

**THE CANADIAN COUNCIL OF LAND SURVEYORS  
FIFTH ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE LABOUR MOBILITY AGREEMENT  
FOR CANADIAN LAND SURVEYORS**

December 4, 2007  
By Teleconference  
12:00 p.m. Eastern Time

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**MINUTES**

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**Presiding:** Chuck Salmon, BCLS

**Recorder:** Sarah Cornett, CCLS Executive Director

**Signatory Representatives:**

Dominic Howard	Association of Newfoundland Land Surveyors
Wilf Thorne	Association of Newfoundland Land Surveyors
Fred Hutchinson	Association of Nova Scotia Land Surveyors
Bill Buck	Association of Ontario Land Surveyors
Steve Bossenmaier	Association of Manitoba Land Surveyors
Dave Gurnsey	Saskatchewan Land Surveyors Association
Brian Munday	Alberta Land Surveyors' Association
Chuck Salmon	Association British Columbia of Land Surveyors
J. C. Tétreault	Association of Canada Lands Surveyors

**Unavailable:**

Dave Morris	Association of Prince Edward Island Land Surveyors
Alan Hicks	Association of New Brunswick Surveyors
Luc St. Pierre	L'Ordre des Arpenteurs-Géomètres du Québec

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m. Eastern Time.

**2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Chuck Salmon accepted welcomed all to the meeting.

**3. APPOINTMENT OF A CHAIR**

**MOTION LM-07-01** BE IT RESOLVED THAT Chuck Salmon be appointed as chair until the next annual meeting of the group.

MOVED: Dave Gurnsey                      SECONDED: Brian Munday                      CARRIED

**4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (JUNE 2006)**

**MOTION LM-07-02** BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted as amended.

MOVED: Brian Munday                      SECONDED: Steve Bossenmaier                      CARRIED

In considering the agenda, 2 items were under new business.

**MOTION LM-07-03** BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of June 12, 2006 be approved.

MOVED: Fred Hutchinson

SECONDED: Jean-Claude Tétréault

CARRIED

## **5. REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION AND APPLICATION OF THE AGREEMENT TO DATE**

It was noted that this meeting is called in order to fulfill the obligations described in sections 5.1 and 5.3 of the Mutual Recognition Agreement on Labour Mobility for land Surveyors in Canada.

The participants were asked to outline any changes since the last review meeting (June 2006) regarding the following information as it pertains to their association and to provide current information for their association on items vi and vii.

- i** *Name and contact information for representative of the association on the monitoring group.*
- ii** *An update on any outstanding changes in your Act, Regulations, By-laws or Policies that were required in order that your association could comply with the terms of the agreement.*
- iii** *An indication of how many people have applied to your association under the agreement and the status of their applications (i.e. under consideration, on hold pending administrative changes, completed.)*
- iv** *An indication of how individuals who have applied to your association under the agreement have found the process (i.e. did they perceive that it was more equitable, more flexible or more timely than the previous process or not.)*
- v** *An indication of any comments or observations, other topics for discussion, or questions about the agreement, its implementation, or application.*
- vi** *What, if any, requirements for citizenship does your association have in place.*
- vii** *What, if any, limitations on the length of time an applicant may take to complete the process, or any portion of the process, of licensure does your association have.*

Representatives sent the information in advance. An updated compilation is to be posted on the CCLS web site.

## **6. UPDATE AND DISCUSSION TILMA BY ALSA AND ABCLS REPRESENTATIVES**

The representatives for ALSA and ABCLS provided an update of the TILMA (Trade Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement between the provincial governments of Alberta and British Columbia) discussions. It was reported that:

- ALSA and ABCLS have had several meetings. The first was to understand current requirements. The last meeting was to work out specific terms of an agreement between ALSA and ABCLS.
- The wording of that agreement is almost identical to the associations MRA of 2001 by design. Some changes were made at the request of the governments such as the term professional exams being changed to jurisdictional exams.
- In essence the agreement makes provisions for a BCLS who wants a commission in AB or visa versa to write one jurisdictional exam of approximately half day in length, ideally moving towards computer based exam that could be marked quickly.

- Traditionally examination periods are spring and fall and this one will have to be available on demand and within five working days of application being received.
- Administrative requirements will remain in place i.e. if examination is completed successfully then other requirements of membership (fees, insurance, etc).
- ALSA and ABCLS working towards making those administrative membership requirements as similar as possible.
- The bar is not being lowered and standards are not being changed but barriers are being looked at closely to rationalize the requirements for licensure between the associations.
- Other aspects of company ownership, currently much more restrictive in BC than AB, will need to be looked at although government has indicated that this is a lower priority.

The general feeling was expressed that the trend set by TILMA will spread across country.

## **7. DISCUSSION OF CLAUSE FOR TIME LIMITS FOR MRA APPLICANTS**

Two timing issues within the current MRA were noted.

- Timing of examinations and length of projects.
- Maximum window for completion of the process once application is made.

It was noted that SLSA, AMLS, ANLS offers examinations only once per year while most other associations offer two sittings per year.

Several representatives indicated that the length of time allowed to complete the MRA process is generally the same as for articulated students if the issue is considered at all.

There was no clear consensus or strong opinions expressed on either time limit issue and no recommendations made.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

### **i MATRIX OF ASSOCIATION ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS**

It was suggested that a matrix of all association entrance requirements, for both MRA and regular candidates, be compiled. Several representatives thought this is a good idea. Associations should have a good idea of what requirements are in place in all jurisdictions.

Chuck Salmon agreed to put the ABCLS requirements into a matrix format for distributions. Others could then fill in their own requirements. **ACTION ITEM**

It was suggested that a meeting be called in early 2008 to review the matrix.

**ACTION ITEM**

### **ii TILMA VS. SCHEDULE B OF MRA – BEING PROACTIVE ON LOWERING BARRIERS**

Jean-Claude Tétreault noted that he believes TILMA is a national trend and that surveyors should be proactive in meeting that trend rather than waiting until governments dictate requirements. He saluted ABCLS and ALSA for a good solution. He suggested that the MRA be opened up to review by all associations.

It was suggested to wait until the ABCLS and ALSA agreement is implemented, look at the matrix discussed above, and then re-open schedule B of the current MRA as a group.

**ACTION ITEM**

It was noted that each representative should seek authority from their association to enter into talks and should begin a dialogue with their respective councils on the issues.

**ACTION ITEM**

It was suggested that HRSDC be contacted for possible funding to undertake a national five year review of the MRA.

**ACTION ITEM**

## **9. SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS/NEXT STEPS**

Develop a matrix of entrance requirements for both MRA and regular candidates with ABCLS input. **Chuck Salmon**

Circulate to all representatives to complete input for all associations **Sarah Cornett**

Discuss issues at the council level and seek authority to enter into dialogue to review MRA. **All**

Contact HRSDC for funding options for five year review of national MRA. **Sarah Cornett**

Meet to review matrix in early 2008 **All**

## **10. NEXT MEETING / ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting will be at call of the Chair likely in early spring once matrix is complete and dialogue is ready to begin.

The meeting was adjourned.