



**NSPS Representative to CCLS Report  
CCLS Annual Meeting  
(September 7 and 8, 2008)**

Presented by: Patrick Beehler, National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS) President and Robert Dahn, Area 1 NSPS Director and NSPS Representative to CCLS

We would like to thank President Selwyn Sanderson, the Executive Officers, the Board of Directors and the assembled membership of CCLS for allowing us the privilege of attending your meeting and this opportunity to review the activities of the National Society of Professional Surveyors in 2008 and to share our visions for the future of our profession.

We bring wishes of good health and prosperity for the coming year, to all our fellow professionals across Canada.

2008 has been an active year for NSPS. There have been many exciting initiatives and accomplishments during the past year.

NSPS continues to dedicate substantial resources to promoting and advancing professional land surveying in the US. In addition to the NSPS commitment to improving the quality of practice of our existing professionals and adapting the scope of the profession to its dynamic workplace, in 2008 NSPS placed a renewed emphasis on its efforts to reach and cultivate the next generation of surveying professionals.

In 2008 NSPS supports various youth outreach programs. From the Boy Scout Merit Badge program to the successful Trigstar Program, a trigonometry contest for high school students offering scholarships to the winners, the NSPS commitment to youth outreach is greater than ever. The success of this program has afforded NSPS the ability to offer an additional Trigstar scholarship. In 2008 awarded a new scholarship recognizing a former contest participant who has enrolled in a collegiate surveying program. NSPS continues to provide its affiliates with an array of tools, like the Speakers Kit to employ in local outreach efforts.

NSPS is equally committed to improving the quality of the university and college surveying programs across the United States. We are a longtime participant in the ABET College curriculum accreditation process. We have also begun work on a suggested body of knowledge for the surveying profession. We hope this will be valuable tool for the

academic community to assess curriculum needs relative to the needs of the private and public sectors who will employ the graduates of these programs.

NSPS is the national representative of the professional surveying profession in Governmental Affairs. In the United States laws affecting land surveying can be generated both at the State level, the equivalent of your Provincial governments, and by the Federal Government. The State Surveying Societies represent the profession at the state level, while NSPS represents the surveying community at the nation's capitol as part of the Joint Government Affairs Committee of ACSM. ACSM maintains a year round presence in the nation's capital. In September prior to the NSPS Fall Meeting, ACSM will hold its annual "Lobby Day" in Washington D.C. Representatives from the member organizations of ACSM, including NSPS, spend an entire day visiting the offices of their US Senators and Congressional Representatives reviewing surveying related issues being considered by the federal government. In part as a result of this kind of commitment, the ACSM and NSPS position and assistance on numerous issues is requested by federal agencies. Examples of our work at the capital range from generating and providing language for proposed legislation regarding monumenting abandoned railroads, to our continued work and input on the FEMA Flood Map Modernization.

Via the NSPS Foundation, NSPS provides strong support to the surveying community. In addition to scholarships and other awards, the Foundation, through its Disaster Relief Fund provides financial assistance to members of the surveying community affected by natural disasters throughout the United States.

NSPS is an active participant in FIG. The NSPS FIG Delegation has been expanded and additional resources have been committed to the delegation. These resources have enabled NSPS to send a diverse and clearly qualified delegation to the FIG conferences.

We are very excited to able to participate in your meeting and are eager to learn about the issues affecting the surveying profession in Canada. We anticipate that the CCLS approach and solutions to these issues will provide valuable insight to NSPS in its pursuit of solutions to similar issues confronting surveyors in the United States and hope that any input we can provide will be equally valuable to CCLS.

Thank you for your generous hospitality,

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Beehler, NSPS President, and  
Robert Dahn, Area 1 Director, NSPS/NSPS Observer to CCLS