

Section V

TERMS RELATED TO ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

All terms within the definitions that are shown in bold italics are defined in this list.

- AERC** Academic and Experience Requirements Committee. A statutory committee of the Association of Ontario Land Surveyors charged with the evaluation of academic and experience requirements of candidates for licensure or registration as Ontario Land Surveyors.
- APBELS or Atlantic Board** The Atlantic Provinces Board of Examiners for Land Surveyors, or APBELS, is commonly referred to as the **Atlantic Board**. A regional board of examiners created by the four Atlantic provincial surveyors associations with delegated authority to review the academic requirements for **candidates** for licensure to those associations. Note that each of the provincial associations has a separate Board of Examiners.
- BECC** Board of Examiners Co-ordinating Committee. A standing committee of the CCLS comprised of one member each from the **Regional Boards** of Examiners for land surveying in Canada.
- BECLS** Board of Examiners for Canada Lands Surveyors. This Board is responsible for the professional qualifications of Canada Lands Surveyor **candidates**. Note, pre-professional academic qualification responsibilities of the BECLS were delegated to the **CBEPS** in 2007.
- Candidate** A term used by the **BECLS**, **Western Board** and **Atlantic Board** referring to a candidate for a **certificate of completion**. In order to be accepted as a **candidate**, a certain level of academic achievement must be met. When used in relation to AERC or OAGQ-BE, the term refers more generally to an individual attempting to meet the academic requirements necessary to enter articles.
- CBEPS** Canadian Board of Examiners for Professional Surveyors. This body was incorporated in 2007 and combined the **WCBELS** and the portion of **BECLS** which dealt with the pre-professional academic qualification of ACLS candidates and administered the syllabus examinations. CBEPS establishes, assesses and certifies the academic qualifications of individuals who apply to become land surveyors and/or geomatics professionals in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and for Canada Lands. CBEPS also manages the syllabus examinations for the above mentioned jurisdictions as well as for APBELS and the Association of Canada Lands Surveyors (ACLS) professional exams. Note that each of the five participating associations maintains its own Board of Examiners.
- CCLS** Canadian Council of Land Surveyors. A Council made up of the eleven professional surveying associations in Canada, the Canadian Council of Land Surveyors is a national consensus based enabling forum providing proactive leadership to its member associations. Its prime objectives are to

provide national strategies, and national and international representation for land surveyors within the geomatics profession.

CCLS Accreditation The CCLS has a system of accreditation whereby certain combination of courses available within a degree program at a Canadian University may be accredited as satisfying the requirements of the **Regional Boards'** academic requirements. The accreditation is based on the current **joint boards syllabus** and is governed by a CCLS policy paper. The accreditations are undertaken by the **BECC**. Currently University of Calgary and University of New Brunswick have accreditations although neither is automatically recognized by **Regional Boards** outside of the university's own region.

Certificate of Completion This term is used differently by the **AERC** and the **Atlantic Board** and **CBEPS**. The **AERC** uses the term to describe the completion of articles, which entitles the surveyor in training to write the final professional examinations leading to licensure. The **Atlantic Board** and **CBEPS** use the term (full term is "certificate of completion of academic requirements for land surveyors") to describe a **candidate** who has completed all academic requirements of the Board for licensure.

Common Core Syllabus A term sometimes used to refer to **Schedule I** and **Schedule II** of the **CBEPS Syllabus**. In reality, **Schedule I** is common only to the **CBEPS** and **Atlantic Board**, **Schedule II** is common only to the **CBEPS**. The **Atlantic Board Schedule II** is similar to the **BECLS CBEPS Schedule II**. The **AERC** is a party to an MOU recognizing the **CBEPS Schedule I and II** but does not use these Schedules to describe its academic requirements. The **OAGQ-BE** does not formally recognize the **Syllabus**. (Also see **Joint Boards Syllabus**)

Equivalency The **Atlantic**, **Western** and **ACLS-BE** use this term to describe an course or combination of courses at a post-secondary institution which is deemed equivalent to the content of a specific **syllabus** item. A minimum mark is generally required. A date or period of time may be specified. (i.e. Course ABC-123 from College X, if completed between 1998 and 2005, with a minimum grade of 60%, is equivalent to **Syllabus I**, Item 3) If a **candidate** has successfully completed a course that has been granted **equivalency**, then he or she will be granted an **exemption** for that **syllabus** item. **Equivalency** can be recognized through a **candidate** requesting an **exemption** based on specific course or through an institution applying for **equivalency** for courses in their calendar.

Exemption The **Atlantic**, **Western** and **ACLS-BE** use this term to describe and exemption from writing a specific **syllabus examination**, which is granted to an individual **candidate** who is deemed to have demonstrated sufficient knowledge in that subject area.

Harmonization The goal of harmonizing the entrance requirements and processes for the profession of land surveying in Canada.

Harmonization Forum A national forum sponsored by the CCLS in March 2004 to discuss the topic of **harmonization** of entry requirements and processes for the profession of land surveying in Canada.

- Joint Boards Syllabus** A syllabus based on the current CBEPS Syllabus Schedules I and II that is jointly adopted by several Regional Boards, those Regional Boards being explicitly named in the syllabus title.
- OAGQ-BE** Ordre des arpenteurs-géomètres du Québec Board of Examiners. The Board of examiners for the Order responsible for the academic requirements of candidates for licensure to the Order.
- Regional Boards** A term used to describe the five Boards of Examiners which cover land surveying in Canada in the following five jurisdictions: Atlantic provinces, Quebec, Ontario, western provinces, and Canada Lands, i.e. **Atlantic Board**, **OAGQ-BE**, **AERC**, **Western Board** and **BECLS**.
- Responsible Examiners** Members of the **BECLS** responsible for specific **syllabus examinations**. They act as the subject matter authority on the **BECLS**.
- Schedule I** The first Schedule of the **Syllabus**, which contains items classified as technical fundamentals. The **Atlantic Board** refers to this as Part I of their **Syllabus**.
- Schedule II** The second Schedule of the **Syllabus**, which contains items classified as geomatic fundamentals. The **Atlantic Board** refers to this as Part II of their **Syllabus**.
- Schedule III** A third Schedule of the **Syllabus**, which contains additional items. Only the **BECLS** and the **Atlantic Board** have a third Schedule and they are unrelated. The subject areas in the **BECLS Schedule III** relate specifically to Canada Lands. The **Atlantic Board** refers to this schedule as Part III of their **Syllabus** and the subject areas are classified as "Survey Practice".
- Special Examiner** An individual with specific expertise in a **syllabus** item subject area who sets a **syllabus examination** for that item and acts as a resource person to the **BECLS**.
- Syllabus** A term used by the **Atlantic Board**, **CBEPS** and **BECLS**, to describe their list of academic subject areas required for licensure as a land surveyor in their jurisdiction. Each **Syllabus** is divided into **Schedules I, II** and **III**, each containing a number of Items. Each Item describes a specific subject area. Each Item contains a name, a description of topics or areas of knowledge, a list of recommended textbooks, and a list of recommended references
- Syllabus Review Task Force** A task force of the **CCLS** with a mandate to review the **Syllabus** of academic requirements used by the various **Regional Boards**.
- Syllabus Examination** An examination, set by the **CBEPS**, and recognized by the **CBEPS**, the **Atlantic Board**, and **AERC** as a means to demonstrate competence in a **Syllabus** Item. The examinations are generally based on the recommended textbooks listed in the **Syllabus**. The recognition of the examinations is through a formal memorandum of Understanding signed by the **Regional Boards** noted above. The **OAGQ-BE** does not formally recognize the **syllabus examinations**.
- WCBELS or Western Board** The Western Canadian Board of Examiners for Land Surveyors, or WCBELS, is commonly referred to as the **Western Board**. A regional board of examiners created by the four western provincial surveyors

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associations with delegated authority to review the academic requirements for **candidates** for licensure to those associations. The WCBELS was incorporated into the **CBEPS** in 2007. Note that each of the provincial associations has a separate Board of Examiners.