Explanatory Plans - ACLS Best Practices

This document provides guidelines and best practices for the preparation of Explanatory Plans not otherwise described in the National Standards for the Survey of Canada Lands (Version 1.2)

It is recommended to contact your local Regional Office of the Surveyor General Branch for any necessary clarification of an explanatory plan option before requesting Specific Survey Instructions through the MyCLSS.

National Standards for the Survey of Canada Lands (Version 1.2)

2.5.2 Right-of-Way Survey Defining Exclusive or Non-Exclusive Use

3. An explanatory plan should be used for non-exclusive interests where the boundaries can be related to existing surveyed boundaries or monuments (see Section 2.8: Explanatory Plans in the National Standards).

A non-exclusive interest is a right to pass over the land of another or to use the land of another to transport material (e.g., the right to pass over another's land to access property or the right to place and maintain utility lines on private property). Such rights do not cause a severance of the parcel(s) in which they lie, normally do not interfere with the landowner's use of the land, and may be obtained in several ways (e.g., by legislation, right-of-way agreement, or easement).

Interests created by Explanatory Plan

For creation of a new non-exclusive interest by explanatory plan, the Surveyor shall undertake sufficient research, including a field inspection if necessary, in order to:

- ensure that the boundaries being created by the Explanatory Plan are consistent with the intent of the interest;
- confirm that all improvements lie within the boundaries of the proposed interest; and

If possible, survey (as built) improvements of the interest and show it on the explanatory plan.

Monuments

When preparing an explanatory plan whereby monuments are shown to indicate the relationship of the interest and the existing boundary, it's recommended that monuments be clearly shown on the plan as copied or found.

Copied Information Statement

If monuments or boundaries are copied, include a statement that indicates which plan the boundary information has been copied from.

A statement similar to Compiled Plans section in the National Standards may be used.

"The boundary information on this plan has been compiled from information as noted, and no new field work was performed to verify the monuments, measurements, or potential boundary encroachments."

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