



## **CCLS Bulletin - May 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. A description of the meeting format and objectives was printed in the October 2002 CCLS *Bulletin*.

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.

### ***CCLS Board and Executive Committee***

Your current 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 and a new Executive member 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 range of feedback on the National Board of Examiners project (see below) is providing important information about Association needs with respect to evaluation of academic qualification. 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 Canadian Council of Land Surveyors (CCLS), Canadian Institute of Geomatics (CIG), Geomatics Industry Association of Canada (GIAC), in cooperation with the Association of Canada Lands Surveyors (ACLS) have developed a co-location/co-management agreement. The CCLS, CIG and ACLS, who are currently co-located, have agreed to GIAC co-locating for a one-year trial period commencing February 1, 2003. Primary contributing factors were CCLS, CIG and GIAC's mutual desire to reduce costs and improve member services, and an overall desire to improve cooperation on dealing with national issues, while respecting the different perspectives and priorities of each organization.

A significant part of the agreement is the establishment of a Joint Communications Committee comprised of representatives of each of the four organizations, which will meet at least four times during this trial period to:

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- provide a formal means of communication between the participating organizations, specifically related to common goals and objectives and 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 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 those 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

In addition, CIG and GIAC have agreed to share staff under a co-management arrangement. CIG and GIAC are have hired a Chief Executive Officer, Richard Nasmith, who will serve as the President of GIAC and the Executive Director of CIG. Staffing plans also include the sharing of existing Publications Officer and Office Administrator staff, and the creation of a new shared Membership and Marketing Officer position.

The current President of GIAC, Ed Kennedy, has taken the position of the Managing Director of a new export marketing subsidiary, the Canadian GeoProject Centre (CGC), which GIAC is creating in partnership with the Canadian Centre for Marine Communications. This organization will not be co-locating with the other organizations.

GIAC's decision to refocus on its domestic agenda, with international business development being handled by the new CGC, provides a timely opportunity for it to develop much more coordinated actions plans with the other organizations, and to review membership requirements so as to encourage and increase membership from the surveying industry.

The office for all four organizations will be Suite 400, 1390 Prince of Wales Drive, Ottawa, effective February 3, 2003.

### ***Geomatics Human Resources Sector Council***

Human Resources Sector Councils are federally supported entities developed in partnership with Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC) and designed to address human resources issues on a national, sector wide basis. To quote the HRDC literature "Sector Councils provide the permanent infrastructure for the private sector to strategically address complex human resource issues over a long period of time. A Sector Council is a body, led by a partnership representative of all stakeholders in a defined area of economic activity (sector or occupation), whose mandate includes identifying and addressing human resources issues."

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 has been 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." This report favours the formation of an independent HR Sector Council for Geomatics and will be used to support our application to HRDC for further developmental funding.

### ***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.

***Professional Liability Insurance Committee***

The Professional Liability Insurance Committee (PLIC) held its regular Spring committee meeting in Ottawa on April 6-7, 2003. This meeting focused on claims handling issues and ensuring that the individual insureds continue to be well served by the program.

The new Practice Guide, dealing with issues such as communication, practice exposure, claims handling, risk management and contracts, is posted CCLS web site. A promotional mailing went out in early January to inform individual surveyors about the Guide. The web based version of the Guide has been formatted in PDF files to be easily printable by individual section, or as a whole, and includes electronic bookmarks for each section and sub-section for easy on-screen navigation.

The Guide will be updated and revised regularly as new information becomes available and new insurance related issues arise. Updates will be tracked using a page at the front of the document which will list the heading, section number and date of any new or revised portion of the Guide. Each page has the date it was produced appearing in the footer. You will be informed of revisions through your association and through the CCLS Bulletin. This will ensure that if you have a printout of the Guide in your office, changes can be easily tracked and inserted.

If you would prefer a hardcopy of the Guide, simply send a request to the CCLS office. Please include the number of copies you would like, plus your mailing address and a cheque payable to the Canadian Council of Land Surveyors for \$27.00 per Guide to cover the cost of the binder, printing and mailing. Unfortunately, future updates cannot be automatically mailed to those who have request hardcopies.

Please continue to respond to the feedback questionnaire in the event that you have a claim. The committee monitors the responses closely and uses your input to improve the service to the program participants. Look for the continuing series of ENCON Loss Control Bulletins and expect a PLIC member at your association's annual meeting for a brief update on committee and program activities.

***Strategic Planning Task Force***

The work of the Strategic Planning Task Force, which was formed in order to continue the work begun at the strategic planning workshop in Victoria BC last March, is continuing. A formal strategic planning process is being implemented and the emphasis for the coming year will be 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.

***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 electronic version of an open door policy here at the CCLS office. We look forward to hearing your views.

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