



# Communique

Association of Canada Lands Surveyors Vol. 7 No. 2

## President's Message

We are already one quarter of the way through our year. The successful and well attended Seminars and AGM held in Victoria in March 2002 are but a memory.

Since the AGM, the membership voted in favor of a voluntary program of Continuing Professional Development (CPD). The CPD committee will now establish a new CPD program based on the voluntary program. A Request for Proposal has been placed on our website for the contract position of Practice Review Manager. The vote to establish Regional groups passed so now is the time to get your Regional groups active, if you haven't already done so. There is also money in the budget to cover some of your meeting expenses. A special task force (permitting task force) under the chair of past president Jim Statham has been formed to look at the issue of permitting of entities that are not under control of the Professional Land Surveyor and the entity name problem.

I have signed a letter on your behalf addressed to the CCLS acknowledging our support to the concepts of the mutual recognition document (MRD7) and consent to its formal submission to the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

I also have had the privilege of signing thirteen new commissions. Congratulations to the new members.

Just another reminder, that the 2003 AGM will be held in Saskatoon, Sask. March 14. Have a good summer!

**Wes Jamieson, SLS, CLS**  
**President**

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### ***GIT Corner ... It Pays to be Informed ...***

GIT: Geographic or Geospatial Information Technology.

Welcome to the GIT Corner, a publication from the ACLS GIT committee.

The committee's main objective is to inform ACLS membership on GIT related information, issues, and technology. Using the ACLS Newsletter, the ACLS website, seminars and workshops, the committee hopes to build a bridge between the membership and the GIT world.

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# ACLS AGM 2003 EVENTS

The following activities will be held at:  
**The Delta Bessborough, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan**

For room reservations call: **800-268-1133** (Mention that you are with the Association of Canada Lands Surveyors). Prices range from standard \$105, Premier & Business \$125, Deluxe \$140 and others with higher prices. [www.deltahotels.com](http://www.deltahotels.com)

## PRELIMINARY PROGRAM:

- SEMINAR (SUBJECT TO BE ANNOUNCED LATER): Wednesday, March 12, 2003.
- SEMINAR (SUBJECT TO BE ANNOUNCED LATER): Thursday, March 13, 2003.
- ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: Friday, March 14, 2003, 9 A.M. – 5 P.M.
- ANNUAL LUNCHEON: Friday, March 14, 2002, Noon.

The AGM Committee is working on organising activities for accompanying persons. Details on the program, fees and registration will be posted on the Web site at a later date.

**Please do not wait until the last minute. The hotel will release what is left in the block of rooms on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2003. After that date, rooms may be hard to get.**

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Innovative technology, increased demand, and newfound applications have caused the field of Geospatial Information to expand. This information is now used for resource management, marine navigation and charting, business planning and operations, traffic and transportation, public safety and disaster management, public health, emergency response, property mapping, and environmental assessment.

Without reinventing the wheel, using web links we would like to present a few of these GIT topics.

**GeoConnections** - <http://www.geoconnections.org/english/index.html> GeoConnections is a national partnership initiative working to build the Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure (CGDI), which will make Canada's geospatial databases, tools and services readily accessible on-line.

**Geomatics Industry Association of Canada (GIAC)** - <http://www.giac.ca/> The Geomatics Industry Association of Canada (GIAC) is the only national business association dedicated to serving the geomatics industry in Canada.

**Urban and Regional Information Systems Association** - <http://www.urisa.org/> The Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA) is a non-profit association of professionals using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and other information technologies.

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**GIS Lounge** - <http://www.gislounge.com/> GIS Lounge is a GIS information portal. The purpose of this site is to provide introductory text for issues relating to GIS as well as pointers to further information.

**University of Edinburgh - GIS Dictionary** - <http://www.geo.ed.ac.uk/home/giswww.html> This is an index of World-Wide Web servers, which are likely to be of interest to the GIS community.

**GIT Communications** - <http://www.giac.ca/site/geo/events.cfm/> Interested in attending a conference? The Geomatics Industry Association of Canada (GIAC) web site provides a good “Calendar of Events”

### **Questions & Answers**

If you have any questions relating to Geographic Information Technology, send us a note. We will publish your question in the GIT Corner and provide some researched answers for the benefit of the general membership. Or, if you have any suggestions for this GIT Corner do not hesitate to contact the editor.

**The ACLS GIT Committee**

## Summary of Council Meetings

### December 6, 2001: teleconference

- Decision to make the two CPD Program options, developed by the CPD Committee, known to the membership in preparation for a vote.
- Decision to insert a summary of the Practice Review Committee final report on the proposed practice review process in the next issue of *Communique*.
- Decision to endorse the SEAMAP (Canadian Seabed Resource Mapping Program) project.
- Approval of the Aboriginal Liaison's project to send three ACLS representatives to the NALMA (National Aboriginal Land Managers Association) conference in January 2002.
- Decision to hold an Aboriginal Liaison seminar on March 13, 2002.
- Approval of Dr. Alec McEwen's proposal to hold a Survey Law CPD seminar on the morning of March 14, 2002.
- Approval of the Hydrographic and Offshore Surveying seminar agenda.
- Approval of the fees to attend the March 2002 seminars.
- Approval of the CLS Regulation proposed new section in respect to examinations.
- Approval of the new ACLS Bylaws Surcharge and Fees section concerning candidate registration and exams.
- Decision to sign a contract with Cree-Ative Inc. for the preparation of Aboriginal specific promotional material.
- Council proceeded with the staff salary review.

### February 5, 2002: teleconference

- The Nominating Committee presented its report for the year 2002 Council elections.
- Approval of AGM social activities.
- Approval of the Board of Examiners' recommendation to award a CLS Commission to Sylvain Lessard of Whitehorse, Yukon.
- Council accepted the Canadian Hydrographic Association's invitation to send the Executive Director to make a presentation on the benefits of being a member of the ACLS at its May AGM.
- Approval of the Practice Review Committee new Terms of Reference.

### March 12, 2002: face-to-face

- Decision to confer an Honorary Life Membership to James S. Simpson.
- Decision to recommend that the year 2003 AGM be held on March 14 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, with an alternative date of March 21.
- Council decided to remove the sections concerning entity names in the CLS Regulation Amendment Package number R-2002-01 to be presented at the business meeting. Council decided to recommend the approval of the other sections by the membership.
- Decision to recommend approval of the Bylaw Amendment Package number B-2002-01 by the membership.
- Approval of the Aboriginal Liaison Committee's Terms of Reference.
- Decision to recommend, to the membership, the approval of the Auditor's report for the year 2001 financial exercise, the year 2001 budget and the appointment of Phomin Leslie as the ACLS Auditor for the year 2002.
- Decision to hold a strategic planning meeting in the year 2002 if the proposed budget is approved by the membership.

### March 16, 2002: face-to-face

- Council welcomed its newly elected member: Paul Torrance.
- Approval of the new expense rates applicable to Council and committee members.

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- Bylaw and Regulation amendments.  
Appointment of the members of the Executive Committee.
- Decision to continue to be a member of the University of Calgary Geomatics Engineering Liaison Committee (GELC) and participate in the survey camp.
- Decision surfaced, in respect to entity names and ownership.
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- Assignment of committee liaison duties to Council members.

**May 14, 2002: teleconference**

- Approval of the Practice Review Manager Req
- After learning about the results of the membership vote on CPD, approval of the Voluntary CPD Program as described in the December 11, 2001 CPD Committee report.
- Decision to enact the Bylaw Amendments, decision to enact the new Bylaw sections immediately.
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- Decision to hold the ACLS Strategic Planning Meeting on October 26 and 27, 2002 in Calgary. A face-to-face meeting will be held on October 25 at the same site.
- Approval of the Permitting Task Force terms of Reference.
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- Examiners.  
Confirmation  
Complaints Procedure Manual.  
Approval of the change in name and Terms of Reference of the GIT (Geographic Information
- Decision to draft the appropriate letter to the CCLS confirming support for the concept of the Mutual Affairs and International Trade.  
Decision to sign a new agreement with the Western Canadian Surveyors (WCBELS) in respect to ACLS providing registrar services for the year that is already under way.
- 
- fund.  
Decision  
fees, investigation costs and court fees in respect to discipline and illegal practice cases.  
Decision to set up a Scholarship Fund for the purpose of attracting students and for CPD activities.  
Approval of the Board of Examiners recommendation to offer a Canada Lands Surveyors
- Because some possible cases of illegal practice, that surfaced recently, Council decided to award a
  - 
  - Non permitted firms that present proposals for survey work on Canada Lands; and
  - The ramifications of having members of the Complaints and Discipline Committees involved

-  
y Treasurer

## Executive Director's Notes

### Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

The last discussion forum, before the implementation of CPD, was held at the last AGM. The membership mail in vote to choose between the Mandatory and Voluntary Program happened last April. Out of 146 ballots, 109 were in favour of Voluntary against 34 in favour of Mandatory and three spoiled ballots. So on May 14, 2002 Council approved the Voluntary CPD Program and enacted it immediately. For details on the CPD Program visit the ACLS Web site.

### Practice Review

The report from the Practice Review Committee was presented for discussion at the March AGM. The Membership voiced their concerns, which were noted by the Committee. Council approved the Practice Review Manager Request for Proposals announcement and it was circulated to the ACLS membership on May 21, 2002. The RFP gave until June 21 to submit proposals. So, by the time you are reading this newsletter, the Practice Review Committee is reviewing the submissions. Many interesting challenges are in front of us.

### Permitting Issue

In February 2002, an ACLS permit was issued to a company identified by a number instead of a name. It met all the CLS Regulation requirements for acquiring a permit. Some ACLS members heard about this and submitted e-mails of concern to some Council members and me. The topics of concern were the following:

- Should there be some restriction on the entity name?
- Should entities have professional liability insurance for protection of the public?
- The whole issue of entity ownership. Sections concerning ownership were in previous versions of the CLS Act but were removed at the end of the process.

So Council decided to set up a Task Force who will proceed with a comprehensive research on how other professional bodies deal with these issues (including other professions) and is expected to submit recommendations to Council in the fall.

### Ethics

In respect to the previous section (Permitting Issue) Council felt that the ACLS membership needed to be reminded about the following sections of the CLS Code of Ethics (under Section 3 of the CLS Regulations):

- (4) *Members shall be vigilant upholders of the law relating to their profession and shall refrain from, in particular,*
- (a) *entering into an arrangement that would allow the unauthorized practice of their profession.*
- (7) *Members shall maintain their competence, integrity and respect for their profession in their relations with colleagues, clients, employers or employees and the public and shall, in particular,*
- (f) *report any perceived misconduct or incompetence of members to the Council of the Association;*

Part of what this means is avoid situations that may compromise your professional integrity. Lets maintain the high standards of professionalism that CLS's are known for.

### ACLS Brochure

The Aboriginal Liaison Committee produced an attractive First Nation specific brochure. It was sent to all ACLS members with the CPD and Amendment package at the end of March 2002. Later on, the ACLS staff made a more generic sheet that can replace page three of the inserts thus transforming the brochure into a more generic brochure for use with any type of clientele.

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We urge you to use this brochure while promoting your services. You can add your corporate information on a sheet and insert it in the beautiful folder. ACLS has 4,000 copies for your convenience and they are free. In fact, part of your membership fee paid for it so why not recoup your investment? We only ask that you pay for shipping.

### **Committees**

The following committee are looking for new members:

- Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing; and
- *Communique* Newsletter.

If you are interested please get in touch with me.

### **Canadian Hydrographic Conference**

The Canadian Hydrographic Service (CHS) in collaboration with the Canadian Hydrographic Association (CHA) and other organizations sponsored the Canadian Hydrographic Conference that was held in Toronto between May 28 to 31, 2002.

On the previous day, May 27, I made a presentation on the benefits of ACLS for hydrographers to the members of the CHA during their AGM. At the Conference Tim Lawrence, CLS, Chairman of the ACLS Offshore Issues Committee presented a paper on "Canada's Marine Cadastre". The concept of a Marine Cadastre was one of the major recommendations contained in the "Proceedings and Report of the ACLS Offshore Issues Consultation Workshop". This Workshop was held in Halifax in conjunction with the 2001 AGM. Tim and I also manned a booth that we shared with CHA.

### **AFN-NEXUS 2002**

I will man a booth at the up coming AFN-NEXUS Conference that will be held on July 16 to 18, 2002 in Kahnawake, Québec. It will be first appearance of the new ACLS exhibit booth.

AFN stands for the Assembly of First Nations, which will hold their AGM in conjunction with this conference. The theme is "Joint Ventures and Partnerships" and is open to the public. If you are interested surf to: [www.native-invest-trade.com/calendar.html](http://www.native-invest-trade.com/calendar.html) . Put this address in your Website favourites because NITA (Native Investment and Trade Association) organizes many first-rate events, which are great opportunities for networking within the Aboriginal Community.

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## Examinations

In this years March examination session, 93 candidates wrote a total of 180 examinations. Of these, 53 were CLS candidates who wrote 17 examinations in Schedules I and II and 81 examinations in Schedules III and IV. Last year there were 51 CLS candidates writing a total of 90 exams.

Of the total of 93 candidates, 37 WCBELS candidates and 4 APBELS candidates wrote 82 examinations in Schedules I and II. Last year 33 WCBELS and 4 APBELS candidates wrote 82 examinations.

This year we were once again able to complete all of the examinations within a period of three days. For the first time, there will be two examinations sessions. The next one will be held on the week of September 16, 2002.

## Congratulations to the New CLS's

The following people have met the ACLS Board of Examiners requirements and have been offered a Canada Lands Surveyors Commission:

- Michael Kidston, BCLS, 100 Mile House, BC,
- A. James Hume, ALS, Calgary AB,
- Geoffrey Verner, NSLS, Sydney River, NS,
- Richard R. Gauthier, ALS, Slave Lake, AB,
- Adam W. Brash, Fort St. John, BC,
- David J. Elliott, Fort St. John, BC,
- Steven R. Rose, BCLS, Fort St. John, BC,
- Patrick Descarreaux, a.-g, La Sarre, QC,
- Jean-Yves Bérubé, a.-g., Rouyn-Noranda, QC,
- Paul Roy, a.-g., Chibougamau, QC,
- Ravi Shrivastava, Saskatoon, SK,
- Edwin J. Wilson, BCLS, Duncan, BC,
- Garry G. Temple, NLS, Marystown, NF, and
- Craig A. McBride, ALS, Edmonton, AB.

Congratulations to you all.

## Statistics

On June 19, 2002, the ACLS membership statistics were as follows:

- |                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| • Regular Members:       | 496 |
| • Honorary Life Members: | 3   |
| • Retired Members:       | 42  |
| • Associate Members:     | 4   |
| • Licence Holders:       | 358 |
| • Permit Holders:        | 181 |

**Jean-Claude Tétreault**  
Executive Director



## **AGM**

The Victoria ACLS AGM was held on March 15 with approximately 120 Canada Lands Surveyors in attendance. It was the largest turnout ever for an ACLS meeting. Many topics were discussed but

Practice Review. A series of Bylaw and CLS Regulation amendment were also presented.

The following form the new ACLS Council for 2002 2003:

- President: Wesley L. Jamieson, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
- Past President: Patrick Ringwood, Victoria, British Columbia
- Vice President: G. C. (Carl) Friesen, Whitehorse, Yukon
- Senior Councillor: Harold W. Janes, Edmonton, Alberta
- Intermediate Councillor: Ian M. Lloyd, Penticton, British Columbia
- Junior Councillor: Paul Torrance, Elliot Lake, Ontario
- Appointed Councillor: Dale Scrivens, Regina, Saskatchewan
- Appointed Councillor: Susan Christie, Picton, Ontario
- Surveyor General: Michael O'Sullivan, Ottawa, Ontario

**The 19<sup>th</sup> AGM will be held on March 12, 13 and 14, 2003 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.**

## March 2002 Seminars

As First Nations and Aboriginal communities move to self-government and increased management of their lands and resources, there will be opportunities for Canada Land Surveyors to play an expanded role in assisting them achieve their goals. So a seminar, entitled “Building New Relationships”, designed to help CLS’s provide better advice and services, learn about current initiatives in First Nation and Aboriginal Land Management and build upon past successes was held on March 13, in conjunction with the AGM.

The morning session was technical in nature, and was presented by people from Legal Surveys Division, Natural Resources Canada and Indian and Northern Affairs. It covered such issues as interests on First Nation Lands, accessing on-line Indian Lands Registry and Canada Lands Survey information and policies and procedures in relationship to conducting surveys.

In the afternoon there was a presentation on traditional aboriginal concepts of land as well as presentations from the National Aboriginal Land Managers Association, the Nisga'a Lisims Government and on the First Nations Land Management Act. Finally there was a panel discussion on developing successful relationships between Canada Lands Surveyors and First Nations.

On the following morning, Dr. Alec McEwen presented a CPD seminar on recent court decisions relating to survey and boundary law. In the afternoon, a Seminar on Offshore and Hydrographic Surveying was held. The program was as follows:

- Physical oceanography and climate change;
- Ocean contaminants and marine protected areas;
- Marine Communications & Traffic Services (MCTS);
- Earthquakes, marine geology and oil & gas potential;
- Hydrographic field surveys, nautical publications and geomatics;
- West Coast offshore oil and Gas Moratorium; and
- Use of new technology in hydrography.

Approximately 110 people, mostly ACLS members, were in attendance for the two days - a resounding success.

### Certified Correct

Word was out at the 2001 Association of New Brunswick Land Surveyors’ AGM that insurance companies might not cover errors or omissions related to survey plans that have the statement “*Certified Correct*”.

After much discussion at the ACLS and CCLS Insurance Committee levels, ENCON finally published a Loss Control Bulletin on the topic in December 2001. The following is a quote from a comment by Anne Weldon, Assistant Vice-President, ENCON Group Inc., which is included in the bulletin:

*“From an errors and omission insurance point of view, the practice of certifying correct, as is followed today, does not constitute a guarantee or a warranty on the part of consulting Land Surveyors. Furthermore, any certification provided in accordance with regulations governing the profession that requires such certification shall not be considered as a warranty or guarantee under the policy.”*

For a copy of the full ENCON *Loss Control Bulletin*, surf to: [www.encon.ca/english/lcb](http://www.encon.ca/english/lcb) .