



CCLS Bulletin – July 2003

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.

Annual Meeting 2003

The 2003 Annual Meeting of the Canadian Council of Land Surveyors took place on April 27 and 28, 2003 in Calgary, Alberta. The meeting followed the Alberta Land Surveyors' Association Annual General Meeting and, as customary, there was a full CCLS delegation taking part in the Alberta proceedings.

Many who attended the ALSA annual meeting in April, took the opportunity to speak with a CCLS representative and express their views, or asked questions about their national association. Presidents of the Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Nova Scotia and Canada Lands surveyors associations, as well as representatives from the Canadian Institute of Geomatics, the Geomatics Industry Association of Canada, and the National Society of Professional Land Surveyors (U.S.A.), participated in the meeting and provided valuable input to the discussions.

Board of Directors and Executive Committee

The CCLS Board of Directors is composed of Wayne Hodder, NLS, Serge Bernard, PEILS, Gerald Pottier, NSLS, H. Murdock MacAllister, NBLS (Interim), Rick Dixon, OLS, Gord Lund, MLS, Guy Craig, SLS, Monroe Kinloch, ALS, Dave Bazett, BCLS, and Carl Friesen, ACLS. The Executive Committee members for this year are President James Dobbin, NBLS, Vice President Bert Hol, BCLS, Past President Greg Browne, BCLS, and Secretary-Treasurer Gord Lund, MLS. We have three new Directors (Wayne, Rick and Guy) and a new Executive member (Bert) since February 2003 and will welcome two more new Directors to the table in the coming months.

Board of Examiners Co-ordinating Committee

The CCLS Board of Examiners Co-ordinating Committee (BECC) is being reactivated in order to address a number of current issues. The University of Calgary and University of New Brunswick geomatics program accreditations will soon need review and it is recognized that a review of the evaluation and accreditation process itself will be required in order to address the changing face of geomatics education. There are several new geomatics programs in Canada that should be considered for evaluation and a provisional process is being considered for those institutes who do not yet have a graduating class, as required for full accreditation. The Labour Mobility agreement has been in place for two full years and includes a clause agreeing to work towards harmonization of academic credentials amongst the signatory associations. The feedback on the National Board of Examiners project (see below) is providing important information about association needs with respect to evaluation of academic qualifications. These issues and others will be discussed in the development of updated terms of reference for the BECC under the direction of CCLS Vice-President, Bert Hol.

Co-management Agreement Between CCLS, CIG and GIAC

The Joint Communications Committee, comprised of representatives of Canadian Council of Land Surveyors (CCLS), Canadian Institute of Geomatics (CIG), Geomatics Industry Association of Canada (GIAC) and Association of Canada Lands Surveyors (ACLS), held its second meeting in April. The committee was formed under the co-management agreement between CCLS, CIG and GIAC, which is in effect for a one-year trial period that commenced this past Spring. The objectives of the committee are to:

- provide a formal means of communication between the participating organizations, specifically related to common goals and objectives and to common members
- develop and promote a common vision of the future of the geomatics sector in Canada
- identify opportunities for coordinated action to achieve this vision or to address issues of interest or concern to the participating organizations
- provide direction to the senior staff members of the participating organizations in the development and implementation of service exchange arrangements in order to act on these opportunities
- discuss the appropriateness of long term co-location/co-management of professional organizations such as CCLS and ACLS with an industry organization such as GIAC

The office for all four organizations is currently located at Suite 400, 1390 Prince of Wales Drive, Ottawa, K2C 3N6, which now houses a staff of nine permanent employees: ACLS Executive Director Jean Claude Tétreault, Board of Examiners Registrar Jim Simpson and Administrative Assistant Kevin Jones; CCLS Executive Director Sarah Cornett and Administrative Assistant Ria van der Veen; and CIG/GIAC Chief Executive Officer Richard Nasmith, Publications Officer Carol Railor, Membership and Marketing Officer Kim Haddow and Office Administrator Tammy Laurin. The office space is being fully utilized and the sharing of rent, office equipment and human resources seems to be working well at this time. Decisions about the future of the co-management agreement will be made in one year's time and the input of CCLS's member associations will be sought.

Geomatics Human Resources Sector Council

The potential development of a Geomatics Human Resources Sector Council has been under consideration since the completion of the HR Sector Study in January of 2002 and there is currently consensus from the leadership of the CCLS, the Canadian Institute of Geomatics, and the Geomatics Industry Association of Canada, the three primary sector sponsors of the Study, to pursue the issue. We have been working with HRDC throughout the last year and dealing with various procedural and strategic issues brought about by changing government priorities and protocols. Recently, a study was completed by an independent consultant “... to examine how geomatics fits within the context of the overall labour market and how the partnership between HRDC and the geomatics sector will move forward. Specifically, ... examining other sectors with which geomatics is most closely aligned, so that future work can consider options to a standalone geomatics sector council in detail.” The full text of the report can be obtained from the CCLS office.

The concluding section of the report reads in part, “*Our review of the sector study report and our interviews with study consultants, and steering committee representatives suggest that the Geomatics Industry should be allowed to stand alone as a well-defined and viable group for the purpose of forming a sector council. The formation of such a council should be the first priority for this industry, but there is also merit in exploring both cooperative efforts with other councils*

and the possibility of including occupations in related emerging industries within the ambit of this council at some later date. Sector groups with an interest in geomatics are interested in developing cooperative relationships and/or including geomatics in a larger, science and technology based sector council serving the needs of a number of relevant industry groups. The passivity of combining initiatives may be considered in the future, but for the present the predominant interest and need is to enhance the image of the geomatics industry in product and service markets as well as in the labour market. Meeting these emerging industry requirements is more appropriate to a stand alone industry council.”

The report will be used to support the application to HRDC for further developmental funding for a Geomatics Sector Council.

Introducing New CCLS Staff Member

CCLS is very pleased to introduce an addition to the staff at the Ottawa Office. Ria van der Veen began work on July 14th as Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director. Ria has a degree in Computer Science and brings a wide range of administrative and technical skills to the office, as well as being fluent in English, French and Dutch. She will be responsible for the myriad of administrative duties inherent in a small office environment as well as for updating and maintaining the CCLS web site. Ria will be in the office Monday, Tuesday morning, Wednesday morning, and Thursday and can be contacted directly by e-mail at admin@ccls-ccag.ca.

Labour Mobility for Canadian Land Surveyors

CCLS recently hosted the second annual review of the Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) for land surveying under the Agreement on Internal Trade. The MRA provides for this annual review by a monitoring group consisting of one representative from each signatory association. Information submitted by the associations indicate that two surveyors have been licensed under the agreement and a further seventeen applications under consideration.

National Board of Examiners

The CCLS National Board of Examiners Committee developed a discussion paper, a draft agreement and a draft funding model for a National Board. The committee made presentations to association boards and councils so that each association had an opportunity for direct input. At this point, the committee is gathering formal responses to the proposed model, the goal being a consensus decision by the associations, who hold the legislated authority for evaluation of academic credentials. A decision will be sought this fall regarding moving forward with the proposed model or alternate strategies.

OAGQ Re-integration into CCLS

L'Ordre des arpenteurs-géomètre du Québec held its annual meeting at the end of May 2003 and CCLS is very pleased to announce that plans for the Order to re-join CCLS were confirmed by the membership. Peter Rado, immediate past-president of the Order, and other OAGQ members, have been active in several CCLS projects over the past three years, including the Labour Mobility discussions, the National Board of Examiners task force, and the last two annual meetings. Peter has been an observer and participant in the regular teleconferenced CCLS Board meetings since last fall and has brought valued information and insight to the discussions. CCLS

is intending to hold its 2004 annual general meeting in conjunction with the next OAGQ annual meeting in Quebec City in May 2004.

Professional Liability Insurance Committee

The Professional Liability Insurance Committee (PLIC) held its regular spring committee meeting in Ottawa in April and will meet again in November. Between regular meetings, the committee monitors claims as they arise and progress to settlement. Committee members are available to discuss any issues you may have with the program and can often answer questions or concerns, or aid in communicating with the appropriate professional, if you are involved in a claim or are facing a potential claim. Current members of the committee are:

Jim Gunn, NSLS, CLS, Chair	tel: 902-285-2045	e-mail: jimgunn@ns.sympatico.ca
Gordon Webster, SLS, CLS	tel: 306-653-1433	e-mail: webster@link.ca
Greg Browne, BCLS	tel: 250-832-9701	e-mail: greg@brownejohnson.com
Monroe Kinloch ALS	tel: 780-469-6722	e-mail: kinloch@telusplanet.net
Sarah Cornett, OLS, Secretary	tel: 800-241-7200	e-mail: exdir@ccls-ccag.ca

The committee continues to promote the use of the CCLS Loss Prevention and Practice Management Guide which contains information about business communication, practice exposure, claims handling, risk management and contracts. The guide, in PDF format, is posted on the CCLS web site.

If you would prefer a hardcopy of the Guide, please send a request to the CCLS office with the number of copies you would like, your mailing address, and a cheque payable to the Canadian Council of Land Surveyors for \$27.00 per copy, to cover the cost of the binder, printing, mailing and GST.

Strategic Planning Task Force

A formal strategic planning process has been implemented through a task force comprised of the CCLS Vice President, Past President and Executive Director, plus two to three members at large. Current members are Denis Blais, OLS, Chair; Bert Hol, BCLS, CCLS Vice President; Greg Browne, BCLS, CCLS Past President; Sarah Cornett, OLS, CCLS Executive Director; Gord Lund, MLS, CCLS Secretary-Treasurer; Stephen Hartley, NBLS, ANBLS Executive Director. The emphasis for 2003 is to build on the work to date, and ensure that other CCLS projects are progressing in parallel with strategic planning and not overshadowed by it. Many action items surrounding improving communications, increasing accountability, remodeling the governance structure, and improving association participation and support are being tackled. A detailed presentation about CCLS and its strategic directions is in the final stages of development and will be coming to a Council meeting near you in the next few months. Presentations have been made to the OAGQ membership at their June annual meeting and to AOLS Council at their July summer meeting and the response from these two associations has been positive and constructive.

In Summary

Long established programs, new initiatives and partnerships, future directions and strategic planning are all featured on the current action sheet at the CCLS. There will be specific opportunities for your input and participation in the coming year as well as our virtual (through e-mail, fax or toll-free telephone) open door policy here at the CCLS office. Of course, if you are ever in Ottawa, please come by in person. We look forward to hearing your views.