

**The Association of Newfoundland Land Surveyors Report
Prepared for the CCLS AGM 2006**

Oct. 15-16 Wolfville, NS

The Association of Newfoundland Land surveyors held it's 53 Annual AGM in St. John's in April 2006. Mr. Terry Yates took over as incoming President with Mr. Allan Chafe elected as Vice President. We thank Mr. Robert Leeman for his diligence during his term of office.

The Association has held three council meetings since the AGM. The next meeting of council will be Oct 30. A number of items are on council's agenda but the primary focus for our 2006-2007 council is to continue with the following initiatives:

Executive Director

The installation of an Executive Director prior to our spring AGM – we anticipate this will be a part-time position (approx 25-30 h/wk). Our members feel such a person, will be instrumental in the maintenance of association's objectives, conducting of daily business, and the driving of new initiatives.

Survey Marker Program

This survey marker program was enacted two years ago and appears to be working quite well. Our advertising campaign and program promotion has garnered much public interest and support. Aside from assisting the public and fellow surveyors it has served as an additional revenue source for the Association. There is an issue of non-compliance for a small group of our membership. Council has recognized the need to bring about an enforcement policy to address these issues.

Land Gazette Program

The Land Gazette program is now fully implemented and up and running. IBL president Ian Edwards expects a period of about five years to bring full realization of this project benefits and to see complete building of the database. The Land Gazette Program is an initiative that has been developing over the last few years and involves a participatory response from all Newfoundland land Surveyors. The program involves the use of a structured database that will serve as a depository and a distribution medium for legal survey plans. The survey information contained in the depository may be accessed by fellow surveyors and other professionals related to the Geomatics Industry. The overall success and outright value of this program is directly related to the completeness of information. As a result the brokers of the program and the Association have been working to reach a contractual or legal agreement the will promote the success of the Land Gazette Program while ensuring the interests of the public and the Association's members are protected.

An immediate priority of council is to reach a final agreement with the brokers of the Land Gazette Program. Council are currently reviewing the agreement documents and will report back to council at the next meeting (late October). It is anticipated that this agreement may be finalized by late 2006.

Regional Meetings and Professional Development

As a supportive measure to our membership the association continues to promote regional meetings whereby association issues are presented to the membership. These regional forums, held two to three times per year, encourage our members to actively be involved in Association initiatives and provide the critical feedback needed for council direction. The regional meetings also serve as a professional development venue for short information seminars.

Association Profile

The Association membership as of the fall of 2006 is as follows:

Active Association members = 92

Life Members = 12

Certificates of Authorization = 53

Articling Members = 1

Financial Budget = \$127,500

Association Concerns

For the most part our Association and its membership are pleased with the progress made in council directed initiatives. In terms of industry activity, some regions are experiencing more economic growth than others but it would seem that our association members are meeting industry demand. Like most professional associations across the country, there are concerns of attrition. A recent study indicated that 70 members of our 92 active members are over the age of 50. With some 76 % of our membership in this category our council recognizes the need for more Geomatics Industry Awareness campaigns, and the promotion of opportunities in the Land surveying industry.

Sincerely,

Alvin Hayes, NLS
CCLS Director for ANLS