

## **GeoEd**

Present day technology has the ability to facilitate so many things that it's sometimes hard to comprehend how fast it moves along. This is one of the reasons that professional associations across Canada and the globe have started to move towards Mandatory Professional Development, but it also gives us the opportunity to prove how easy it is to access the necessary material.

GeoEd is a collaborative program that seeks to include all provincial and federal surveying associations in Canada to promote accessible continuing professional development. The initiative was conceived and developed by the ACLS (Association of Canada Lands Surveyors) when it recognized the need of a national forum for CPD. ACLS continues to maintain the portal in what will hopefully become a cooperative effort to share resources and expertise towards the development of national learning.

Part of this initiative is a forum that anyone can register in at [www.geoed.ca/forum](http://www.geoed.ca/forum). Here you can search by jurisdiction to find seminars that are happening near you, as well as post upcoming ones for others to find. You can chat to surveyors across Canada about seminars you have attended and what sort of seminars you would like to see in the future. Using the forum insures that every person can have a voice in how future CPD opportunities develop. Although the forum is an important part of GeoEd, it isn't the most exciting part. GeoEd is currently constructing an online system for course delivery! This means that there will be full courses on a variety of topics that will be available at your fingertips. These courses will occasionally consist of live, interactive webinars, but will mostly be courses that are fully self-study with recorded video and other digital materials. Surveyors will be able to sign up for any course and complete it at their leisure.

GeoEd recently launched the first of many paid trainings. A one hour course on the principles of GNSS positioning was presented by Dr. Robert Radovanovic to 80 participants. Each participant paid \$67.80, but a satisfaction survey afterwards should and overwhelming percentage found the course to be very worthwhile and informative. GeoEd will be continuing this sort of courses.

Currently available through GeoEd is a free 30 minute course that focuses on How to do Business with the Federal Government. It will talk you through how best to use the online system MERX and SELECT, as well as how to bid on proposals and make sure your bid is considered.

Some upcoming courses that will be available soon are: Introduction on how to make comprehensive Field Notes, and the Expert Witness course which was a hit with BC land surveyors at a recent ABCLS AGM.

GeoEd exists to help surveyors succeed, but it will need surveyors from across the country to participate if it is to become a truly national resource. Join a discussion in the forum! Talk about an amazing course you've been on! Take an online course to advance your continuing professional development credit!

Our hope is that GeoEd will be the tool for surveyors across Canada will use to make educational opportunities as easy and accessible as possible. Please visit GeoEd at the new address of: [www.geoed.ca](http://www.geoed.ca)!

### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

GeoEd	1
Summary of Council meetings	2
Executive Director's Notes	3
National Surveyors' Conference 2012	4
On-line Offshore Property Rights Seminar	5
Call for David Thompson Award Candidates	5
Online Exams	6
Team Recognition Award	7
Scholarship Winners (with photos)	8
Surveyors in Their Community	8



Continuing Professional Development for Canada's Professional Surveyors

Font size [Bigger](#) [Reset](#) [Smaller](#)



#### Main Menu

- ▀ [GeoEd Home](#)
- ▀ [Online Courses](#)
- ▀ [Shopping Cart](#)
- ▀ [Forum](#)
- ▀ [Log In/Out](#)

#### Choose your language

[English](#) [Français](#)

#### GeoEd Home

##### Geomatics Education Canada

This website is a cooperative of Canada's Provincial and Federal Professional Land Surveying Associations for the purpose of advancing Continuing Professional Development of Canada's professional Land Surveyors.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Developing National Learning Opportunities for Canada's Land Surveyors was entered into by all of Canada's Associations on October 24, 2006. The CCLS was originally designated overseer of the initiative, but since the CCLS had more pressing issues at that time, responsibility was passed to the Continuing Professional Development Committee of the Association of Canada Lands Surveyors.

##### 1.0 Purpose

GeoEd is the development of distance education as an integral part of a Continued Professional Development program for Canadian Land Surveyors;

*Screen shot of the front page of the GeoEd website*

## Summary of Council Meetings

### June 25, 2011: face-to-face

- Council had a debrief of the National Surveyors' Conference 2011, it went well.
- Council membership changed to reflect the new president: Richard Beaumont and new council member: Gord Stark.
- Council considered options on how to deal with the hydrographic surveying requirement issue.
- Council reviewed committees' membership.

### July 11, 2011: teleconference

- Council discussed options on how to either keep hydrographic education as mandatory for CLS candidates or put hydrography back onto the national syllabus.
- Council was shown a demonstration of the online exam system.
- Council received notice that Jim Gunn would not renew his contract as Practice Review Manager.

### August 9, 2011: teleconference

- Council was notified that the online exam system had been launched.
- Council was notified that the bylaw amendment vote to make use of MyCLSS mandatory passed through membership vote.
- Various improvements to the MyCLSS were discussed.

### September 26, 2011: teleconference

- Council was informed that Teri McKay has returned to her position as Administrative Assistant and Martha Reeve has moved to the position of Communications and Membership Services Administrator.
- Council was informed that Paul Scott would be leaving his position as Lay Councilor.
- Council approved the ACLS Annual Report for the year 2010-2011.

### **October 19, 2011: teleconference**

- Council received the National Surveyors' Conference 2011 final report.
- Council approved the Terms of Reference for both the Aboriginal Liaison Committee and Offshore Issues Committee.

### **November 24 & 25: face-to-face**

- Council discussed potential new complaints and discipline processes.
- Council discussed upcoming amendments to the bylaw, regulations, and Act.
- Council was notified of planned activities for the upcoming National Surveyors Conference.
- Council heard about the SGB's initiative with Aboriginal communities.
- Council updated its strategic plan.
- Council reviewed committees' membership.
- Council approved the Terms of Reference for the Public Awareness Committee.

### **December 13, 2011: teleconference**

- Council decided on the next steps towards implementing a model of certification for hydrographers.
- Council agreed to launch a new for Outstanding Service at the next National Surveyors Conference.
- Council approved the Terms of Reference for both the CPD Committee and the Bylaws and Legislation Committee.

### **January 10, 2011: Teleconference**

- Council discussed reviewing the Practice Review process and looking for a new Practice Review Manager.
- Council approved the Terms of Reference for the Standards of Practice Committee.
- Council decided to change the fees charged to CBEPS for administrative support in 2012.

## **Executive Director's Notes**

### **New CLSs**

Congratulation to the following people who were recently awarded their CLS Commission:

- Roger G. Luard of Edmonton, Alberta
- Jacob McAstocker of Victoria, British Columbia
- Henry Dean Reiter of Okotoks, Alberta
- Robert Seymour of Victoria, British Columbia
- Jason R. Shortt of Vernon, British Columbia
- Sara Spence of Calgary, Alberta
- Michael Thompson of Lethbridge, Alberta
- Vincent Villeneuve of Laval, Québec
- Zhiqiang Zeng of Toronto, Ontario and
- David Batten of Fort St. John, British Columbia
- Adam Barvir, Calgary, Alberta

There will be an official Commission presentation ceremony at the Gala Dinner on June 8th, 2012 during the National Surveyors Conference in Regina, Saskatchewan.

### **Mandatory Continuing Professional Development (MCPD) for 2011**

The ACLS Mandatory Continuing Professional Development bylaw section came into effect on January 1st, 2011, so all ACLS license holders have to cumulate at least 45 hours of relevant CPD over the three year cycle ending on December 31st, 2013. A prorated formula will be applied for members being awarded a licence after July 1st, 2011.

The bylaw section does not require that licence holders have CPD hours in each and every year of the cycle but does require that a MCPD report is provided to the ACLS for licences to be renewed. The only way to submit a MCPD report is through the ACLS Web based MCPD Tracking System. This system is simple and straightforward. Please go to: <https://www.acls-aatc.ca/en/node/239> for the very short and well-illustrated instruction manual. Members not aware of their user name and password to access the members only section of the Web site just need to send an e-mail to [communications@acls-aatc.ca](mailto:communications@acls-aatc.ca)

Please note that members who did not attend any CPD events in 2011 must use the MCPD Tracking System to input an events called "No CPD hours in 2011" with zero hours.

## **MyCLSS**

We are glad to report that the MyCLSS system is working very well. We get very few requests for help. Most requests are from members who had login issues (forgot their password, did not receive the e-mail containing the login information). On February 1, 2012 a total of 350 checklists have been created. We are getting calls from some of our sister associations who are looking for an electronic checklist system.

It is our intention to improve it every year. We recently implemented the following enhancements:

- Members can now reset their password themselves
- When a checklist is submitted, the system will stay in checklist window as opposed to going to the My Projects page
- Members working for entities with branch offices will be able to select the invoicing address and the correct tax will be added.
- The system will display up to 10 projects per page in the My Projects panel
- Internet Explorer 9 and Fire Fox 7.0.1 browsers are now supported
- Members will be able to upload up to 10 MB of supporting documents when requesting survey instructions and when uploading pdf copies of plans after submitting checklists.

The ACLS now has access to an administrative module that will allow it to:

- reset members passwords
- obtain copies of checklists and pdf copies of plans from the MyCLSS database

We have not yet decided what enhancements will be done this year. We have received ideas from some members. Again this year, we will have to prioritize.

A reminder for those who never used it; go to the "Help" page of the MyCLSS Web site and familiarize yourself with the system by reading the Instructions Manual, the 2 PowerPoint presentations and more. Do not try to "wing it"; it is a complex system.

Jean-Claude Tétreault, CLS, a.-g., P. Eng., MBA  
Executive Director

## ***National Surveyors Conference 2012***

The eighth National Surveyor's Conference will be held from June 6th to 8th 2012 in Regina, Saskatchewan in conjunction with the Saskatchewan Land Surveyors Association AGM.

The venue is the Hotel Saskatchewan Radisson Plaza. To book your room, please contact Hotel Saskatchewan Radisson Plaza at 306-337-4309 (Monday-Friday 8 am until 4:30 pm CST) or 306-522-7691 after hours. Remember to mention that you are attending the National Surveyors' Conference when booking!

The prices for hotel rooms are: \$169 for a standard room and \$339 for a suite

Current seminar topics include: Getting it Right (second module), Risk Management (presented by ENCON), Electronic Checklists, How Social Media Can Help Your Business, and Geodetic Surveys.

An exciting accompanying persons program will have such things as: tours of local Regina attractions such as the RCMP Heritage Center, Life Sciences, Earth Sciences, First Nation Galleries, and Northwest Territories Government house as well as excursions to Moose Jaw and Lajord Hutterite colony.

Details will be posted on the Web site as soon as they are confirmed. Go to: <http://www.acls-aatc.ca/en/node/69>

# WE'VE GOT THE SOLUTION

MORASSE

GEODESY

## MAGNETIC MARKERS

- ~ for soil
- ~ for rock or concrete
- ~ GPS marker

## PROTECTIVE COVERS

- ~ aluminium
- ~ mix
- ~ lifts

## POST

- ~ witness post
- ~ raised characters

LEGAL SURVEY

## MARKERS

- ~ aluminium
- ~ plastic
- ~ steel
- ~ boundary
- ~ terminus type
- ~ CLS-77
- ~ CLS-69

## STATIONS

- ~ PK nails
- ~ identified washers
- ~ MAG nails

"ASK FOR OUR BROCHURE"

SERVICES

- ~ installation on the site for geodesic markers
- ~ design of special markers on request
- ~ markers to fit federal and provincial standards
- ~ shipping all around the world

J. P. MORASSE INC. 1321, Marie-Victorin, St-Nicolas, Quebec, Canada G7A 4G4  
Tel.: (418) 831-3811 ~ 1 800 463-6866 • Fax: (418) 831-7827 ~ 1 800 463-8138  
WEB SITE: [www.morasse.com](http://www.morasse.com) • E-mail: [morasse@total.net](mailto:morasse@total.net)

## On-line Offshore Property Rights Seminar

We are glad to announce that we will soon present the first of 10 one hour on-line seminars on Offshore Property Rights. The objective of this initiative is to help CLS candidate in their studies to write the Offshore Property Rights part of CLS Professional Exam P2 and the on-line on demand Labour Mobility exam.

The sessions will be recorded as they are presented and will be used for all future candidates as study material. The seminars will be continually updated as new information and technology becomes available.

## Call for David Thompson Awards Candidates

The fifth annual David Thompson National Geomatics Awards will be presented at the Gala Dinner at the end of the National Surveyors' Conference on June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012 in Regina, Saskatchewan.

Celebrating excellence in the field of geomatics, this awards program is open to all commissioned surveyors who are members of a Canadian surveying association. Projects that have been completed within the last three years may be submitted. The categories are:

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

The deadline for submissions for this year's awards is **March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012**.

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

## Online Exams

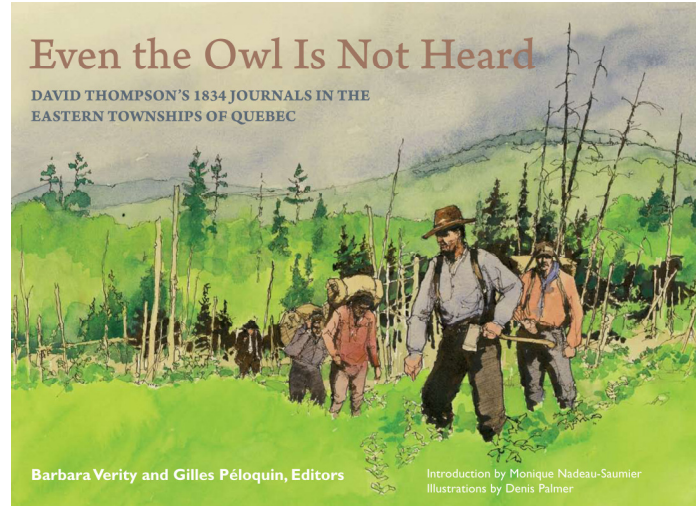
The ACLS has a new on-line, on-demand Web based exam system to allow those candidates who have a provincial surveying commission to earn a Commission as a Canada Lands Surveyor. All candidates are required to write a 4 hour professional exam incorporating the following subjects:

- Acts, Regulations and General Instructions for Surveys
- Property Rights on-shore
- Property Rights offshore
- Aboriginal Government Issues

As of February 28, 2012, 3 exams have been written and 2 were successfully passed.

For complete descriptions of the exams, recommended study materials and detailed explanation of the on-line examination procedures, please download the Candidate Information Handbook (PDF) at <https://www.acls-aatc.ca/files/english/exams/Candidate%20Labour%20Mobility.pdf>

### First-ever publication of David Thompson's 1834 journals while surveying the Eastern Townships and Sherbrooke, Quebec



“The qualities for which Thompson is renowned – his careful observation, vivid prose and spirit of inquiry – animate his journal of survey, as we follow him from the hoar frost of early May, through sultry July, to the sleet and snow of mid-November. Thompson’s writings are clearly presented, and supplemented with several of his letters, while Verity and Pélouin’s expert annotations and informative sidebars bear witness to their deep knowledge and evident love of the terrain of the townships.”

Bill Moreau, Editor of *The Writings of David Thompson*

Information & book orders: [www.townships.ca](http://www.townships.ca)

## ***Team Recognition Award***

The individuals that are most responsible for MyCLSS have recently been awarded an Earth Science Sector Team Recognition Award for outstanding teamwork between the Surveyor General Branch and ACLS.



*Back from left to right: Martin Gingras, Jim Gunn, Andrew Brebner, Louis Carpentier, Jan Wentzel, Mark Mesec, Jason Gadde  
Front from left to right: Hai Nghiem, Brent Taylor, Jean Gagnon, Brian Gray (ADM), Jean-Claude Tétreault, Benson Agi  
Absent from the photo: Steve Howard, Brian Thompson, Sylvain Lelièvre*

Congratulations to the following individuals who received the Team Recognition Award for their participation in building the MyCLSS system!

From the ACLS:

- Jim Gunn
- Brent Taylor
- Jean-Claude Tétreault

From the SGB:

- Benson Agi
- Andrew Brebner
- Louis Carpentier
- Jason Gadde
- Martin Gingras
- Steve Howard
- Sylvain Lelièvre
- Mark Mesec
- Hai Nghiem
- Brian Thompson
- Jan Wentzel

## ***ACLS Scholarship Foundation***

Every year ACLS awards three scholarships of \$1,500 each year 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!

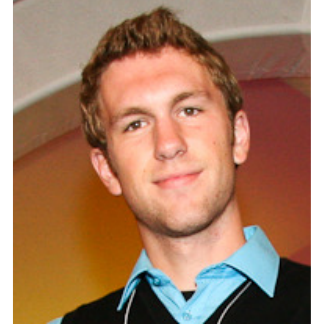
Winners of this year's ACLS scholarship:



Stéphanie Boily



Pier-Olivier Morin



Francois Guindon

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

## ***Surveyors in Their Community***

Cameron Twa, like many surveyors, participates in community events. Recently he attended a class activity at a local school in Yellowknife to promote the surveying profession. To learn about the technology, each group of students was given a GPS receiver and a box of treasure. Each group hid their treasure and marked a waypoint. Once all students had done so, they tried to find each other's treasure.

Events like this show students that surveying is a fun and interesting career. It gives children a chance to try our careers that they might not otherwise be exposed to. This is important to the surveying profession to get people to try what it's like and to be interested in following it up later on in life.

