

## A Message from the President

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as President of the ACLS for 2010-2011. I am honored to do so and am confident that, with our very capable Council and Association staff, we will be able to keep the ACLS moving in a positive direction.



I would like to thank George Schlagintweit, our outgoing President, for his contribution to the ACLS. He has been an insightful leader and always encouraged Council to think outside of the box. Thank you George.

The ACLS would also like to thank the Association of Newfoundland Land Surveyors for the opportunity to host a joint conference and AGM in St. Johns this Spring. We couldn't have asked for a warmer welcome or a better venue!

The recent economic downturn has affected many of our members. In most regions however, the surveying business is recovering, albeit not to the same frenzied pace that existed prior to the economic crisis.

My role on Council this year, will be to help keep us focused on the many important initiatives that are already underway;

### Labor Mobility and the development of an On-line, On-demand exam for licensed Canadian land surveyors.

An ACLS team has been hard at work developing the Access to Internal Trade (AIT) Labour Mobility exam and the on-line delivery system. We expect to roll out the examination early this Fall. The new process will help to streamline the commissioning and licensing of land surveyors from Provincial surveying associations. Through the hard work of our Executive Director, we secured funding for this project through Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC). We believe that the on-line, on-demand exam will result in a significant increase in new members to our Association. An increase in membership will ensure that our Association remains a vibrant and pro-active body on the national scene.

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## **The new Plan Review Checklist project with the Surveyor General Branch (SGB) of Natural Resources Canada.**

This initiative will simplify and streamline the submission and review process for CLS plans, and transfer much of the review process from the Surveyor General Branch to the ACLS. The SGB, under the leadership of Surveyor General Peter Sullivan, wish to simplify the plan examination process and speed up approvals. The ACLS seized the opportunity to take ownership of the review of our members work and be part of an improved process of examination and quality control. Again, a strong team comprised of SGB staff, ACLS staff and ACLS volunteers, are to be recognized for their efforts to design, test and implement the new process. The SGB has made a significant financial contribution to the new system that will be co-managed by the ACLS and the SGB. This project is a win-win for the ACLS, the SGB, our members and the users of our products.

## **A proposed program of Mandatory Continuing Professional Development (MCPD) for the ACLS.**

Your Council has been working towards developing a program of mandatory continuing professional development (MCPD). We are recommending a mandatory program due in part to the lack of participation in our voluntary CPD program, where only 15% of our members submit the annual CPD questionnaire. Also, the ACLS needs to harmonize with sister surveying associations and other professions, as our regulators demand a higher level of accountability and transparency from the self regulated professions.

This has been a contentious issue for some of our members and has been debated at the last two Annual General Meetings. Some members object to the notion that professionals need to be monitored at all. Others expressed concern that, if mandatory, the CPD program must be more relevant to our professional practice. And finally, some members have questioned whether a MCPD program can be enforced. The CPD committee has taken these concerns into account and have developed an improved program. We believe that the program now strikes an appropriate balance between our obligation to protect the public through continued competency and the obligation to our members to deliver relevant and accessible CPD. We look forward to your support of the Bylaw amendment vote this Fall.

Our Association has much on our plate. But we also have a very capable roster of committees and volunteers to do the work. For those of you who are considering getting involved with the ACLS, please do. I can assure you that you will find it very rewarding.

I look forward to sharing some of our successes with you at our next AGM, on June 21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> in Yellowknife, NWT. Planning is underway for an interesting technical and business program together with a lively social program for members and partners.

Have a productive and safe Fall.

Best Regards,

Jeff Fee, CLS, NSLS (Ret) P.Eng.  
President

## THE NEW MyCLSS AND PLAN REVIEW PROCESS

The ACLS-SGB (Surveyor General Branch) collaborative effort that started in the summer of 2009 has led to two Web applications that are in the final stages of development.

The new development integrates the modernization of the ACLS Practice Review and the SGB Plan Review processes through the provision of a collaborative Web application that surveyors will use to meet both practice and regulatory requirements. The expected outcomes include improved timelines for regulatory approvals, improved quality of initial submissions, and a system that moves us towards a fully integrated property rights process on Canada Lands and private lands in the Territories.

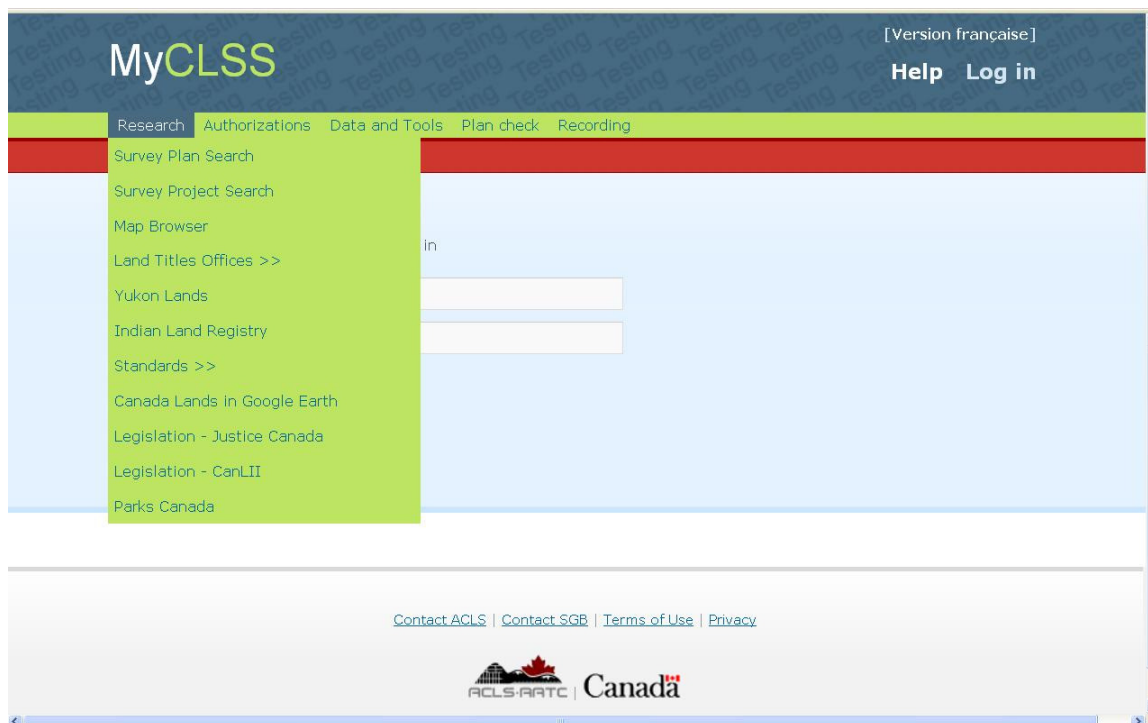
Two on-line applications have been developed:

- An improved MyCLSS which is located on the ACLS-SGB collaborative Web site.
- The new ACLS Plan Review Checklist system.

Both applications are designed to be useful and as user-friendly as possible to help ACLS licence holders complete their survey project on Canada Lands and private lands in the Territories.

The new MyCLSS application has the following features:

- Research tool (see below) where CLSs and their staff will have a direct link to the following SGB tools and information: Survey Plans Search, Survey Project Search, Map Browser, Standards, and Canada Lands in Google Earth. The user will also have access to the ACLS Practice Manual as well as links to various Land Titles Offices, Yukon Lands, Indian Land Registry, Parks Canada and Legislation.



- Through the Data and Tools window (see top of next page), users will have access to the Canada Lands Digital Cadastral Data, the Geobase, Geogratis, On-line Geodetic Tools, Canada Geospatial Reference System and the Canada Oil and Gas Grid Areas On-line Applications.

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- And finally, CLSs will be able to follow the progress of their projects (see below) and link to the ACLS Plan Review Checklist once survey instructions have been issued.

PROJECT NUMBER	SURVEY PROJECT DESCRIPTION	STATUS	
201014044	ACLS-AATC - Official Survey	Instructions Issued	2010-08-24
<b>MILESTONES</b> <b>ACLS-AATC - Official Survey</b> <b>CHECKLIST NAME 1</b>		STATUS	DETAIL
	Regulatory Checklist	COMPLETE	2010-08-24
	Checklist Number	COMPLETE	13
	Approval Checklist	COMPLETE	2010-08-24
	Final Returns Received	INCOMPLETE	--
	CLSR Plan Number	INCOMPLETE	--
	Ratification	INCOMPLETE	--
ADD CHECKLIST			
201013010	ACLS-AATC test 2	Instructions Requested	INCOMPLETE
<b>MILESTONES</b> <b>ACLS-AATC test 2</b>		STATUS	DETAIL
201011008	ACLS-AATC Oil and Gas	Instructions Issued	2010-08-24
<b>MILESTONES</b> <b>ACLS-AATC Oil and Gas</b>		STATUS	DETAIL
ADD CHECKLIST			

The ACLS Plan Review Checklist application consists of a vast database of questions that produces a digital checklist according to the type of survey indicated by the licence holder. Briefly, this is how the Checklist works:

- Once survey instructions have been issued by SGB, the ACLS licence holder can request a Web based Checklist.

- The checklist can be filled in while the project is in progress or at the end.

- As the checklist is being filled out, members have access to windows that provide the text from general survey instructions and the ACLS Practice Manual saving time for searching information (See next page).

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- Once the survey plan is completed and ready to be submitted to the SGB in its final form, the member submits the checklist. The checklist is stored in an ACLS database which is only accessible by ACLS staff including the Practice Review Department and the CLS that created the checklist.
- An invoice for ACLS document and monuments fees is available to the member when the plan is ready to be sent to the SGB.
- The checklist system issues a checklist number. That number must appear on the final plan.
- After obtaining the necessary approvals, the plan is submitted to SGB.
- Once submitted, the checklist can no longer be modified but will always be available for future reference.
- The checklist will be used by the Practice Review Department as part of the member's file.

myCLSS Home Help My Profile Logout

My Projects > View/ Update Checklist

View/ Update Checklist

MY PROJECTS VIEW PROJECT DETAILS

Project: MyCLSS - My Canada Lands Survey System - Windows Internet Explorer  
https://test2.myclss.ca/checklist-item/view/catid/2/profileid/87

TYPE OF SURVEY  
LOCATION OF SURVEY  
REGION OF SURVEY  
SURVEYOR:  
Checklist F  
CHECKLIST NAME  
PRODUCT TYPE  
INCLUDES NATURAL  
INCLUDES GEOGRAPHIC  
INCLUDES DIGITAL  
VIEW/ PRINT  
Your checklist is complete you will see:  
Plan Title  
Legend  
Signatures  
Plan Diagram  
Background Information  
Plan Legibility, if applicable  
Survey Report  
SAVE CHECKLIST

View/ Update Checklist Items

Checklist: ACLS-AATC Oil and Gas

CANCEL UPDATE

Legend 0 of 7 Completed

☐ D1.77a Provide in the legend of the official field notes: a statement describing the type of bearings (e.g. grid), how the bearings were obtained (i.e. the type of observations and points at which the observations were made or the line from which bearings were adopted) and the meridian to which the bearings are referred

☐ D1.87a Provide in the legend: a statement describing the type of bearings (e.g. grid) how they were obtained (i.e. the type of observations and the points at which observations were made or the line from which bearings were adopted), and the meridian to which the bearings are referred

☐ Explanation of all symbols shown

☐ Unanswered ☐ Yes ☐ N/A

☐ GPS note (if applicable)

☐ Unanswered ☐ Yes ☐ N/A

☐ Explanation of all abbreviations used that are not listed in E3

☐ Unanswered ☐ Yes ☐ N/A

☐ Lands (or boundaries) dealt with shown thus

☐ Unanswered ☐ Yes ☐ N/A

COMMENTS... COMMENTS... COMMENTS... COMMENTS... COMMENTS...

Done Internet 100%

ACLS-AATC Canada

Once the on-line tools and the new plan review process is in place:

- The SGB will continue to review final plans submitted for filing in the CLSR system to ensure the products meet the minimum requirements for recording and adequately protect the interests of the Crown and the public. A list of critical items will be used for this task. This list will be circulated to all licence holders.
- The ACLS will continue to review the practice of the surveyors to ensure they adhere to high standards of good practice and the public interest is safeguarded.
- CLS will continue to provide quality surveys but will play an increased role in ensuring quality for their work. This increased role will include carefully scrutinizing each plan to be submitted to the CLSR against a checklist generated for the specific plan, finalizing the checklist and annotating the plan with the identifying number assigned to the final checklist, submitting a final plan to the SGB for recording in the CLSR, and submitting a PDF copy of the plan and a completed checklist to the ACLS.

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The following tasks will be completed in the short term:

- A first phase of user acceptance testing (UAT) has been completed. Since some major problems were discovered, the project is back to the development stage.
- Training of SGB employees whose line of duty involves the issuance of survey instructions or the plan review process will be done by the end of this year.
- Some volunteers from the ACLS Plan Review Advisory Committee will also test the system when we get to a second phase of UAT.
- If all goes as planned, the collaborative website will be released at the end of December of 2010 or early next year. This site will replace the existing MyCLSS site on the NRCan website. All existing accounts will be migrated to the new collaborative site. CLSs will only be able to access their accounts from the collaborative site.
- The new ACLS Checklist application will be released at the same time for use, on a voluntary basis, by all ACLS license holders. CLSs will have the opportunity to request instructions and use the Checklist application.
  - Survey Instructions must be issued on-line to enable the generation of a checklist. All survey instructions will be issued through the eInstructions application regardless of the medium the request for instructions was made.
  - If a checklist is completed and submitted, the CLS will submit final mylars (opportunity to skip the preliminary review process). Final mylars will be reviewed based on the critical items list that will be put in place. The list of critical items will be made available before the checklist application goes on-line.
  - All new projects will be created and made accessible through the new collaborative site, including projects for which the surveyor chooses not to use the Checklist during the voluntary period.
  - The voluntary period will continue until a mandatory date that will be set by the new ACLS Bylaw amendments, if adopted by the membership.
- Since last May, the SGB and the ACLS have been working on a new MOU which will replace the one in place since 2004. This document will be ready before the membership vote on the above mentioned Bylaw amendments. This MOU will include, amongst other administrative matters, an agreement on the maintenance of the collaborative Web site and a list of documents requiring the submission of a checklist. Unfortunately, the checklist system will not be able to accommodate all document categories when the system is put in place formally. The list will be updated as soon as new document categories are added to the checklist system.
- When the ACLS Council is satisfied that the application is working well, the ACLS members will be asked to vote on new Bylaw amendments which would make the use of the Checklist application mandatory.
- If the Bylaw amendments are approved by the membership, the use of the plan review checklist by ACLS licence holders will become mandatory two months after the deadline for the membership vote, at which point the SGB will no longer accept preliminary returns for new projects; only final Mylar will be allowed.

Since many of our licence holders will not have the opportunity to perform CLS work during the voluntary trial period, the ACLS is presently looking into possibly setting up a webinar to show members how to use the system. We will keep you posted.

Any questions or comments concerning the new application and timeline may be directed to:

- For ACLS matters: Brent Taylor, Jim Gunn and J. C. Tétreault.
- For SGB related issues: Martin Gingras

Jean-Claude Tétreault  
Executive Director

## **Summary of Council meetings**

### **February 24th, 2010: teleconference**

- Approval of a recommendation from the Board of Examiners to offer a Canada Lands Surveyor Commission to Chris Bunker of Bracebridge, Ontario.
- Council decided that an item for Professional Surveyors Canada (PSC) dues will be added to the ACLS members' renewal invoices.
- Council agrees that the Canadian Council of Land Surveyors be dissolved effective on the day that Professional Surveyors Canada is incorporated and that ACLS will endeavor to support Professional Surveyors Canada – Géomètres professionnels du Canada.
- Council approves the new Aboriginal Liaison Committee Terms of Reference.
- Council approves the new Standards of Practice Committee Terms of Reference.
- Council accepts the addition of David Attwood to the Discipline Committee.
- Council accepts the addition of Alex Hittel and Mark McGladrey to the Offshore Issues Committee.
- Council approves the renewal of Julian Goodyear's mandate on the Board of Examiners for another 5 years.

### **April 6th, 2010: teleconference**

- Council agrees to have the following topics presented to the membership for approval at the 2010 AGM business meeting:
  - 2011 budget
  - Amended version of the Regulation and Bylaws amendments for Labour Mobility
  - Section B in the General Bylaws amendments
  - Changes to the new Bylaw section on mandatory CPD
- Council approves a \$500 bursary to help cover travel expenses for Dagen Deslauriers and Cameron Twa to attend the National Surveyors Conference in St. John's, NF.
- Council approves the new certificates for CLS Commissions, Licences and Permits.

### **May 5th, 2010: face-to-face**

- Approval of a recommendation from the Board of Examiners to offer a Canada Lands Surveyor Commission to the following candidates:
  - Arlin Amundrud, Calgary AB
  - Shamus P. Armstrong, Iqaluit, Nunavut
  - Tricia M. Christie-Wickam, Winnipeg, MB
  - Tyson D. Cotnam, Squamish, BC
  - Robert W. T. Cream, Drayton Valley, AB
  - Richard David, Edmonton, AB
  - Benjamin Giesbrecht, Hinton, AB
  - Victor Hut, Calgary, AB
  - Nathan Sikkes, Calgary, AB
  - David M. Young, Sherwood Park, AB
  - Shahradd Zelli, Edmonton, AB
- ACLS will extend the GeoCaching contest that ran last year for another year.

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### **May 9th, 2010: face-to-face**

- ACLS had a conference debriefing of this years AGM.
- Distance Learning- Project Charters and Study Material will be updated.
- Advisory Committee is presently reviewing checklist questions and later on, will test the system.
- On-Line exam project- already received \$24,000 from HRSDC.
- New membership plastic cards will be sent out for 2011 renewal as well as the new licence and permit certificates.

### **June 16th, 2010: teleconference**


- Council approves the Terms of Reference of the National Conference Committee.
- Council approves the Terms of Reference of the Offshore Issues Committee.
- Council approves the Terms of Reference of the Practice review Committee.
- Approval of a recommendation from the Board of Examiners to offer a Canada Lands Surveyor Commission to Morley Seis of Regina Saskatchewan.

### **July 15th, 2010: teleconference**

- Council accepts the regulation amendments
- Council agrees to the 2010 Practice Manual with amendments

Jean-Claude Tétreault  
Registrar

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## ***Executive Directors Notes***

### **New CLSs**

The following individuals were awarded CLS Commissions as a result of passing their last exam at the March 2010 exam sitting: Arlin Amundrud, Calgary, AB; Shamus P. Armstrong, Iqaluit, Nunavut; Tricia M. Christie-Wickam, Winnipeg, MB; Tyson D. Cotnam, Squamish, BC; Robert W. T. Cream, Drayton Valley, AB; Richard David, Edmonton, AB; Benjamin Giesbrecht, Hinton, AB; Victor Hut, Calgary, AB; Nathan Sikkes, Calgary, AB; David M. Young, Sherwood Park, AB; Shahrads Zelli, Edmonton, AB; and Morley Seis, Regina, SK.



Marie Deslauriers accompanied by their daughter, and Dagen Deslauriers who is being presented with his Commission by George Schlagintweit

My favourite task as Registrar is presenting CLS commissions. On June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010 I had the honour of presenting a Commission to Shamus P. Armstrong in Iqaluit, Nunavut. A short ceremony was performed after dinner in the presence of the Honourable Keith Peterson, Nunavut Minister of Finance and Justice and Janet Slaugther, Deputy Minister of Justice. Shamus is the first ever Nunavut citizen to receive a surveyor's commission. Thank you to Nancy Kearnan, David Rochette and Jacques D'Auteuil of the Surveyor General Branch and the Nunavut Government for their hospitality.



From left to right: Honourable Keith Peterson, Nunavut Minister of Finance and Justice, J.C. Tetreault, ACLS Registrar, Shamus Armstrong and his wife and daughter.

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## ***Labour Mobility***

The development of the ACLS on-line, on-demand exam system is proceeding very well and is on target budget wise. There was a few months delay in obtaining the approval for funding from Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, so we expect the system to be ready for the first exams at the beginning of October.

Once the system is in place, surveyors from other Canadian jurisdictions who meet the ACLS hydrographic surveying requirement will write a 4 hour on-line exam when they are ready.

## ***Results of the membership vote on CLS Regulation amendments***

We received a total of 196 ballots. Two were not counted because the envelopes did not have the member's names. Results:

- 190 in favour of the proposed amendments
- 4 against

The next step is approval by the Natural Resources Minister before they are in effect. We will keep you posted.

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

Here's a scoop! We signed a memorandum of understanding with the Saskatchewan Land Surveyors Association to hold a joint conference in 2012. We will keep you posted.

## ***Ten years of service with the ACLS***

At the last National Conference, gifts were presented to Kevin Jones and myself for our ten years of service with the ACLS. Kevin and I were truly touched and we would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every member of the ACLS for this kind gesture.

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

## ***CBEPS (the other way to get a Commission)***

There are two paths to become a Canada Lands Surveyor (CLS) - either by obtaining a university degree or by writing the Canadian Board of Examiners for Professional Surveyors (CBEPS) exams; neither path is without difficulties.

The biggest advantage of CBEPS is that it allows a candidate to acquire theoretical knowledge while simultaneously gaining field experience. Unlike university, CBEPS is a self guided process that requires a lot of drive and self-motivation to complete. The CBEPS program consists of 13 exams that include such diverse topics as Math, Least Squares Adjustments, Geodesy, GIS, Survey Law and Photogrammetry. After a candidate has completed the 13 CBEPS exams they can write the 3 Association of Canada Lands Surveyors (ACLS) exams to become a CLS.

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Cameron receiving his CLS Commission from then President George Schlagintweit  
Cam's wife Erin proudly standing by his side.

In 2000, fresh out of the Survey and Mapping program at SAIT (Southern Alberta Institute of Technology), furthering my education was the last thing on my mind. I was excited about my two diplomas and looked forward to a future as a Survey and Mapping Technologist. However, the Canada Lands Surveyors on staff at Ollerhead & Associates Ltd. in Yellowknife, NT encouraged me to start the process to become a Canada Lands Surveyor. They suggested that one day I would want to be a Professional Surveyor and that writing the (CBEPS) exams is a process that could take 7 years to complete.

The challenges I faced when I eventually chose to take the CBEPS route were many. Text books and reference materials were often difficult to find, especially as I didn't live close to a university library. Probably the most difficult challenge was finding time to study while raising a young family and working full-time.

It often felt as though I would never be done with the exams and I rarely thought of the end result of becoming a CLS. I spent most of my time concentrating on completing the individual CBEPS exams. It wasn't until I was nearly halfway through the syllabus that I realized my goal was achievable.

While working in the North and through my association with the North of 60 Regional Group, I developed relationships with most of the surveyors in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. I was encouraged by the willingness of local Canada Lands Surveyors to help with my studies.

In 2008 and 2009 I attended the ACLS conferences in Victoria and Canmore, respectively, with my employer. At these conferences I met Professional Surveyors from all over the country. These meetings positively reinforced my choice to become one. Before attending the conferences I was not certain I wanted to become a Professional Surveyor. Exposure to a group of diverse and experienced Land Surveyors from across the country, as well as a series of interesting seminars motivated me to complete the CBEPS program.

The ACLS and other provincial surveying organizations should be proud that they have helped create a program that allows survey technologists to further their education and professional careers. Their recognition that diplomas in survey technology do not have to limit the career path for an individual is very forward thinking compared to other professional organizations where only a university degree is acceptable.

I am impressed with the amount of work that the CBEPS organization has put into making studying for exams more effective for the individual candidates. When I began my studies the internet was not a good research tool. I relied mostly on borrowed text books and help from local Canada Lands Surveyors. During my time as a candidate I have seen the CBEPS program go through several positive changes.

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Some of the more impressive changes I have noticed have been:

- Old exams are readily available on the CBEPS website.
- The CBEPS forum has made it easier for candidates to meet, discuss and create study groups.
- The new CBEPS syllabus has updated study guides, text book and reference materials.
- The CBEPS exemption process has been streamlined and become easier to understand.

I have been very lucky throughout the exam process to have had an employer, friends and colleagues who have encouraged me. The most important support came from my family. On average my study time for one exam was 150+ hours. Without my wife's support, I would not have been able to accomplish this goal. I spent many late nights and weekends over the years in the office studying for exams. I was very proud to stand up in May 2010 at the ACLS conference Gala in St. John's Newfoundland with my wife and accept my commission as a Canada Lands Surveyor.

Cameron Twa, C.L.S.  
Yellowknife, NT

## ***Gérard Raymond, 1942-2010, former Surveyor General of Canada***

While surveying land holdings in Kahnawake just south of Montreal in the 1970s Gérard Raymond speculated that some of the older First Nation occupants didn't want to resolve their boundary disputes. For them, he believed, the dispute was a cause, that if resolved would no longer provide a reason for living. That may, or may not, have been the case, but it was an example of Gérard's lifelong interest in philosophy and psychology.



Gérard was born in Terrebonne, Quebec in 1942. He attended primary school in Terrebonne and received his secondary school diploma from the École supérieure St-Viateur in Montreal. He obtained a B.Sc degree in surveying from Laval University in 1965 and was commissioned as Arpenture Géomètre (Quebec Land Surveyor) in 1966.

For several years after 1966, during the summer months, he surveyed in the field with the Legal Surveys Division of the department of Mines and Technical Surveys (now the Surveyor Generals Branch of the Department of Natural Resources). During the winter months he studied law at the University of Ottawa. He obtained a civil law degree in 1970 and after a six month work assignment with the Department of Justice he passed the admission examinations to the Quebec Bar Association.

In 1972-73 when Legal Surveys Division opened nine regional offices across Canada Gérard became Regional Surveyor for Quebec. Gérard was innovative. He thought "out of the box" and he "pushed the envelope." For his work in Caughnawaga he used a combination of photogrammetry and conventional surveying for boundary definition. As well he developed a legal process for resolving land boundary issues

with land occupants. Dissatisfied with the long bureaucratic process for processing official survey plans he started defining First Nation land holdings using a plan that was only approved in the Quebec region, sidestepping processing in Ottawa, somewhat to the chagrin of the establishment. As it turned out some 30 years later these plans which evolved into registration plans, can be used for internal land holding in all Indian Reserves in Canada.

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For several years from 1972 he was a part time professor of property law for the Faculty of Forestry and Geodesy at Laval University. In 1974 he was commissioned as a Dominion Land Surveyor. He was also a part time consultant to the Association of Quebec Indians and a member of the Land Committee, James Bay Cree Convention. In 1976-1978 he was special adviser to the Assistant Deputy Minister of Lands and Forests for the Government of Quebec under the Career Assignment Program, a program for future executives in the federal civil service. In 1976 he became Assistant Surveyor General of Canada and in 1985 he was appointed Surveyor General.

He was an active member of L'Order des arpenteurs géomètres du Québec becoming president in 1978-1979. In 1979 he became a member of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Council of Land Surveyors and as chairman of the editorial committee in 1982 he published the first edition of the Council's magazine, which was then called *Terravue*. In 1985-86 became president. His interest in land information systems led him to become a director of the North American Institute for Modernization of Land Data Systems, of which he also became president.

High office in the surveying profession was not Gérard's only accomplishments. He was a frequent speaker and published numerous articles related to his profession. Gérard felt surveyors in Canada had a solid knowledge and experience in surveying technology, however, he advocated that surveyors needed to expand their scope of practice. In the 1980's he made presentations to the surveying community all across Canada and in the United States and he wrote several articles encouraging the survey profession to take a leadership role in land administration and land management. He was also an author for the book *Survey Law in Canada, 1989* and coauthor of the book *Précis de droit de l'arpentage au Québec, 1993*.

Surveying and law were not Gérard's only interests. He enjoyed reading, music (Edith Piaf and Richard Clayderman were among his favorites) and traveling (his favorite destination was Paris). He relished cooking and entertaining - his guests would often be treated to a shopping trip to the local meat market, fruit and vegetable market and bakery on the way home from the office to get the ingredients for the meal that was to follow. He savored good wine and cognac. While he loved the province of Quebec and the French culture he was a strong advocate of a united Canada. He gave anyone visiting his home province of Quebec the utmost respect and hospitality. Gérard for a time was also a volunteer at the Ottawa Distress Centre helping people in depression, in distress or in crisis.

In 1995, Gérard left his job as Surveyor General of Canada. He said in the December 1997 issue of *Géomatique* "I wanted to move from the world of action to the world of ideas." He took time to study religion, philosophy and psychology. He also had a tree farm and established a bed and breakfast near the village of Limoges, about a half hour drive towards Montreal from Ottawa. A feature of the bed and breakfast was the opportunity for his mainly European guests to experience the thrill of dog sledding, an experience normally associated with the northern Canadian wilderness. With fifty dogs and 12 sleds, guests were able to drive their own teams with an experienced musher on the front team.

Gérard Raymond passed away in his home on Nuns Island in Verdun, Quebec on March 8, 2010 of cancer.

## ***National Surveyors Conference 2010***

The last National Surveyors Conference was held from May 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010 in St. John's, Newfoundland. It was a joint effort by the ACLS and the Association of Newfoundland Land Surveyors. The Conference was a success with over 140 delegates attending.

The following members were elected to the ACLS Council positions by acclamation: Jeff Fee, President and Rick Beaumont, Vice President. Bruce Hewlco won his election as a first year Councillor by majority ballot. New CLS Commissions were presented to the following people at the Gala Dinner: Dagen Deslaurier, Sherwood Park, Alberta and Cameron Twa, Yellowknife, Northwest Territories.

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The highlight of the meeting was the launch of the ACLS-AOLS Promotional Video. Many attendees were in awe after viewing the footage. Total investment in the project was just under \$60,000. The video can be seen in the "Careers" section of the ACLS Web site at: <http://www.acls-aatc.ca/en/node/43>

The technical program was divided in two sessions. First session was entitled "The Surveyor and electronic plan submission" and had the following presentations:

- New ACLS-SGB (NRCan) On-Line Plan Checklist and Plan Review Process: Jean-Claude Tétreault, ACLS, Peter Sullivan, Jean Gagnon and Martin Gingras from NRCan and Brent Taylor, Polaris Land Surveying Inc.
- The BC Experience: Mike Thompson, BCLS, Surveyor General for British Columbia
- Electronic Signatures: Richard Tremblay from Notarius

The theme for the second session was "Coastal and Offshore Boundary Delimitation" and had the following presentations:

- Water Level measurement techniques/technologies, prediction uncertainty, datum definitions, GPS for datum determination: Dr. Phil MacAulay, Physical Scientist with Canadian Hydrographic Service's Tides and Water
- Levels Unit, Atlantic Region (DFO)
- Establishment of boundary between foreshore and property: Ian Edwards, Edwards and Associates Ltd.
- Boundary litigation: David Gray, CLS
- Article 76 of UNCLOS: Dr. Jacob Verhoef, Director, UNCLOS, Earth Sciences Sector, NRCan



Cutting the birthday cake at the last National Surveyors Conference to celebrate the ACLS 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, from left to right: Gary Hughes, then President of the Association of Newfoundland Land Surveyors, Jim Banks, Past President of the Association of Prince Edward Island Land Surveyors, Glen Crews, President of the Association of Nova Scotia Land Surveyors, Ron Robichaud, President of the Association of New Brunswick Land Surveyors, Wally Kowalenko, President of the Association of Ontario Land Surveyors, Norm Cote, Vice President of the Canadian Council of Land Surveyors, John Kulchycki, President of the Association of Manitoba Land Surveyors, Dave Gurnsey, Past President of the Saskatchewan Land Surveyors Association, Brian Ross, President of the Alberta Land Surveyors Association, Chuck Salmon, Secretary Treasurer of the Association of British Columbia Land Surveyors and George Schlagintweit, then President of the Association of Canada Lands Surveyors.

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## ***National Surveyors Conference 2011***

Next years conference will be held in the land of the midnight sun, Yellowknife, Northwest Territories from June 21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at the Explorer Hotel. The conference kicks off with a midnight golf tournament with tee off at 8:00 PM on the 21<sup>st</sup>. The preliminary program is as follows: seminars on June 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> on subjects to be announced and the ACLS Business meeting and Gala Dinner on June 24<sup>th</sup>.

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

## ***New President for the University of Calgary is a CLS***

The University of Calgary's Board of Governors has appointed Dr. Elizabeth Cannon, a U of C triple alumna and current Dean of the Schulich School of Engineering, as President. Elizabeth became President on July 1, 2010, and is the first female president of the University of Calgary.

"The University of Calgary is now embarking upon a new era of momentum with a bold new leader," said Jack Perraton, Chair of the University of Calgary Board of Governors. "Elizabeth Cannon is both visionary and practical. Her international reputation and her local knowledge and expertise will serve this institution well as we continue to build one of the best universities in Canada and in the world."

Elizabeth, a professor in the Department of Geomatics Engineering who has served as Dean of the University of Calgary's Schulich School of Engineering since 2006, has a long history of leadership at the University of Calgary and in the broader community. After earning her undergraduate degree in applied science from Acadia University and undergraduate engineering (BSc'84), master's (MSc'87) and doctoral (PhD'91) degrees at the University of Calgary, Elizabeth went on to become a professor in the engineering faculty. Dr. Cannon obtained her CLS Commission in 1986.

In the research community, Elizabeth is known as a leader whose innovative work focuses on geomatics engineering and the commercial application of geomatics technology. She has been involved as an expert at the frontiers of global positioning systems (GPS) since 1984 and her work has resulted in advancements in satellite-based navigation systems worldwide. She has served on several dozen public, private and community boards, including the Canada Foundation for Innovation where she is Interim Chair, the Royal Society of Canada Council and the Enbridge Income Fund. Elizabeth has also led several very successful initiatives designed to increase the number of women and girls involved in science and engineering.

"There are great things ahead for the University of Calgary and I am honored to lead the university towards an exciting future," said Elizabeth. "This institution has come a long way, gaining recognition nationally and internationally and becoming known as one of Canada's top research-intensive universities. Have we achieved our full potential? Not yet. So I look forward to working with the incredibly talented students, staff and faculty here to realize that potential."

(most of the text is from a March 2010 University of Calgary press release)

## ***The David Thompson National Geomatics Awards***

The third annual David Thompson National Geomatics Awards were presented at the Gala Dinner of the National Surveyors' Conference, May 8<sup>th</sup> at the Sheraton Hotel Newfoundland in St. John's, Newfoundland.

Winning the "Innovation in Geomatics" category was Fugro Jacques Geosurveys Inc. (Patrick Byrne, CLS) for the project entitled "Accuracy and Precision in 120 metres of water". Finalists were Information Brokerage Ltd.

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(Ian Edwards, NLS, CLS) for the project entitled “Regional Assessment System” and the MMM Group (Murray Shantz, OLS) for the project entitled “Langstaff Trunk Sanitary Sewer Laser Scan”.

In the category “Contribution to Society”, the winner was Hydrographic and Geodetic Consulting (David Gray, CLS) for the project entitled “Geographic Definition of a Maritime Boundary in Guyana”. The finalist were Information Brokerage Ltd. (Ian Edwards, NLS, CLS) for the project entitled “Regional Assessment System” and Stewart Weir & Co. Ltd. (Paul Dixon, ALS, CLS) for the project entitled “Bitumont Provincial Historical Site 3D Laser Scanning and GPS Survey”.

In the category “Unusual Application in Geomatics”, the winner was McElhaney Associates (Jim Christie, BCLS, CLS) for the project entitled “LIDAR/GPS Terrain Modeling for Hydraulic Design and Excavation Planning”. The finalist were Fugro Jacques Geosurveys Inc. (Patrick Byrne, CLS) for the project entitled “Accuracy and Precision in 120 metres of water” and the MMM Group (Murray Shantz, OLS) for the project entitled “Langstaff Trunk Sanitary Sewer Laser Scan”.

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 for next year’s awards is **March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011**.

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).

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



ACLS President, George Schlagintweit, presenting plaques to winners starting from left: Patrick Byrne, David Gray and Jim Christie



## ***Advocating for an integrated and dynamic Canadian surveying profession***

**Dear friends,**

I am excited. I am excited about a new national surveyors' organization and with reason.

As I write this article, a large number of volunteers from across the country are investing their time to build a survey community that is 3000 members strong - a survey community that we will be proud to call Professional Surveyors Canada. As I look at the work they are doing, I ask myself why? Why are these surveyors willing to invest their time doing this? And I ask, is it important for me to be part of this, to invest in the building of this community?

I see what the volunteers want to accomplish. They want to build a survey community that has the strength to speak for all surveyors; a community with influence. They understand that relying on a small community of surveyors with limited resources isn't a viable option in today's world. We have 11 such communities in Canada. Not only are their resources limited, but their legislated mandates limit the scope of their advocacy efforts. I get that. We are a profession worthy of recognition. The more resources we pool centrally within an organization that has a focused mandate, the more recognition the profession will receive and therefore, the more influence we will have in shaping the public's perceptions of our profession. I want to be part of a community like that!

Our volunteers want Professional Surveyors Canada to advocate for the profession. They want the public to understand who we are and what we do. They want the public to recognize and value our work. They want the public to recognize the leadership roles we play within our communities. As surveyors, this has never been one of our strong suits. We absolutely need to hire experts to accomplish this. I get that. Our volunteers have a plan. They want to hire communication consultants who are experts in speaking to the public, building a rapport with the press and other professionals, building a brand for surveyors that can be recognized anywhere in the country, anywhere in the world and celebrating our successes. This plan is being implemented right now. This is something that I can get excited about. I want to be part of a surveying community that invests in advocating for the profession!

All of us want to advance our careers within this dynamic profession. Whether we are self-employed or working for a firm, school or government, a strong sense of purpose and accomplishment is key to a successful career. So is relevancy. We want to be relevant, adapt to the needs of our clients, our employers. We want to grow as professionals. Our volunteers building Professional Surveyors Canada understand that. They want to build a surveying community that grows and is relevant, in step with your needs, your client's needs, your employer's needs. At the outset, our volunteers want to hire a member services coordinator to maintain a central job bank, build an online equipment exchange forum, and canvas you to find out what is relevant to you, your employer and your local community to find ways to meet your needs. Our volunteers want to provide professional development courses. They want to ensure that our surveying community continues to update and harmonize educational requirements, enables labour mobility both nationally and internationally and monitors national and international trends to keep you relevant and informed. I want to be part of a surveying community that keeps me relevant!

How can I be sure that this is going to work? I thought of that. For example, I looked at how our volunteers hope to manage professional development courses. They want Professional Surveyors Canada to deliver professional development courses at a reasonable cost for all surveyors. When I look across the country, I realize that I am paying to have courses developed in my province specifically for my province, and so is my colleague in British Columbia, and my colleague in Nova Scotia, and my colleague in Québec, and so on. Why? Why can't we develop one course for the entire country, pay for its development once and save money? Now that makes sense. This is what our volunteers are trying to accomplish. I think our volunteers are moving in the right

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direction and there are so many other initiatives where this makes sense. I believe in what our volunteers are trying to accomplish and I want to be part of the surveying community that supports them!

As I said earlier, I am excited and this is just the beginning. I am fully supportive of this community called Professional Surveyors Canada. I urge you to invest in this community by becoming a member. Our volunteers have many ideas but they can't implement them without additional resources and your input. This is your opportunity to be part of that community, and an integral part of Professional Surveyors Canada. Give our volunteers the support they deserve, give yourself a professional community that you deserve, become a member, encourage your colleagues to join, spread the word.

Help build a strong, ethical, professional surveying community. Invest in our future.

Denis Blais  
Interim Chair, Professional Surveyors Canada

