

## A Message from the President



Ivan and Val Royan

Let me begin by saying that it is an honor and a privilege to represent you and serve as your President for the next twelve months.

As many incoming Presidents have stated in the past, an organization like the ACLS is very dependent of the administrative staff who keep things on track from day to day and numerous members who volunteer their time by rescheduling their busy work schedules and reduce their family time to work on committee issues. A few days ago I was reviewing the structure of our committees and I discover that we have over eighty members working on the seventeen committees that the ACLS has set up to investigate and suggest changes to the council for the advancement of our profession. I would like to encourage the new Canada Land Surveyors to become involved in the committee process as your new ideas will continue the evolution of our surveying profession.

In our Ottawa office, we have a group of four people that is led by our Executive Director Jean-Claude Tétreault. He is aptly supported by Kevin Jones, Martha Reeve and Teri McKay who deal with issues on a daily basis. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated team of people looking after the administrative affairs of the ACLS. Finally I wish to acknowledge the work and advice that is provided by our Practice Review Manager – Jim Gunn.

I would like to encourage our two lay councilors – Zakary Hargrove and Geoffrey Connolly

to continue providing their perspective on issues that we discuss during our council meetings. In the past I have found that their comments have ensured that we have made decisions in the best interests of the general public.

Over the following twelve months, our association has many initiatives and challenges to focus on and deal with.

To name a few:

- Monitoring the outcome of recommendations for the establishment of a Marine Cadastre.
- Work with the Surveyor General Branch on upgrades to MyCLSS to eliminate some of the design issues that have come to light since the implementation of the system.
- Look at ways of providing interesting topics through GeoEd for the advancement of Continuing Professional Development. Personally I would like to see courses presented that would be beneficial to the technologists who play an important part in operations our businesses and government departments.
- Revamping some of the study material for CLS candidates.
- Support Professional Surveyors Canada as it continues to evolve and mature
- Monitor our 5 year plan and Committee Project Charter Objectives.

This list is not as extensive as the list that our Past President mentioned last year in his address the membership but it is good for an organization to take a step back sometimes and reflect before embarking upon new initiatives.

In conclusion, on behalf of the council, thank you for your support and we look forward to serving you for the next twelve months.

Ivan Royan  
ACLS President

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## ***Summary of Council Meetings***

### ***February 6, 2012: Go to Meeting***

- Council approved the recommendation of the Board of Examiners that a Canada Lands Surveyor Commission be offered to David Batten.
- Council approved the proposed hydrographic certification model.
- Council made the decision that GeoEd should continue to be managed by the ACLS.
- Approval of the new Terms of Reference for the National Conference Committee.
- Approval of new ACLS dues to remain a member of CBEPS.

### ***February 28, 2012: Go to Meeting***

- Council was notified that a Complaints and Discipline Task Force had been set up for the review of the Complaints and Discipline legislation and is awaiting recommendations to improve the processes.
- Council decided to invite Bruce McMurchy to join the Discipline Committee.
- Council agreed on the recommendation of the Board of Examiners that a Canada Lands Surveyor Commission be offered to Adam Bavis.

### ***March 30, 2012: Go to Meeting***

- Council discussed the upcoming bylaw amendments to enable electronic voting.
- Council approved the revised fee structure for the Registered Providers Guide that will be used for GeoEd.
- Appointment of Mike Fretwell as chairperson of the CPD Committee.
- Council discussed the next steps to take for the initiative of hydrographic certification.
- Council was informed that J. Anne Cole had been nominated as first year Council member.

### ***May 1, 2012: Go to Meeting***

- Council welcomes new Lay Councillor Geoffrey Connolly.
- Council accepts that the recent Bylaws and Legislation Committee bylaw amendments package be presented to the membership at the next AGM.
- Council accepts to present the Finance Committee 2013 budget for the ACLS to the membership at the next AGM.
- Approval of the new draft of the Mutual Recognition Agreement for Labour Mobility in the Surveying Industry.
- Decision to bestow the honorary life membership on Gordon Webster at the next AGM.

### ***May 22, 2012: Go to Meeting***

- Council approved the amended Practice Review Manual of Administrative Procedures.
- Council approved negotiating a new 2-year contract with Jim Gunn to continue as the Practice Review Manager.
- Council approved the amended Manual of Practice for circulation.
- Council approved the recommendation of the Board of Examiners that a Canada Lands Surveyor Commission be offered to Chris Bryenton and Matthew Leblanc.

### ***June 5, 2012: face-to-face***

- Council was informed of the specifics of conference scheduling.
- Council agreed to support the Board of Examiners in their determination that the existing structure of subject C3 (Advanced Surveying) in the national syllabus should remain as is, instead of being split into two subjects.

### ***June 9, 2012: face-to-face***

- Council was debriefed of the events of the National Surveyors' Conference 2012 in Regina.
- Council agreed that bylaw amendments would be sent for membership mail in vote in July.
- Council reviewed the various ACLS committee memberships.

### ***July 3, 2012: Go to Meeting***

- Council accepted the package to be sent for mail in membership vote on bylaw amendments.
- Review of the NSC 2012 satisfaction survey

### ***July 31, 2012: Go to Meeting***

- Council approved the recommendation of the Board of Examiners that a Canada Lands Surveyor Commission be offered to Gavin Lawrence and Tim Bunker.
- Review of the Bylaws and Legislation Committee proposed amendments to the Bylaws sections pertaining to membership categories
- Review of survey of members who did not attend NSC 2012 to find ways to make the conference more attractive.

### ***August 28, 2012: Go to Meeting***

- Review of results of the membership vote on bylaw amendments and passed a motion to put them into effect.
- Review of list of enhancements MyCLSS to be implemented in 2012.

## Executive Director's Notes



Jean-Claude Tétreault, Executive  
Director of ACLS

### Results of the membership vote amendments to the ACLS General Bylaws

We received a total of 244 ballots. Two had no name on the return envelope so were not counted. A 2/3 approval vote is needed from ballots received (66.67%) to approve an amendment. Here are the results:

- Amendments to sections 1.1, 6.2, 6.3, 7.8 and 13.4 (electronic voting): 236 approved and 6 disapproved; so a proportion of 97.52 % of votes approved this amendment.
- Amendments to section 5.4 (signature of cheques and electronic fund transfers): 238 approved and 4 disapproved; so a proportion of 93.35% approved this amendment.
- Amendments to section 12.1 (increase of some fees): 206 approved, 34 disapproved and 2 ballots showed no vote on this particular amendment

so a proportion of 85.83% of votes approved this amendment.

So the membership approved all amendments included in the July 2012 amendment vote package. The new fees will apply for year the 2013.

### New CLSs

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

- Gavin Lawrence of Toronto, Ontario
- Christopher Bryenton, Vancouver, British Columbia
- Matthew Leblanc, Yellowknife, Northwest Territories and
- Timothy Bunker, Gravenhurst, Ontario

### Mandatory Continuing Professional Development (MCPD)

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. We are glad to announce that all licence holders have complied with the obligation to report in the electronic tracking system.

At the beginning of August, the ACLS staff completed the monitoring of all CPD activities entered into the on-line ACLS MCPD Tracking system. Members that had some issues with their activities were contacted via e-mail at the beginning of August. Those who did not receive such an e-mail have entered their information correctly and are on track to meet the required 45 hours or are already there. The following is a summary of the results of our monitoring:

- Total number of members reviewed: 421
- Total number of activities reviewed: 3,249
- Total number of credited hours: 21,043.9, so an average of 50 hours per member
- Members who were notified of having less than half of the required hours: 107
- Members who have reported (0) hours : 2
- Members who were notified about entries that were not acceptable activities: 11
- Members who entered activities under the wrong category: 50

Being a first monitoring exercise, the results are very positive. The biggest issue we noticed is that many members are confused between the "Participation" and "Courses and Seminars" categories and all of them penalized themselves since "Participation" only credits half of the time declared. Almost all that made that mistake recorded time spent at the ACLS or Provincial AGMs as "Participation" instead of "Courses and Seminars". Participation is for involvement in committees, councils, and boards of management.

A reminder that 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)

## **MyCLSS**

We are glad to report that the MyCLSS system is continuing to work well. We get very few requests for help. Most requests are still from members who forgot their password and were not aware that they can reset their password themselves. On August 15th, 2012 we were at checklists number 816 (not counting amended checklist which have a letter added to original checklist number). Two of our sister associations are showing interest in implementing an electronic checklist system in their jurisdiction and find MyCLSS quite slick.

It is our intention to improve it every year. We are presently working on our work plan for enhancements to be implemented by the end of this year. We will keep you posted on the new features.

Here are some bits of information to help members:

- Some struggle with amending a checklist. Please go to the “Help” button at top right side of the Web MyCLSS page and look for the PowerPoint file called “MyCLSS overview of the Critical Issues and Amend Checklist functionalities” which provides a short straightforward step by step process to deal with a “Critical Issue”.
- We recently noticed that a few members were up loading “read only” pdf copies of their plan. Our Practice Review Manager downloads those pdf files from the MyCLSS system and annotates them for his review. So please upload those as editable pdf files.
- There have also been some questions about how to upload multiple plan sheets in pdf format to MyCLSS. [PDF Pro](#) has a tool to merge multiple pdf files into one. PDF PRO is not expensive.

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.

## **Practice Review Manager**

We have mentioned at the beginning of the year that because of health issues with Jim Gunn, he would end as our Practice Review Manager on December 31<sup>st</sup> of this year.

We are extremely glad to announce that Jim’s health has improved immensely and will continue at his position for at least another two years.

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



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

The eighth National Surveyor's Conference was held from June 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> 2012 in Regina, Saskatchewan in conjunction with the Saskatchewan Land Surveyors Association AGM.



*Signing of the Mutual Recognition Agreement for Labour Mobility in the land surveying industry. Those present to sign the MRA from left to right: Rick Beaumont, ACLS President at the time; Carl K. Hartlen, ANSLs President; Nigel Hemmingway, ABCLS President; Pierre Tessier, OAGQ President; Jean-Claude Tétreault, ACLS Executive Director; Connie R. Petersen, ALSA President; Donald Bourgeois, AMLS President; Wayne Adams, SLSA President at the time; Paul J. Benedict, AOLS President; Edwards Desaulnier, ANBLS President*

The following members were elected to the ACLS Council positions by acclamation: Ivan Royan, President and Estelle Moisan, Vice President. J. Anne Cole also joined Council as a first year Councillor.



*Winners of the NSC 2012 Golf Tournament from left to right: Brian Burridge, SLS; Barry Clarke, SLS; Gerald Johnson, SLS*

New CLS Commissions were presented to the following people at the Gala Dinner: Adam James Bavis, Calgary, Alberta; David Nathan Batten, Fort St. John, British Columbia; Gavin Eldred Lawrence, Toronto, Ontario; Henry Dean Reiter, Sherwood Park, Alberta; Michael Andrew Thompson, Lethbridge, Ontario; Vincent Villeneuve, Ste-Rose, Québec; and Zhiqiang Zeng, Toronto, Ontario. Also at the Gala dinner, ACLS recognized the accomplishments of its newest Life Member: Gordon Webster

## Gordon Webster



*From left to right: Ivan Royan (President of ACLS), Gord Webster, Janice Webster, Geri Beaumont, and Rick Beaumont (Past President of ACLS)*

*(shown on left, receiving his Honorary Life Membership from ACLS President Ivan Royan).*

Gordon Alan Webster, the newest Honorary Life Member of ACLS, was born in Davidson, Saskatchewan, on October 3, 1947.

On November 11, 1967, he was married to Janice Akre of Strongfield, Saskatchewan. Gordon and Janice have two daughters and five grandchildren.

Gordon received his Saskatchewan Land Surveyors Commission (number 221) on June 11, 1976. He obtained his Canada Lands Surveyor Commission (number 1123) on April 13, 1982, and his P.Surv. designation from the Saskatchewan Land Surveyors Association on January 31, 1997.

He has been employed with Webb & Webster and its successor firm Webster Survey Ltd. continuously since 1966 and became a partner in 1986.

Gordon Webster has been instrumental in the success of the CCLS (now PSC) professional liability insurance committee and program as the flagship program of CCLS. Gordon was the Chair of PLIC from 2004 to 2009. He has been a part of the committee since 1984 and continues to be an active member.

Gordon was on the ACLS Board of Directors from 1993 to 1996, President of the ACLS in 1996-1997 and has served on the ACLS Professional Liability Insurance Committee since 1999.

## National Surveyors' Conference 2013

Next year's conference will be held in Niagara Falls, Ontario from June 18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. It will be the first conference in which ACLS will partner with Professional Surveyors Canada!

Already booked is the amazing golf course, Thundering Waters, which is a prestigious course 1,500 yards away from the Falls!

## David Thompson Awards



This year the fifth annual David Thompson Awards were presented at the National Surveyors' Conference in Regina, Saskatchewan on June 8, during the Gala dinner.

In the category *Innovation in Geomatics*, the winner was Daniel Lachance *(shown on left receiving award from ACLS President Ivan Royan)* from Altus Geomatics for the project entitled "LASDNav" for development of an app for iPhone and iPad that allows users to navigate the geospatial data in their area in real time. Finalists for this award were Jim Sutherland from Focus Corporation for "Interactive Orthophoto Plans with Embedded Media Using Consumer Level Cameras"; Mel Truchon from Tulloch Geomatics for "Mobile LiDAR Scanning for Transportation Design Purposes"; and Stephen Vickers from Focus Corporation for "DC-3 Airplane, 3D Laser Scan".



In the category *Contribution to Society*, the winner was Ron Robinson (shown on right receiving award from ACLS President Ivan Royan) from Challenger Geomatics for the project entitled "First Nation Training" for an ongoing effort started in 1998 to train an aboriginal and northern workforce in Canada by offering survey workshops in various communities across the North. The finalist in this category was Daniel Lachance from Altus Geomatics for "LSDNav".



In the category *Unusual Applications in Geomatics*, the winner was Jim Sutherland (Bronwyn Denton shown on left receiving award from ACLS President Ivan Royan on behalf of Jim Sutherland) from Focus Corporation for the project entitled "Interactive Orthophoto Plans with Embedded Media Using Consumer Level Cameras" for the innovative use of a digital camera to capture images that would be used to compile a textured 3D model and orthophoto of a remote site in a tight time limit. The finalists in this category were Mel Truchon from Tulloch Geomatics for "Mobile LiDAR Scanning for Transportation Design Purposes"; and Stephen Vickers from Focus Corporation for "DC-3 Airplane, 3D Laser Scan".

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## ***Social Networking***

### **What is social networking?**

Social networking is the new platform on which companies and associations are connecting with existing and potential members. Using various platforms companies and individuals can post status updates, photos, videos, or links to articles.

### **How is ACLS using it?**

In addition to its existing [YouTube](#) account, you can find ACLS on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#)! Updates from ACLS are posted at least every 2 days, ranging from news about our members to photos and interesting articles.

### **Why should I follow ACLS?**

ACLS is using social media as a way to interact with our members and potential surveyors on a regular basis. The medium of social networking allows us to share news about the surveying community and information that is relevant to them. By following ACLS you can gain access to up-to-date relevant media about your profession and Association.

### **How can I get involved?**

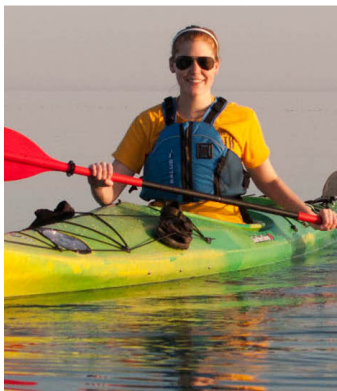
ACLS is always looking to its membership to let us know what content works and what doesn't, feel free to 'like' specific posts or comment with your thoughts! As well, we are always on the lookout for new content, so if you have an article, photo, or story you'd like to share please [contact us](#).

Come join in the conversation!

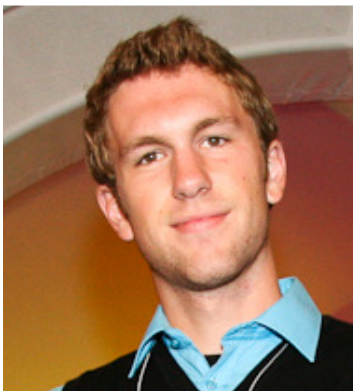
## ***ACLS Scholarship Foundation***

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:



Claire Elliott (*University of Waterloo*)



François Guindon (*Université Laval*)



Kailey Shearer (*Centre of Geographic Sciences*)

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



## **Tim Koepke**



*Tim Koepke, BCLS, CLS, P.Eng. and Harold Roche*

Congratulations to Tim E. Koepke, BCLS, CLS, P.Eng. who was appointed Yukon's third Ombudsman/Information and Privacy Commissioner on May 1, 2012 for a term of five years!

Tim Koepke became a consultant to the federal government Yukon land claim negotiating team in 1987 after 24 years with the Underhill Group of companies, the last 18 of which were spent as a senior partner. He has consulted on land and resource development projects in British Columbia, Yukon and the Northwest Territories. He has lived in Whitehorse for 42 years, during which time he has served on the boards of Yukon corporations, numerous professional associations and service organizations. He has been elected a Life Member of the Association of Professional Engineers of Yukon and the ABCLS. He is also an Honorary Life Member of ACLS and serves as a Special Examiner.

## **Tribute to our volunteers**



*Board of Examiners from left to right: Julian Goodyear, Bronwyn Denton, Patrick Ringwood, Jean-Noël Lechasseur, and Marie Robidoux.*

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

In this issue, we want to highlight the contribution of the Board of Examiners which is the gateway for entry to the CLS profession and a very busy committee. It sets policies for admission and testing of candidates, supervises the examination process (some members are also special examiners who set and mark exams), reviews candidates experience and project reports for issuance of a licence and much more.

Last February, Patrick Ringwood replaced Tim Koepke as Chairperson of the Board. Tim resigned last December after 34 years of service on the Board of Examiners. Patrick is a past president of the ACLS and has been a member of the Board since 1999. He has his own practice in Victoria, British Columbia. Jean-Noël Lechasseur is now the longest serving member on the Board; he joined in 1991. Jean-Noël is a past president for both the ACLS (1988-1990) and the Canadian Institute of Geomatics, and is an active part of the David Thompson Geomatics Awards Judging Panel. He is now retired.

Captain Julian Goodyear who had a very successful career in both the Coast Guard and the Canadian Hydrographic Service joined the Board in 1999. He is our un-official resident Hydrographer. A few years ago he left the position of co-head of the Canadian UNCLOS project. He is now retired.

Marie Robidoux joined the Board in 2001. Another ACLS past president, she presently occupies the position of Chairperson of the Canadian Board of Examiners for Professional Surveyors (CBEPS). Marie is the Aboriginal Relations Coordinator for Osum Oil Sands Corp. Our newcomer, Bronwyn Denton, joined the Board last year in replacement of Tim Koepke. Bronwyn is Regional Manager of Southern BC Geomatics for Focus.

In the name of all ACLS members, we wish to thank each member of the Board of Examiners for their hard work and guidance.

## ***Revisions to the Practice Manual***

The Standards of Practice Committee works hard every year on improving and updating the ACLS Practice manual every year.

The new revised Manual is now posted on the Web site at a new location since some members had indicated that it was difficult to find. Please go to “Members Services” then “Practice Manual”. The list of 2012 amendments are the following:

### **Additions:**

#### **Sec 3.6 MyCLSS**

#### **4.9 Geo-referencing**

(which changed numbering/headings 4.9 through to 4.14)

#### **Appendix 3 Digital File Disclaimer Usage**

### **Revision:**

#### **1.18 Practice Review Process**

Revised section by removing the description of the Practice Review Process and added a cross reference to the ACLS Practice Review Department Manual of Administrative Procedures.

## ***Practice Review field inspections raises troubling trends***



*Jim Gunn, Practice Review Manager, on a Field Inspection in Ontario*

land being surveyed. Other features within or outside of the land being surveyed may also be shown”. It is helpful to show the proximity to the boundary of any nearby fences, hedges, tree lines, utility poles, driveways and buildings. Civic numbers and road names are also most helpful to Practice Review when conducting field inspections.

Jim Gunn, NSLS, CLS  
Practice Review Manager

Practice review recently completed a round of field inspections on CLS projects in Ontario and discovered some troubling trends. First, is the cutting and brushing of boundary lines. Unless this requirement is exempted in the specific or general instructions or by the client, it is normally a requirement on CLS projects to cut and blaze certain boundary lines. Members should review the section entitled “cutting out and blazing Lines” in Section D1 of the general instructions for more information. The second trend noticed by Practice Review is to not show physical features on the survey plan. Members are reminded under Section D1-88(i) to show “the nature and position of all significant natural and man-made features which are close to or extend over the boundaries of the