

The First David Thompson National Geomatics Awards

Celebrating excellence in the field of geomatics in Canada, the Association of Canada Lands Surveyors (ACLS) introduces the new David Thompson National Geomatics Awards Program. The program is developed in cooperation with all professional surveying associations across Canada through the Canadian Council of Land Surveyors (CCLS). The inaugural awards will be presented at the Gala Dinner of the National Surveyors' Conference on June 22 at the Loews Le Concorde Hotel in Québec City, Québec. The deadline for submissions is March 30 each year. Since this year was the first, we extended the deadline to April 6.



Awards will be presented for the following categories:

- Innovation in Geomatics
- Contribution to Society
- Unusual Applications in Geomatics

All commissioned surveyors, who are members of a Canadian surveying association, and who submit projects that have been completed within the last three years are eligible.

If you missed the deadline this year, you will have another chance next year.

For details on the David Thompson National Geomatics Awards Program, please visit: www.acls-aatc.ca/ENGLISH/awards/award.htm.

David Thompson was an explorer and surveyor who almost single-handedly mapped Canada's vast, unknown interior 200 years ago. He covered 80,000 miles by foot, horseback, dogsled, and canoe, defining a fifth of the continent, compiling 77 volumes of journals about its geography, biology, and ethnography. Equipped only with a brass sextant, he made maps that rival images from today's satellites. Some say that he was the world's greatest land geographer. Check out www.2008thompsonbrigade.com for information on the adventure of a lifetime: 3,600 kilometres, 20 canoes, 6 rivers, 4 provinces, 2 centuries! (From the ALSA MEMO Newsletter).

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Executive Director's Notes

The ACLS Wins its First Illegal Practice Case

On May 10th, 2006 a Québec Land Surveyor, who does not hold an ACLS licence, pleaded guilty for illegal practice of cadastral surveying on Canada Lands. It's a first for the Association of Canada Lands Surveyors.

We obtained a copy of a certificate of location prepared by the defendant showing a property within the limits of an Indian Reserve in the Province of Quebec dated April 19, 2005. Council passed a motion to institute penal proceedings against the defendant for violation of section 64 of the Canada Lands Surveyors Act on November 3rd, 2005. The case was heard in Criminal Court on May 10, 2006. The ACLS finally received copy of the decision on September 15th, 2006. The defendant was fined \$500 since it was a first offence.

Preparation of Bilingual Survey Plans

We recently have been made aware that ACLS licence holders have been submitting bilingual plans where the translation was of poor quality or the terms were inconsistent between the two language versions.

Some clients (e.g. Parks Canada) require that survey plans be submitted in both official languages. We would like to remind you of the following paragraph of the CLS Code of Ethics (section 3 of the *Canada Lands Surveyors Regulations*):

Paragraph (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,

(h) refrain from accepting assignments beyond their competence or beyond the resources available to them

So if you do not have command of the second language, be sure you have access to qualified translators before accepting such survey projects.

New CLSs

Since the September 2006 issue, we are glad to announce that CLS Commissions were awarded to following people:

- Michael Barry, Calgary, Alberta
- Mackenzie Lee, Calgary, Alberta
- Robert Pinkerton, Calgary, Alberta
- Sandra Wards, North Vancouver, British Columbia
- Jean-Sébastien Harvey, Alma, Québec
- Ronald J. Stewart, Thornhill, Ontario
- Nathalie Brousseau, Gatineau, Québec
- Andrew Morse, Halifax, Nova Scotia and
- Matthew S. Smith, Kentville, Nova Scotia.

Congratulations to all.

ACLS CPD Travel Bursary Awards

The ACLS Continuing Professional Development Committee set up a Travel Bursary with the following objectives in mind:

- Encourage regular ACLS members to participate in the ACLS CPD Program.

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- As an incentive for new ACLS members to attend an ACLS event for the first time and thus stimulate interest in ACLS affairs.
- Encourage local participation in regional groups.

All ACLS Regular members are eligible. The plan is to give out up to two \$500 bursaries a year but, so far, very few members have taken advantage of the Awards Program. A form is available from the ACLS Web site.

Public Awareness

A reminder that the PowerPoint presentation is available from the ACLS Web site. It's designed to allow flexibility to address different target audiences (from students to realtors, for example).

A Web viewing version of the presentation is posted on the public side of ACLS Web site to be viewed by all. A downloadable version is available to ACLS members on the secure side of the Web site. Contact Kevin Jones if you need instructions.

The Public Awareness Committee is always looking for news clips on the surveying profession to be made available from the ACLS Web site. Keep you eyes posted and send us what you find. Thank you.

Jean-Claude Tétreault
Executive Director

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Third National Surveyors' Conference 2007

The ACLS is proud to announce that the Third National Surveyors Conference will be held in Québec City from June 19th to 22nd, 2007 with the cooperation of the Canadian Council of Land Surveyors (CCLS). Come and join in on the only national surveyors' conference.

The technical program will cover the following topics: Geospatial Data Quality, Professionalism in Surveying with Knud Hermansen, of the University of Maine, First Nations Seminar, New Developments in Geographic Information Technology

The keynote speaker for the ACLS Annual Lunch is author Neil Bissoondath who received the Spiral Prize for "Le Marché aux illusions" in 1995, and the QSPELL best fiction prize for "Worlds Within Her" in 1999.

The social and accompanying program is as follows:

- Guided Tour of Old Québec
- Lunch at the Table Parlementaire Restaurant and tour of the Québec National Assembly
- Tour of the Governor General's Residence
- Stopover at the Observatoire de la Capitale
- Guided Tour of the breathtaking Île d'Orléans with a stop

over at the Domaine Steinbach

- ACLS Golf Tournament at the St. Laurent Golf Course on l'Île d'Orléans
- Mechoui supper at the St. Laurent Golf Course
- Tour of a traditional Huron village with a Medicine Wheel Workshop
- Gala Dinner with entertainment from the Baby Boomer's Band. Presentation of the National David Thompson Geomatics Awards.

For details and registration forms, visit our Web site at: <http://www.acls-aatc.ca/ENGLISH/agm/agm.htm>. All surveyors are invited.

Summary of Council Meetings

September 7, 2006, teleconference meeting

- Council formed the Gala Awards Task Force with the mandate to organize and deliver a Gala Awards Night at the June 2007 National Land Surveyors Conference in Quebec City. Furthermore, Council approved a budget of \$2000 to support this event, under the premise that as many funds as possible be recovered from sponsorship.
- Appointment of most members of ACLS Committees.
- Reappoints Marie-Christine Robidoux for another 5 year mandate as member of the Board of Examiners.
- Approval of the ACLS 2005-2006 Annual Report.
- Agreement in principle to hold the year 2008 National Surveyors' Conference in Victoria B.C. in joint venture with the Canadian Hydrographic Conference.
- Renewal of Jim Gunn's contract as the ACLS Practice Review Manager for another 2 years.
- Council passed a motion to instruct CIBC Wood Gundy to close the Practice Review Fund and transfer all funds to the ACLS General Reserve Fund.

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- Approval, in principal, of a second tier (non CLS) of the proposed model for the certification of hydrographers.
- Approval of the CCLS Memorandum of Understanding on Distance Learning.

November 30th, 2006, face-to-face meeting in Canmore, Alberta

- Approval of Policy 06-01 on the new requirement for permit holders to have Surveying as a Principal Function because of the coming into force of the new section 33 of the CLS Regulations.
- Approval of policy 06-02 on the new requirement for permit holders to have an ACLS license holder as a member of the management team again because of new section 33.
- Appointment of remainder of ACLS committee and task force members.
- Approval of the new Offshore Issues Committee Terms of Reference.
- Council directed the Executive Director to pursue discussions with CCLS on the National Conference and Awards Gala initiatives.
- Following the signature of the MOU with the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, Council appointed J.C. Tétreault to represent the ACLS in this new relationship.

February 6th, 2007, teleconference meeting

- CLS Commissions will be offered to Michael Barry, Mackenzie Lee, Robert Pinkerton, Sandra Wards, Jean-Sébastien Harvey, Ronald J. Stewart, Nathalie Brousseau, and Andrew Morse.
- Approval of the benefit packages for the ACLS staff for 2007.
- Discussion on the Saskatchewan Land Surveyors' Association "Surveyor in a Crate" initiative:
 - This initiative is modelled after the Science Alberta Foundation "Made to Measure Crate" which has been well received in Alberta high schools.
 - In April of 2006, the ACLS sent a letter of support to the SLSA. The ACLS agreed, if certain conditions were met, to give an amount of \$8,400. ACLS would receive a physical crate and our understanding was that a circulation system would be in place.
 - Last January, the SLSA presented a new proposal to the ACLS. The ACLS would give an amount of \$8,400 and in exchange, would get access of a blue print of the "Crate". No physical crate and no circulation system.
 - So Council decided to send a letter to the SLSA asking for a copy of the request for proposal, or any other similar document that's been issued to get a proposal for the crate, as well as a copy of the proposal with the breakdown of cost and activities.
- Council approved new CLS Regulation amendments. The next step is to send them to the Natural Resources Canada for it's approval before the membership vote.
- Approval of an amendment to section 12.1 of the ACLS General Bylaws. The next step is ACLS membership approval.
- Approval of the new Aboriginal Liaison Committee Terms of Reference.
- Approval of the ACLS Levy increase to be a CCLS member.
- Approval of an increase in fee to mark ACLS exams.

March 13th 2007, teleconference meeting

- CLS Commission will be offered to Matthew S. Smith.
- Approval of a new Section 50 of the CLS Regulations. This will be included in the package that will be sent to NRCan.
- Council approved the new ACLS Strategic Plan and Operational Plan.

Jean-Claude Tétreault
Secretary-Treasurer

The ACLS Scholarship Program

Funding

The Association of Canada Lands Surveyors Foundation Inc. funds the Scholarship Program. Just a note about ACLS members' contributions following the circulation of the form with the membership renewals. A total of \$2,125 was received. A sincere thank you from the Foundation.

Objectives

- Encourage and provide financial rewards to students that are enrolled in a postsecondary institution in the field of geomatics.
- Encourage and provide financial rewards to members of aboriginal communities that are enrolled in a postsecondary institution in the field geomatics.

Available Scholarships

Three scholarships of \$1,500 each are available annually. One scholarship is targeted to an aboriginal student that meets the eligibility requirements. The scholarships are acknowledged at the ACLS Annual General Meeting.

Eligibility

1. Eligible applicants are students in good standing, registered full time, and continuing studies in a geomatics program at a recognized University, Technical Institute or Community College in Canada.
2. Applicant must be a Canadian citizen or a landed immigrant.
3. Applicants must demonstrate a passing grade in all courses.

Application

Application form requires five other documents to be attached.

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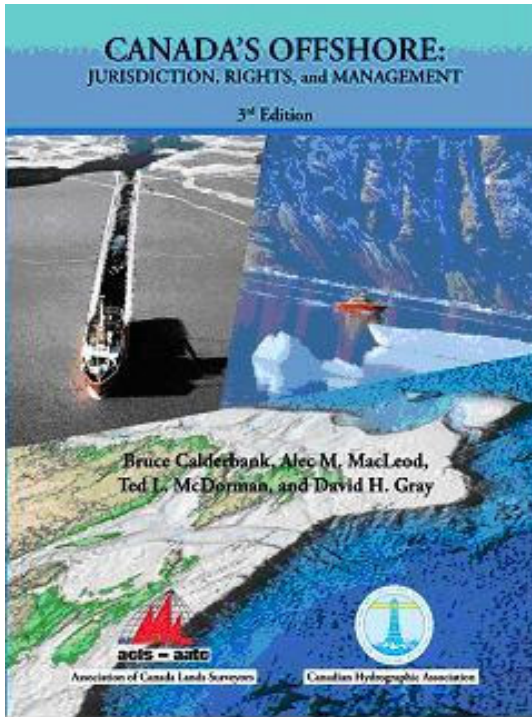
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Offshore Book

Sales of our new book entitled *Canada's Offshore: Jurisdiction, Right and Management* have been very encouraging. The book is currently only available in English; however, translation of the book into French is currently underway and will be available in October 2007. Book launches are planned for the fall.

The book is getting very good reviews. Here are a few:

- *"In summary, it can be said that this publication provides a comprehensive and easily read description of just what is happening in Canada's Offshore with respect to legislation, rights and management. To the Canadian surveyor and marine scientist it will provide a useful reference to the whole field of offshore boundary making and associated legislation. To the non-Canadian reader it will provide a helpful insight into what the country has done and is doing to manage its territory surrounding its very long coast."* Adam J. Kerr in the Volume 60 Number 3, 2006 issue of *Geomatica*.

- *"By way of final comment, this reviewer has no hesitation in stating that the objective of the book to be the main source of information about Canada's offshore has been fully met. Certainly, this must be the case on the technical aspects. If one wishes to study any Canadian offshore issue, this book is unquestionably the main source to begin with. The twenty-three tables and sixty-four figures, inserted throughout the text, provide the reader with illustrations of physical features that are indispensable for thorough understanding of the numerous provisions of the LOSC."*

"Subject to a few peccadillos, this book is a must read as anyone interested in Canada's offshore could ask for." Donat Pharant, Professor of Law Emeritus at the University of Ottawa in the *Canadian Yearbook of International Law*.

For information about the book visit: <http://www.acls-aatc.ca/ENGLISH/members-info/offshoretext.htm> . Books can also be purchased from Trafford Publishing at: www.trafford.com

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- Sealed official transcripts of all post secondary education (courses completed and grades received).
- Confirmation of registration from the Educational Institution.
- Proof of Canadian Citizenship or landed immigrant status.
- If applying for a scholarship targeted for Aboriginal students, please provide evidence of Aboriginal status.
- Optional C.V. or resume, summarizing education, past employment, community involvement, etc.

To obtain an application form and further information on the ACLS Scholarship Program, visit the ACLS Website at: www.acls-aatc.ca

Deadline for application is May 15 of each year.

ACLS Strategic Plan

An intense strategic planning update session was held in Canmore, Alberta on December 1 and 2, 2006 attended by Council members. At the end of the planning session, Council agreed on six strategic objectives which are as follows:

Continuing/Improving Statutory Requirements

The ACLS will continue to assume its role as stipulated in the Act and will improve on the processes that will permit it to meet its statutory requirements. In particular in the following areas:

Practice Review;
Maintenance of Standards;
Complaints and Discipline;
Continuing professional development; and
Greater involvement with the offshore.

Public Recognition of Contribution to Economic, Social and Cultural Development

The ACLS will work towards enhancing the public image of the profession and the promotion of the socio-economic value of land tenure systems as a whole (including to Aboriginal governments).

Aboriginal Involvement

The ACLS will strive to bring more Aboriginal people into the geomatics sector and in particular the CLS profession.

Providing Value to the Expanded Profession

The ACLS will attract more non-land surveying geomatics professionals to become members of the Association. In particular people from the hydrographic community and students.

National Responsibility and Integration

The ACLS must continue to play a key role on the national geomatics scene and continue to promote cooperation between national geomatics organizations.

Importance of the CLSS and the Property Rights Infrastructure to the Orderly Development of Lands and the Offshore

Council came to a consensus on the following vision statement and has established an action plan for the next 12 to 18 months.

Committed to continual improvement in the pursuit of excellence in the surveying profession

The Strategic Plan Executive Summary is available on the ACLS Web site.

J.C. Tétreault
Executive Director

WANTED: Authors to Update the Property Rights Book

Most CLS spent hours studying a book entitled "Property Rights and Boundary Systems on Canada Lands" for their CLS exams. This comprehensive piece of work was made available in 1990 with the mention "Provisional version". It is now way out of date. So the ACLS Board of Examiners is working on an updated version. ACLS obtained the copyright on the book.

The book presently has 12 chapters. Chapter 6 will not be updated since the new book entitled "Canada's Offshore: Jurisdiction, Rights, and Management" is published. A few ACLS members are presently updating chapters including a new chapter on property rights in Nunavut. We are looking for authors to update the following chapters:

1. NWT – 22 pages
2. Yukon – 22 pages, 5 maps and figures
3. Indian Lands – 39 pages and 16 maps, figures and tables
4. Federal Lands & Interests – 12 pages and 15 maps, figures and tables

Boundary Systems

5. Provincial & Territorial Boundaries – new Territory added
6. Appendices A. Canada Centre for Cadastral Management – 14 pages and 6 tables

A \$500 honorarium will be awarded for each rewritten chapter on above list. If you are interested, contact the ACLS Executive Director.

Jean-Claude Tétreault
Executive Director

New Permit Requirements

As was mentioned in the September issue of *Communique*, the following new section on permit requirements is now in force:

33. The Registrar shall issue a permit to an entity if

- (a) a principal function of the entity is surveying;*
- (b) the entity has within its management at least one licence holder who ensures that the entity complies with the Association's standards of conduct, knowledge and skill in its surveying activities;*
- (c) the entity has professional liability insurance coverage at least equivalent to that required by licensed members under subsection 29(4);*
- (d) the name of the entity is not misleading, self-laudatory or inappropriate with regard to protection of the public and the integrity of the profession; and*
- (e) the application complies with the requirements of the Act and these Regulations.*

Since this is new, we asked for some additional documentation for renewal of ACLS permits. To ensure that one of entity's activities is surveying, we asked for one of the following documents:

- In the case where an entity is a corporation, a copy of the official corporate documents that set out the business activities that the entity can undertake (the "objects" of the corporation).
- In the case where the entity is a partnership, a copy of the parts of the partnership agreement that sets out the business activities that the partnership can undertake.
- In the case where an entity is an unincorporated organization or association, a copy of the parts of the organizational documents that specify what business activities will be performed by the entity.

The submission should include those documents that clearly state that surveying is one of the functions of the entity.

To ensure that entities (1) have at least one ACLS licence holder amongst its senior management staff; (2) the licence holder is involved in the decision making process as it relates to surveying activities on Canada Lands; (3) the licence holder has actual authority and means within the entity to control surveying activities on Canada Lands, we asked for the following documents:

- In the case of an incorporated or limited company, an official list of the members of the Board of Directors which includes at least one licensed ACLS member (for example it could be a copy of the most recent annual return to Corporations Canada if federal);
- An organization chart;
- Job description of the licensed CLS(s);
- Any other document illustrating the licensed CLS's responsibilities.

If the CLS(s) is (are) member(s) of the Board of Directors, the CLS(s) is(are) deemed to have sufficient authority for the purpose of section 33(b). If some of the requested documents do not exist, then an affidavit or statutory declaration signed by the Chief Executive Officer and the licensed CLS(s) declaring that the CLS(s) has (have) full authority and means to control surveying activities on Canada Lands is deemed sufficient.

Unfortunately, only a minority of firms did provide the required documents. Permits cannot be renewed without this documentation. If you are one of those who did not yet send your documents and haven't received a reminder letter already, you will receive one soon.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Jean-Claude Tétreault
Registrar

