

## **Labour Mobility Monitoring Group Report to the CCLS Board of Directors Annual Meeting September 2005**

A Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) under the Agreement on Internal Trade, Labour Mobility Chapter, was signed by ten of the eleven licensing bodies for land surveyors in Canada in June 2001. The Association of Prince Edward Island signed the agreement in June of 2005 at their annual meeting. The MRA now covers all licensed land surveyors in Canada. The MRA is posted in English and French on the CCLS web site.

Under the following two sections of the MRA a monitoring group was formed.

*5.1 Each association agrees to identify a contact person(s) for each association to monitor and assess the implementation of the agreement within their association and to participate in a group made up of all association contact persons to address inquires, disputes, or questions arising from the implementation or application of the agreement.*

*5.3 Each association agrees that this agreement is a dynamic and evolving instrument that may be amended with the consent of all associations. The association agrees to initiate periodic reviews of this agreement every year after July 1, 2001 and to review the operation of the agreement when such a request is made by one of the associations.*

The original consortium members who negotiated the MRA expressed the opinion that it would naturally fall to the CCLS to assist in the process of monitoring and review by providing administrative services to the group of representatives formed under the MRA. Terms of Reference for the CCLS Labour Mobility Task Force, were adopted by the Board by Motion D-01-41. Phil Milo, who was CCLS President and Chair of the Labour Mobility Task Force during the creation of the MRA, has chaired the monitoring group during its first three years. At the next meeting of the group, a Chair will be found from the among participants.

The initiative has had a budget of \$250 for 2003, 2004 and 2005 to cover the annual teleconference and any other communication or administration required by the monitoring group. Minutes of the first two annual review meetings are posted on the CCLS web site. A third meeting will be scheduled for later this fall.

To this point here have been no overly contentious issues regarding the agreement. The monitoring group has been used as a forum to discuss and clarify a number of items although the number of surveyors licensed through this agreement remains low.

Currently, a small working group, including Steve Bossenmaier, Jean Claude Tetreault and Sarah Cornett, has been tasked with preparing a paper on the ACLS affidavit of experience. The paper will describe some of the main points covered during the negotiation of the MRA to provide background to those currently dealing with the issue of equivalence to avoid duplication of effort and misunderstanding about the intent of the MRA.

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