

**The Association of Manitoba Land Surveyors Annual Report
for
The Canadian Council of Land Surveyors
2010 Annual General Meeting**

At the Association of Manitoba Land Surveyors 129th Annual General Meeting, held on September 9 to 11, 2009, we welcomed incoming president John Kulchycki and extended our thanks to outgoing president Steve Bossenmaier for his dedication and tireless effort for the Association. We were also very proud to present The Peter Fidler Award to Rick Sherby, much to his surprise. The Peter Fidler Award is a distinguished service award presented by the Association of Manitoba Land Surveyors to a person or persons who in the opinion of the Association has exhibited an outstanding contribution to promoting and/or advancing the profession of land surveying in Manitoba.

The Association of Manitoba Land Surveyors will hold its 130th Annual General Meeting on September 14 to 16, 2010, at the beautiful Elkhorn Resort where we will welcome Gord Lund as our new president. Elkhorn Resort is located in a spectacular parkland setting nestled adjacent to the world-renowned Riding Mountain National Park.

Association Profile

We've been fortunate to have had a number of newly licensed surveyors over the past few years (ten since 2006); however, overall, our numbers have not grown. With the trend in declining membership expected to continue, and the average age of membership steadily increasing, the Association is undoubtedly concerned about attrition rates.

In 2009, two new licences were issued but with two retirements our membership held firm at 52 practicing members:

- 31 - private practice
- 18 - public service
- 3 - other

We currently have nine students, with four writing their professional exams in April.

Strategic Plan

In January 2010 the Association, together with a consultant, held three strategic planning sessions. Two key initiatives emerged from the sessions:

- the development of policies and procedures to fulfill our obligations as mandated under *The Labour Mobility Act and Fair Registration Practices Act*; and
- the planning and execution of those activities required to ensure successful enactment of the proposed *Land Surveyors Act*.

Project plans were established for both initiatives and have been passed on to council for review and task assignment.

The Fair Registration Practices in Regulated Professions Act

The Provincial Government recently assigned an individual to assist our Association with the work needed to meet requirements of *The Fair Registration Practices in Regulated Professions Act* and best practices for qualifications recognition. Based on our Association's request to the Fairness Commissioner, we expect that the individual will be able to help on the AIT front by identifying issues in our current Act and assisting with the re-write of our bylaws as they relate to our proposed new Act. The first meeting took place on March 22, 2010.

The Labour Mobility Act - AIT

On June 11, 2009, *The Labour Mobility Act* came into effect. The Association was not successful in seeking an exemption; however, it was agreed that a four hour exam to evaluate local knowledge would be acceptable for candidates applying for membership under AIT.

Proposed Land Surveyors Act

The Association has been trying to gain support for the proposed *Land Surveyors Act* and have it put on the government's legislative agenda for the past three years. There was some indication that it would be sponsored in April during the spring session; however, we were recently informed that it was not going to happen. The Association has hired a lobbyist to help in this endeavor. In the meantime, drafting of the bylaws for the proposed new Act will continue.

Professional Development

After 10 years of using a "Professional Development and Participation Model" on a mandatory reporting voluntary participation basis, the Association passed a motion on February 3, 2009 to adopt a mandatory Professional Development Program. The program which took effect on January 1, 2010, requires each member to achieve 60 points over a three year period. Points may be earned in five categories and are accumulated on a one-hour-equals-one-point basis.

Digital Plan Submissions

The Winnipeg Land Titles Office recently began discussing the implementation of Digital Plan Submissions. A committee was put in place to bring forward suggestions on layering schemes/requirements and drawing formats. Major factors that were considered during discussions were the future support of a provincial wide GIS and surveyors copyright.

Red River College

The AMLS Education Committee sponsors an annual Beef & Bun event at the College for students enrolled in the Geomatics Technology program. This year's event was hosted by five members of the Association and was very well attended by the students.

The College recently made application to CBEPS for 10 exemptions, unfortunately only 3 exemptions were granted – they previously had 6. The Association has recently decided to hand over our library collection to the College, which should benefit CBEPS students.

Charity Golf Tournament

The Annual Charity Golf Tournament was held at the Kingswood Golf and Country Club on June 6, 2009. Funds raised from the tournament went to The Bryan Dreger Scholarship, an endowment fund set up by the Associations at Red River College to assist students in the Geomatics Program. The Association was proud to raise and donate \$5000 to the fund which was matched by the Provincial Government. This year's event will again be held at the Kingswood Golf and Country Club on Saturday June 5, 2010.

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