



CCLS Bulletin - February 2002

The CCLS Bulletin is published four to six times per year and distributed to individual land surveyors through the member associations of the CCLS. The Bulletin contains a summary of the ongoing work of the Council. Any input is welcomed by the Editor and can be communicated to the CCLS office by, e-mail, fax, mail, or telephone.

Geomatics Human Resources Sector Council

In early December 2001, CCLS, CIG and GIAC, the sponsors of the Geomatics Sector Human Resources Study, completed a cross-Canada series of consultation sessions. The goals of these sessions were:

- to increase awareness in all regions of Canada of the dynamic changes that are taking place in the geomatics marketplace and in the industry, and the impact these are having on human resources;
- to receive an appreciation of the level of support for follow-up actions to address the key human resources issues highlighted in the Study report and in particular, for the establishment of a Sector Council;
- to obtain an indication of the respective priorities in addressing these challenges;
- to create a report to be tabled with the Steering Committee and HRDC, including the recommendations for further action.

Approximately 230 representatives of public and private sector geomatics organizations provided feedback at these meetings. A report on the sessions, available from the CCLS office, provides a brief background to the consultation sessions, summarizes the feedback provided by the participants and presents a series of conclusions for consideration.

Together with the distribution of the Study report in February 2002, the consultation sessions served to inform a significant number of individuals of the HR issues facing the sector now and in the near future. A high level of support for follow-up actions and significant support for further investigation of the Sector Council as a means to pursue those follow-up activities was received. Valuable input for the setting of priorities and identification of specific projects was received and will be studied in greater detail when the mechanism for follow-up is determined. Equally valuable input regarding concerns over the structure and impact of a potential Council was received and the outline of an alternate mechanism has been identified. The governance bodies of CCLS, CIG and GIAC will be considering the results of the consultation process in the first quarter of 2002 and making decisions on how to proceed.

International Trade Committee

The Fall meeting of the trilateral NAFTA Committee in Mexico was disappointing to the Canadian delegation due to the lack of progress from the American and Mexican committees in moving forward with the Mutual Recognition Document. Our Committee will continue to work towards the submission of the MRD to our government representatives. They will also be working with the CCLS Board of Directors to discuss issues of the changing landscape in the United States resulting from evolving licence definitions and restrictions in many states.

The International Trade Committee is also monitoring the work of the Canadian government representatives on the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) through the World Trade Organization (WTO) and is submitting surveyor specific information to Industry Canada in that regard.

Labour Mobility for Canadian Land Surveyors

We are fast approaching the first year anniversary of the signing of a mutual recognition document for land surveying under the Agreement on Internal Trade – Labour Mobility Chapter. The agreement contains provisions for annual review of the agreement. The CCLS will be serving as the administrator for these annual reviews and as a resource for facilitating discussion about any issues that may arise surrounding the implementation of the

agreement. There have been several applications for licensure under the agreement. Associations are working towards implementing the necessary changes to their policies, by-laws and regulations in order to fully comply with the agreement and process these applications.

Professional Liability Insurance Committee

The Professional Liability Insurance Committee will hold its regular Spring Committee meeting in Ottawa on March 3-4. Renewal negotiations in preparation for the expiration of the current policy period in June have been completed. The Committee Members are very pleased with the policy itself and terms of renewal for the program.

The PLIC has decided to temporarily discontinue the series of loss prevention seminars. Instead, a general practice guide is being developed and will be distributed to all insureds. The PLIC continues to investigate new and better ways of delivering loss prevention and education to its members. This new practice guide will deal with many important issues such as communication, practice exposure, claims handling, risk management and contracts. CCLS and ENCON will continue to collaborate on Loss Control Bulletins dealing with current issues facing land surveyors. As well, the Committee will offer to present a report at each Association AGM.

Very positive responses have been received through the recently implemented feedback questionnaire which is sent to every insured at the settling of a claim. The Committee is in constant communication with the program broker and managers and continues to be available to any individual surveyor who has comments or questions about the Committee, its work, or the program.

Public Relations

The CCLS Public Relations Committee, with its new steering committee and resource group format, is in the final planning stages of a meeting in Ottawa on April 15-16, 2002 which will bring together representatives from each member association to analyze, prioritize, and plan in some detail the implementation of a national public relations platform for land surveyors. Anyone with an interest in this work, is urged to contact their association representative or a member of the steering committee. Names and contact information for these individuals is available from the CCLS office.

CCLS Web Site

The new CCLS web site can be found at www.ccls-ccag.ca. It contains key information about the people and work of the CCLS. Please have a look and send any comments or content to the CCLS office.

Current Board and Executive Committee

Your current Board of Directors is composed of Scott Murphy, NLS, Serge Bernard, PEILS, Gerald Pottier, NSLS, H. Murdock MacAllister, NBLS, Denis Blais, OLS, Gord Lund, MLS, Roy Pominville, SLS, Monroe Kinloch, ALS, Dave Bazett, BCLS, and Carl Friesen, ACLS. The Executive Committee members for this year are President Greg Browne, BCLS, Vice President James Dobbin, NSLS, Past President Philip Milo, NSLS, Secretary Treasurer Gerry Hawryluk, MLS and Executive Director Sarah Cornett, OLS.

In Summary

A one and one half day strategic planning and governance evaluation session is planned as part of the annual meeting taking place in Victoria March 16 – 18. We are looking forward to an analysis of what is working and what may not be working within the CCLS and to setting our sights on new visions and objectives for the coming years.

We continue to look for individuals who have a particular interest in an issue or have something to offer a CCLS committee or project. Please feel free to contact the CCLS office or any member of the Board or a current committee as we work to represent you and your interests within the Canadian and international survey community.

Sarah J. Cornett, B.Sc., OLS
CCLS Executive Director