

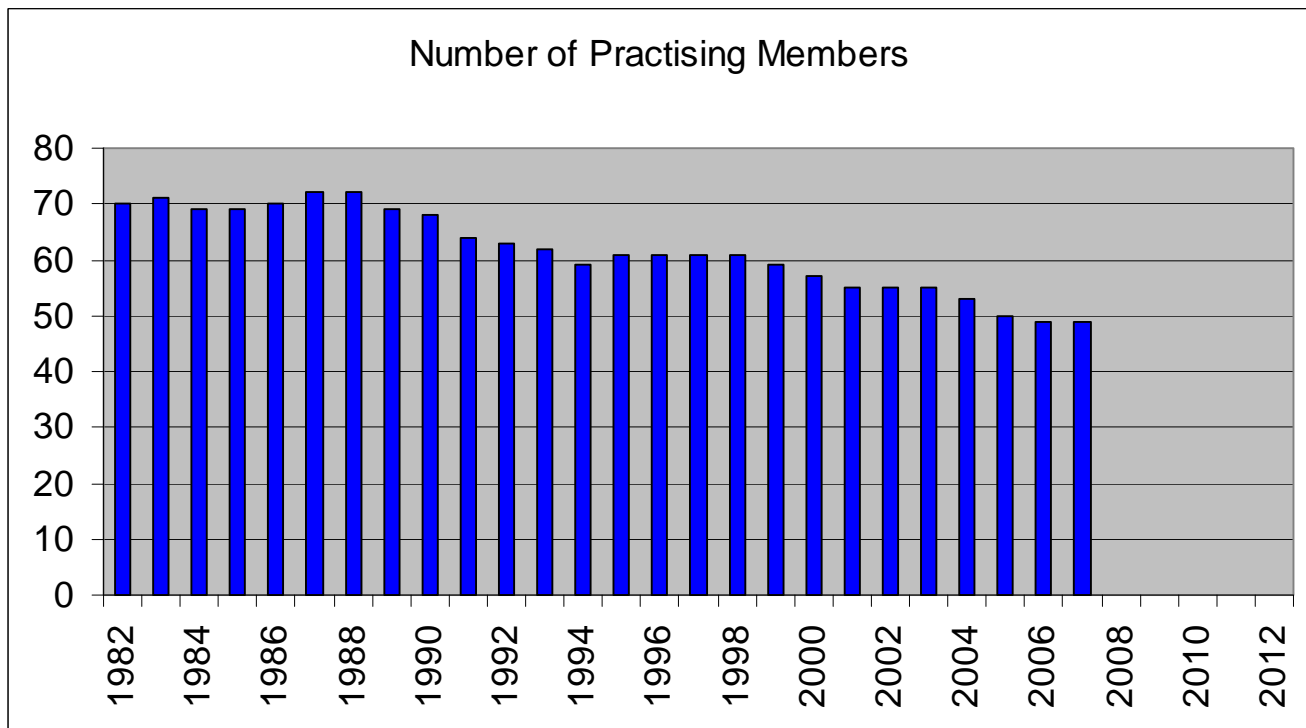
REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA LAND SURVEYORS
TO THE CANADIAN COUNCIL OF LAND SURVEYORS
AT THE 2007 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Association of Manitoba Land Surveyors held its 127th Annual General Meeting in Winnipeg on September 20th and 21st, 2007. The meeting was attended by 40 practising members, 6 students/candidates and 2 retired members. Our newly elected president is Mr. Wilson Phillips, M.L.S., C.L.S. and vice-president is Mr. Steve Bossenmaier, M.L.S., P. Eng.

Major issues and initiatives of the association include:

Declining Number of Practising Members

The declining number of practising surveyors continues to be a major issue for the association. Presently, we have 49 practising members (33 in private practice and 16 in public service), 20 retired members and 12 active students/candidates. Of our practising members we estimate 69% have made 50 or more trips around the sun. The following chart displays the number of practising members in our association since 1982.



Focused Strategic Planning Session

In February 2007 the association undertook a focused strategic planning session dealing specifically with the negative growth demographic trend affecting our Association. The summarized result of the planning session resulted in plans to address two key strategies and, for the sake of simplicity and logistical practicality, two key initiatives for each strategy:

- Building an efficient and effective process for attaining a commission as a land surveyor
 - * Building a Student Centred Support System
 - * Establishing a well defined Career Path Program for potential Land Surveyors in Manitoba

- Growing the opportunities for the profession in Manitoba to attract and accommodate newly commissioned Land Surveyors
 - * Promoting change in the internal business culture of Land Surveyors in Manitoba
 - * Positively influencing the policies and programs of the provincial government and agencies

Project plans have been established for all of these key initiatives. The task blocks have either been assigned or are in preliminary stages of assignment.

Education Committee

Committee efforts have increased enrollment of students in the Geomatics Technology Program at Red River College (RRC) and candidates from Manitoba in the CBEPS and assisted candidates in writing and passing CBEPS examinations. Noteworthy activities include:

- Presentations to 1st year students of the RRC Civil Engineering Department
- Beef & Bun events for 2nd & 3rd year students of the RRC Geomatics Technology program
- Information, strategy and study sessions for candidates writing CBEPS examinations,
- Establishment of a YAHOO Student Assistance Group Website – see <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/manitobalandsurveyorstudentassistance/>

Land Surveyors Profession Act

The proposed Land Surveyors Profession Act is now with the Minister of Finance for review. Noteworthy changes from the present act include public participation on Executive Council and certain committees such as the discipline committee, a more clear and current definition of the practise of land surveying, a streamlined discipline process, an opportunity for members in private practise to incorporate, an ultimate limitations period for liability, and the delegation of certain matters to by-laws such as the examination of candidates.

After strenuous discussions the initial government review committee has removed the phrase “for gain” in the “Exclusive Right to Practice” provision, which formerly read “Subject to subsection (2), no person other than a Manitoba Land Surveyor or professional corporation shall, for gain, engage in the practice of land surveying”.

Unauthorized Practise

Recently, a Crown prosecutor has denied an application made on behalf of the Attorney General of Manitoba to charge a southern Manitoba company with unauthorized practice noting that the association had not issued three warnings and prosecution was not in the public interest. The membership has directed Executive Council to pursue the matter for a more detailed explanation.

CBEPS Exemptions

The association is concerned that Red River College will lose some of their 6 exemptions to the examinations of the Canadian Board of Examiners for Professional Surveyors at the next review due to poorly prepared submissions and staffing issues. The association has appointed a surveyor to work with the college to improve their next submission.

Charity Golf Tournament

This year the association held its annual charity golf tournament in conjunction with the annual general meeting. The association will be donating approximately \$4,500.00 to the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba in support of the Children's Miracle Network.

F. Wayne Leeman, M.L.S.
CCLS Director representing the AMLS