

Message from the President, Dominique Fecteau

Bonjour, Hi,

What a challenge! (For a French Canadian so far from home! But apparently it's outside of our comfort zone where the magic operates!) To add a little, eh mm, no...a lot of pressure, I become president following three years of presidency by women, in fact exceptional women. Two leaders in our field, women filled with ideas, passion and wisdom. Anne and Tania, thank you for showing me the values necessary to fulfill the mandate entrusted to me. I will give 110% of myself, as you did and all the others before us. I just hope I listened well!

We are in an era of change and I sincerely believe that we are moving away from a patriarchal model of society towards a matriarchal model bringing new energy and a new attitude that will allow us to stand out, grow and have a prosperous future, despite the challenges which weigh on our profession.

The decisions and actions that will be taken in the coming years will be crucial for the future of our profession. For the next generation, how to attract young people? Promotion of our profession, how to make the public have a favourable vision of our profession? The ongoing training of our members.

New technologies, how to make good use of them while ensuring the quality of data, to disseminate them well and to ensure that the public is well protected? Self-governance, how to ensure that we retain this privilege. And if we go a little further, how not to lose our exclusive scope of practice to another profession? The ability to serve the public, how to ensure to meet the demand and their needs adequately. Our relations with the First Nations, how can we improve on it? And many more, because these are only a few who come to mind quickly. I will not go into detail about all the challenges we will face, because we could talk about it for hours and days. Topics, all as exciting as the other.

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This year, the board will review its strategic planning for the coming years. During this STRATEGIC planning, many of the topics listed above will be part of our discussions. We will have to make sure that the actions we want to take for the next few years are linked to the advancement of our profession. Ensure that some continuity of past initiatives is preserved. Because as we say, the past is the guarantor of our future.

Knowing the quality, values and passion of the board members, just reassures me. Because it represents the values and the passion of the members of our association. And let me quote Grant Suderman, the consultant who accompanied the council at the time of the last strategic planning, in 2014, who ended his report by saying: « this was the best group I have facilitated with, by far, in the last 10 years. The group is

passionate, knowledgeable, committed to the profession and, as evidenced by the output, very hard working. It was a pleasure to be part of this group.” Unfortunately, I can’t say that I was part of this group...

Since my involvement in the council, I have had the chance to meet and discuss with surveyors from all over the country. Interesting people with both professional and personal stories that were filled with feelings and truth. And even though each province seems to have its own issues, I realized that our challenges are often the same.

It's like in life, we often think that we are the only ones to go through difficult times or to live certain events (diseases, problems with close relatives, friends, etc.). But by opening ourselves to others, overcoming our fears and discussing our concerns, we realize that we all often live the same thing. I then realized, I could be wrong, that the challenges of our profession, both at the provincial and national levels, are very similar and often the same.

I sincerely believe that the different associations should and **MUST** share, communicate and I would go even further, **UNITE**. We must work together to ensure that we are a strong profession and demonstrate to the public, to our government members, to the world that Canadian surveyors, whether they have a provincial or federal licence, or both, that we are one voice. We must show them that our profession is as important, if not more, than notaries, lawyers, doctors, all the professions that we consider important for our society. You may think I'm exaggerating, but we must not forget that we all have a role to play, a role to advise.

We must not forget that we are important players, and that we have been important players since the beginning of the economic development of our country. We must certainly not forget our origins: Samuel de Champlain, David Thompson and I certainly forget some, because each of us makes a difference in our own way. Whether in the past, present or future. So be humble, but realistic and have a united and strong profession in a strong country!

We, the Association of Canada Lands Surveyors, have a role to play in all this. And I would like to remind you of the vision established in the association's latest strategic plan, and I am sure that everyone has read it and remembers it. But just to be sure that everyone is following, here it is : « The ACLS will be a leader and valued partner in advancing the survey profession in Canada ».

I don't think I need to show you that the members of the council or the members of various committees which make up our association, are passionate people, who work hard and that without them, the association, our profession would not be what it is today.

What I would like us to remember is that we need to unite, get involved individually and collectively, we need to stop being scared and think we cannot make a difference, because we can.

I would not quote the current President of our friends from the South (because I don't have a Twitter account!). But I'm going to take inspiration from the one before him, a certain Barack who had a slogan that inspired his people: **YES WE CAN**. But I will allow myself to add a little something to his slogan: "yes we can **TOGETHER!**". Come to think of it, here's something that we can get inspired from the actual the campaign of the actual president: **LET'S MAKE SURVEYING GREAT AGAIN!**

Finally, and on a lighter note, I would like to thank the nominating committee, the board members and the members of the Association for your support, as well as for the trust you place in me as Chairman. I would also like to thank all the employees of the association, JC, Kevin, Teri and Jared for their support, their understanding and their effort to understand my accent!!! And who do an exceptional job and who, in addition have an irreproachable work ethic.

I would also like to thank our past president, Anne Cole, who has given me a great deal of confidence in continuing to serve on the board until the chair. And, last but not the least, Tania, who kindly agreed to accept two years as President to allow me to develop the maturity necessary to sit as president of our association. Thank you, Tania, for having to endure two years of presidency because of me!

Because I will not hide it, it's a lot of work to sit on the board, but such a rewarding experience. I will only grow out from it, personally and professionally. I suggest it to everyone. Know that you will always be surrounded by passionate people filled with experience, exceptional employees and you will meet unforgettable people. So far, it's one of the most rewarding experiences I lived. And apparently, it's not over.

Lastly, I would also like to thank my dearest half, Catherine, and our children, Alexandre, Xavier and Émile, who have accepted to support me and endure me, often at a distance in the next year as the representative of our association. Thank you!

Dominque Fecteau, President

The 2018-2019 Council

The following Council was confirmed at the AGM:

POSITION	NAME	HOME
President	Dominque Fecteau	Mont-Tremblant, Québec
Past President	Tania L. Bigstone	Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
Vice President	Robert Andrew Pinkerton	Calgary, Alberta
3rd Year Councillor	Doug Dodge	Williams Lake, British Columbia
2nd Year Councillor	Jim Christie	Vancouver, British Columbia
1st Year Councillor	Philippe J. Breau	Néguac, New Brunswick
Appointed by Minister	Geoffrey Connolly	Cornwall, Prince Edward Island
Appointed by Minister	Leona Irons	Curve Lake, Ontario
Surveyor General	Jean Gagnon	Ottawa, Ontario

Executive Director's Report

New CLSs

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

- Melissa Truchon, Burks Falls, ON
- Alexander Elliot Heath, North Vancouver, BC
- Roldane Senior, Regina, SK
- Gregory David Hartel, Regina, SK
- Timothy Crowell, Dartmouth, NS
- Danica Pratt, Edmonton, AB
- Jeremy Paquin, Yellowknife, NT
- Matthew Mooy, Vancouver, BC
- Anna Ross, Edmonton, AB
- Connor MacDonell, Edmonton, AB
- Daniel Boyle, Whitehouse, YT
- Robin Cunningham, Whitehorse, YT



Welcome to CLS family.

The ACLS Staff

The biggest change recently is the hiring of a new Registrar on a part time basis. See the specific article on this subject in this issue. There was unfortunately a lot of movement for the Communications and Members' Service Officer position. We lost Martha Reeve in April of 2017. She was replaced by Mathieu Desjardins for a couple of months and Amanda Devaney for 8 months (she decided to pursue a Masters Degree in Spain). We recently hired Jared Broughton to take over that position.

I hope to continue to have the honor of serving the ACLS members and the public for another 5 years.

Scholarship Winners

Every year the ACLS Foundation awards scholarships. This year it decided to award 4 of \$1,750 to students enrolled in a postsecondary institution in the field of Geomatics. One of the 4 is reserved for a female student.

2018 Winners of the ACLS Foundation Scholarship in alphabetical order:



Katharine Rockliff
3rd year at the
University of Calgary



Dylan Foote
1st year at the
University of New
Brunswick after
completing his diploma
studies at COGS



Noah Thomas
1st year at the
University of New
Brunswick after
completing his
diploma studies at
COGS



ViKtor Stamenov
3rd year at the British
Columbia Institute of
Technology

Visit our website at <https://www.acls-aatc.ca/students-home/scholarships/> for additional information about the Geomatics Scholarship Program and eligibility requirements.

The Canadian Hydrographer Certification Program

The ACLS has developed a certification model for hydrographers and offshore surveyors, which has been officially recognized by the IHO/FIG/ICA International Board of Standards and Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers (IBSC) in April of 2016. Currently, the 3 following people have been awarded Certified Hydrographer Level 1 status:

- Hariharan Aiyer
- Sylvain Babineau and
- Bruce Calderbank

The ACLS program is the second internationally recognized scheme in the world. We hope to have a Mutual Recognition Agreement in place with the Australian Surveying & Spatial Sciences Institute, and the New Zealand Institute of Surveyors who both manage the other recognized program by the time you read these lines.

Act Amendments

Proposed amendments to the Canada Lands Surveyors Act and the Regulations were initiated in 2012.

The main topics addressed in the proposed amendments were:

- (a) the complaints and discipline processes of the Association;
- (b) federal labour mobility compliance (the Association is required to accept surveyors with provincial commissions for membership); and
- (c) the practices adopted by the Board of Examiners to bring its practices in line with other surveyor associations in Canada.

On 3 June 2016, all Association members were invited to comment on the proposed amendments. In early August 2016, Council approved the package to be sent to the Natural Resources Minister. The package included a letter to the Minister, an explanation of all the proposed amendments and a draft Act amending the Canada Lands Surveyors Act. The package was sent to the Minister on November 2, 2016.

At this time, I am working with Jacques Grondin, the official SGB representative, to prepare a report explaining the proposed amendments for the NRCan Legal Counsel. Following this step, a request will be made to the Justice Canada Legal Drafters. We expect that this process will take a few years.

Jean-Claude Tétreault, CLS, a.-g., (ret.) MBA
Executive Director

ACLS New Registrar

We are happy to announce that Marie Robidoux has been appointed the new ACLS Registrar at the last Council meeting held on July 9th, 2018. She is the person on the right in the photograph.

Marie has a Law Degree from Laval University and a Masters Degree in Law from LL.M. - Robert Kennedy College, Switzerland. She obtained a Surveying Technology Diploma with honours from NAIT in 1987 and her Canada Lands Surveyor Commission in 1993.



An Honorary Life Member with the ACLS since February 2017. Our first ever female President (2007-2008) and served the following volunteer positions:

- Member, Board of Examiners for Association of Canada Lands Surveyors
- Special Examiner for Aboriginal Issues, Board of Examiners for Association of Canada Lands Surveyors
- Chair of the Canadian Board of Examiners for Professional Surveyors 2012 – 2017
- Special Examiner for Cadastral Studies, Canadian Board of Examiners for Professional Surveyors
- Chair of the Board, Alberta Women Entrepreneurs
- Member, Advisory Committee – Aboriginal Community Industry Relations Certificate, University of Alberta Faculty of Extension and
- Member, Circle for Aboriginal Relations

Thank you to the 5 other candidates who applied for the position.

New ACLS Book

Last summer, we conducted a survey to find out if our members would financially support the publishing of a new book. Over 51% of respondents said yes and the total amount of commitment was over \$30,000. With these results in hand, Council made the decision to proceed with caution by first forming a special task force to gather firm financial commitments from companies and members.

So the Association of Canada Lands Surveyors recently announced the production of its first publicized book to be written by acclaimed author, Charlie Wilkins.

Charlie Wilkins' foregoing reputable publications include the Association of Ontario Land Surveyors' book, *Great Lengths: A Celebration of the Surveyors of Ontario*.

The prime focus of this ACLS publication will concern the areas of Canada lands which are relevant to the Association, such as Canada's oceans, Northern Territories, National Parks and Indigenous Lands.

In addition, this publication will delve into the crucial role that women play within the realm of Canadian land surveying.

The historical component of the ACLS and its predecessors of the Dominion Land Surveyors will be explored, dating back as far as the great Dominion Land Survey of the mid-late 1800s up until present day Indigenous land claims and National Park systems throughout the nation.

The overall objective of this publication is to provide a captivating and varied experience for its readers. Through the delivery of a variety of independent inviting elements that are relevant to the interests of the Association, each reader can expect to immerse themselves into a book that provides a sense of curiosity and indulgence from start to finish.

We urge Individual Members, Suppliers, Firms and Regional Groups to take this opportunity to contribute to the publications of our book by becoming a sponsor. We can only move forward with the production of the book if we have

enough sponsorship commitments to reach \$190k. That said, we have various sponsorship packages available to defray most of the production costs. The packages are as follows:



**ACLS-AATC
Sponsorship
Opportunities**

The ACLS Book is being prepared with the generous support of our professional community

The names of all supporting firms and individuals will be acknowledged in the book.

There are several ways to participate:

Members	
Members Package - \$500	Association/Regional Group Package - \$2,500
Includes 3 copies	Includes 10 copies

Firms	
Platinum Package - \$10,000 Includes 50 copies	Gold Package - \$7,000 Includes 35 copies
Silver Package - \$3,500 Includes 20 copies	Bronze Package - \$1,500 Includes 5 copies

If you want to commit to being a sponsor, please send an e-mail to me at executivedirector@acsls-aatc.ca with a note on the package you selected. We will collect funds if we have enough sponsorship commitments.

GeoEd

We have been very active on GeoEd. The following courses have been presented through GoToTraining, recorded and added to the GeoEd library:

CPD Courses

- Indian Land Registries
- Indigenous Seminar NSC 2018 presented in Victoria at CHC-NSC 2018
- CSRS-PPP – Transitioning to a Modernized Positioning Service in Canada
- Strategies and Tools for Productive Meetings

Candidate courses

- Act and Regulations: By-laws and the ACLS Practice Manual
- Acts, Regulations and General Instructions for Surveys: Surveys in the Territories
- Acts, Regulations and National Standards: Air Space Parcel Surveys
- Acts, Regulations and National Standards: Surveying in National Parks
- Acts, Regulations and National Standards: Indigenous Reserves

URISA Ontario presented an on-line course on their own and we just added it to GeoEd. The course is entitled: Implementation of an Enterprise-Wide Common Street Address Database Webinar – Q&As City of Hamilton and AGSI. We also made changes to improve the display of our course listing and added this legend:

- Courses with \$ sign have a cost
- Courses with a star symbol are free.

Honorary Life Membership

Peter Sullivan CLS, ALS, MBA

Mr. Sullivan's career started in 1977 in Yellowknife, in Canada's Northwest Territories with the Northwest Survey Group, where through the private sector he made contributions towards supporting the resource industries and land administration communities in northern and western Canada.

From 1988 until leaving the civil service in early 2018, Mr. Sullivan dedicated his career to the Government of Canada, including seventeen years as an executive, twelve of which were served as Surveyor General of Canada Lands and International Boundary Commissioner. In addition, in 2013 he accepted the responsibility for the leadership of the Canadian Geodetic Survey. Mr. Sullivan led the strategic development of initiatives such as land survey programs for First Nations Land Management, numerous Indigenous land claim surveys and several new National Parks as well as the complete digitization and on-line transformation of the Canada Lands Surveys System.

During his tenure as a member of Natural Resources Canada's, Earth Sciences and Land and Minerals Sectors' executive teams Mr. Sullivan participated in the development of many programs to respond to the priorities of Canadians. He transformed the Legal Surveys Division into the Surveyor General Branch, and led the development of the organization's strategic and business plans. Priorities were clearly articulated and results delivered towards supporting indigenous people's lands issues, spatially enabling Canada, enabling northern property rights and protecting Canada's oceans.

Early contributions were made to the profession by serving on the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association Council as well as their Registration, Public Relations and Coordinate Based Cadastre committees. As Surveyor General of Canada Lands he served for twelve years on the Council for the Association of Canada Lands Surveyors and participated in the resolution of numerous issues and the development of joint initiatives, including working with the Association to develop the collaborative on-line application *MyCLSS*. During his tenure as Surveyor General, he chaired the Canadian Council on Geomatics (CCOG) Cadastral Forum to generate a national dialogue between the provincial Directors of Survey and Surveyor Generals. This dialogue also resulted in several collaborative joint government – professional association meetings and the production of the Canadian Generally Accepted Land Surveying Principles.

Mr. Sullivan has represented Canada in bilateral meetings with the United States on boundary and geodetic issues. He has participated in various forums such as the UN Economic Commission for Africa and the World Bank to share Canadian perspectives on land reform and has delivered numerous presentations to international professionals interested in the Canadian land administration environment. This interaction has translated into innovative *made in Canada* solutions, such as *Parcel Fabric Renewal*, designed to address many of the challenges related to surveying and integrated management of indigenous lands.

His priorities have focused on communicating the importance of well-defined jurisdictional boundaries and parcels supported by a national geodetic reference system and their collective importance as a foundational pillar for good governance and an essential underpinning for a nation's economy.

Congratulations Peter. Well-deserved indeed!



Tim Koepke Award winners

The Tim Koepke Awards of Merit recognizes an individual or individuals who have made extraordinary contributions and provided outstanding services to the ACLS. This year's winner is Bruce Underhill.

FREDERIC BRUCE UNDERHILL, DLS #964 (1978), BCLS #528 (1975)

Bruce Underhill's career started with summer work for his father and uncle at Underhill & Underhill in the mid-1960s in the lower mainland. Southern BC transmission line R/W's in BC's Cariboo Country and large timber land parcels in the Duncan River valley were the flavour of the day.

In 1966 Bruce attended the University of BC in the Faculty of Science. In 1972 he transferred to BCIT and received a Diploma of Technology in Surveying.

Through the 60s and 1970 Bruce was mentored by his father, uncle, brother and other Land Surveyors in the Underhill firm, obtaining his BCLS Commission in 1975, having Wm. G. Robinson, DLS (CLS), BCLS, PEng as his Master. He joined the Underhill partnership that same year and received his DLS (CLS) Commission in 1978. All through the 70s and until the mid-1980s he travelled and worked extensively throughout BC and Yukon, managing numerous large and small projects too numerous and diverse to list. As one might expect, having been the youngest of a successful clan of Land Surveyors, he was expected to toil and succeed on the toughest and most difficult projects the firm had to offer and succeed he did. All the while his wife Dawn and his two children understood his lot and supported him in his often remote assignments.



In 1984, he relocated to the firm's Whitehorse Office to assist in developing the firm's northern operations, joining Tim Koepke, DLS (CLS), BCLS, PEng. In 1986, after Tim's decision to become a land claim negotiator for the Federal Government, Bruce began managing the Whitehorse office and remained there and in that position until his retirement from the firm in 2008.

Bruce's resident career in Whitehorse spanned 22 years, where he skillfully guided the continued building of a lasting professional survey enterprise in Yukon. He supervised many large projects involving complex legal issues and detailed logistical planning. He managed and grew the firm's Whitehorse office to be the largest Land Survey company north of 60°, guiding surveys in Whitehorse and the entire Yukon while also contributing significantly to the firm's many Land Claim surveys across Nunavut, Northwest Territories and Yukon.

He made many early contributions to the profession under the CLS system and in northern Canada. He is an expert on the Yukon Quartz Mining Act, early Photogrammetric project design and Land Titles Act surveys. His commitment to the highest standard of integrity, client satisfaction and innovative approaches made him a respected surveyor in Yukon.

Bruce's contribution to the CLS system itself and the ACLS spanned an important development era of Land Surveying North of 60° and evolution of the ACLS to a self-governing profession. He served as Chair of the ACLS Yukon Regional Group numerous times since 1984. He served on the ACLS Council becoming President in 1993. And he continued to contribute to the ACLS on Committees leading up to the ACLS becoming self-governing in 1999 and beyond.

During his many years of practice Bruce served on the Surface Rights Board of Yukon from 1996 to 2005 and on the City of Whitehorse Board of Variance from 2003-2005. Upon his retirement he served as Executive Director of Engineers Yukon from 2008 to 2012 and still serves as an ex-officio member of Engineers Yukon committees. One of Bruce Underhill's lasting legacies is his mentorship of many prominent northern Canada Land Surveyors during his career including Carl Friesen, CLS, Bob Gray, CLS, Brian Thompson, CLS, Joe Iles, CLS, Elden Pfeiffer, CLS, Michael Kearney, CLS, Katie Munroe, CLS and Sandy Cooke, CLS. That list includes the majority of the currently practicing CLSs in the Yukon.

In the words of Tim Koepke, CLS, BCLS, PEng:

“One would be hard pressed to find a Canada Lands Surveyor who has made such an extensive and valuable contribution to the profession and to the improvement of our practices in the ever-changing modernization, designed to better serve our clients, government and the public interest.

Pathways to Credential Recognition of Foreign Trained Land Surveyors

In Canada, there is currently a variety of processes to assess the competence of Internationally Trained Professionals (ITPs) but no Canadian central point of contact for ITPs to obtain information and apply for credential recognition as a professional land surveyor in Canada.

The ACLS was successful in obtaining funding from Employment and Social Development Canada through the "Foreign Credential Program" and is currently at the environmental scan phase. The project is expected to be completed in the spring of 2019. The project will not only investigate these matters, it will present the surveying associations with the best-case scenario for a decision which could then be implemented through a Web portal designed for foreign professionals that will provide information on the surveying profession in Canada and a roadmap for credential recognition in the various Canadian jurisdictions. It will provide all the tools required for foreign professionals to perform a self-assessment of their own credentials and what is missing and how to fill the gaps to become certified as a professional land surveyor.

At the same time, the process will provide a single point of contact for all foreign professionals wishing to enter the surveying profession in Canada, which is not available at this time. Also the ability of the foreign professionals to start the process from their home country will provide them with more certainty about the process before immigrating to Canada. There will also be real possibilities that an Internationally Trained Professional may arrive in Canada with many requirements completed, which may assist them in contributing to Canadian society in a shorter time. In November and December of 2017 we focused on setting up the project and gathering information from all surveying association on their processes for credential and work experience assessments.

During the period of January to March 2018 we performed a series of tasks ending with the beginning of the drafting of a report entitled "REPORT - PATHWAY TO FOREIGN CREDENTIALS RECOGNITION FOR FOREIGN TRAINED LAND SURVEYORS" which shows the results of our research and a map of all the processes used to assess FTLS in Canada. We also began the planning for our October 15th, 2018 stakeholders' face-to-face meeting. Stakeholders are composed of representatives from all surveying associations and from 6 universities.

From April to June 2018 we completed the "Environmental Scan phase" and began the design of a national process for FTLS. The following tasks were done:

- Conducted a series of interviews of a number of FTLS who are now practicing as land surveyors in Canada to get their impressions on the process they went through to be admitted in the jurisdiction where they are practicing.
- Completed the "REPORT - PATHWAY TO FOREIGN CREDENTIALS RECOGNITION FOR FOREIGN TRAINED LAND SURVEYORS" terminating our environmental scan phase.
- The latter was translated to French.
- Developed Initial Proposal for National Process to Assess the Academic Qualifications and Competence of FTLS. The general principles shown in that report were approved by all stakeholders.
- Following this approval, we began developing the details of a proposed process. A preliminary report entitled "Comprehensive Nuts & Bolts Report – July 12, 2018 FTLS Assessment" was drafted and circulated to all the stakeholders.
- We proposed a competency based approach using Prior Learning Recognition for one of the scenarios of our proposal, so we had to continue our research in PLR methods.

This project is funded by the Government of Canada's Foreign Credential Recognition Program.

Canada 

ACLS Examination Enhancement Project: EEP

Last January, the ACLS started a project dedicated to improving the quality of efficiency of its current examination system. There are three objectives in achieving a more efficient examination system through the ACLS Examination Enhancement Project (EEP). These objectives are as follows:

- To provide a mechanism to allow candidates to prepare and succeed in writing the necessary examinations
- To update study material and fill in the gaps in the French material
- To eliminate the biannual face-to-face sitting of the examinations for candidates who do not hold a provincial surveying commission and provide greater flexibility to this entire candidate stream.

This project is expected to be completed in the Spring of 2019. We plan on completing the following tasks by then:

- Modify the ACLS on-line exam system according to the following directions from the Board of Examiners:
 - Upgrade the templating engine to a modern model-view-controller framework to allow for real-time saving of data as candidates enter their exam answers, and as examiners enter their grading responses and scores. This will eliminate the risk of lost or unsaved data.
 - Create 4 exam modules in both languages and eliminate the single on-line exam to be used by both the Labour Mobility. The four modules will test on the following subjects:
 - Acts and Regulations
 - Property Rights on shore
 - Property Rights offshore
 - Indigenous Issues
 - Modify the system to allow candidates to have access to the same exam in both languages to help the francophone candidates understand the questions as most of the terminology in the study material is in English.
 - Update the database of questions for the following subjects:
 - Property Rights on shore
 - Indigenous Issues.
- Prepare and present the last two English language on-line courses in the Acts and Regulations series.
- Prepare and present three additional English language on-line practical courses for the Acts and Regulations subject.
- Prepare and present seven English language on-line courses for the Property Rights On-shore subject.
- Review and update the reference material for the Indigenous Issues subject.
- Review regulations relating to CLS examinations and provide direction to the ACLS By-laws and Legislation Committee for amending the CLS Regulations.
- Prepare and present the English language on-line courses for the Indigenous Issues subject.
- Prepare and present the French language on-line courses for Property Rights On-shore subject.
- Update the ACLS examination policies with respect to the examination process, compensation of special examiners, etc.
- Update the Candidate Handbook and ACLS Web site to reflect all changes to the examinations system and policies.
- Prepare and present the French language version of the Acts and Regulation on-line course series.
- Prepare and present the French language version of the Indigenous Issues on-line course series.
- Prepare and present the French language version of the Property Rights offshore on-line course series.

By the time you read these lines, the new on-line exam system should be ready for candidates to write exams. We completed the Act and Regs webinars in English in July and should be ready to start presenting the English version of the Indigenous Issues webinars and Acts and Regs in French.



Canadian Hydrographic and National Surveyors Conference 2018 (CHC-NSC 2018)

The Association of Canada Lands Surveyors and the Canadian Hydrographic Association united to hold a conference in Victoria, B.C from March 26th to 29th, 2018 at the Empress Hotel. The theme of the conference was: *Land and Sea Shaping the World*. A series of workshops and seminars were presented on hydrographic and land surveying subjects. On the last day, the ACLS' Indigenous Relations Steering committee organized an engaging Indigenous Seminar. It was recorded and is now available on GeoEd (entitled "*Indigenous Seminar NSC 2018*").

This was our second experience with CHA. We held a joint conference at the same site in 2006. The 2018 event in Victoria attracted 489 conference participants, 17 sponsors and had 41 exhibition booths. The total sponsorship and exhibitor revenue amounted to a total of \$184,183. We would at this point thank the following sponsors and exhibitors from the land side:

Sponsors:

- Altus Geomatics Limited Partnership
- Challenger Geomatics Ltd.
- J.P. Morasse
- McElhanney
- Ollerhead & Associates
- PARC Systems Inc.
- Professional Surveyors Canada
- Universal Geomatics Solutions Corp. and
- WSP Canada Inc.

Exhibitors:

- Carlson Software Inc.
- Natural Resources Canada
- Spatial Technologies



National Surveyors Conference 2019 (NSC 2019)

The 2019 NSC will be held in the Delta Halifax Hotel downtown Halifax on May 1 to 3, 2019. It is truly a beautiful hotel with view on the harbor. Please reserve the dates. This will be our first joint conference with Professional Surveyors Canada as full partners. PSC will hold its business meeting on site as well as hold its Board of Directors meeting the following weekend.

The CPD Committee is working on finalizing the program. We can announce that a half-day seminar on data security and virtual offices will be presented by a KPMG consultant. The local NSC Committee is working on the social program and we announce that we have confirmed an event at the Alexander Keith's original Brewery.

Reserve your hotel room: [Book your group rate for Canada Lands Surveyors 2019](#)

David Thompson National Geomatics Awards

The Association of Canada Lands Surveyors is proud to announce the winners of the tenth annual David Thompson Awards! The awards were presented during the National Surveyors' Conference in Victoria, BC on March 27th, 2018.

Celebrating excellence in the field of geomatics in Canada, the David Thompson National Geomatics Award was introduced in the winter of 2006-2007. The program was developed to recognize projects that exemplify the innovation and contribution to society that surveyors make every day to bring successful projects about for the betterment of all Canadians. The program has the two following categories:

- Challenging Cadastral Survey Project
- Challenging Non Cadastral Survey Project

Challenging Cadastral Survey Project

In the category *Challenging Cadastral Survey Project*, the winner was Paul Burbidge (pictured right receiving the award from past ACLS president, Tania Bigstone) of Inukshuk Geomatics Inc. for the project entitled: "Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway, Northwest Territories-Inukshuk Geomatics Inc.". *Inukshuk Geomatics* provided survey and geomatics support including the original ground survey for the highway's design; identifying routes to gravel pits and measuring the amount of gravel taken; guiding all aspects of the construction; undertaking the largest legal land survey done on Canada Lands in 2017; and the final as-built survey.

The job took four+ years. Even up to a couple of weeks before the official opening of the highway on November 15, 2017, surveyors were measuring the final as-built location.

The runner up for this award was Mike Thomson of Land Title and Survey Authority of British Columbia for the project entitled: "Surveyor General Leads Development of ParcelMap BC"



Challenging Non Cadastral Survey Project



In the category *Challenging Non Cadastral Survey Project*, the winner was Chris El-Araj (Thael Hill picture left accepting the award on El-Araj's behalf) of Underhill & Underhill for the project entitled: "The George Massey Tunnel Automated Monitoring Project".

In early 2016, five large bridge piles (2 metre diameter and over 60 metres long) were to be installed directly adjacent to the south portal of the George Massey Tunnel (GMT) as part of an Geotechnical Test Pile Engineering study. The GMT is located in greater Vancouver, British Columbia, on Highway 99 passing under the South Arm of the Fraser River, between Delta and Richmond. Due to the public safety concerns on one of the busiest roadways in Western Canada the approach and tunnel structure was to be monitored in real time using a fully automated total station system with a maximum time span of 2 minutes between each set of measurements on each of the +/-40 prisms, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, for the project duration. Five precise total stations were required to meet the 2 minute threshold. Additionally, a precise control network was required, to meet the project accuracy requirement of +/-3mm at a 95% confidence level.

Runners up for this award were Rob Riecken of McElhanney Associates Land Surveying Ltd. for the project entitled: "Engineering Survey of the Vancouver Public Library, Central Branch" and Ian Edwards of Edwards & Associations Ltd. for the project entitled: "Survey Challenges Related to Installation and Integration of Topside Modules Hebron Offshore Platform".

The David Thompson National Geomatics Awards Program is open to all commissioned surveyors who are members of a Canadian surveying association, submitting projects that have been completed within the last three years. The deadline for submissions is March 18, 2019.



The ACLS is a national self-regulating professional association that is the licensing body for professionals surveying in the three Canadian territories, in the Federal parks, on Aboriginal reserves, as well as on and under the surface of Canada's oceans. It has over 600 members located across Canada (and the world), with expertise in surveying, photogrammetry, remote sensing, geodesy, hydrography and land information systems. For details, please visit: www.acls-aatc.ca

For more details on the David Thompson National Geomatics Awards Program, please visit: <http://davidthompsonawards.ca/home/>

Summary of Council Meetings

Go-To-Meeting on July 11, 2017

- Approval of a request by the Board of Examiners to hold a face-to-face meeting to plan for the Examination Enhancement Project (see article in this issue of *Communique*).
- Decision has not yet been made about hiring another staff member and present space would not suffice. It has been decided to renew office space for 1 year.
- Council looking into holding the 2020 National Surveyors Conference in Mont-Tremblant and 2021 in Whitehorse.
- Council asked J.C. Tétreault and two Council members to come up with a more efficient way to report on the ACLS strategic Plan related initiatives.
- Council looking into a request to create a special award in the name of Ivan Royan.

Go-To-Meeting on August 15, 2017

- Report presented by Michael Thompson on PSC initiatives.
- Decision by Council to dismiss complaint 17-01 according to the recommendations of the Complaints Committee.
- Following a positive vote by the ACLS membership, Council accepted all 4 by-law amendments that were presented at the 2017 business meeting.
- Appointment of Lay Councillor G. Connolly to the Discipline Committee and Lay Councillor L. Irons to the Complaints Committee.

Go-To-Meeting on October 3, 2017

- Appointment of Paul Burbidge as a member of the Complaints Committee.
- Review of the results of the survey on sponsorship potential for the new ACLS book. No decision to go forward.
- Decision to increase salaries of Teri McKay and Kevin Jones.
- Approval of the Board of Examiners submission to NRCan to secure \$100,000 in funding for the Examination Enhancement Project.
- Decision to mandate the executive director to negotiate with the owners of 900 Dynes Road, 1st Floor, Ottawa, ON to obtain the old CIG space for one year.

Go-To-Meeting on October 24, 2017

- Decision to hire Marie Robidoux on a part time basis to manage the Examination Enhancement Project.
- Approval of the landlord's proposal to lease the CIG office space (which is the immediate neighbour of the ACLS office space).
- Formation of a special task force to establish the overall purpose and key goals of the new ACLS book and to develop a budget and informative proposal to present to Council. This proposal will be finalized in time for Council to review at the face-to-face meeting.
- Review of a proposed membership survey by the Practice Review Committee. Still needs work.
- Review of agenda for the up coming face-to-face meeting.
- Approval of the Board of Examiners recommendation to award a CLS Commission to Melissa Truchon.

Face-to-face meeting in Ottawa on November 16 and 17, 2017

- Review of the new Strategic Planning initiative reporting spreadsheet and update on projects.
- Decision to also ask Marie Robidoux to manage the Pathways to Credential Recognition of Foreign Trained Land Surveyors Project. A total contribution of \$202,163 was secured from Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC).
- Since the ACLS office is in need of a freshening up and the fact that it acquired the old CIG office space, Council gave the go ahead to do some minor renovations (painting, changing some office furniture, blinds, filing cabinet, etc.).
- Appointment of G. C. Friesen as Chair of the Nominating Committee.
- The ACLS Book Task Force presented its report and Council decided to form a committee to begin fundraising to achieve 90% of financial commitment in order to move forward with ACLS Book Project.
- Review of committee membership and chairmanship.
- Discussion on publishing of discipline decision. No conclusion.
- Decision to ask J. Meldrum-Smith to complete her work on the Survey Cost Study report and to use this information to assist the Indigenous Relations Steering Committee in creating educational tools for ACLS members and First Nations.
- Review of By-laws amendment resolutions 2018-01 and 2018-02. No approval.
- Decision to renew J. Meldrum-Smith's employment contract as Practice Review Manager for another two year.

Go-To-Meeting December 13, 2017

- Decision to award a salary increase to the Executive Director.
- Review of a first draft of the budget for the year 2018.
- Approval of the new terms of reference for the Public Awareness Committee.
- Review of the first draft of the ACLS official report for 2017. No approval.
- Since Marie Robidoux was hired as the project manager for the PFCR project, she had to resign from the CBEPS Board of Directors. Council appointed Patrick Ringwood to replace her as the official ACLS representative on the CBEPS Board of Directors.
- Approval of the Board of Examiners recommendation to award CLS commissions to Alexandre Heath, Greg Hartel and Senior Roldane.
- Appointment of M. Robidoux to the Board of Examiners to expire in 2021.

Go-To-Meeting January 16 , 2018

- Review of another draft of the proposed 2018 budget.
- Decision to award an Honorary Life Membership to Peter Sullivan.
- Approved the National Conference Committee recommendation to hold the 2020 NSC in Mont Tremblant, QC from May 19th to May 22nd.
- Decision to award a Tim Koepke Award of Excellence to Frederic Bruce Underhill.
- Appointment of Bronwyn Denton to represent ACLS on CBEPS. (each member association has two representatives on CBEPS, P. Ringwood will sit on the Board of Directors and B. Denton will attend the CBEPS AGM with P. Ringwood)
- Decision to pay the ACLS membership fee to be a member of CIG.

Go-To-Meeting February 20, 2018

- Decision to approve the 2018 budget as presented with the knowledge that there may be slight changes resulting from the 2017 audit expected to be completed soon.
- Review of proposed new terms of reference for the By-laws and Legislation Committee. No approval.
- Following the recommendation of the Finance and HR Task Force, Council decided to go ahead with hiring a part time Registrar.
- Approval of the new Indigenous Relations Steering Committee's terms of reference.
- Approval of the proposed Mutual Recognition Agreement with the Australian Surveying & Spatial Sciences Institute, and the New Zealand Institute of Surveyors to allow labour mobility for certified hydrographers between Canada and those two jurisdictions.

Go-To-Meeting March 19, 2018

- Decision to present the 2017 Financials report prepared by the Auditor to membership at up-coming business meeting.
- Review of new Registrar job description. Still needs work.
- Decision to participate in the consultation process for the Frontier and Offshore Regulatory Renewal Initiative (FORRI). This is delegated to the Offshore Committee.
- Approval of the Offshore Infrastructure Study Task Force terms of reference.
- Again review of a proposed membership survey by the Practice Review Committee. Still needs work.
- Decision to write a letter to the Saskatchewan Land Surveyors' Association requesting the intellectual property of Surveyor in a Crate in addition to the possession of the 3rd crate.

Face-to-face March 29, 2018 in Victoria, BC

- Presentation by the Yukon Regional Group on holding the 2021 National Surveyors Conference in Dawson City, Yukon.
- NSC 2018 debriefing.
- Review of committees and assignment of Council Liaisons.
- Administrative matters.

Go-To-Meeting April 24, 2018

- Appointment of Tania Bigstone as Past President.
- Approval the Registrar Job Description as presented. Ready to launch the search for candidates.
- Approval of the Practice Review field sortie budget.
- Decision to not renew the lease for the ACLS storage space. Content of the space will be moved to old space that was occupied by K. Jones who moved to old CIG space.

Go-To-Meeting May 16, 2018

- Decision to hold the 2021 conference in Dawson City (unfortunately, that decision was changed on July 31, 2018.)
- Discussion on a suggestion from the Standards of Practice Committee to hire a consultant to update the Practice Manual. Council waiting for a proposed RFP.
- Appointment of Robert Halliday to the Standards of Practice Committee.
- Decision to accept the general principles as presented in the report on proposed scenarios to assess Foreign Trained Land Surveyors in line with the PFCR project.
- Council decided to continue the ACLS Book Sponsorship project and awarded funds for a proposed marketing strategy.
- Approval of the new By-laws and Legislation Committee terms of reference.
- Decision to renew the ACLS office space lease for 3 years.

Go-To-Meeting June 13, 2018

- Approval of the Board of Examiners. Recommendations to award CLS Commissions to the following individuals: *Danica Pratt, Jeremy Paquin, Matthew Mooy, Anna Ross, Connor MacDonell, Daniel Boyle, Robin Cunningham*.
- The Finance and HR Task Force is presently reviewing applications from 6 candidates. It will present its recommendation at the next Council meeting.
- Jared Broughton was hired to replace Amanda Devaney as responsible for communications and member services.
- Council is considering adopting the same membership model as other professions. If someone is a regular member, he or she is authorized to practice. This would require considerable changes to the CLS legislation.
- Decision to accept the final report from the Offshore Infrastructure Study Task Force and to circulate,

Go-To-Meeting July 9, 2018

- Presentation on a SGB project entitled: Survey Capacity Building Project for First Nations. Council will make a decision on supporting or not this project at its next meeting.
- Decision to accept the Finance and HR Task Force recommendation to hire Marie Robidoux on a part time basis and appoint her the ACLS Registrar.
- Decision to increase the salaries of K. Jones and T. McKay.
- Approval of the paper to present to NRCan for the Frontier and Offshore Regulatory Renewal Initiative (FORRI).