

## **Saskatchewan Director's Report to CCLS 2006 AGM**

The Saskatchewan Land Surveyors' Association AGM was held in Saskatoon from May 25<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup>. At that meeting the membership dealt with many motions. Some of the more significant matters that were dealt with are outlined below.

### ***Annual license fee***

In light of falling membership and increasing costs the current annual license fee was reviewed. A new annual fee of \$1550.00 becomes effective in January 2007. It is expected that licensing fees will need to be revisited on a regular basis.

### ***Public Awareness***

A three pronged approach to promoting public awareness was proposed to the membership along with an estimated cost for each approach.

- Update the SLSA traveling display (\$4000)
- Hire a person to promote the profession at schools & career fairs (\$13,000/yr)
- Create a surveyor related school resource package (various names have been used or proposed for this type of package including: surveyor in a box, surveyor in a crate, surveyor educational trunk) (\$30,000 initial cost and some ongoing costs)

The motion for the adoption of these approaches was approved by the membership. A separate motion that called for the raising funds for these initiatives was not passed at the AGM.

The SLSA council has been tasked with providing various options for funding these projects. These may include: a special levy, a fee based on the amount of work each member does and, in the case of the surveyor educational resource package, co-funding from the other land surveyor associations. To date the Association of Canada Land Surveyors and the British Columbia Land Surveyors Association have indicated that they would be willing to contribute to the cost of creating a national surveyor related education resource.

### ***Survey Office Bylaw***

It has become apparent that our current bylaws are inadequate with respect to what constitutes a survey office. Preliminary work on a new bylaw was brought forward at the AGM. Our practice committee is making revisions to their preliminary work and it is expected that they will have a new bylaw drafted for the next AGM.

***Other Items of Note***

- During the past year we observed the passing of 6 past and active members of our association. One of these passing was of particular significance to the CCLS. Russ George, a founding member and first President of the CCLS passed away earlier this year.
- Our current membership is made up of:
  - 63 Active members
  - 8 Life members
  - 15 Land Surveyors in Training (this includes 6 applying through the MRA)
- A law firm in Saskatchewan was quoted in an article that they were keeping scanned copies of Real Property Reports for use by their clients. We are currently corresponding with the Saskatchewan Law Society on this matter. We have let them know that our Association has serious concerns about this practice and that it may infringe on copyright as well as opening up liability to that firm for use of outdated RPRs.
- Our Association office currently has over 48,000 records in its RPR database. The database does not keep copies of the RPRs but it does keep statistics on who did the RPR and where and when RPR was done. When members of the public call in to the office asking if a copy of an RPR is available they are directed to the land surveyor who performed the latest RPR on that property. Each month the Association members give the pertinent information to the Association office to enter into the database. This resource is also being used by the Association members to consult with any surveyors who may have done an RPR adjacent to a current RPR.
- We negotiated a new three year contract with our executive director.
- Four years ago the Association initiated a meeting with various government agencies. We finished our 4<sup>th</sup> annual meeting this year and have found the meetings to be worthwhile. Representatives from the membership as well as our executive director discuss issues relevant to the practice of land surveying. The agencies involved have also found that they manage to gain useful knowledge from their counterparts that are involved in the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

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Saskatchewan Director for CCLS