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Message from the President, Robert Halliday

Let me start by saying thank you for entrusting me with the honour of leading our Association in the following year. I commit to doing my absolute best to fulfil the responsibility that goes with this position. Since there have been no in-person meetings since Halifax in 2019 and many of you do not know me at all, I thought I should tell you a bit about myself. I am 66 years old and come from a working class family. Unlike my predecessor Philippe, my father was not a land surveyor, although I recall him speaking in hushed tones and with nearly reverend awe about surveyors when admiring their precision and thoroughness on a new subdivision being developed on the opposite side of the lake from where my Grandmother’s cottage was located – especially the neatly pointed line pickets. To this day I still treasure a high quality ox-head axe that has been finely sharpened for just this purpose.

I was born and raised in the Mississauga area of Ontario so I had two nearby post-secondary institutions to investigate: Since the Ryerson program seemed to have more of a practical flavour I opted for that one. However, during my first year there I learned that while the Ryerson program met some of the academic requirements for AOLS, it didn’t meet them all. Rather than face a struggle after graduation from Ryerson I transferred to U of T after my first year and graduated in 1979. During the summer before I started at Ryerson and during all summers while at Erindale I worked as a survey assistant, then instrument man and finally as party chief for Starr and Tarasick, a small surveying and engineering firm located in Mississauga.

Following my graduation I took an articling position with Dane Wandabense, OLS in Espanola. Mr. Wandabense was an eighty-year-old Ojibway land surveyor He lived in Little Current on Manitoulin Island, so that's where my wife and I also moved. When Mr. Wandabense decided to retire in 1980, I transferred my articles to Mr. Donald (Dan) Ogilvie, OLS and CLS with Lane and Lane surveyors in Sudbury. I completed my articles in 1984 and then took a new position with T.E. Rody Ltd in Cochrane, Ontario. I spent seven very good years with Talson Rody, OLS, and in 1988 I completed the requirements to receive my commission as a Canada Lands Surveyor. My commission is proudly displayed on my office wall, with Robert Semper's signature looking a bit faded now, but still quite visible.

Following this I had the opportunity to move back to Manitoulin to work with William Keatley, OLS. Since I still had so many great memories of Manitoulin I jumped at the chance and took the position with him.

In 2004 I formed Halliday Surveying in Espanola, which I operated for ten years.

In 2013 I sold my business to Tulloch Geomatics, which is who I still work for. This was really a first step toward eventually being ready to retire: I continue to manage one to two crews on a daily basis, but now the business responsibilities as an owner are gone. Espanola isn't a very large centre and attracting an ambitious young person here who would also have the resources to buy me out didn't seem very likely, so when Mark Tulloch offered, I accepted. People often ask me when I'm going to retire and my answer is pretty much the same: I'm still having fun so why quit now? The motto on my old website said "surveying Manitoulin Island, the North Shore area and beyond. Where do you want to take us?" And that's what continues to drive me – there are still lots of places within Ontario, let alone northern Canada I've never been to, but which I hope to see some day.

I have three adult children and eight grandchildren, and I love to cross-country ski, cycle, kayak, go camping, shoot rifles and hunt. I also serve on a team of three providing leadership to our small community church called Massey Bible Chapel. Enough about me: what do I see as priorities for the up-coming year? Two are at the top of my list:

- By now you have already seen our financial picture. This isn't what any of us would like, and hard decisions will be required to bring us back to a balanced budget. I hope that by next May we will have far better news to report. To help achieve this goal a task force consisting of Max Putnam, Chris de Haan and myself has already been struck to try to lead this conversation and to distinguish between essential expenditures and discretionary ones. Our terms of reference give us a 90 day period to gain an understanding of Association income and spending and to bring recommendations back to Council as to how best to deal with multi-year deficit. A second aspect of our task is to review our Reserve Fund, the rationale behind having it and compare our approach with what other land surveying associations across Canada are doing.
- Another big task will be to find a replacement for Jean Claude who will be retiring after the meeting next year, or possibly before. During my three years already spent on Council we have developed a transition plan for how we will navigate through this selection process and bring the new person somewhat up to speed. Since the AGM a recruitment task force consisting of Philippe Breau, Max Putnam, JC and myself has been struck, and we have already held two meetings in conformity with the transition plan. I'm sure there will speed bumps along the way, but I am also confident that we will be successful in the end, with a quality person to help keep ACLS moving forward.

Sincerely,
Robert (Bob) Halliday, CLS

The 2022-2023 Council



Bob Halliday
President



Philippe J. Breau
Past President



Max Putnam
Vice President



Reid Egger
3rd Year Councillor



Chris de Haan
2nd Year Councillor



Calvin Bourassa
1st Year Councillor



Gordon MacInnis
Lay Councillor



Leona Irons
Lay Councillor



Jean Gagnon
Surveyor General

It is with great sadness we inform the ACLS community of the passing of Calvin Bourassa, CLS#1798 on July 21st, 2022.

Calvin was very involved in the ACLS. Calvin was the Chair of the ACLS Standards of Practice Committee for many years and was instrumental in the development of the best practices Web pages by the committee. Recently Calvin was elected by his peers onto the ACLS Council and awarded the Tim Koepke Award of Excellence at the National Surveyors' Conference in Ottawa in May 2022. He will be greatly missed.



New CLSs

Congratulations to the following people who were awarded a CLS Commission since our August 2021 issue of *Communique*:

- | | | | |
|---------------------|------|------------|-----------------|
| • Cody Baley | 2041 | 2021-08-18 | Ottawa ON |
| • Omar Abdi | 2043 | 2021-11-22 | Toronto ON |
| • Natalie Vibert | 2044 | 2021-12-21 | Thunder Bay ON |
| • François Dion | 2045 | 2022-04-12 | Calgary, AB |
| • Eric Bardin | 2046 | 2022-04-18 | Whitehorse, YT |
| • Mason Gray | 2047 | 2022-05-24 | Whitehorse, YT |
| • Blake Lange | 2048 | 2022-06-06 | Iqaluit, NU |
| • Trevor Luddington | 2049 | 2022-07-25 | Pilot Butte, SK |

ACLS Foundation Inc. Scholarship

The 2022 ACLS Foundation Scholarship recipients are:



Timothy Kehoe
York University



Alexandre
Laplante
Université Laval



Jeffrey Johnson
University of
Calgary



Suryapreet Brar
BCIT

New ACLS Book

In November 2018, the Association of Canada Lands Surveyors Council decided to go ahead with the production of its first book on the CLS profession to be written by acclaimed author, Charlie Wilkins.

At this point, Charlie finished writing the text and is now working with the publisher to put the book together.

The supply issue that is affecting the whole world is affecting our project. The book cannot go to print until early next year. So now the target is to launch the book at the upcoming May 2023 National Surveyors Conference at Mont-Tremblant. Our sincere apologies to all who contributed financially and by providing Charlie with great information for the book.

On the financial side, we have gathered a total amount of \$157,158. We estimate that the cost will be around \$206,000, so more funding is needed. Contact Jean-Claude Tétreault at executivedirector@acsls-aatc.ca if you want to make a contribution. People can now pre-purchase the book. Go to: <https://www.acsls-aatc.ca/shop/>



It is with great regret that we announce the passing of Gerhard Charles (Carl) Friesen, CLS #1344 on July 11th, 2022, in Vancouver.

Carl served as the CCLS Director for the ACLS in 2001-2005, as President of the ACLS in 2003-2004, and Past President in 2005. Carl was instrumental in getting the ACLS Book project started and has been a major contributor in many ways. He will be sorely missed.

GeoEd

The ACLS Continuing Professional Development Committee (CPD) and the Standards of Practice Committee (SOP) were extremely active in the past year producing courses to the membership.

1. Certified Correct
2. Digital Signatures
3. Walking in the footsteps of the original surveyor



The CPD Committee was active with the Indigenous Relations Steering Committee and the Standards of Practice Committee at the National Surveyors Conference in May 2022 by presenting courses to the membership that were presented live in person and recorded on GoToTraining with active Q & A and then posted to GeoEd for viewing.

1. Independent Checks
2. Advances to autonomous land management through the framework agreement
3. Going Digital and what it means for hydrography offices
4. From the Ground Up... A change in property rights and tenure on Indigenous Lands

Towards an Online Degree in Surveying/Geomatics

CBEPS Syllabus 2022

This phase of the project is going very well, and the final components of the syllabus have been sent to all the surveying associations for their final approval before it is sent to the CBEPS Board of Directors for final decision.

As of July 11, 2022, we have received 3 approvals and are waiting for other associations to hold their meetings to review and hopefully approve the new syllabus components.

CBEPS Accreditation Process

The Accreditation and Exemption Process Team proceeded to update the Accreditation Manual as well as all appendices to reflect the changes made to the syllabus and the proposed changes to the accreditation process.

The changes to the accreditation process consist mostly of updating the manual and appendices to align these with the new syllabus.

A major change is about the timing and length of the accreditation. As much of the documentation the institutions have to pull together is similar to what is required for their engineering accreditation - CBEPS is attempting to have its own accreditations match the year of the engineering one, either before or after.

The accreditation term will also match the engineering one which is 6 years. CBEPS will grant a six year accreditation to institutions who meet all the requirements. A three year accreditation will be granted when an institution is almost at the level required but need to fix some areas. A one year accreditation will be granted when an institution has most of the requirements but has a significant gap somewhere. Both three and one year accreditation will be followed up before they expire for conformance to the improvements identified in their original accreditation of three or one year.

Annual reports will be provided by each accredited institution outlining any changes in the instructors, syllabus items or learning outcomes or competencies, syllabus components and graduates' attributes. The institutions also have the opportunity through their annual reports, to provide suggestions to CBEPS on any changes they think are/would be advantageous to any part of the syllabus, manual and appendices, or other areas.

There is an upcoming face to face meeting at the end of August to discuss details of the implementation, how the process will relate to colleges, dates for moving from one system to the other, etc.

Funded by the Government of
Canada's Foreign Credential
Recognition Program

Canada

National Surveyors Conference 2022

The National Surveyor's Conference took place at the Brookstreet hotel in Ottawa (Kanata) on May 10-13, 2022. This was the first in person event since the Covid-19 pandemic. The ACLS decided to host a hybrid event to better reach our members. The conference attracted roughly 80 persons onsite and 75 online.



The NSC began with an opening prayer by Elder Claudette Commanda and co-hosted by the ACLS Executive Director Jean-Claude Tétrault, ACLS President Philippe J. Breau and PSC President Jordan Litke.

While hosting a hybrid event was a big learning curve and faceted many difficult logistics, the ACLS Council agrees to continue with the hybrid event platform in the following years.

The National Conference Committee along with the Indigenous Relations Steering Committee and Standards of Practice Committee hosted live and recorded seminars. The session topics were;

- Advances to Autonomous Land management through the Framework Agreement. Presented by: Senator Daniel Christmas, Senior Advisor Membertou
- What is the point of an independent check? A frank and honest discussion on the role of reliability and redundancy in land surveying. Presented by: Dr. Robert Radovanovic, P.Eng., P.Surv., CAMA, ENV Sp., PhD, Mike Fretwell, ALS CLS P.Surv. and Julia Meldrum Smith, CLS, OLS, ACLS Practice Review Manager
- Hydrography: A sense of where we are headed.

Moderated by Denis Hains, "Hydrospatial Advocate"-President & CEO H2i

- NRCan's contribution towards a better understanding of flood risk in Canada: Éric Loubier, B. Sc , MPA, Director General, Canada Centre for Mapping and Earth Observation
- Canada Lands Surveys Act - The Offshore: Jean Gagnon, P. Eng., NBLs, CLS, Surveyor General
- Discussion Panel on Surveying the flooding, costal, nearshore & offshore zones: Dr. Geneviève Béchar, Éric Loubier, and Jean Gagnon



- The ACLS' International Hydrographer Certification Scheme (IHCS): Jean-Claude Tétreault, CLS, a.-g. (ret.), MBA, ACLS Executive Director
- Untangling Canadian Maritime Zones: James Wilcox, Canadian Hydrographic Service – DFO
- The Federal Bathymetric Surveys Supply Arrangements: Andrew Leyzack, CLS, Canadian Hydrographic Service – DFO
- Recent Trends in Hydrographic Surveys: Dr. David Dodd, CLS, IIC Technologies
- Indigenous topics: From the Ground Up: A Change in Property Rights and Tenure on Indigenous lands
 - Land management: recognizing and understanding the differences. Presented by Tania Bigstone, CLS, PEILS (non practicing), SGB, NRCan.
 - ILRS/FNLRS/SGFNLRS – LIVE survey to inform review and evaluation of CLS's use of the Registries Presented by IRSC's Strategic Working Group: Benoit Fortier, CLS, NRCan.
 - Fort McKay First Nation community land surveys: a first nation land management “Legacy” project: Presented by Carie Santo, Land Governance and Planning Analyst, FMFN and Rob Cream, CLS, Challenger Geomatics Ltd.
 - Evolving Land Management – What Surveyors need to Know: Steve Minnie, CLS, BCLS, Deputy Surveyor General (West), SGB (Remote)

All sessions were recorded and posted to GeoEd for viewing.

There were 2 keynote speakers, : Dr. Geneviève Béchard, Director General, Canadian Hydrographic Service Going digital and what it means for Hydrographic Offices and Charlie Wilkins: a reading from the upcoming ACLS book “A Sense of Where You Are”.

National Surveyors Conference 2023

NSC 2023 will be held in Mont-Tremblant, Québec on May 10th to 12th, 2023. The same venue that we were going to use for NSC 2020, which was cancelled because of COVID-19.

National Surveyors Conference 2024

The ACLS secured the Rodd Brudenell River Resort in Prince Edward Island for NSC 2024; the site of our first National Conference 16 years ago. The event will be held from May 22nd to 24th, 2024.

National Surveyors Conference 2025

Since the results of a membership survey did show that many members expressed an interest in holding a conference in Nunavut and the fact that the additional accommodations and facilities are now available, the National Conference Committee is currently considering hosting the NSC 2025 in Iqaluit.

David Thompson National Geomatics Award

Named after David Thompson, an explorer and surveyor who almost single-handedly mapped Canada's vast, unknown interior 200 years ago, these awards represent the pinnacle of work. The next awards will be presented to the winners during the upcoming National Surveyors Conference.

All commissioned surveyors in Canada can nominate a surveyor whose work they feel was outstanding.

There are two categories in which you can submit applications:

1. Challenging Cadastral Survey Project
2. Challenging Non-Cadastral Survey Project

Why National Awards?

1. Promote excellence in Geomatics
2. Promote unique cadastral and non cadastral applications
3. Raise public awareness of Geomatics



Deadline for submissions: **March 1st, 2023.**

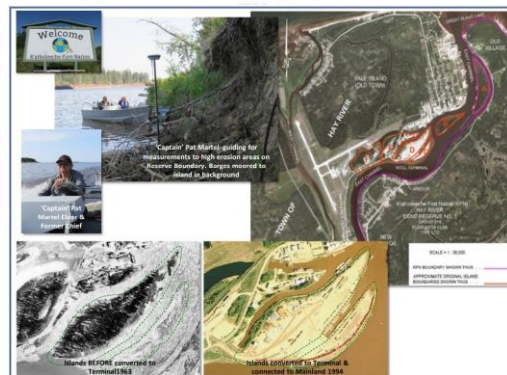
This year we received submissions by: Curtis Blackwood, Challenger Geomatics Ltd., Robyn Ash, Department of Natural Resources and Renewables, Sandy Cooke, Underhill Geomatics, Joe Iles, Challenger Geomatics Ltd., Trevor Burton of McElhanney Ltd.

2022 Winners

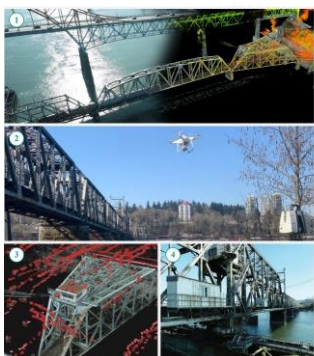
Challenging Cadastral Survey Project: Joe Iles, Challenger Geomatics Ltd. Field Notes of Natural Boundary Investigation Hay River Dene Reserve No. 1, for the Kát'odeeche First Nation, Northwest Territories



Bob Halliday & Curtis Blackwood
(accepting the award on behalf of Joe Iles)



Challenging Non-Cadastral Survey Project: Trevor Burton of McElhanney Ltd. High-definition survey of a century-old rail bridge



David Thomson National Geomatics Awards
HIGH-DEFINITION SURVEY OF A CENTURY-OLD RAIL BRIDGE

- 1 A crossfile between an overview of the bridge and the combined scan from the UAV.
- 2 A UAV next to the laser scanner during the survey of the bridge.
- 3 All photos and scans being aligned together resulting in a point cloud.
- 4 A close-up of the bridge taken from the UAV shows details of the steel structure.

McElhanney



Bob Halliday & Jim Christie
(accepting the award on behalf of Trevor Burton)

ACLS International Canadian Hydrographer Certification Scheme

The ACLS is in its 7th year of operation of its certification scheme for hydrographers and offshore surveyors, which has been first 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.

The IBSC recognition expired last April so last year, a special task force worked on drafting a proposal to renew our recognition. It was a challenge since the standards have changed. We now have to follow the new International Hydrography Organisation (IHO) S-5A and S-5B standards. The proposal was submitted last December and was successful. The IBSC renewed our recognition for another 6 years on April 25th.

A note that we changed the name of the Scheme. We noticed that in our promotion of the Scheme, many potential candidates have the perception that it is only available to Canadian citizens, which is not true. We felt that replacing the word “Canadian” by “International”, would help gain more applicants.

We presently have 7 certified hydrographers. Of these, two have qualified for the new category of Certified Hydrographer Executive (CHE) which is for experienced hydrographers but who are no longer in hydrographic operations being at an executive level in their organisation.

Interested, go to the Forms section of the web site at: <https://www.acls-aatc.ca/forms-non-members/> and read the ACLS IHCS Candidate Handbook.

List of Current Certified Professionals in Hydrographic Surveying

Hariharan Aiyer	Level 1		United Arab Emirates
Sylvain Babineau	Level 1		Canada
Ryan Buchoon	Level 1		Canada
David Dodd	Level 1	CAT A	Canada
Brian Farrelly	Level 1	CAT A	Canada
Jacob Hamilton	Level 1		Australia
Derrick Peyton	CHE	CAT A	Canada
Barry Wagner	CHE		Canada

Modernization of the Canada Lands Surveyors Legislation

Work on 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.

The By-laws and Legislation Committee finished working on the Act amendments in 2020. After almost 2 years, it finally found a vehicle to move forward in the Federal Government process. The instructions to modify the Act were included in Bill S-6 which is an omnibus bill; our content constitutes approximately 60% of the text of the Bill.

The Bill went through 3 readings by the Senate and was approved without changes to our part. Both the Surveyor General, Jean Gagnon and the ACLS Executive Director were called as witnesses. So the next step is the House of Commons with a similar process. At this point, the Bill go through first reading without changes. When the House reconvenes this Fall, the Bill will be assigned for study by a House committee. We hope to receive Royal Assent before the end of the year.

The work of the By-laws and Legislation Committee is not done. The Act amendments will affect some sections of the Regulations and we are taking this opportunity to move the sections which are administrative in nature from the Regulations to the By-laws. Work on the Regulation amendments will be fairly straightforward because we will move many sections out but work on the new By-laws will be considerable. Three individuals joined the Committee to help with the workload but at some point we will need to hire and expert to review and improve the work done by the Committee.

We must have the Regulation amendments and new By-laws ready for when we receive Royal Assent which is not far down the road.

Executive Director's Succession

Jean-Claude Tétreault announced that he is leaving the positions of ACLS and CBEPS Executive Director next spring after almost 24 years of service. The ACLS Council began work on succession. A task force has been set up and is presently working on updating the job description and list of qualifications. The job posting should be made public at the end of this year.



Complaints and Discipline

In 2021 one of the complaints filed with the ACLS was sent to discipline and is being dealt with currently by the Discipline Committee.

In 2022 the ACLS received 2 complaints of which one was not considered as it fell outside the bounds of complaints requirements.

One complaint was sent to discipline and is on the Discipline Committee agenda.

Practice Review Program

Archiving Files - What to Keep

The pandemic has encouraged more work to be done remotely, resulting in much of surveyors' information and data being stored digitally. The unfortunate result can be lost data, which is an oft-heard excuse by the Practice Review department. Maintaining good records and the ability to quickly answer questions and provide proof of your work is a must in our profession.

More and more companies are going completely digital, and relying less on paper-based systems, as more staff work remotely. Whole rooms devoted to filing cabinets of files and field notes are being replaced by databases and whole projects stored in the cloud.

While this is great for trees and remote access, there is potential for disaster when it comes to future retrieval of data and records. Already the Practice Review department has heard several stories of lost, misfiled, unscanned, or discarded information.

Although our work does not have the life-or-death element of the medical profession, we all understand the need to have a well-documented medical history. You would certainly have less trust in your doctor or caregiver if they did not keep accurate records and relied on memory to justify their decisions in the future. Are we as surveyors any less professional?

The Standards of Practice committee will be working on a Best Practices document relating to Archiving Data and Files. Here are some considerations.

Professional Obligations

The decisions of what to keep and why should be based on what are our professional and ethical requirements. According to Section 3.1 of the *National Standards for the Survey of Canada Lands*:

(4) Field records are the raw data collected in the field. Although field notes are filed in the CLSR, this raw data must also be retained and held by the surveyor, who may be required to submit field records or copies thereof at a later date.

According to the Section 2(7) of the *Canada Lands Surveyors Regulations (SOR/99-142)*:
Members shall maintain their competence, integrity, and respect for their profession in their relations with colleagues, clients, employers or employees and the public and shall, in particular,

(g) keep adequate records of their work such that its quality can be judged by their peers.

The *ACLS Practice Manual* also provided guidelines for storing and archiving files and records.

1.34 Office Records:

Each Canada Lands Surveyor shall maintain an orderly system of record keeping that will allow ready access or retrieval of all survey information on file. Particular care must be taken to provide safe storage of archived records.

1.35 Archiving Files

When archiving digital files, consideration must be given to the hardware and software necessary for its retrieval. Archived digital files may have to be reformatted to be compatible with new office systems.

9.4.5 For all data capture, the “field records” must include: (shortened here for brevity)

- the type and identification of survey equipment used...
- the coordinate framework being used...
- each quantitative (horizontal angle, vertical angle and distance or GPS/Lidar) observation or measurement...
- sufficient indication of the data capture method that the reviewer can identify the methodology and redundant measurements, including independent measurements to new points established...

Tell the Story

Although the plan should clearly demonstrate our findings and opinions, a plan does not tell the whole story of the project itself. For instance, who was the client, what was the agreed upon mandate, who worked on the project, what data and observations led to the boundary decisions? In many cases, a project does not result in the creation of a plan at all.

Some suggestions for what to keep:

- Client communication, including contact information, mandates, authorizations, changes to scope of work, final reports.
- Notes, observations and records from the field, including what was done, who did the work, on what dates, and with what equipment.
- Actual measurements, data and observations before calculations and manipulations. This is probably the most disputed but most important element of your archived file. If a mistake has been made or a decision needs to be justified, it is this raw, unprocessed data that will provide the proof of what was measured.
- Calculations sheets, and notes of decision-making.
- Title records.
- Copies of the final deliverables, with a record of who received them, and when.

“Hit by a Bus” Organizational System

If we all had perfect memories and lived and worked forever, there would be no need for good organization of the archived files. Odds are, if a file falls under review or question, it may not be the original creators who are available to pull the information together. Hence, the “hit by a bus” mentality: the best systems are set up such that if a project’s team member becomes unavailable, anyone else can step in and easily see what was done.

Some suggestions for file organization:

- Organizing at initial set up rather than leaving it for the filing stage
- Clear, consistent naming conventions
- Staff training and buy-in
- Consideration of the end user
 - Is the information understandable/readable to people outside of your firm?
 - Make sure the information is not dependent on specific software or technology to retrieve it or review it in the future.
 - Data shouldn’t need to be “reverse engineered” for anyone to understand what was done.

We know that records must be kept for future access, for professional review, for protection in case of liability or litigation, and of course to aid in future surveys. Maintaining good records and the ability to quickly answer questions and provide proof of your work is the mark of any professional. Anything less suggests a lack of organization, poor work habits, and questionable quality. Proper initial set up, simple and clear recording conventions, and an eye to future users will ensure that you are well protected and your records will endure.

Truth and Transparency Equals Reputation and Trust

The Practice Review department has identified 2 issues on plans that could cause confusion for clients. These issues are misleading, at best, or fraudulent, at worst. This article is a follow-up the Certified Correct Webinar available on GeoEd. If you have not watched this webinar, you are encouraged to do so.

We work hard to be accurate, ethical and efficient. We strive to be compliant with our legal obligations and our ethical codes of conduct, while working in a competitive environment. We all try to do the best for our clients and they rely on the information shown on our plans.

The Practice Review department of the ACLS has noted a lapse in the attention to two important details of our plans:

- Accurate reporting of Survey Execution Dates
- Search for and Labeling of Existing Survey Evidence

A frequent finding is inaccuracies of survey execution dates. It is common for Canada Lands Survey projects to be conducted over a period of years. The Practice Review department has found that the longer the duration of a project, the more likely there will be discrepancies in the dates logged in field records and what gets captured on the final plan. How do you know what dates to show on your plan? All information shown on your plan must have its data capture date reflected in the survey execution date. If you found survey evidence a year ago and are relying on it and showing it on your plan, then your survey execution date should include the date from a year ago.

This brings us to the second issue. Although less frequently found in reviews, the most egregious finding is bars labelled as found on plans with no corresponding evidence recorded in the field records. The Practice Review department has noted that several plans have included monuments recorded as “found” that were actually verified only during other projects, sometimes from several years ago.

Section 41 of Chapter 2.2.4 of the *National Standards for the Survey of Canada Lands* states that we must: ***Show all evidence searched for or placed, indicating what was found, restored, and placed.***

If you have not confirmed the monument in several years, then it should not be shown on your plan as evidence used to support your placed monuments. When your client looks at your plan that shows monuments in place, they should be able to expect those monuments to actually be there. Showing a monument in place when you cannot, with certainty, confirm its existence is misleading at best, and fraudulent at worst.

The Surveyor General Branch of Natural Resources Canada addresses this specific issue in Notice 2021-05, stating that its interpretation of Section 41 is that “*field notes are to be based on present work and not on prior work of record in the CLSR unless survey instructions allowing for compilation of the same have been issued and the plan clearly shows found evidence is from other sources. The date(s) of survey must reflect the period when all your project field work was executed*”.

As professional surveyors, our livelihood depends on our reputation. Anything that undermines the integrity of our opinion erodes public confidence in our profession.