

Notice from the President



I want to thank the Association of Canada Lands Surveyors. Thank you for the opportunities that have come my way since receiving a Canada Land Surveyors Commission in 2004. Since that time I have participated on several ACLS committees, and, over the past few years, on Council. The rewards of committee and council work are numerous, both professionally and personally. Most particularly is the opportunity to work with, and learn from, some really brilliant people. And that has certainly been the case with the Council team. So, I am again grateful for the ultimate opportunity to serve our Association as President for the upcoming year. I pledge to do my best to lead Council, and honorably represent the Association of Canada Lands Surveyors.

This organization has much to be proud of and has accomplished so much over its relatively young existence. We have vibrant and productive groups of volunteers populating our several key committees. We continually strive for excellence and openly

engage with our sister associations and other professional bodies. We are leaders in accessible professional development opportunities, through GeoEd. We recognize the synergies, and value, of functioning as an expanded profession by working, for example, with the hydrographic community towards certification.

And yes, we have the right people to take care of the Association's business. Our organization is not only a professional organization it is a professionally run organization. JC and his staff, Kevin, Martha, Teri and Jim Gunn are to be commended for their professional efforts in the operation of ACLS.

The Councils I have worked with, and will work with, are also a dedicated group. Discussions are thorough and items are advanced only after a due diligence approach. I am looking forward to another year of working with them and welcome new councillor, Cameron Twa, to our team.

I want to thank Estelle for steering us through the past year. Her relaxed leadership style created an environment for engaged and productive discussion.

The excitement the new council year is tempered slightly with the retiring, from council, of Ivan Royan. He brought much informed opinions to our meetings and was always on the ready to mentor.

We have brought forward several proposed amendments as well as one amendment to the regulations. Going forward we still have work to do on the Complaints and Discipline process, as well as Labour Mobility. We will also need to be ready for the role-out of the upgraded MyCLSS and a revitalized manual. More imminent is the prospect of moving towards digital signatures. And, later this year, we will take time and reevaluate ACLS's strategic plan.

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Times are a changin', don't we know it! Surveyors, we need to be ready for change. We need to be ready to seize the opportunities that come with change. We cannot do that however without understanding where we come from, and

who has helped get us where we are today. Similarly, we need to respect the new ideas, and foster the enthusiasm and energy, of our up and comers.

Further, I want to remind you, all of you, to never lose sight of the vital role you play, regardless of discipline; cadastral, engineering, hydrography, towards a successful and prospering economy. Let that pride, and promotion, play out in your businesses and workplace, in your community, and within our association.

Again, thank you. I embrace this challenge to lead the Association of Canada Lands Surveyors as your President.

Gord Stark, CLS, MLS
President

Summary of Council Meetings

March 4, 2014: Go to Meeting

- Review of proposed Act and Regulations amendments to improve the complaints and discipline process. Still work to be done.
- Review of proposed bylaw amendments that will be submitted to membership for vote. Again still work to be done.
- Approval of new Offshore Issue Committee Terms of Reference.
- Council moved to offer a CLS Commission to
 - Ross Mandeville of Penticton, BC
 - Blake Wahl of Regina SK

March 26, 2014: Go to Meeting

- Council discussed bylaw amendments that will be submitted to membership for vote. Still needs some tweaking.
- Review of a new proposed draft of Act and Regulations amendments to improve the complaints and discipline process. The draft was judged acceptable and will be sent to the legal counsel for his comments and suggestions.
- Review of a first draft of the proposed 2015 budget. Finance Committee will meet shortly to finalize it.
- Approval of the hotel contract for NSC 2016 in Edmonton.

April 9, 2014: Go to Meeting

- Conversation with the newly elected ACLS members' director on the PSC, Carl Friesen, Board of Directors on PSC activities.
- Approval of a draft of proposed regulations amendments to allow digital signatures to present to the membership at the upcoming business meeting.
- Approval of a proposed budget for 2015 to be presented to the ACLS membership for approval at the upcoming business meeting.

April 29, 2014: Go to Meeting

- Council discussed what changes were needed in MyCLSS to comply with the new national survey standards.
- Approval of the new Board of Examiners Experience Requirements and pertinent form for obtaining an ACLS license.
- Discussion on the effect of the letter of reply received from the FIG/IHO/ICA International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers (IBSC) following ACLS submission for accreditation of its Hydrographic Surveyor Certification Program. Council is waiting for a recommendation from the Offshore Issues Committee.

May 14, 2014: Face to Face

- Council moved to offer a CLS Commission to
 - Steve Ruttan, Toronto, ON
 - Irwindeep Natt, Calgary, AB
- Council debriefed after NSC 2014
- Review of committee membership and assignment of Council Liaison individuals for each.
- Council moved to participate in the Canadian Geomatics Community Round Table Event.

June 4, 2014: Go to Meeting

- Conversation with ACLS members' director on the PSC, Carl Friesen, on the upcoming ACLS vote on the bylaw amendment relative to the all-in model.
- Approval the bylaw amendment package to be made available on the on-line voting system of the ACLS Web site.
- Review of the proposed RFP to replace the Practice Review Manager.
- Review of the results of the membership question about retiring which was included in the November 2013 renewal packages.
- Review of some staff performance and salaries.

June 25, 2014: Go to Meeting

- Review of a new proposed form to apply for retired membership. Still work to be done.
- Report by Jean-Claude Tétreault and Cameron Twa on their participation at attended the Canadian Geomatics Community Round Table meeting in Ottawa.

July 29, 2014: Go to Meeting

- Council discussed potential regulation amendments to accommodate labour mobility.
- Council moved that all bylaws amendments approved by the membership be implemented on August 1.
- Appointment of a new Special Examiner for the ACLS Act and Regulations examinations.
- Formation of a special panel to analyse submissions to replace the Practice review Manager.
- Approval of the CPD Committee proposal to market GeoEd.
- Approval of a memorandum of understanding between the ACLS and the Association of British Columbia Land Surveyors to work on modifying the ACLS system to meet the needs of both ACLS and ABCLS members.
- Hiring of a facilitator for the upcoming ACLS strategic planning meeting.
- Approval of a letter to be sent to the IBSC to express ACLS concerns following its response to ACLSs submission for its Hydrographic Surveyor Certification Program.

Executive Director's Notes

New CLSs

Congratulations to the following people who were awarded a CLS Commission since the last issue of Communique:

- Blake Wahl of Regina, Saskatchewan
- Ross Mandeville, Kelowna, British Columbia
- Irwindeep Natt, Calgary, Alberta and
- Steve Rattan, Toronto, Ontario

Welcome to CLS family.

Membership Numbers

The demographic downfall seems to have reached the ACLS. We had reached a plateau and now our numbers are going down slightly. Here are numbers in the register today compared to previous years:

<u>Membership:</u>	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Regular:	486	506	521	532	530
Retired:	78	76	71	61	54
Associate:	4	5	6	7	7
Student	48	45	37	25	27
Honorary Life:	6	7	7	7	7
Honorary:	1	1	1	1	1

Licences and Permits

Licences:	374	391	404	398	398
Permits:	175	181	190	185	179

We have noticed that the number of individuals accepted as candidates maintains a rhythm year after year of between 17 and 32. So far this year, we accepted 18 new candidates. Only approximately 5 to 7 candidates show up to write the face-to-face exams and same number write the on-line exam. Since most of our candidates are eligible for the Labour Mobility on-line exam, we expect that the on-line system will be busy eventually.

ACLS General Bylaw Amendments

In accordance with section 13.4 of the General Bylaws, the proposed amendments were presented at the May 14th, 2014 Business Meeting and followed by the on-line vote by all voting members which concluded on July 21st, 2014. On July 22nd, our scrutineers, Jim Simpson and Kevin Jones proceeded with the counting of the votes and provided this report:

We Jim Simpson and Kevin Jones acting as scrutineers for the counting of the votes by the ACLS voting members on six resolutions to amend the ACLS General Bylaws have obtained the following results today, Tuesday, July 22 at 11:00 AM EDT:

1. Resolution 1 on the PSC "all in" model: 150 approved the amendment, 37 did not approve for a total of 187 votes. 2/3 vote of members voting is required by section 13.4 (3) of the ACLS General Bylaws, which represents a minimum of 125 votes. So Resolution 1 has been approved by the ACLS Membership.
2. Resolution 2 on approval of the budget: 177 approved the amendment, 10 did not approve for a total of 187 votes. A minimum of 125 votes is required. So Resolution 2 has been approved.
3. Resolution 3 on the definition of "voting member": 183 approved the amendment, 3 did not approve for a total of 186 votes. A minimum of 124 votes is required. So Resolution 3 has been approved.
4. Resolution 4 on the clarification of the fee structure: 180 approved the amendment, 6 did not approve for a total of 186 votes. A minimum of 124 votes is required. So Resolution 4 has been approved.
5. Resolution 5 on clarification of "special levy": 169 approved the amendment, 17 did not approve for a total of 186 votes. A minimum of 124 votes is required. So Resolution 5 has been approved.
6. Resolution 6 on clarification of "Retired Member": 181 approved the amendment, 5 did not approve for a total of 186 votes. A minimum of 124 votes is required. So Resolution 6 has been approved.

In conclusion, all Bylaw amendments were approved by the membership and are in effect since August 1st, 2014. We would like to thank members who took the time to vote. The turnout was higher than usual, which is encouraging.

Harold Jones

I received the sad news when I called his home to ask Harold to come over to the ACLS office and act as scrutineer for the bylaw amendment vote. I've worked with Harold since the beginning of my work with the ACLS. I got to know Harold very well since he would come over to the office for every committee meeting. He was a true gentleman, very committed to the welfare of the profession and just a nice guy. I always enjoyed our time together. I will truly miss him.

Harold passed away on July 18th at the age of 89. Harold was an ACLS Honorary Life Member for his countless hours of service to our profession. Harold was a member of the ACLS committee responsible for drafting the CLS Act, Regulations and Bylaws. Until recently, he was still active on both the ACLS Bylaws and Legislation and Offshore Issues committees. He was Chair of the Bylaws Committee until 2 years ago. That was not enough for Harold, for many years he was a member of the board of directors of a local food bank and volunteer in the yearly Ottawa Chamber Music Festival.

Celebration of a life well lived will be held on Saturday September 13th at the St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Daybreak Housing, Radio Farm International or a charity of your choice.

Our condolences to his wife of 50 years, Merle and his family.

MyCLSS

Last spring, we sent an e-blast to all members giving notice that we have set up MyCLSS to accommodate survey documents in line with Chapter D-8 of the Manual of Instructions on Mineral Claims Surveys in the Northwest Territories. The use of the electronic checklist is mandatory for D-8 surveys.

Since the new National Survey Standards for the Survey on Canada Lands will be implemented soon, we have been busy preparing the MyCLSS system to deal with the new survey document types. The SGB staff prepared a list of 23 survey document types and Jim Gunn drafted a list of 263 new checklist items with mouse overs. I provided the French version of the items and mouse overs. We have all been working on this since January of this year. At this time, our IT consultant just finished importing this data into the ACLS electronic checklist system and the SGB and ACLS staffs are performing some tests.

This was quite a challenge especially since SGB keeps coming up with new drafts of the manual. We are now at version 6. It is our understanding that the new standards will be implemented in phases. We will keep you posted.

New Candidate Handbook

After more than a year of hard work, the Board of Examiners is happy to announce that a new Candidate Handbook is now available on the Web site at: <https://www.acls-aatc.ca/en/node/32>

Here are the highlights of the new Handbook:

- Only one handbook from now on for all candidates (those holding a provincial commission and not)
- The exam title “Aboriginal Government Issues” has been renamed “Aboriginal Policy Issues” (it may change again in the future)
- The learning outcomes for the “Aboriginal Policy Issues” have been completely changed
- We now have a whole new process for candidates who do not hold a provincial commission to meet the 2 year experience requirement for an ACLS licence
- Project report guidelines, again, for candidates who do not hold a provincial commission.

We stopped selling the old videotapes that were produced in the early 1990 since they are obsolete. On-shore and Offshore Property Rights courses are available on [GeoEd](#) and we are working on new courses to present in the next couple of years.

The new National Survey Standards for the Survey on Canada Lands will have a major impact on both the Act and Regs and On-shore Property Rights exams. The Board of Examiners is monitoring the situation and will make the necessary changes at the opportune time.

Mandatory Continuing Professional Development (MCPD)

Following our review of licensed members’ CPD reports for the first MCPD cycle (2011 to 2013) on the ACLS Tracking System and after many notifications, we had to revoke 2 licenses because members did not record the minimum required number of hours and did not provide a plan to correct the situation.

We are currently performing a more detailed review and we are still seeing members selecting the wrong categories. Many members who attend AGMs or Regional Group meetings entered those activities under the “Participation” category which gives only half of claimed credit hours. These activities should be entered in the “Courses and Seminars” category.

Please do not hesitate to contact [Martha Reeve](#) or [myself](#) if you have problems with the tracking system or a need for clarification on the CPD categories.

The ACLS MCPD tracking system is the envy of most of our sister associations. We just signed a memorandum of understanding with the Association of British Columbia Land Surveyors to work on modifying the ACLS system to meet the needs of both ACLS and ABCLS members. This means that in the near future, individuals holding an ABCLS commission and an ACLS licence will only have to enter their CPD activities once.

Practice Review Manager

Following the June 2014 request for proposals, we received 3 submissions. An ad-hoc panel just completed its analysis of the proposals and interviews and is ready to make a recommendation to the Practice Review Committee who then will report to Council. We should announce the winning candidate in middle of September.

National Surveyors' Conference 2014



The tenth National Surveyor's Conference was held from May 12 to 14, 2014 in St. Andrews By-the-Sea, New Brunswick in collaboration with Professional Surveyors Canada!

The successful Conference included an informative keynote speech by Dr. John McLaughlin, great seminars on UAVs and geodesy, and an update from the Surveyor General Branch of NRCan!

The following members were elected to the ACLS Council positions by acclamation: Gord Stark (pictured left), President and Anne Cole, Vice President. Cameron Twa (pictured left) was elected to Council as a first year Councillor by electronic membership vote.

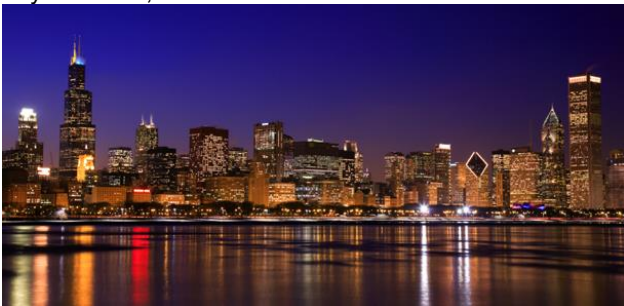
During the Conference on May 13, new CLS commissions were presented to the following people: Roberta E. Holtner and Kenton H. Campbell.

During the Business Meeting, members put the following motions on the floor:

- that staff do not demand security deposits for voting machines in the form of personal identification to be retained pending return of the voting machine
- that Council consider changing the voting system for bylaw changes to move away from online voting to live voting at the AGM or a special meetings of the members.

National Surveyors' Conference 2015

Next year's National Surveyors' Conference will be held in bustling Winnipeg, Manitoba at the Fairmont Winnipeg from May 13 to 15, 2015!



David Thompson National Geomatics Awards

The Association of Canada Lands Surveyors and Professional Surveyors Canada are proud to announce the winners of the seventh annual David Thompson Awards! The awards were presented during the National Surveyors' Conference in St. Andrews By-the-Sea on May 13, 2014.

The David Thompson National Geomatics Awards are presented for excellence in the profession of surveying in three categories:

- "*Innovation in Geomatics*" recognizes a project that involved the most innovation, such as using never or seldom used technology to solve a survey problem.
- "*Contribution to Society*" recognizes a project that has the most positive impact on society, such as important involvement in new infrastructure in Third World countries, major contribution in cases of natural disasters, or technological transfer or capacity building in less fortunate communities.
- "*Challenging Applications in Cadastral Surveying*" recognizes a project that applied cadastral surveying methods and technology to solve the most challenging technical problem.



Innovation in Geomatics

In the category *Innovation in Geomatics*, the winner was Adam Brash from Focus for the project entitled “Focus Journey Management”. This innovative application for iPhone (shown left) and SPOT devices gives project managers and health and safety professionals the ability to view in real-time all field personnel’s daily journeys through GPS, and quickly identify if they are in need of assistance. Other built in tools in this app include access to digital copies of safety tickets, submitting Safety Opportunity Cards, and ability to report on Safe Work Practices.

A close runner up for this award was Jim Christie from McElhanney Associates for “Custom Mobile GIS for LNG Pipeline Project”, a project that used over 80 people and in-house mapping platform Vertisee to collect over 1 terabyte of data over a short time frame.

Contribution to Society

In the category *Contribution to Society*, the winner was Robert Allen (pictured far left in canoe) from Robert Allen and Company for the project entitled “Resurvey of Kootenay River”. This project was done in commemoration of one of Canada’s first surveyors, David Thompson. Canoe crews resurveyed the Kootenay River using hand held GPS.



Challenging Applications in Cadastral Surveying



In the category *Challenging Applications in Cadastral Surveying*, the winners were Kevin Kujala from Tulloch Engineering (pictured below receiving his award from ACLS president Estelle Moisan) and Murray Shantz from MMM Group Limited for the project entitled “Armow Wind Farm”. The project created a web-based GIS system to assist in the development of a large scale wind farm and a robust control network to allow surveyors to access every square metre of the 196km² project site.

The Association of Canada Lands Surveyors (ACLS) introduced the David Thompson National Geomatics Awards Program in cooperation with all professional surveying associations across Canada through the Canadian Council of Land Surveyors (CCLS) (Now Professional Surveyors Canada (PSC)).

The David Thompson National Geomatics Awards Program is open to all commissioned surveyors who are members of a Canadian surveying association, submitting projects that have been completed within the last three years. The deadline for submissions is Tuesday, March 31, 2015.

The ACLS is a national self-regulating professional association that is the licensing body for professionals surveying in the three Canadian territories, in the Federal parks, on Aboriginal reserves, as well as on and under the surface of Canada’s oceans. It has over 640 members located across Canada (and the world), with expertise in surveying, photogrammetry, remote sensing, geodesy, hydrography and land information systems. For details, please visit: www.acls-aatc.ca

Professional Surveyors Canada is conceived, developed, and run by Canadian surveyors, and is dedicated to building and enabling a strong multi-faceted community of surveying professionals committed to exceeding expectations. <http://www.psc-gpc.ca>

For more details on the David Thompson National Geomatics Awards Program, please visit: <http://www.acls-aatc.ca/en/node/27>



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Tribute to our volunteers

Our volunteers do the bulk of the work for the ACLS and do not get the recognition they deserve.

In this issue, we want to highlight the contribution of both the National Conference and Public Awareness committees.

National Conference Committee

The National Conference Committee plans the general outline of the future National Surveyors' Conferences and insures the quality of current Conferences, from picking locations years in advance to the debriefing after.

The National Conference Committee is composed of the following members:

- Andrew Brebner, Co-Chair
- Jeff Fee, Co-Chair
- Guy Craig, PSC Liaison
- Rick Beaumont
- Marie Robidoux
- Dominique Fecteau
- Cindy Kliaman

This Committee is currently looking into planning the 2015 and 2016 Conferences.

Public Awareness Committee

The Public Awareness Committee runs initiatives to raise the profile of the surveying profession and the ACLS to the general public, government, and sister associations using mediums such as social media, magazines, and face to face meetings.

The Public Awareness Committee is composed of the following members:

- Akbar Karsan, Chair
- Cameron Twa, Council Liaison
- Benson Agi
- Brian Ball
- Cindy Kliaman

Currently the Public Awareness Committee is continuing to send Surveyor in a Crate to schools across Canada and is working to publicize the David Thompson Awards.

Thank you to all our hard working volunteers!

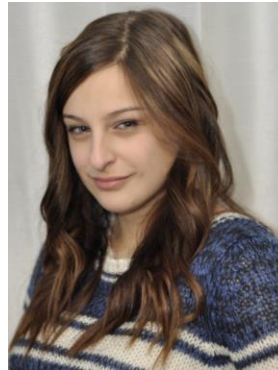
ACLS Scholarship Foundation

Every year ACLS awards scholarships of \$1,500 to students enrolled in a postsecondary institution in the field of Geomatics. This year the committee chose the following recipients from many promising applications. Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all applicants!

Winners of this year's ACLS scholarship:



Eric Root (*University of New Brunswick*)



Karoline Vallée (*Université Laval*)

Visit our website at <http://www.acls-aatc.ca/en/node/66> for additional information about the Geomatics Scholarship Program and eligibility requirements.

Thank You for Supporting PSC

Thank you for your Association's show of support for Professional Surveyors Canada. This is the kind of leadership that is needed to keep the profession of land surveying as a recognized and valued service for the Canadian public.

The Association of Canada Land Surveyors has joined the ranks of the members and Councils of the land surveyor Associations that have voted to provide support for PSC by adopting the All In model of membership. We believe that this support will go a long way toward helping PSC continue its mandate of advocacy, career advancement, and building a strong survey community. We look forward to working on behalf of, and with all of you.

Once again, thank you for your support of Professional Surveyors Canada.

Sincerely,



Guy Craig SLS, P Eng, P Surv
Chair - Professional Surveyors Canada

Standing together and speaking with one voice on issues that affect our profession and the lives of Canadians.

Canada Geomatics Community Roundtable

The Canadian Geomatics Community Round Table (CGCRT) is a collaborative initiative between governments (federal, provincial, territorial, municipal and First Nations), industry, educators and students, and not-for-profit organizations.

A key goal of the CGCRT is to examine common issues facing the Geomatics Sector and to develop a Pan-Canadian Geomatics Strategy to re-position the Sector for future success. The objective of the Strategy is to better meet the needs of, and enable the ever-growing Geospatial Community that depends on reliable, accurate and fit-for-purpose geospatial services and expertise.

The CGCRT Geomatics Strategy, Action, and Implementation Planning Workshop took place in Ottawa June 9 and 10 at the Delta City Centre. Both our newly elected Council member Cameron Twa and myself were in attendance

This was a workshop to discuss creating a strategic plan for the future of the Geomatics sector inclusive of everyone. We reviewed and amended existing objectives and actions, creating new objectives and actions and presented implementation plans for consideration of the CGCRT Steering Committee and various other committees to come.

There were representatives from academic institutions, associations and NGOs, government organizations, private industry, and students. Of particular note was the large representation of surveyors; it was great to see so many of them in attendance.



Some of the surveyors who attended the meeting

This workshop has created a huge amount of feedback that the CGCRT will need to review to create an executable strategy or options. What happens next is dependent on how organized and focused the CGCRT steering committee is in completing their interpretation of feedback it received from the more than 100 participants. The CGCRT will soon circulate a final strategy to participants and the public.

Committees have been formed for each of the 7 dimensions of the strategic plan to achieve the priority actions of the implementation plan. Cameron personally signed up to be involved with the “Education and Capacity Building group” and Jean-Claude joined the “Market” committee.

It was a rewarding and empowering experience to be a part of this workshop. It was also a great chance to meet other key players in the industry. In particular, we were struck with something that the Surveyor General for Canada Lands, Peter Sullivan, said. In his opening speech he commented that the healthcare field is a large field of people all under the umbrella of healthcare. The Geomatics community could be that too. The concept of what he said really stuck and guided us throughout the whole workshop.

There is a lot of work to be done. For more information, go to: <http://cgcr.ca/>

Jean-Claude Tétreault

Executive Director