>8,447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificates and stamps</td>
<td>823</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>(1,177)</td>
<td>769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications and manuals</td>
<td>428</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>(1,572)</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total**

$1,531,134 $1,275,682 $255,452 $1,508,046
When I wrote my report for the 2004-2005 year, I commented on the forthcoming publication of *Laying Down the Lines* and the recent move of the ALSA office from the CN Tower to the Phipps McKinnon Building. I very much had the sense that one chapter was ending and another one was beginning.

I can’t say that there has been anything that dramatic in the last twelve months. Like everyone else in the land surveying world, we have been extremely busy and all of us are doing the best that we can to do the things that our clients (the membership and the public) expect us to do. It has not been easy and our turnaround times perhaps have not been as quick as they had been in the past.

The Association office provides administrative support for all of the Association’s committees. The committees’ accomplishments are highlighted elsewhere in this package. However, I thought I would highlight a few committee achievements particularly as they relate to the ALSA administration.

The Public Relations Committee has embarked on another ambitious five-year plan. The plan covers a number of items aimed at a number of different stakeholders (everyone from politicians to grade-school students). The ALSA administration is involved in carrying out a number of the items in the public relations plan, including mailing brochures to municipalities, realtors and lawyers, organizing the events we hold at the U of C and the trade shows we attend, and creating and distributing media releases. While these ideas may sound relative straightforward and simple, they do take time to complete. There has been discussion at the Public Relations and Future of the Association Committee meeting about hiring a dedicated public relations person. While that idea has not been approved at this time, there is no doubt that the ALSA office spends a great deal of time on public awareness activities.

The Professional Development Committee has been particularly active this year. They have organized and presented more seminars than any other year in recent memory. The Committee has worked hard to organize these seminars. At the same time, the ALSA office (that is, Cindy Chomlak) has spent more and more of her time registering members, working with the seminar moderators and presenters, and dealing with the hotels to make sure that the seminars come off without a hitch. Well done!

The Discipline Committee is a committee that no one wants to meet with. Several complaints were received in the past twelve months as outlined in Allan Nelson’s Discipline Committee report. Whenever a complaint is received, even if the complaint ends up being dismissed, there is a great deal of time invested by the Registrar and administration to make sure that all information is properly collected and catalogued and that the process is fair to both the Alberta Land Surveyor and the complainant. During the course of a year, there are always a number of inquiries from the public that never turn into a complaint but may require some research and some time on the phone with a land owner. These inquiries can
range from the obscure (why are streets in Alberta numbered instead of named) to the serious (property damage and what should or shouldn’t be shown on surveys). While these types of inquiries may disrupt our plans for the day, they are the very reason for our existence.

The Association’s Safety Committee has not been around as long as the Discipline Committee and is not a statutory body like the Discipline Committee. However, it could be argued that the new Safety Committee is perhaps one of the most important committees the Association now has. As everyone knows, safety is becoming the most important issue that anyone is dealing with today. As mentioned elsewhere, the Safety Committee is looking at providing information to the membership to help them with their own safety policies and procedures and the Association office will play its role to ensure that this information gets properly communicated.

At last year’s annual general meeting, David Thomson presented the boundary resolution process report. It is a two-stage process to try to bring surveyors together and seek possible solutions for boundary uncertainty and survey error cases. I, as Executive Director, have been designated as the person to receive the cases when they come forward. However, no files were brought to my attention since the program was established last May 1st.

Naturally, the ALSA office deals with a number of things that fall outside of the normal committee structure. Some are quite pleasant and others require a great deal of fortitude.

Over the course of the last twelve months, I have made a number of presentations to a variety of groups. I spoke to the International Right-of-Way Association and the Knights of Columbus. I particularly enjoyed having the home school kids come in to the Association office last October; it was great to see their eyes light up and enjoy the learning. The Association’s booth at the provincial centennial at the legislature grounds was also a tremendous public awareness opportunity. We could not have asked for anything better. The Alberta/Saskatchewan border story was a ridiculous one for any land surveyor but it did generate national attention. Kevin Beatty spent a lot of time dealing with the story and I was interviewed for the Rutherford radio show. It was the first time I had ever been interviewed on the radio and an interesting experience. It ended up being a very good public awareness exercise.

The Association continues to work with the Government of Alberta at both the political and bureaucratic level. We particularly deal with Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, Alberta Government Services and Alberta Human Resources and Employment. It is important that we keep the door open at both levels.

Questions of unauthorized practice continue to take up a good deal of my time. I believe that with the Alberta economy being as strong as it is, there is a certain element out there who feel they can do work that some land surveyors don’t spend a lot of time doing any more. The frustrating thing about these cases is that I am seeing some of the same names come up again and again. We are also spending more time trying to educate the client or the landowner about the legislation and the practice of land surveying. While these cases may be frustrating, I strongly encourage any member who
comes across a potential case of unauthorized practice to contact either myself or Registrar Dick Bassil.

As we look forward to the next twelve months, there are some potential exciting developments on the horizon. We hope to hire an additional administrative staff person immediately after the annual general meeting. This person should help ease the workload and allow us to do more things for the membership and landowners on a timely basis. It has been a long time coming but we hope to have our online membership database and event registration system set up very soon. Internally, this should save us time and resources but for you, the members, it will allow you to update your member information electronically and register for seminars and regional meetings online and pay by credit card in a secure environment.

As always, I encourage you to contact me at the ALSA office if you have any questions or concerns. I look forward to continuing to serve the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association.
### Registrar's Report

**Practicing Alberta Land Surveyor Information**

**Increases/Decreases to Number of Practicing Members**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Calendar Year</th>
<th>Started Year With</th>
<th>Added During Year</th>
<th>Subtracted During Year</th>
<th>Remaining At Year End</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>341</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2005, the average number of years of experience of an active Alberta Land Surveyor was 16.8 years. Alberta Land Surveyors who received their commission in 2005 had articled for an average of 46.1 months.

**Member Locations During 2005 (Calendar Year)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Active</th>
<th>Articled &amp; Affiliate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calgary</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edmonton</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grande Prairie</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Educational Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calgary</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NB</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toronto</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alberta</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryerson</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>16</td>
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**Male/Female Ratio**

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*up to February 28, 2006

**Industry Information (Surveyor’s Corporations)**

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<tr>
<th>Calendar Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
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CAPP
The Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association became a member of the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers. We have representation on the Resource Access Committee and the Geomatics Committee.

This has been an excellent opportunity for us to ensure we have an opportunity to dialogue with key stakeholders to the land surveying profession. CAPP has asked for the ALSA’s position on a number of issues (full monumentation on dispositions and the Canadian Height Modernization initiative) and they have been referred to committee for research and recommendation.

CONVENTION & SOCIAL
Council changed the structure of the Convention & Social Committee for 2005-2006. The Convention & Social Group is now chaired by the executive director with the president and vice president and their respective spouses working to plan the AGM. Michelle Woywitka provides administrative support. Council made the change in the structure to the group since staff attending the annual general meeting can take on most of the event planning and responsibilities leading up to and during the meeting. Council will, I am sure, evaluate how well this structure has worked and make changes if necessary.

The Convention & Social Group worked on the following tasks this year:

1. Organized the 41st Annual ALSA Golf Tournament. 144 golfers participated and we could not have asked for better weather. Due to the generosity of participants, the J.H. Holloway Scholarship Foundation raised $1,895 through the sale of mulligans and draw tickets for two nights accommodation at Jasper Park Lodge. A special thank you to George Smith, ALS for his continued support in helping to organize the tournament. The day was just about perfect up until the end when Team Focus lost the putt-off to Team APEGGA. We have to win our own trophy back in 2006.

2. The 97th Annual General Meeting will be held at the Jasper Park Lodge in Jasper, Alberta from April 20 to April 22. In keeping with the wishes of the president, this year’s meeting will have a sports theme to it. Leica’s annual north/south hockey game will take place on Wednesday evening and everyone is invited to either play or watch. Friday’s theme night is a sports pub theme and, on Saturday, former NHL hockey star Dennis Hull will be the guest speaker. The Thursday seminar organized by the Professional Development Committee is entitled Professional Ethics and the Land Surveyor—something that some professional athletes could learn about too.

3. Future annual general meetings are scheduled as follows:  

98th AGM
April 26-28, 2007—Chateau Lake Louise
DISCIPLINE
Between May 1, 2005 and the date of this report being written, February 17, 2006:
• Two formal complaints were received by the Association from the general public. One complaint was investigated by the Chairman of the Discipline Committee but did not proceed to a hearing. The last complaint is under investigation by the Chairman of the Discipline Committee.
• One formal complaint, which originated in a previous term, went to a hearing. The hearing process, at this time, has not been completed and a decision has not been rendered.
• Three formal complaints, which originated in a previous term, were investigated by the Chairman of the Discipline Committee but did not proceed to a hearing. The appeal period for two of these complaints has not yet expired.
• Two formal complaints, which originated in a previous term, were mediated by the Registrar as provided for by the Act and were resolved.

I would like to thank the members that served on the Discipline Committee for their ongoing dedication. Several of these members will see their terms expire in 2006. I encourage all members to seriously consider this committee as one that you may dedicate some of your time to.

The importance of this statutory committee as part of our commitment to protection of the public cannot be overstressed. It is further one of the most enlightening as well as humbling experiences of one’s professional career.

Allan W. Nelson, ALS

EDITORIAL BOARD
The Editorial Board’s purpose is to develop a textbook designed for students in surveying in Alberta and to be used as a reference book for Alberta Land Surveyors articling students and students. The Board had three meetings during the year, including one face-to-face meeting with the editor. The author group has been very busy researching and writing the book.

The author group is led by Dr. Alec McEwan as Editor, Marie Robidoux LLB, CLS, Ken Allred, ALS, Monroe Kinloch, ALS, Dunc Gilmore ALS and Gord Olsson ALS. The authors have called on several practitioners to assist in the writing of their chapters. Five of the six chapters have been written, edited and accepted by the Board. Chapter 5 - Official Surveys is still outstanding.

Committee Members
Chairman:
Al Nelson
Vice-Chairmen:
Jim Halliday
Dave McWilliam
Ken Allred
Larry Pals
Committee Members:
Bruce Beairsto
Bruce Gudim
Terry Hudema
Bill Hunter
Daniel Lachance
Con Lenius
Doug MacAulay
Tim Martin
Roy Pominville
Dave Thomson
John Wallace
Wayne Wesolowsky

Committee Members
Chairman:
David McArthur
Council Liaison:
Dirk VandenBrink
Committee Members:
Dr. Mike Berry (UofC),
Hugo Engler
Greg Hebb (SAIT)
Terry Ingraham (NAIT)
Rob Scott
The Board members spent June, July and July providing comments to the editor on the draft manuscript. Five chapters were given a final edit at an October 24, 2005 face to face meeting.

Council has approved a totally digital format for the book, along with making available an imprinted binder that members can purchase to house the book. The document in PDF format will be available on the ALSA web site for all free of charge.

David J. McArthur, ALS

EXECUTIVE

It is the role of the Executive Committee to ensure that recommendations from committees and other matters are ready to be presented to Council. This ensures that Council meetings are more efficient and effective and that Council is able to focus on critical issues. As such, most matters that came before the Executive Committee this year were dealt with by Council and Council’s decisions were published in Council Report.

The Executive Committee will have met eight times by the time of the annual general meeting. The meeting to approve committee membership and terms of reference and the meeting to draft next year’s budget were held face-to-face but all the other meetings were held by conference call. By being prepared, we have been able to finish our meetings sooner and, therefore, have saved everyone a great deal of time and money.

Council specifically asked the Executive Committee to look at the Association’s banking and investment arrangements, issues surrounding public lands dispositions and the introduction of DIDs, a method of budgeting for post sales as requested by the membership at the 2005 AGM, and a proposal from SAIT for online study for Board of Examiners candidates.

The Executive Committee also deals with any staffing issues brought forward by the Executive Director. The Executive Committee recommended to Council, and Council approved, the hiring of one additional staff person for the ALSA office. This came up as a result of Sharon Stecyk cutting her time to three days a week and the increased workload at the ALSA office.

The Executive Committee structure works well thanks to the commitment and dedication of all of Council.

Stephen C. Green, ALS

FUTURE OF THE ASSOCIATION AD HOC

In its second year of activity, the Future of the Association Ad Hoc Committee proceeded with the direction set in the first year. The focus was still primarily on information gathering. Previously in 2004, the Committee decided to employ the services of an independent consultant to analyze the current and future demand for Alberta Land Surveyors. Of prime interest was identifying why some students chose land surveying as a career and what others found to be unattractive about the profession. This was accomplished through interviews with geomatics alumni who chose other career paths.

The consultant prepared a tentative report and then held a workshop with the Committee to present a detailed explanation of
its findings, in particular some of the responses from the interviews. During the workshop, the Committee provided the consultant with some additional information to put some of the interviewees’ responses into context. However, we were careful to avoid steering the results of the report. In particular, the consultant initially identified existing survey technicians as a key source of new ALS. Given the demand for survey technicians, we did not feel this was the best route and asked the consultant to consider other sources for new members.

The consultant’s final report concluded that the ALSA is meeting the current demand for land surveyors, and will likely continue to do so. The Committee found this reassuring, but felt that we should take a proactive stance in our recruitment. With the recovery of the high-tech sector in recent years, and the general robustness of the Alberta economy, the Committee feels that we must continually re-evaluate and adapt our recruitment strategies.

After receiving the final report from the consultant, the Committee spent some time brainstorming how we could maintain and possibly improve upon our current recruitment strategies and overall marketing of the Association. We have reviewed the Public Relations Committee’s five-year plan and are pleased with its direction. The five-year plan contains many of the same directives we have identified.

We are in the process of writing a position paper that will give recommendations for:
- the future supply of surveyors
- the future demand for survey services
- the qualifications required to become a commissioned land surveyor.

Arlin O. Amundrud, ALS

GEOMATICS ENGINEERING LIAISON COMMITTEE
The Geomatics Engineering Liaison Committee (GELC) met on Thursday, February 2nd, coinciding with the U of C’s Geomatics Engineering Career Day.

After reviewing past meeting minutes and notable changes in committee members, Dr. Cannon made a point of noting to the group that the Department of Geomatics Engineering was very grateful to the ALSA in agreeing to a $30,000 per year commitment (for 3 years) for (approved) cadastral research projects and encouraged the other associations to consider a similar arrangement with the U of C.

Provincial Articling Processes
All the associations wish to make their articling process the best it can be. Naturally, this begins by first learning what works in each of the other jurisdictions and their articling processes.

The ABCLS shared detailed notes regarding their articling process. They are in the process of reviewing their examination and articling process and have a preliminary list of findings and recommendations they will be considering in order to improve it for the pupils and the profession, alike.
In BC, they require the pupil to complete one pre-approved legal survey project where they performed the field work in its entirety and submit detailed returns to the ABCLS.

In Alberta, we have moved away from a thesis style report to three projects reports meant to demonstrate competence in three different areas of cadastral surveying.

Another noted difference mentioned was that case law is one topic that is examined extensively during the pupil’s oral exam. In Alberta, we moved away from testing survey law due to our interpretation of the Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) between the provincial associations. As the associations agreed to not test those areas that one should have already demonstrated competence in, the ALSA felt that survey law is one such topic that is satisfactorily examined through either the geomatics degree program or the Western Board of Examiners for Land Surveyors’ (WCBELS) process. The ABCLS remains firm in that they feel this is a unique and vital enough topic in their province that it must continue to be examined. They may have a point that our own association may want to reconsider.

Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba will bring documentation outlining their articling processes at upcoming committee meetings.

**Internship Students**
The Committee is also working on a recommended skills list that university internship students “should” be trying to acquire during their work terms. Some students have been reporting that a few employers have been taking advantage of the work term arrangement and keep students in a singular role for the duration of their entire work term. This, of course, goes against the purpose of the internship program where students should be getting more diverse and rounded training due to the longer work terms.

While it is the role of the university to provide students with the theory and mechanics of process in their chosen field of study, it has (and always was) the role of industry to provide the means for these individuals to develop actual skills in order to solve problems.

Universities do understand that graduates generally have no problem with the understanding and application of technology, but continue to lack the practical skill of problem solving in the “real world.” They lack the knowledge of how to set up, coordinate, and manage a project. It was the internship programs that were to supposed to help provide a solution to this problem by allowing students to acquire more practical experience throughout their education and making them more “ready” upon graduation.

**Survey Camp**
The U of C’s Survey Camp continues to be a vital part of their Geomatics Program and the guest lectures by professional land surveyors is of great significance to students to gain some insight on what opportunities exist in a career of land surveying. Students have rated this as highly valuable to them and they genuinely
appreciate the opportunity to interact with the participating land surveyors.

Victor G. Hut, ALS

HISTORICAL & BIOGRAPHICAL
The Committee met six times during the year with three of those meetings being conference calls.

We want to express our thanks to Mr. Bob Baker for the numerous years in which he was our chairman and for his continued service as a committee member. Mr. Allan Main became chairman during this year and Mr. Les Frederick has taken on the role as vice chairman. Other members have joined our committee, and some long-serving committee members have moved on to other challenges. Welcome and thank you, respectively!

At the AGM of 2005, you will recall that Ms. Judy Larmour became an honourary member of the ALSA at the same time as the book launch for Laying Down The Lines. At that convention, the sales of the book to the membership were quite strong and we are pleased to report that sales have continued. Approximately half of the hard cover run of the book have been sold.

This year, we have continued to examine and implement the role of curator for a virtual surveying museum. Currently, our executive director is acting in this role and, with the assistance of a collections subcommittee, we are actively proceeding with the proper cataloguing of the existing collection of surveying instruments and artifacts.

Looking to the future, we note that the Association will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2009. With that in mind, the Committee has begun investigations into the possibility of a permanent public display/monument of that centenary.

The launch of a historical website (www.landsurveyinghistory.ab.ca) coincided with the book launch of Laying Down The Lines. On this site you can learn about many of the characters in the history of our Association. Some of those people were characters! Using previously published records (and materials from Council nominations), miniature cameos of these illustrious members have been created where possible. We have also looked at the oral history interviews conducted (1998-2002) and contacted members (current and past) to learn more of their stories and seek their permission to include those on our website. There are still areas of the website that we need to attend to, but things are moving forward.

Over the next few years you will, no doubt, hear more about the David Thompson Bicentennial activities, events, and celebrations. Our Committee has recommended to Council that we support the David Thompson Bicentennial activities taking place at Fort Edmonton Park, and know that you will take the (pro-offered) opportunities to deepen your knowledge of this fascinating man.

In June, we were approached by the Historical Construction Equipment Association to assist with their international convention in August 2005. Due to the brevity of preparation time available and the scope of their request, we were unable to accept.

Allan R. Main, ALS

Committee Members
Chairman:
Allan Main
Vice Chairman:
Les Frederick
Council Liaison:
Clayton Bruce
Committee Members:
Bob Baker
Barry Necyk
Gord Olsson
Lew Rodney
Stephen Van Berkel
Charlie Weir
Mark Woychuk
LEGISLATION AD HOC

In 2005-2006, the Legislation Ad Hoc Committee held three meetings, two were conference calls and one was held at the Red Deer Lodge.

The first meeting was held via conference call in November 2005 to review and make recommendations on several proposed bylaw amendments forwarded to the Committee by Council. The Committee made recommendations back to Council on all proposed amendments.

The second meeting in December 2005 was held in Red Deer to respond to Council’s request to review the Land Titles Act (LTA) and make recommendations back to Council as Council was acting on the understanding that the LTA had been opened for possible amendments by legislature. We were also asked to review Murray Young’s ALS News article in the September 2005 issue as well as a letter received from Vince Ziegler, ALS. The Committee was subsequently advised that the LTA was being opened in the spring of 2006 but only relating to issues on fraud and forgery which had already gone through the proper process. No other items could be dealt with. It will be approximately three years until the LTA will be up for review again. The Committee reviewed both letters and did provide recommendations back to Council as well as preparing a draft letter in response to the two letters for Council to consider placing in ALS News in a future issue.

The third meeting was held by conference call in January 2006 at which time the Committee recommended to Council that the Legislation Ad Hoc Committee continue to review the LTA and Municipal Government Act as to possible amendments to recommend when these acts are opened in approximately three years from now.

Terry W. Hudema, ALS

NOMINATING

The past president seems to be saddled with some dubious rewards for serving the Association, one of which is chairing the Discipline Committee. A task less onerous but equally important to our collective future is the nomination of new candidates for vice-president and for Council. Much has been said of the good fortune of our professional Association where we have relatively huge levels of participation by our membership compared to other similar bodies. It is also a distinct pleasure to have the opportunity to call on numerous members with whom one does not regularly get to converse. As a result of those pleasurable circumstances, the following is the slate of candidates who have consented to allow their names to stand:

For Vice-President: Bob Wallace
For Council: Bruce Beairsto, Cam Cousins, Paul Dixon, Tim Harding, Terry Hudema, John Van Berkel

Unfortunately Chad Finner had to withdraw from the race.

In extremely busy times as we now experience, we are fortunate indeed to have the dedication demonstrated by these candidates and those who may be subsequently nominated by the committee or from the floor at the AGM. Please take the time to acknowledge

Committee Members
Chairman: Terry Hudema
Vice Chairman: John Van Berkel
Council Liaison: David Marquardt
Members: Jack Carter, Terry Chiddy, Les Frederick, John Lohnes, Lee Morden, Len Olson, Albert Rachynski, Andrew Roop, Garry Schirrmacher, Mark Sutter

Committee Members
Chairman: Al Nelson
Members: Jim Halliday, Dave McWilliam
the commitment of these individuals and please consider your own participation in the future.

Thanks to the members of the Nominating Committee, Messrs. Halliday and McWilliam for their unflagging contributions and usual diligence.

Allan W. Nelson, ALS

OIL & GAS AD HOC COMMITTEE

In 2005-2006, the Oil & Gas Ad Hoc Committee was charged with the following tasks from Council:

1. EUB

At the request from EUB staff, the Committee represented ALSA at a meeting at the EUB office, on November 4, 2005. The meeting was to discuss EUB’s potential acceptance of wellsite plans done by LIDAR for a pilot project for licencing purposes.

Participants included EUB staff, representatives from Crape Geomatics, SRD, Talisman Energy & ALSA. Committee members attending were Al Jamieson, David Marquardt, Mark Prevost and John Wallace.

2. SRD Plans for Full Monumentation on Public Land Dispositions

The ALSA was asked by CAPP for a position on SRD’s expected plan to have all public land dispositions fully monumented. A combination meeting / conference call was held on December 1, 2005. Attendees were Al Jamieson, Paul Densmore, Barry Fleece, Ron Hall, Craig Hughes, Jamie Hume, Mark Prevost, Brian Ross, Garry Schirrmacher, Doug Sharp, Sean Studer, Kevin Swabey, Bruce Winton and Stephen Green.

The conclusion that came out of this meeting was that full monumentation of crown land dispositions would not be beneficial to the public or industry interests.

3. Director of Surveys Perception That Iron Spikes and Iron Bars for Dispositions are not Being Taken into Consideration by Alberta Land Surveyors When Reestablishing a Position

This issue arose as a result of the Director’s report to Council regarding full monumentation on public land dispositions.

At the time of this report a meeting has been scheduled for February 21st, 2006 in Red Deer.

D.A. (Al) Jamieson, ALS
### Board Members

**Chairman:**
Dwight Wiberg

**Vice Chairman:**
Blaine Benson

**Public Member:**
Russell Barnes

**Members:**
Jeff Boutilier
Bernie Jess
Bernie McKenna
Brent Murray
Doug Neufeld
Paul Stoliker
Paul Westersund

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### PRACTICE REVIEW BOARD

The Board welcomed two new members, Messrs. Boutilier and Stoliker, at the beginning of the present term and thanked prior chairman Chad Finner and member Bill Halma for their service to the Board. Mr. D.R. Barnes continues as our public member. Two members will be leaving at the completion of this term.

Mr. Lyall Pratt completed his contract with the Association on December 31, 2005. The Board thanked Mr. Pratt for his eight years of service to Systematic Practice Review and his other activities namely, the Getting it Right seminars he has presented.

The Board welcomed Mr. Fred Cheng as the new Director of Practice Review who commenced employment on December 1, 2005 and assumed the Director’s role on January 1, 2006.

By April 1, 2006, six meetings will have been held with final term meeting to be held in May 2006.

### Systematic Practice Review (SPR)

Between the dates of June 22, 2006 and February 22, 2006 the Board considered eighteen Phase 3 reviews, four Phase 2 follow-up reviews and one Phase 2 second follow-up review. Two complaints have been filed with the Registrar.

### Interpretive Bulletins

No interpretive bulletins were published by the Board during the present term.

### Guard Post Articles

- **June 2005** - Russell Barnes
- **September 2005** – No Article
- **December 2005** – Bernie Jess
- **March 2006** – Jeff Boutilier

### Chairman’s Comments

As of February 22, 2006, a total of twenty-three Phase 3 reviews have been considered by the Board. The average rating of these reviews to date is 82% compared to the final Phase 2 average rating of 84%. These averages indicate that, at this stage, we are slipping rather than improving.

My perception as to the regression has to do with the field note ratings. Field notes continue to drag down the overall ratings and is an area in which we can all improve. The use of RTK measuring techniques appears to be partly responsible for the decline as practitioners have not kept up the basic field note recordings as required by the MSP. These include instrument and meteorological readings, proper sketches, and evidence descriptions. I believe that practitioners can easily improve on all field notes whether they are RTK records or conventional total station data collector records - and thus improve the overall field note ratings.

The Board as a whole has one complaint with the process, that is the failure of some practitioners to respond to Board requests in a timely manner. There have been numerous instances in the past of practitioners being called before the Board or having complaints filed with the Discipline Committee over failure to respond. In my
opinion, there is absolutely no need for this. The Systematic Practice Review is part of all practitioners’ obligations in order to continue to practice. Our duty to the program is as important as our duties to our clients.

Dwight A. Wiberg, ALS

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Committee presented eight seminars this past year with an approximate attendance of 500. The seminars were:

- Getting It Right (2005.06.16&17—Calgary)
- Land Titles Documents/Procedures (2005.10.26—Calgary)
- Municipal Government Act
  (2006.11.14&18—Edmonton & Calgary)
- Boundary Re-establishment
  (2006.01.19 - Red Deer)
- Land Use Issues in Resource Development (2006.02.07—Calgary)
- Getting It Right (2006.03.16&17—Red Deer)
- Exam Preparation (2006.03.18—Red Deer)
- Ethics & Land Surveyors Act (2006.04—AGM)
- Getting It Right (2006.06.15 & 16—Edmonton)
- Field Notes (2006.10—Edmonton)
- GPS (2006.11—Edmonton)
- Data Management (2007.01—Calgary)
- Train Presenters (2007.02—Calgary)
- Getting It Right (2007.03—Calgary)
- Getting It Right (2007.03—Grand Prairie)
- Exam Preparation (2007.03—Red Deer)
- Natural Boundaries (2007.04—AGM in Lake Louise)

The Professional Development Committee has a five-year program at any given time in place. As the Committee moves through its term, we plan the sixth year so we always have a five-year program in advance.

The Committee is looking for volunteers the next season and we would welcome any help we can get.

The Professional Development Committee is a rewarding, challenging and interesting Committee to be involved with. So join up!

N.R. (Ross) Woolgar, ALS

Committee Members

Chairman:
Ross Woolgar
Vice Chairman:
Andrew Miles
Council Liaison:
Murray Young
NAIT Liaison:
Connie Hanrahan
SAIT Liaison:
Greg Hebb
U of C Liaison:
Mele Rakai
Members:
Paul Densmore
Steve Keddy
Sirt Lin
Patrick Marshall
Ryan McMahon
Lyall Pratt
Marty Robinson
Andrew Roop
Roger Ross
Courtney Tripp
PUBLIC RELATIONS
The Chairman did not submit a report by the deadline. Mr. Partridge presented a verbal report in the business meeting.

REGISTRATION
The 2005-2006 Registration Committee expanded its membership with the addition of nine additional members for a total of 25. The additional help was welcomed as our number of articled students and affiliate members grew from 82 to 94. The Association has 16 articled students in the Edmonton area, 51 in Southern Alberta and 8 in Grande Prairie. The participation from our members has been generous and their volunteer time is greatly appreciated.

In late 2005, the Committee received a resignation from our vice-chairman, Fred Cheng, as he took on other duties as Director of Practice Review. The vice-chair position has been filled by Committee member Bryan Bates.

Thirteen members from our southern group and eleven members from our northern group met with students and affiliate members for initial, annual, and transfer interviews throughout the year. From May 2005 to February 2006, the Registration Committee, as a whole, conducted qualifying exams for ten new members.

Members of the Committee reviewed countless project reports during the year. We saw the last of the technical reports submitted during 2005 and the articling process is now completely project report oriented. The guidelines for the project reports have undergone some changes, the most important one being the students’ involvement in the different categories of the report. This has been reflected in the principal certification form which has been updated and posted on the ALSA website.

The Exam Subgroup continues to play an important role in the overall effectiveness of the Committee, with the vice-chairman being responsible for the co-ordination of this group. The subgroup is responsible for setting exams twice yearly, for marking the exams, and for providing a summary of results to the rest of the committee for approval. In April 2005, we had 56 students attempt the exams with a 68% pass rate. In October 2005, we had 44 students attempt the exams with a 41% pass rate.

During the year, we have had full committee discussions on the format of the Practical Surveying Exam as this continues to be a
stumbling block for many candidates. The Registration Committee is continuously striving to set a fair exam that will adequately test the candidate’s practical knowledge in various aspects of day-to-day surveying. Feedback from the students has been received and is being considered at the full committee level.

The Exam Subgroup is always looking for good questions for the Practical Surveying Exam to build up our bank of questions. Any ALSA member is encouraged to submit a question for the Committee’s consideration.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the members of the Registration Committee for their tireless efforts this past year and to encourage members of our Association to consider volunteering for the Registration Committee at the annual general meeting in Jasper this April. I have found my time on this Committee to be a very rewarding experience and I appreciate having had the opportunity to meet our students and affiliate members, to follow their progress through their term of articles and to welcome them into our Association as Alberta Land Surveyors.

Connie R. Petersen, ALS

SAFETY
The Safety Committee met in Red Deer three times this year. The Committee is comprised of fifteen members with representation from resource and municipal oriented companies, solid representation by members of the Association and health and safety professionals.

Revised terms of reference were recommended to Council as follows:

1. Discuss and promote safe work practices, safety legislation, certifications and incidents of concern to Alberta Land Surveyors and their personnel.
2. Communicate the discussions to practitioners and the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association, through Council.
3. Liaise with WCB, Occupational Health & Safety, other industry associations, and other safety authorities and how safety practices are administered by those authorities.
4. Make recommendations to Council relating to Occupation Health & Safety initiatives.

As an indication of the Association’s ongoing commitment to the well being of all members of the survey community, it was also recommended that “ad hoc” be removed from the initial name of the committee.

From the onset, it was recognized that (Health and) Safety is an extensive topic and it was decided to narrow the focus to provide some tangible results.

The following subjects were identified for discussion:

- ATV/Quad safety
- Bill C-45
- Chainsaw Safety
- Competency

Committee Members
Chairman:
Mike Fretwell
Vice Chairman:
Darrell Florence
Council Liaison:
Victor Hut
Members:
Jennifer Beaulieu
Blaine Benson
Steve Card
Bob Conacher
Alex Hittel
Carrie Johnman
Greg Murphy
Chielo Pronovost
Albert Rachynski
Bob Stirling
Wayne Thom
Dwayne Westacott
• Confined Spaces
• Drug and Alcohol Policy
• Fatigue & Working Hours
• Firearms
• Wilderness First Aid
• Remote Areas
• Ground Disturbance
• Safety Reward Programs
• New Employee Training
• Driver Training
• WCB Claims
• Working Alone

It was determined that the initial focus would be placed upon chainsaw safety and the forthcoming faller certification for the oil & gas industry. Thereafter, three subjects from the list would be discussed at each subsequent meeting.

A presentation was given to the Committee by Ed Kapala of Enform on the pending faller certification and, given the potential impact of the certification requirement, a notice was forwarded to Council for circulation to the membership.

Faller certification and its application to the survey industry continues to be a topic of concern for the Committee. The Committee identified that this new certification was developed from the WCB-BC Faller certification and, as such, may not adequately address the cutting environment an Alberta Surveyor would face. The Committee intends to provide input to the Oil & Gas Chainsaw Safety Committee in order to help outline a more appropriate solution.

In addition to chainsaw safety, the Committee has reviewed information on *Bill C-45, Competency, and Fatigue & Working Hours*.

In keeping with its mandate, the Committee is recommending that the Association add a safety page to the Association’s website as this will provide the best method for disseminating the information gathered and discussed.

We applaud Council’s initiative in establishing the Safety Committee and see this as a positive step in advancing the survey industry’s commitment to the well being of all members of the community.

*Mike M. Fretwell, ALS*

**STANDARDS**

In 2005-2006, the Standards Committee held one meeting in Red Deer and five telephone conference call meetings. This year, the Committee was comprised of 22 members, including the Director of Surveys, one member from Alberta Registries, one member from ASSMT and one member from ALSA Practice Review.

The Committee members were divided into working groups to deal with particular issues. The working groups then brought their findings back to the Committee for discussion and review.

The Committee worked on the following issues:

1. Buried Facilities—Prepare a position paper and make recommendations to Council with respect to buried facilities and
ground disturbance. The position paper and recommendations must address possible changes to Alberta Land Surveyors’ procedures, changes to the procedures of the facility owners and others, and changes to legislation and regulations. The position paper must address all areas of an Alberta Land Surveyor’s practice.

A position paper including recommendations was submitted to Council for its March 2nd meeting.

2. Review Part D, Section 5.1.2 of the Manual of Standard Practice as to whether or not ASCMs in unsurveyed territory when not tied to the survey fabric are considered good evidence.

A recommendation will be forwarded to Council for consideration at the AGM.

3. Review current practices involving the use of the ATS file and the blue book.

A recommendation will be forwarded to Council for consideration at the AGM.

4. Investigate if it warranted to include abbreviations for railway plans in the Manual of Standard Practice.

Recommendation to Council that no further action is warranted as only one undefined abbreviation (TST) was found and it was only on one plan.

5. Implement a corner recordation database.

Recommendation to Council that the Corner Recordation Database is ready for implementation.

6. Review the draft standards on integrated surveys from the Canadian Council on Geomatics and provide comment back to Council.

Recommendation to Council that the Canadian Council on Geomatics be advised that Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association will consider the National Standards for integrated surveys (S05-10) when Alberta looks at updating the Manual of Standard Practice’s standards for integrated surveys.

7. Review Part D, Section 5.8 and Section 5.9 of the Manual of Standard Practice to make more consistent.

A recommendation will be forwarded to Council for consideration at the AGM

Kevin T. Swabey, ALS

WESTERN CANADIAN BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR LAND SURVEYORS

The WCBE met on December 5th, 2005 in what looks like one of the last meetings this group will have. Pursuant to the wishes of the member associations, the WCBE is proceeding with merging with the Association of Canada Lands Surveyors Board of Examiners.

The process was briefly in jeopardy as Corporations Canada had discovered a possible conflict with the name “Canadian Board of Examiners for Professional Surveyors.” Yes, apparently they needed consent from some group called the “Western Canadian Board of Examiners for Land Surveyors” before they would ratify the new board name. Luckily, we had an “in” there and the consent was delivered, post-haste.

Committee Members
Chairman:
Kevin Swabey
Vice Chairman:
John Landry
Past Chairman:
Francis Prefontaine
Council Liaison:
David Marquart
Members:
Scott Boulanger
David Gosling
Don Grant
Al Jamieson
Mark Knott
Doug Lunty
Pat Maloney
Rob Pinkerton
Ron Robinson
Mike SexSmith
Piotr Strozyk
Wayne Wesolowsky
Ian Westlake
Jeremy Zettel
Alberta Registries Liaison:
Tim Grusie
Director of Surveys:
Mike Michaud
SPR Liaison:
Don George
ASSMT Liaison:
Cathy Sprott
It is expected that the upcoming annual general meeting of the WCBE will be its last and that the CBEPS will become the official examining body soon thereafter. The WCBE will continue to “exist” for one more year to ensure a smooth transition for all candidates involved.

Recent WCBE statistics include the following:

- A total of 113 candidates wrote a total of 195 examinations. APBELS had 1 candidate who wrote 1 examinations, ACLS had 22 candidates who wrote 30 examinations, and WCBELS had 90 candidates who wrote 164 examinations.

- There were a total of 175 examinations written in Schedules I and II, and 20 written in Schedule III.

- WCBE candidates wrote 164 examinations in Schedules I and II, ACLS candidates wrote 10 examinations in Schedules I and II, and APBELS candidates wrote 1 examination in Schedule II.

- WCBE candidates wrote at nine different locations in Western Canada.

- The pass rates for all examinations was 88.2% versus 77.9% in March and for Schedules I and II only it was 73.3% versus 79.3% in March.

- As a result of the October examinations, four individuals from Alberta were successful in acquiring their Certificate of Completion.

- Twenty-six Certificates of Completion were issued as follows: BC = 5; AB = 16; SK = 1; MB = 3; Other = 1.

- Eleven of the Certificates were issued to U of C Geomatics Engineering graduates and five were issued to UNB Geomatics Engineering graduates.

- As of September 30, 2005 there were 208 candidates in the register. Breakdown by province is: BC = 1; AB = 87; SK = 12; MB = 24; NB = 1; USA = 3.

- During this period, 55 persons were accepted as candidates. Breakdown by province is: BC = 22; AB = 24; SK = 6; MB = 6; USA =1.

SAIT had an application denied for an additional four exemptions. Current graduates are eligible for exemptions from up to four exams within the WCBE syllabus. This decision was in line with conclusions reached by independent evaluations done by the Atlantic Provinces Board and that of the ACLS.

NAIT, however, was successful in their application for three additional exam exemptions. NAIT graduates are now eligible for up to six exam exemptions from the WCBE syllabus.

Victor G. Hut, ALS
RATIONALE DOCUMENT
for the motion pertaining to the bylaws of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association

13(4) Council Meetings - Use of mail
Unless otherwise agreed by every member of Council, written notice of each Council meeting shall be sent mailed by the Executive Director to each Council member at least seven (7) days before the date of the meeting.

Rationale: Changing “sent” to “mailed” gives the Association greater flexibility in sending out notices given the expanding use of fax and email and who knows what will be the next big communication medium.

It was suggested that the ALSA confirm that each Council member has received the notice. However, this might imply that notices of Council meetings must now be sent out by registered mail or “read-receipt” email. If the “read-receipt” email method is used, is the ALSA required to act if the Council member has not confirmed receipt of the message?

Section 13(4) implies that the notice of the meeting shall be sent at least ten days before the meeting. However, in practical terms, the Council meeting agenda itself cannot be sent out more than seven days in advance.

30(7) Conduct of Election
At the annual general meeting, the President Registrar shall appoint at least three (3) Alberta Land Surveyors to act as scrutineers.

Rationale: In practical terms, the Registrar has been appointing the scrutineers for a number of years. As the Registrar conducts the election, it is easier for him to ensure that the scrutineers are appointed and able to answer any questions they may have.

40(1) Signing Authority
Except as authorized by Council, no money shall be withdrawn from the Association’s account except by cheque (a) signed by the Executive Director and one of the following officers: the president, vice-president, past president or secretary-treasurer or (b) in the absence of the executive director, by any two of the following officers: the president, vice-president, past-president, secretary-treasurer signed by the Executive Director for amounts under $5,000 or for amounts $5,000 or over the cheque must be signed by the Executive Director and one of the following: the President, Vice-President, Past-President or Secretary-Treasurer.
**Rationale:** The Executive Director has had sole signing authority on cheques since 1997. Council passes a resolution each year authorizing the signing authorities. As the members of the Executive Committee change there should be consistence regarding cheque signing. As such, the Executive Director should have to sign each cheque issued by the Association.

In practical terms, a bank will not check signatures over a certain amount. In the case of the Association’s current banker, the amount is $10,000. If the Executive Director were to improperly withdraw funds from the Association’s bank account, the Association has a dishonesty bond in place. Requiring two signatures is not efficient in the case of small and routine cheque amounts, particularly when a second signing officer is not regularly present in the office.

The exception is to deal with automatic withdrawals from the Association’s account for payroll (through Ceridian Canada) and investment management fees.

51(1) Honorary Life Member

(a) Council, in its discretion, may confer honorary life membership in the Association upon any Alberta Land Surveyor or retired member who has rendered signal service to the Association and the betterment of mankind.

(b) An honorary life member is not required to pay an annual fee or any levy payable to the Association.

(c) An honorary life member may not engage in the practice of surveying unless otherwise authorized by Council.

**Rationale:** Is it reasonable to ask an honorary life member who may not have practiced in 10-15 years to make plan corrections or otherwise engage in the practice of surveying? Most honorary life members have not practiced in many years and may not be current in the requirements of the acts, Manual of Standard Practice or other documents. If an honorary life member were to engage in the practice of surveying, he would be required to obtain professional liability insurance coverage although he may not have had coverage (other than possibly past acts) for many years.

For those honorary life members who are still practicing (Bob Baker and Dunc Gillmore), Council would likely automatically authorize them to practice if this bylaw amendment were approved.

Currently Council’s policy regarding Honorary Life membership indicates that the member is to be retired. However, this policy is not reflected in the bylaws. The amendment to 51(1)(a) would rectify this.

52(1) Fees

(a) on application for registration as an Alberta Land Surveyor, surveyor’s corporation or surveyor’s partnership; - $20.00 $50.00

(b) for registration with the Association as an Alberta Land Surveyor, surveyor’s corporation or surveyor’s partnership; $100.00 $200.00
(c) for an Alberta Land Surveyor, a sum not exceeding annually $700.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by the Council;
(d) for retired membership, a sum not exceeding annually $100.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by the Council;
(e) for associate membership, a sum not exceeding annually $200.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by the Council;
(f) for affiliate membership, a sum not exceeding annually $100.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by the Council;
(g) for a surveyor’s corporation or surveyor’s partnership, a sum not exceeding annually $500.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by the Council
(h) for the filing of articles of service $50.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by Council until the articles are terminated,
(i) for the filing of each transfer of articles of service -- 20.00 $50.00
(j) for late payment of any fees, dues or levies $50.00 $200.00
(k) for reinstatement, in addition to other fees, dues and levies payable, $100.00 $500.00
(l) for pupils, a sum not exceeding annually $100.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by Council.
(m) for branch offices, a sum not exceeding annually $300.00 or a lesser sum as may be fixed by Council.

Rationale: The fee schedule listed in the bylaws was last amended in 1996. Annual membership fees are maximums and Council may choose to set a lower fee as it has done with active member dues and associate member dues. Branch offices, like head offices, require the approval of Council, are subject to their own systematic practice review, and so on. It was felt that branch offices should be subject to an annual fee. Late payment fees have increased substantially. There are, on average, a dozen practitioners or articled students, who end up being invoiced for paying late. They are usually the same people. The Registrar spends a disproportionate amount of time phoning and writing to these members.

53(c)
(c) the annual register.

Rationale: This change is a result of the change to Section 56.

56 Annual Register
(1) The Annual Register shall contain the names, current addresses, and date of registration for all members, surveyor’s corporations and surveyor’s partnerships registered as of April 30 and shall be published on the Association website.
(2) The Registrar shall prepare a supplement to the Annual Register to include all members, surveyor’s corporations or surveyor’s partnerships registered after April 30 in any year and send a copy to the Registrar of each Land Titles Office and the Director of Surveys.
(3) Additions or deletions to the Annual Register shall be published in the Association newsletter or other Association publication.

(4) On or before August 1, in each year, the Registrar shall send a copy of the Annual Register to each member, to the Director of Surveys and to the Registrar of each Land Titles Office.

(5) When a member dies, is suspended or has their registration cancelled, the Registrar shall strike that member’s name from the Annual Register and shall forthwith notify the Director of Surveys and the Registrar of each Land Titles Office.

**Rationale:** The bylaws state that the register shall contain the names of all members as of April 30 and shall be published by June 1. These dates are not practical.

The register at April 30 contains the names of members who were registered during the last Association year. It is not until Council accepts their application to be placed on the retired list or Council gives 30 days notice to cancel the registration of a practitioner (and the 30 days expires) does the practitioner’s registration status change. This may not be finalized until July 1 although it may be later depending on Council meeting dates.

The proposed amendment to the bylaws removes any reference to dates to give the Association greater flexibility. If the Register is ready to be published early, it will be published as soon after year end as possible.

The membership and the public always have access to the most current version of the register through the Association website. It is more practical to keep the register on the web up-to-date and it is the place where more people are going to get current information. As such, a formal supplement to the register would no longer be required.

It is felt that this not only meets the needs of the membership but also provides the public with the most current and accurate information.

**61(5) Duplicate Permit Stamp**

A surveyor’s corporation or surveyor’s partnership may apply to Council or the Registrar for one or more duplicate stamps to be issued to it.

**Rationale:** The Registrar should have the discretion to be able to approve duplicate permit stamps. The Registrar may grant approval for a digital permit stamp [61(6)] and the Registrar is the only person who may issue a permit stamp [61(3)]. Council has already approved the surveyor’s corporation or surveyor’s partnership so there should be no concern with the issuance of a duplicate permit stamp. Such requests are rare.

**65(6) Mandatory Insurance**

A member who applies to Council for retired membership pursuant to Section 51(2) of the general bylaws, or requests Council to cancel the member’s registration pursuant to Section 28 of the
Land Surveyors Act, must establish to Council’s satisfaction that he has provided for adequate insurance coverage.

Rationale: Active members have a choice to go on to the retired list or withdraw completely from the Association by having Council cancel their registration. Either way, Council has an obligation to the public to ensure that the member has provided for adequate insurance coverage. Of course, a member may withdraw from the Association by not paying dues and there is no assurance that the member would have arranged for adequate insurance coverage. However, most members would not take that approach; the proposed amendment simply clarifies that Council must take it insurance coverage into account when a member wishes to have his registration cancelled.

65(7) Mandatory Insurance
A practitioner shall notify the Registrar of particulars of all claims made against his professional liability insurance.

Rationale: The Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association has no means of ensuring that all practitioners do notify the Registrar and, given the number of notices the Association office does receive, it is quite likely that the office is not getting all of them.

If the Association does receive a notice from a practitioner, there is nothing the Association can do about it. It can’t be used in a disciplinary or practice review matter because the information is confidential – and, even then, it is only a potential claim. The Association can’t use the information to gather general statistics because so few potential claims are reported. A better source of general professional liability insurance information is the CCLS Professional Liability Insurance Committee. They can analyze the trends and possible reasons for claims in any particular area. They have the information to determine what is serious and what is not. They will provide what information they can to the ALSA as required.

66 Notice
(1) When a notice or any other thing is permitted or required to be given to
(a) an Alberta Land Surveyors, a surveyor’s corporation or surveyor’s partnership or other member of the Association, the notice may be given
   (i) by delivering or mailing the notice to that person’s mailing address shown on the appropriate register or record of the Association, whether by mail, courier, fax or electronic means, or
   (ii) by personal service;

Rationale: This section of the bylaws is permissive in that does not state that the notice must be delivered by these methods. However, an amendment to this section of the bylaws would clarify that electronic methods are acceptable. Many members now prefer to receive their information from the Association by email.
The intent is to give Council the flexibility to send important by the most appropriate means, including electronic methods. Notices required under the Act are not affected by this section of the bylaws.

It was suggested that the ALSA confirm that each Council member has received the notice. However, this might imply that notices of annual or special general meetings must now be sent out by registered mail or “read-receipt” email to all 500 members. It would become more cumbersome instead of more practical.

**Rationale Document**

for the motion pertaining to Part D, Section 5.1.2 of the Manual of Standard Practice.

1. **What are the financial costs of the recommendation? Are there any ongoing financial commitments required?**
   
   There are no immediate or ongoing financial costs to the Association.

2. **What is the genesis for the recommendation? (Did it arise from a new business recommendation? Or was it something that came out of committee discussions?)**
   
   The recommendation was initiated by Council in the form of a term of reference for the Standards Committee:
   
   Review Part D, Section 5.1.2 of the Manual of Standard Practice as to whether or not ASCMs in unsurveyed territory when not tied to the survey fabric are considered good evidence.
   
   After reviewing the issue, the Standards Committee then requested that their terms of reference be expanded to include:
   
   Review current practices involving the use of the ATS file and the blue book.
   
   This new term of reference was added to the Committee’s action plan for the 2005/2006 term.

3. **Was anyone outside of the Association membership consulted? What was their reaction?**

   The Director of Surveys was consulted.

4. **What is the overall intent of the recommendation?**

   The intent of the recommendation is to discontinue the use of the ATS file (which are mapping coordinates) in determining theoretical section boundaries in unsurveyed territory. Theoretic section boundaries are to be determined by direct ties to the appropriate baseline.

5. **What problem is trying to be solved? How does the recommendation solve the problem?**

   Currently some practitioners are using *Survey Control Markers not directly tied to the Survey Fabric and the ATS coordinates* for the determination of section boundaries in unsurveyed territory. The ATS coordinates were intended for mapping purposes. They were computed by the Director of Surveys office and may have errors as no quality control was performed on the computed re-
The recommendation solves the problem as theoretic section boundaries will be computed from direct ties to the baselines rather than using the mapping coordinates provided by the ATS file.

6. How is the recommendation in the public interest?

The recommendation is in the public interest as the correct relationship (as determined from the baselines) will be determined between theoretic section boundaries and wellsites. Section boundaries would be in the same calculated position as all calculations would be based on the position of the monuments on the baseline.

RATIONALE DOCUMENT
for the motion pertaining to Part D, Section 5.8.7 of the Manual of Standard Practice.

1. What are the financial costs of the recommendation? Are there any ongoing financial commitments required?

There are no costs for the Association, other than administrative in amending the Manual of Standard Practice.

2. What is the genesis for the recommendation? (Did it arise from a new business recommendation? Or was it something that came out of committee discussions?)

Review sections in response to request from Mike Michaud, Director of Surveys.

3. Was anyone outside of the Association membership consulted? What was their reaction?

The Director of Surveys was consulted at a meeting on November 10, 2005.

4. What is the overall intent of the recommendation?

The intent of the motion is to review the pertinent sections and make any changes felt necessary.

5. What problem is trying to be solved? How does the recommendation solve the problem?

Mike Michaud brought forward a request under new business to the Standards Committee meeting of June 9th:
1. Manual of Standard Practice – Part D Section 5.8 and Section 5.9: review and make more consistent.
3. Review the requirement/need to change monumentation type.
4. Review requirements for intersections for surveys / integrating existing surveys, specifically dispositions.

It was agreed only item one would be addressed in this committee term.

5. How is the recommendation in the public interest?

Monitoring the Manual of Standard Practice ensures consistency & professionalism.
Appendix "F"

New Members 2005-2006

R. (Rocky) Annett
J.D. (Jessica) Barich
J.W. (Jeffery) Blatz
R. (Réal) Comeau
T.M. (Mark) Dempsey
M.J. (Mitchell) Ettinger

L.L. (Lesley) Ewoniak
K.T. (Kevin) Grenkie
K.D. (Kevin) Grover
J.D. (Jonathan) Phillips
J.R. (Jacek) Pyć
M.G. (Murray) Radoux

J.T. (Jeffrey) Skelton
C.L. (Chad) Taylor
M.P. (Mark) Theuerkauf
M. (Metin) Timocin
C.A. (Craig) White
President Green addressed the new members of the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association as follows:

It seems like it was not that long ago that I was on a stage like this one receiving my commission in Edmonton in 1984 during our 75th anniversary. On the stage with me that day were Mike Michaud, now the Director of Surveys, and Fred Cheng, now the Director of Practice Review. On that day, then President Dick Bassil, who today is our Registrar, said these words, which still ring true 22 years later.

I congratulate each of you on the achievement you have attained and which we are recognizing here—that of becoming a member of a 'self-governing professional body.'

You are now a member of a professional group of individuals charged collectively and individually with the responsibility of looking after the best interests of the public in surveying and mapping in this province. This is one of the biggest, if not the biggest, achievement and one of the biggest, if not the biggest, commitment that you will attain or make in your career. You have chosen the field or career of that of a professional. Although a profession is defined many times in many different ways, I suggest an appropriate definition is “a branch or field of endeavour which, for ideal performance, requires an advanced degree of aptitude, ability, specialized training, responsibility, conscientiousness, self-discipline and ethical maturity.”

 Needless to say, these attributes do not just happen—some are gifts to a degree but, for the most part, all require much work and development. You have all worked hard and have met the high academic standards now required by this profession and you have met the training requirements under the supervision and guidance of your principals required by this profession. You now have the tools and background to develop as a professional.

Your technical expertise must be dynamic and appropriate with the times. Continuing education offered by educational institutions can provide for this along with “state-of-the-art” workshops and seminars. Your professional development must be a day-to-day habit. Again, educational institutions and our Association can provide this. Our Association places a high priority on providing appropriate professional practice seminars.

Your peers are a major source of advice, be it technical, professional or business concerns. Our members, both junior and senior, hold a wealth of information and advice – I suggest you access it.

Finally, you are charged with governing yourself and your practice under the Code of Ethics. This code is not meant to be referred to ‘after the fact’ or only in instances where we are questioned or tested by the public and our peers. The Code of Ethics must be part of your everyday life as a professional. Our Code has undergone the scrutiny of the public and is in regulation form under the Act. It must be adhered to.

In conclusion, your partners, families, and land surveyors who contributed to your training can all share this pride. On behalf of the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association, and all members, I wish you well in your career ahead.
Fifty years ago, six Alberta Land Surveyors received their commission. Today, two are still on the Association register.

Neither D.B. (Dunc) Gillmore or A.J. (Al) Edwards were in attendance to receive their 50 year pins.

Duncan Gillmore, Jr. accepted the pin on behalf of his father.
25 Year Pin Recipients

Twenty-five years ago, in 1981, the Association's Annual Meeting focused on education and expansion. The first person from the Survey Engineering Program at the University of Calgary graduated in 1981 and, in the same year, the first graduate from the University of Alberta Survey Science Program received his commission as an Alberta Land Surveyor.

After four years of holding the line on increases in active membership fees, Council was forced to increase fees by 12% and the 1981 budget estimated total revenues of $158,800.

Twenty-five years ago, ten Alberta Land Surveyors received their commission. Today, eight are still active.

Twenty-five-year pin recipients Peter Lapainis, Stephen Nichol and Jovan Misic could not be in attendance at this year's annual general meeting.
Ladies and Gentlemen:

This year I have the honour to nominate the member for our prestigious professional recognition award. So, in keeping with past protocol, tradition and suspense, I'll not mention Lyall's name until the very end.

I have had the pleasure of knowing this individual for approximately thirty-nine years. We have worked together many times. We started out by being classmates at a survey tech program from 1967-1969, as partners in Cam-Alta Surveys Limited from 1986 to 1989, and as part of the SPR team at the ALSA office from 1997-2005.

This member was born on August 11, 1949 in Vermillion, Alberta. He graduated from Grande Prairie High School in 1967 and, as previously mentioned, completed his studies at NAIT in 1969. He was articled to Honorary Life Member Duncan B. Gillmore who just received his fifty-year pin, from 1970 to 1982 and received his ALS commission #535 on September 16, 1982.

He has served on many ALSA committees over the years such as Public Relations, Legislation, Systems & Procedures and then, his favorite, Professional Development. He has also served the Association by being a member of Council from 1991 to 1993 and vice president, president and past president from 1993 to 1995.

If that was not enough, this un-named individual became the Director of Practice Review in 1997 and lasted eight years, four months until the end of 2005. While he was Director, and in addition to his regular duties of conducting 303 reviews and visiting each and every member of our Association, he also attended 67 PRB meetings, wrote 30 SPR Director's messages and 26 case studies of which many were reprinted throughout North America. I might say that Lyall has had the good fortune to meet all of the land surveyors and articled students and is probably the only one of us that has had that opportunity. He also put on or assisted in countless seminars, not limited to Getting It Right, Exam Prep, Field Staff and a seminar on evidence at one of our recent AGMs.

In addition to all of that, he always had time for everyone. His door or phone line was always open so you could call him for an interpretation of legislation, guidance or advice. As Director he was extremely diligent in reporting the facts to the practitioner and analyzing each response. He always dealt with each file fairly and without prejudice or partiality. But, if one tried to blow something by him or put up a smoke screen, his pit bull instincts kicked in and he would not let go until the individual got the message. After all of that was done, he would clearly and anonymously present the report to the Board and let them apply their expertise.
This individual’s integrity, ethics and knowledge of the legislation, and of course, most sports, goes unmatched in our Association.

Now I know I have kept you wondering for far too long and, without further day, I would like to present to you a classmate, my partner, my old friend and your 2006 recipient of the prestigious Professional Recognition Award, Lyall Howard Edward Pratt.

Mr. Pratt address the audience as follows:

I don’t know what to say. I’m somewhat speechless. It is a tremendous honour to be recognized by your peers. I hope I am deserving of that honour. My involvement with the Association was a great chapter in my life. It’s not over yet, but I have turned the page. I certainly want to thank all of you for your cooperation when I was Director of Practice Review because I had a wonderful time meeting and speaking with you. It was fun, it really was.

Thank you so much for this award.
Presentation of Honorary Life Membership to 
W.R. (Bill) Dabbs, ALS (Ret.) 
D.R. (Don) Jaques, ALS (Ret.) 
by Stephen Green, ALS

W.R. (Bill) Dabbs, ALS (Ret.)
Bill Dabbs was born in Castor, Alberta in September 1935 and attended Castor public and high school. He later attended the University of Alberta (one-and-a-half years of teacher education and two years of engineering). After completing articles, Bill attended the University of New Brunswick in 1960 for the start of his survey engineering degree and graduated in 1963.

Bill worked for City of Edmonton for a year-and-a-half as a surveyor’s assistant and crew chief - worked on Groat Road and the Groat Bridge plus did some engineering surveys. After two years of engineering, he articled to Dave Usher for his Dominion Land Surveyor commission. Bill wrote his Dominion Land Surveyor, Alberta Land Surveyor and Saskatchewan Land Surveyor exams while at the University of New Brunswick. He later earned his Prince Edward Island Land Surveyor commission. Bill was the first survey engineer in Western Canada and was responsible for several others settling in the West.

Bill Dabbs has been a true pioneer. He helped pioneer Tellurometer surveys. He helped monument control surveys in the Maritimes through a branch office in Prince Edward Island. He also broke new ground by doing wellsite location surveys on the East Coast via satellite for Mobile.

Bill spent four years with Midwest Surveys before starting Dabbs Control Surveys. He joined All-West Surveys as employee and eventually became president and majority owner. Mr. Dabbs was with All-West for thirty years. During his survey career, he always prided himself, through the companies he owned, as using the latest and most modern equipment.

Bill took his knowledge and expertise in surveying and business to help the Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association. He served on various committees and served two terms on Council. Bill helped promote and establish the survey engineering program at the University of Calgary.

He served as secretary-treasurer at a time when the Association was expanding its financial areas. Bill Dabbs went on to be vice-president and president in 1996. He received the Professional Recognition Award in 2000.

Bill Dabbs fully retired in 2003 and, I am sure, has spent his more than a couple of days travelling and on the golf course. We are pleased that Bill Dabbs and Carol Weaver could be with us today.
Mr. Dabbs addressed the audience as follows:

I don't know what to say. I knew this was coming, so it's a little easier than when I was given the Professional Recognition Award.

It has been a very interesting career. I've been surveying for fifty years and it doesn't seem like any time at all. I have certainly enjoyed everything about it and all the people I've met. I definitely would like to thank the Council and President Green for this honorary life membership. I hope to see you at a few more meetings before I'm finished and if you like golf, you can always find me on a golf course.

Thank you.

D.R. (Don) Jaques, ALS (Ret.)

Don Jaques was born in Yorkton, Saskatchewan and graduated from Yorkton Collegiate Institute in 1955. Don attended the University of Saskatchewan and obtained SLS commission in May 1965. A few years later, he was commissioned as Alberta Land Surveyor #335 in September 1969. He earned his CLS commission in June 1981.


Don chaired the 2000 AGM here in Jasper. It was quite an exciting AGM with lots of discussion on the direction of the University of Calgary, a motion to establish a coordinate based cadastre pilot project and two of the closest votes on amendments to the Manual of Standard Practice that we have seen in recent years. Don handled it all with grace.

Don Jaques served on many ALSA committees throughout his career, including the Public Relations and Legislation committees. He chaired the Public Relations Committee for many years and has been a strong proponent of public awareness for the land surveying profession.

Don worked at a number of different firms throughout his career, including Amar Surveys and UMA Geomatics. He and Fred Cheng worked together there for a few years and I am sure Don will tell you that he taught our new Director of Practice Review everything he knows.

Don retired as an Alberta Land Surveyor in 2004. He listed his hobbies as fly fishing and tying his own flies but I understand that he recently completed a major bathroom renovation.

We’re pleased that Don and Linda Jaques could be here today in Jasper with us. Ladies and gentlemen, please join with me in welcoming honorary life member Don Jaques.
Mr. Jaques address the audience as follows:

This is an award that I will cherish the rest of my life. My surveying career has been an enjoyable career. I think I’ve done everything that a land surveyor could possibly do. Looking toward the future, I am glad to see that we are getting new members in. I look around the room and there are more faces that I don’t recognize than I used to know. That may be because, when you get my age, your memory starts to go.

Once again, thank you to everyone.
I regret that I can’t bring you an entirely sunny and optimistic view of the horizon. But it is useful to know what may lie ahead for this profession, like a number of other professions, and also to know why and where it’s coming from, and whether anything can be done about the future. This is a very serious concern.

It will be useful to start with a bit of a thumbnail sketch of where professions have come from and how they have got to where they are now, because the human mind is not all that inventive in social matters, and what seems to be the new trendy idea of the moment is usually the swing of an old, old pendulum.

There are three basic ways in which the regulation of a profession or a would-be profession can be approached. They are very simple. One is no regulation at all – or no effective regulation. One is regulation by the government. And one is self-regulation. By and large, the history of professions, or any given profession, is an alternation of those three approaches.

In medieval times, there were many ways of earning a living which were self-organized. They controlled admission to the craft or the guild or the mystery or the profession; they gave training, largely through some form of apprenticeship; and they had various internal forms of regulation and rules. Superficially, they looked somewhat modern. The problem was that they placed a great deal of emphasis on protecting the profession, keeping out competition from others, maintaining a monopoly, keeping up prices, and so on. Though they doubtless did a great deal of good for the public, that wasn’t the intention. Any good to the public was something of a by-product. Then, as more modern times came and medieval institutions decayed and people thought little of them, by and large, what replaced them was anarchy or no regulation at all, or merely going through the forms of regulation. Then, in the nineteenth century, reforming brooms swept clean everywhere, and the modern professions emerged. What, until recently, we’ve taken absolutely for granted as the universal and permanent form of regulation of a profession emerged. That is, the Legislature recognizes the profession, gives it a statutory monopoly and confirms the legal existence of the professional organization. More importantly, the Legislature gives that professional organization some say over either entry to the profession or what qualifications you need to get into the profession, puts it in charge of education, either continuing or otherwise, and most important of all, gives the profession the power to discipline and eject its members. In return for all that, the Legislature gives a monopoly.

We’ve all grown up with that and we assume that exists for the same reason that the sun rises in the east and sets in the west, because it’s in the necessary nature of things and it’s always been that
way. But that’s wrong. It isn’t in the necessary nature of things, and it hasn’t always been that way. I think, and I dare say, most of you think, it’s the best system. But, as we’ve seen from the modern world, what seems to us to be the best way of running things isn’t always what happens. What has seemed to be a long-established way of doing things can change pretty quickly.

All of this is of particular interest to a profession like surveyors. What a surveyor does has a much larger public, semi-governmental aspect than with most professions. Basically, what a physician does is cure you. That’s really only directly of interest to you and, maybe, those who depend upon you. Leaving aside the question of epidemics, it’s not of much public interest whether you or I get cured by a physician. Consider auditors. One of the functions of a chartered accountant is to do an audit and express an opinion, publicly, on the books of a company – often a public-traded company. That is a public certifying feature. Consider a notary in the province of Quebec. The notary is, in effect, a branch of the government registry. The notary preserves, in perpetuity, original wills for example.

Now you see the analogy to a surveyor. A surveyor certifies to the whole world that a certain point or a certain plan ties in to a large, overall publicly-ordained scheme of things. As you know well, a surveyor has all sorts of public powers. You can enter on to private land, you can question people under oath, and you make judgments. It isn’t just a mechanical matter, you weigh evidence and come to conclusions and that sticks and it is accepted by everybody, including the courts.

So far that looks good, but the problem is that within that are the seeds of the danger that is growing.

Before I go to the danger, I have to set the scene on another part of the stage. Typically, a modern, organized, legally recognized profession or professional organization has a number of quite different functions all rolled into the one body. The first is administering the statutorily granted monopoly. Just as you and I can’t go out and start practising medicine because we are not registered with the College of Physicians and Surgeons, similarly, people can’t just set up as surveyors without having the proper qualifications and registration. Second, training (particularly prior training), at least governing what credentials a person needs to enter into the profession. The third function is certifying that people have or have not met those requirements and so are on the rolls or are not on the rolls. Fourth is regulating internal competition and prices. This one may be illegal now. The previous attack on professions was mounted by the federal government about thirty years ago, and it was done by what was then the Combines Branch under what we now call the Competition Act. They took the view that the professional regulators were committing a serious criminal offence if they talked about the prices that their members should charge. Maybe that fourth function is off the table.

Traditionally, the fifth function of a profession is “ethics.” Let me point out that quite apart from the philosophical underpinnings of professional ethics, which Ken Allred has sketched out in two papers, for practical purposes professional “ethics” are simply law;
simply legislation. There is nothing optional, nothing debatable about professional ethics. Those are a set of ordained rules imposed upon you. They may be imposed democratically, but they are not debatable and there are very real sanctions for violating them. That’s a mandate given to a profession. The Legislature of Alberta has delegated some of its legislative powers to your professional body as it does to other professional bodies and lets it legislate to govern its members. You can be thrown out of the profession for violating them.

The sixth traditional function of a professional organization is continuing education. Once you qualify, once you belong to the profession, keeping you up to date with latest developments, reminding you of what you’ve forgotten, and maybe mandating continuing professional education.

The second last traditional topic is trying to do something to calm disputes between members of the profession and their clients, such as arbitrating fee disputes or something like that. Some professions do that, some don’t, some sponsor another body to do it, but it is a recognized function of a profession.

The last traditional function of a professional organization is what was almost the only one in medieval times. That is advancing the interests of the profession. That can be done in many ways – making sure that the field of the profession isn’t invaded by someone else, making sure that the legislation is up to date, pointing out to the government any policies which it proposes that may be harmful to the profession, and making sure that the profession is understood by people out there. That is extremely important for a profession like surveyors. Most of us have some grasp of what a physician or a surgeon does, but the average member of the public has a most hazy idea about surveying. And that is true of the public’s knowledge of quite a number of professions. That the public really understands what a chartered accountant does, for example, is doubtful.

There is a problem in all that. It is that your professional organization, like any professional organization, wears a lot of hats. That leads to confusion. Worse still, when someone for any reason at all wants to mount any kind of an attack on your profession or its function, then it gives them some ammunition. You can make cheap debating points off that, you can claim that these functions are in conflict, or that it gives the professional organization a conflict of interest. So far that would just be potential – nothing really to worry about too much.

Now let’s turn to a deeper look at what are the modern impediments now impeding the traditional role of self-government, independence and self-regulation of a profession.

The first one is expense. This is particularly acute for a profession the size of the Alberta Land Surveyors. Alberta has only a little over three million people and that’s not very big on the world stage. Within Alberta, the land surveyors have a much smaller membership than, say, the physicians and surgeons or the barristers or solicitors. As in a company, a union, or anything else, there are economies of scale in a professional organization. One law society in Canada a few years ago had about forty-two members. If one of
their members did something seriously wrong, and they had to start a hearing to disbar that member, can you imagine what that expense would do to fees for that year and the next three years? A professional organization of some forty members may not be economically viable. Back in the 1980s when the architectural profession in Alberta was going through a depression, they had a major court case which went all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada. They are still hurting financially from that.

I have to admit candidly that the courts bear a share of the blame for this expense. Courts see discipline cases and appeals from professional tribunals, one at a time. They don’t tend to spend time on the bigger longer-range picture. They see the individual case before them, and the temptation always is to say that this poor man or woman is being thrown out of their profession; every possible safeguard must be given to make sure they’ve had a fair hearing and a fair chance. The result sometimes is that another layer of procedure gets added on and the expense and the delay increases. That is the first impediment to modern self-regulation of a profession.

The second impediment is lack of understanding by people outside the professions. If someone is a physician, they will understand why the land surveyors are self-regulating and self-disciplining. But if someone does not belong to a self-governing, self-regulating profession, the concept is foreign; it’s not understood. Furthermore, many people in many walks of life have spent their whole working life in either a large company, or in government, or maybe the military. For them an essential framework for their viewing the whole world is a hierarchy. They cannot understand anyone who is not part of a hierarchy. It’s just like suddenly discovering a planet that isn’t in an orbit and is just floating around unpredictably in the solar system. They think it’s wrong and dangerous. Yet, every member of a self-regulating profession is such a person, free and outside of a hierarchy.

In addition, there is a tremendous belief in the powers of government regulation today. All you have to do to sell newspapers on a slow day is to put a headline in a newspaper saying, “Beauticians Totally Unregulated by Government,” and give a small horror story of somebody whose hair got frizzled. “Why doesn’t the government do something? This is just shocking.” We regard government regulation as the natural, God-given order of the universe, and anything outside it as abhorrent.

The third impediment to continued, traditional self-government and independent regulation of professions is hostility of the public to some of the best-known professions. It will not shock you to hear that the public in general, and the media in particular, don’t like lawyers. I think it’s a view that’s ill-founded and, in part, it is founded on lack of understanding of a profession. But never mind whether it’s well-founded or ill-founded, the dislike is a fact. It’s just as true as the fact that people like ketchup on their fried potatoes. Because of the way that health care has played out in the last two generations, everything to do with physicians has become politicized and of interest to the media. People have inconsistent views about physicians. They like their own doctor, but the media have
taught people to think that doctors in general, or organizations of doctors, are very suspect. The way the media portray health care issues, the doctors are not the heroes. When you ask the public about professions, they think about doctors and lawyers. So, if they don’t like doctors and lawyers, that’s a danger for land surveyors and every other profession. When it’s proposed that the government regulate something, there will always be a few people who can see some personal benefit in it. It’s always nice to be the new director of such and such or the regulator of such and such. For one thing, it’s a wonderful chance to increase the budget of your particular branch, department or division.

The next obstacle to continued independence and self-regulation of a profession is the media. I won’t repeat what I’ve said before, but the negativity, lack of information and disinterest in the positive aspects of the topic found in the public at large are a muted echo of the attitude of the media. The media have always in the background, a chant, a drum beat, and it is not a favorable to independent regulation of professions.

Finally, there is what I had adverted to before, that the public is very ignorant about what a land surveyor is or does. So far, I have just been saying to you that it is windy and stormy out at sea; nothing very specific so far. Is this just a vague cautionary tale to make you feel philosophical when you think a few deep thoughts? No; my message is much more specific. I told you that I was just setting the stage. Now the actors will come upon the stage and the drama will play before you.

Consider the fate of the legal profession in a number of English language jurisdictions. Historically, in England, the barristers were quite tightly organized. The solicitor or attorney used to be a bad joke until about the 1840s when they came into the modern mould. The United States, having split off from Britain before that, did not have much of a tradition of self-regulation of lawyers. In theory, to some degree, any regulation of lawyers in the United States tended to be done by the courts or the judges of a particular state. Then, in the last few generations, the model of independence, self-governance and self-discipline extended to American lawyers in a number of states. But how deeply that plant took root is doubtful, and the public was never satisfied.

I visited Madison Square in New York a few years ago. Madison Square Gardens is no longer in Madison Square but Madison Square is still there. Off it is a delightful 1900 two-storey court house with rich decoration. Beside it, and connected to it integrally, is a non-descript medium-sized high-rise office building from the 1960s. I was being shown around the premises of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of New York, which is the intermediate court of appeal there. We were up on a high floor with a fine view over mid-town Manhattan. Walking along, I noticed the signs on some of the doors said something like “professional discipline.” “Oh,” said I, “doesn’t the State Bar Association do that?” “They used to, but we took it away from them,” was the reply. In New York, and in a number of other states, discipline of lawyers is no longer in the hands of the legal profession; it has gone back to the state supreme court. I don’t whether it’s happened yet, but there
has been a recommendation that the same thing happen in California. If you’ve got to the age I have and lived in Canada that long, you know that anything which happens in New York or California, is likely to happen later in Edmonton and Calgary.

In England, public and government confidence in the way that the barristers organized and disciplined themselves was fairly high. Not so with the solicitors, which of course, were a much more numerous profession. There were a lot of complaints about how the complaints and discipline process of the Law Society of England and Wales was run. The result was a two-stage take-over. The government first put in a sort of parallel reviewing process for solicitors. Next, it pretty well took it over. So, if you decide to go into the legal profession in England and qualify as a solicitor, you will be leaving the realm of professional self-discipline and entering the realm of government regulation. Government regulation is what barbers and debt collectors have in Alberta. In England (the home of the legal profession), a legal profession admired around the globe, self-regulation is gone.

In Australia, there were similar serious complaints about the way that the legal profession handled complaints and discipline matters in a number of states. Two of the biggest states effectively took away from the Bar or the law society, the regulation and discipline and disbarment of lawyers. They put it in the hands of a government body. The criticism in the State of Queensland was that the lawyers’ professional complaint and discipline body had turned into what they called a mere post office. When you take away the power of striking off the rolls from a profession and give it to the government, that profession is, in a very large sense, no longer self-governing or independent. You might argue that it really isn’t a profession anymore. In Tasmania, the smallest of the Australian states, the legislature took all professional functions away from the Law Society. They don’t admit, they don’t disbar, they don’t discipline, they don’t regulate, they are, I suppose, just a voluntary organization to talk about the better interests of lawyers. They are powerless. Many years ago, the high profile San Francisco lawyer, Melvin Belli, was expelled from the American Bar Association. That is a purely voluntary organization which just tries to advance the interests of lawyers. It’s not the state bar, you don’t have to belong to it to practise and when Melvin Belli was expelled from the American Bar Association, he said, “that’s like being thrown out of the Book of the Month Club.” The Law Society in Tasmania is now like the Book of the Month Club.

In the United States, the Securities and Exchange Commission is the best known and most powerful of the federal regulatory agencies. For many years, it has claimed the right to discipline lawyers. While the Securities and Exchange Commission does have some court-like aspects, they are not the main part of their work. It is true that the Securities and Exchange Committee can have a hearing if they are going to bar an investment dealer from acting as a broker or impose heavy fines on people, and so on; but that is not the bread and butter work of that or any other securities commission. Mostly, what securities commissions do is accept pieces of paper tendered for filing, look them over, say here’s how it needs to be
fixed up, get the piece of paper back later when it’s fixed up, say that’s correct and put a rubber stamp on it. Then people can market their shares or whatever. Securities lawyers deal with their local securities commission every day but they are essentially drafting pieces of paper, negotiating with the securities commission, and filing them. Securities lawyers wouldn’t go to any sort of a hearing once in twenty years. But these securities commissions have all taken the view, sometimes successfully and sometimes not, that they can discipline or bar a lawyer from having anything to do with them, even though that lawyer is in good standing with his or her bar association, has not been struck off the roles, and no charges professional have been brought against the lawyer. If you are a securities lawyer and the Securities Commission says “we won’t recognize you or deal with you any more,” you are out of business instantly.

Let’s talk about physicians. In the United Kingdom, for years and years, the General Medical Council was the disciplinary organization which could strike physicians off the rolls. It had the only function in that regard. The English newspapers are a bit more sensational than they were forty years ago. A number of years ago they started a big campaign about rogue doctors and they told of a couple of cases of doctors who seemed to have been poisoning patients or something. On that ground-swell of synthetic public emotion, the government introduced a plan under which the government could cut off from medicare billing, any doctor whom some government tribunal decided was guilty of something or other. I realize that there are some physicians who are in totally private practice and they are not part of medicare. I believe there are none, or virtually none, in Canada. If you were a physician in Canada and you were told that you can’t bill medicare any more, theoretically you have two choices. One is to practise medicine absolutely free, paying for the rent, the receptionist and the nurse all out of your own pocket, and getting your income from your spouse or inheritances. The other is to stop practising medicine. To cut a physician off from medicare billings is, in effect, to expel the physician from the profession. That happened in England.

I told you that what happens in New York and California will probably come to Edmonton and Calgary sooner or later. If it also happens in London, then it may be very similar to an earthquake at sea. You can calculate how many hours it is ‘til the tsunami arrives. I don’t say that all this is inevitable, but I say that these are very, very worrying trends. I know that the various law societies in Canada believe that they are under serious threat of loss of their independence and their professional status.

It would not be responsible to point out the dangers just over the horizon without talking about whether something can be done about it. So, I will try to end on a more positive note. What is to be done? The first obvious answer is that since the threat seems to come largely from the media and governments and, to some degree, public opinion in general, do something about that. That suggests public relations and political initiatives. I’m not competent or suited to speak on those topics. I don’t mean they’re un-
important, I mean, I couldn’t say anything useful on them and shouldn’t.

The second task is that we have to understand why professions exist and why they should continue to exist and have legal sanction, legal monopoly of practice, and legal powers of self-discipline and self-regulation. If the members of the professions don’t understand that fully and practise it, then there is no legitimate reason to keep independence and self-regulation and discipline of the profession. There is no way that that the politicians or the media will ever get a glimmering of why the profession exists unless every member of the profession understands it full well.

Why do we allow independent, monopolistic, self-governing, self-regulating professions? It is because experience shows that, in the long run, the public interest is best served that way. The professions are almost all groups of people who practise in areas where immense harm could be done to the public if the individual members of the profession did not practise properly. Almost invariably, professionals practise in an areas where the ordinary member of the public is not competent to judge whether they are getting a good product or not. If I buy a toaster from The Bay, I have some idea pretty quickly (as technologically inept as I may be) about whether I’ve got a good toaster. I learn over time whether to buy my small appliances from The Bay or from Sears or from another kind of appliance store. But you could show me four different accounting or bookkeeping firms and I wouldn’t have the faintest idea which of them was doing a proper job and which was not, or whether their bills were proper.

How can a profession honestly say that it is advancing the public interest and is a better alternative than government regulation? If you can’t say that honestly, then you should just pack up and quit. That is true of any profession—doctors, lawyers, accountants; anybody else. How can it say that?

First, you have to have the wherewithal to do a proper job of self-regulation and self-discipline. That means you need more than forty members. It also means that you have to charge enough fees to keep the organization properly funded and do a proper job of education and discipline and self-regulation. And, as I say, the legal fees involved in disciplining a member or throwing him or her out of the profession are very significant. What if the average member of the profession says, “you know, it’s hard to make a living these days and I’ve got expenses all over, and why am I paying x number of dollars a year to this professional association?” Churchill said once, during the Second World War, “You may ask what are we fighting for? If we stop fighting, you’ll find out soon enough.” That’s what I say to professionals like that.

Second, keep separate the functions of the professional organization which deal with things like professional discipline, breaches of the Code of Ethics, and so on, on the one hand, and the self-interest of the profession on the other. The media are very quick to question any body which disciplines people but seems to have a “conflict of interest.” They are always attacking police discipline bodies which are run and manned by the police. They are always
saying “Why can’t we have an independent discipline body?” There are arguments both ways, but they don’t know the arguments for professional self-discipline. Keep those two functions separate. In some jurisdictions, the teachers’ profession has been split into two bodies. I don’t say there is necessarily an actual conflict; I say that the public relations aspect is very dangerous.

A third thing to maintain those good standards and give the public something worthwhile, is to maintain public respect for every single aspect of the profession. Psychologists tell us that credibility is a large, broad concept that has no water-tight compartments. Honesty, confidence, ability, experience and attitude are all part of it. That means that at all times the public must be knowledgeable about and thoroughly convinced of the competent ethics and standards of every member of the profession. A member of an independent, self-regulating profession has a piece of paper that says he or she is a surveyor, a physician, or a chartered accountant or whatever. That’s not a certificate that most members of the profession have those standards, it is a certificate that every single member, including the one holding this piece of paper, has those standards. It means that the profession must clearly show the public that it can do a better job for the public than any other alternative form including government regulation or anything by outsiders. By do a better job, I’m not just talking about curing patients better, or more accurately commenting on balance sheets. What I am talking about is whether that profession does a better job of educating, regulating and disciplining its members and throwing out the bad ones.

That particularly applies to complaints. What killed the independence of a number of those legal and medical professions in a number of highly respected English-language jurisdictions I’ve talked to you about, was the fact that the public came to the conclusion that their complaints weren’t being adequately addressed. Years ago, I heard a talk by the then head of the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Alberta and on the same platform, the then head of the Law Society of Alberta. Everyone knows that physicians often can’t communicate; they do good work, but they often don’t tell you what’s going on. What is not generally known, since lawyers talk a lot and are always very good orally, is that lawyers are also very poor at communicating. Analysis and investigation showed that the majority of professional complaints to the Law Society and to the College back in those days were cases where the lawyer or the doctor was doing or had done a decent job but hadn’t communicated the facts. It is so tempting for a profession, when they find that out, to send out a form letter to the person saying we’ve investigated and everything’s fine; or this isn’t the sort of complaint we deal with; or we don’t handle negligence complaints; or we don’t handle fee complaints; or something. From the point of view of regulating the profession, that decision may be the right one. You’re not going to throw someone out of the profession or suspend them for six months every time he or she has a dissatisfied client. But, from the point of view of satisfying the public about what the profession is doing to regulate itself, it is not at all satisfactory.

Therefore, it seems to me that the next solution which a self-regulating profession can investigate is this. I believe that every
self-regulating, self-disciplining profession should have a very effective, independent objective way of testing whether it is handling complaints which will satisfy the majority of members of the public. You can’t satisfy every member of the public all the time. There are people out there totally lacking objectivity. There are people who don’t understand the first thing about a profession. You can’t have perfection. It’s true, you can’t keep all of the people happy all of the time. But keeping sixty percent of the people happy most of the time doesn’t cut it. The numbers have to be far, far higher.

Most independent professions have recruited a few “lay people,” people who are not members of that profession, and put them into certain positions in the profession. I wonder how many have had non-members retained to do an objective screening of the complaints process simply to see whether the average reasonable, but not well-informed, member of the public would understand the process and see that it has been handled well. I have certainly heard of or seen instances where the Law Society has not handled complaints well. It may be that there was not a case there to go and formally discipline the lawyer, but that’s of small comfort to a fairly reasonable member of the public who got up enough courage to write in to the Law Society and got back a brief form letter.

The final suggestion I have is this. I believe that if a profession is going to stay independent, self-governing, self-regulating, it should be proactive. I’m not a very creative person, but I admire people who are creative. I don’t know much about public relations, but I admire people who do. Do not wait for criticism and then try to do what someone in England said of the Law Society of England and Wales: too little and too late. I believe that it behoves the profession to be proactive and constantly offer a better and better product. I’m not talking about a better way to survey a piece of land. I’m talking about a better professional product, a better regulatory product, a better self-discipline product.

In 1938 Alberta’s Social Credit Government had been in power for two years, and it was very hostile to lawyers and to professionals generally. That was the era of the Banker’s Toadies case and so on. This was a very strong populist movement, the economy was in a total mess, and a lot of people looked very seriously sideways at all established institutions. Premier Aberhart’s government was making unpleasant noises about lawyers, and they had a lot of run-ins in the courts. The government lost every one of those, so they had some reason to hate and fear lawyers and judges. The Law Society of Alberta responded as follows. They invented the Assurance Fund. The first place in the British Commonwealth to do so, here in Alberta, and for all I know the first place in the world. They said that all the lawyers of Alberta will chip into a fund ahead of time – they will be required to do it. This will build up a large sum of money. If any lawyer embezzles money from his clients – takes money out of his trust account or whatever – they will be instantly reimbursed by that Assurance Fund. That was creative and proactive. Eventually every other legal regulatory body followed Alberta in that. Usually, as I tell you, ideas start in London and New York and trickle their way thirty-five years later to Edmonton and Calgary. But that was an instance where the idea was so good, that it trickled the other
way. And it shut up, for forty years, any talk about impinging in any way on the self-disciplining power of lawyers.

The message I want to leave with you is that there are black clouds of smoke on the horizon. Below the smoke, you can see the flickering, orange flames of the brush fire. But it is not too late to buy a hose and pump; it’s not too late to plow a fire break around the homestead.
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Caltech Surveys Ltd.
Focus Surveys Limited Partnership
IHS Energy (Canada) Ltd.
Midwest Surveys Inc.
Russel Metals
Stewart, Weir & Co. Ltd.
Trimble Canada Ltd.

Gold—$500+
All West Surveys Ltd.
Fugro SESL Geomatics Ltd.
Pals Surveys and Associates Ltd.
Precision Geomatics Inc.

Silver—$250+
Alberta Geomatics Inc.
AMEC Land Surveys Limited
Butler Survey Supplies Ltd.
CIBC Private Investment Counsel
Driving Force Vehicle Rentals, Sales & Leasing
Hamilton & Olsen Surveys Ltd.
Menzies Printers
Millennium Geomatics Ltd.
Sharpline Imaging Inc.
Shores Belzil Jardine
Tronnes Surveys (1976) Ltd.

Bronze—$100+
D.W. Data Services
LPP Services Ltd.
Petersen Walker LLP
Rose Country Communications Ltd.
SECO Manufacturing Co., Inc.
New Members (from left to right)

Rocky Annett, Jessica Barich, Mark Dempsey, Mark Theuerkauf, Kevin Grenkie, Kevin Crenchie

Craig White, Jacek Pyc, Lesley Ewoniak, Murray Rodion, Jeff Blais, Mark Dempsey, Jonathan Phillips, Mitch Ettinger, Rocky Annett, Jessica Barich, Mark Theuerkauf, Mark Dempsey, Kevin Grenkie, Kevin Crenchie