

**Saskatchewan Land Surveyors' Association  
Annual Report  
To The  
Canadian Council of Land Surveyors  
2008 Annual General Meeting**

**Current membership details**

- 69 active members
- 16 LSIT (8 of which are MRA applicants)
- 4 student surveyors
- We expect about 9 students to write examinations this spring

Our last annual general meeting was held in Cypress Hills Provincial Park on May 29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008. The meeting was well attended and enjoyed by all. Our first female SLS was formally presented her commission at this meeting.

At our 2007 fall education seminar we included discussions with the various government agencies we deal with. The discussion included representatives from each of the agencies and allowed for an open two way discussion between the Association members and the Agencies. As always, this discussion was worthwhile and showed the agencies that we have common concerns and a desire to work on solving any issues. The Agencies also got a chance to see what their counterparts are doing and what works for them.

We lost our public member earlier this year. He decided that it was time to move on to other things. A new public member has been put forward to the Minister and is expected to be approved shortly.

The Saskatchewan economy has been on an upswing for the past year and it shows in the amount of work that the survey firms doing. Unfortunately a consequence of the increased activity means that workloads have increased with a resulting increase in the time required to start projects.

In particular some subdivision plans are now taking 9 months or more to go from initial client contact to final legal plan approval. While it is true that it is taking longer for the survey firms to get to projects, one of the major bottlenecks are the various approving agencies. The approving agencies are hard pressed to keep up with increased demand thus creating longer wait times for all developers and individuals.

I have questioned our Association's Executive Director to see if the public has been calling in with complaints about the length of time to get plan approvals or any survey work done. There have been no complaints to date. Apparently the public are now used to having lengthy wait times for all types of professional and technical services.

I don't have statistics for this year to date but the Controller of Surveys office provided these stats for last year. "There were 2,362 plans processed in 2007 under The Land Surveys Act, 2000 representing a 13% increase of 279 plans from the previous year. This also translated to a 36% increase in the number of parcels affected from 10,392 in 2006 to 14,140 in 2007." I would expect to see similar or greater increase for 2008.

Lastly I have a very brief update on the Surveyor in a Crate project. At our AGM in May we were presented with a first glimpse of course materials. The consultant is somewhat behind schedule.

Originally, the consultant was to begin classroom testing in the fall of 2007. Unfortunately this did not happen. However, there was a rural classroom that tested the prototype this spring with positive results. The feedback from that pilot has been received by the consultant. The consultant is anticipating more classroom testing in September with delivery of the Crate to follow.

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