

Order of Quebec land Surveyors' Report (OAGQ) presented at the CCLS (CCAG) Annual Meeting, Wolfville Nova Scotia October 15 & 16 2006

A number of ongoing priorities and new initiatives have preoccupied the council this past year and are listed as follows:

- The financial situation of the Order remains a concern. The Order has major expenses due to its legal obligations under the act. On the other hand, it is aware that members' fees are quite high as compared to other professions. The challenge is to find other means of generating revenue.
- There is a need to streamline the admission of candidates to the profession without reducing the requirements. An interesting example is what is going on in Alberta where candidates are credited for graduating from an accredited university recognized by the CCLS and the candidates only have to write the professional exams.
- A major public relations campaign is underway where the Order will invest \$450,000. The purpose is to highlight the role of the Land Surveyor in today's society. The campaign is being directed by a major advertising/marketing company.
- An initiative that will further enhance the image of the Order is the hosting of the First International Conference of Surveyors from Francophone Countries in the fall of 2007. It is also the 125th anniversary of the Order, the 125th anniversary of the Canadian Institute of Geomatics and the 100th anniversary of Laval University's Geomatics Department. The Order is delighted that the CCLS will be hosting its annual meeting during the conference and appreciates its support.
- A reoccurring topic, that is of concern to many members, in carrying out their professional duties, deals with the issue of cadastral corrections in renovated territories (i.e. territories already digitized/resurveyed within the government program of creating a continuous and dynamic cadastre). Frequently, adjoining neighbors, for various reasons, refuse to consent to the cadastral correction to be undertaken, even though it will improve the cadastral representation of the property boundaries. Initial discussions have commenced with the appropriate provincial authorities and follow up meetings are planned to finally resolve this issue.
- Another concern is the misuse of coordinates by individuals/land owners who may have acquired these values from various sources including provincial agencies, and survey firms, who are misusing these coordinates for a variety of applications. A committee was struck to look into this matter.

- Other issues that have been discussed include the use of electronic signatures; a digital archive of reference material such as pertinent jurisprudence cases that members could review through a website and lastly the launch of regional forums in order to dialogue better with members and hear their concerns.
- Emphasis has been placed on living values of respect and esteem not only towards the client and other professionals but with each other, regardless of area of specialization or employment in the public or private sector.

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2006 10 03