

THE NOVA SCOTIAN SURVEYOR

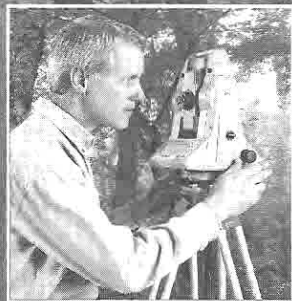
Winter/Spring 1998

No. 157



Life Member
Marcellin Chiasson, NSLS, CLS

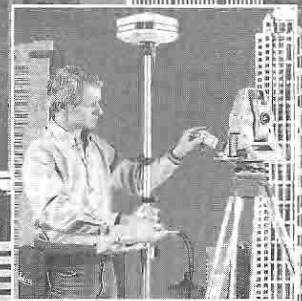
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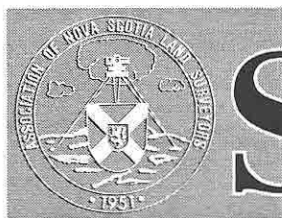
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THE NOVA SCOTIAN SURVEYOR

WINTER / SPRING 1998

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CONTENTS

PAGE

President's Report	Joseph R. Alcorn	2
Executive Director's Report	Robert A. Daniels	6
SRD Manager's Report	James D. Gunn	8
Tribute to Marcellin Chiasson: Recipient of Life Membership Award	Wayne D. Hardy	9
What is QP2?	Jim Gunn	12
From the Fieldbook		14
Minutes of the 47th Annual Meeting		17
1998 Calendar of Events		26
Annual Meeting Minutes Appendixes A, B, C, D		27

THE NOVA SCOTIAN SURVEYOR

Editor: Robert A. Daniels

Production: Kathy Alcorn
Norman Wade Company Limited

Cover: Photo courtesy of Wayne D. Hardy. Left: Wayne Hardy Right: Marcellin Chiasson

Circulation: Free of charge to ANSLS members. To non-members at a yearly rate of \$12.00 in Canada and the USA; \$16.00 for other countries, plus handling charges.

The Nova Scotian Surveyor is published three times a year. Address all enquiries to: Association of Nova Scotia Land Surveyors, 159 Portland Street, Suite 301, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, B2Y 1H9 Canada. Tel: (902) 469-7962 Fax: (902) 469-7963 E-mail: ansls@ns.sympatico.ca

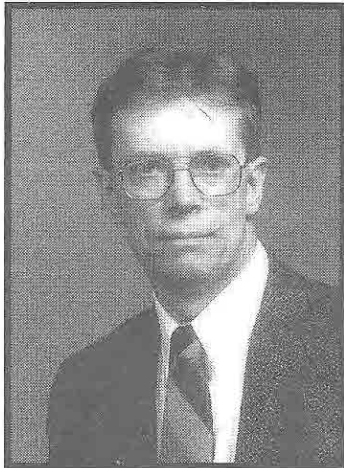
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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Joseph R. Alcorn, NSLS



It is hard to believe that it is already February and almost one quarter of this year's term has slipped away. Although there was not a lot of activity between our annual general meeting (AGM) and Christmas, things certainly have heated up in the new year. Travelling has been a large portion of this activity. Since January 1st, I have attended two AGM's, one in British Columbia and one in Ontario. We have also had our annual Committee Workshop as well as one Council meeting.

The first trip of the year was to a conference in British Columbia. The BC AGM was held in Victoria from January 13 through January 17. One of the largest issues in BC is currently dealing with trying to get their new legislation passed into law. They have been attempting for quite some time to get meetings with the minister responsible for their act. They did manage to have one meeting prior to the AGM. President Jon Magwood reported that, generally speaking, the meeting was a positive one. However, since the next sitting of the Legislature has a full docket and this legislation would be catego-

rized as miscellaneous, it would be unlikely that it would be considered crucial enough to be heard at this sitting. It was suggested by the minister that the corporation solicit support from the municipalities which could give the legislation a higher priority on the docket. The other noteworthy event that happened during this meeting was that, after a considerable amount of wrangling and debate amongst the members on what should be dealt with first, the budget (which could have had a deficit) or a dues increase, the membership approved the budget then immediately increased their dues by \$225. This now gave them an annual dues of \$1,100.

Next it was off to Niagara Falls, Ontario for their "Hands Across the Border" theme, which was a joint conference between the Association of Ontario Land Surveyors and the New York Society of Professional Land Surveyors. Generally, the business meetings and seminars were conducted as usual on both sides of the border, with two joint social functions. This provided considerable interaction between the members. It was certainly quite interesting to hear a lot of the common concerns and complaints throughout the group. Fees and professionalism were hot topics.

The Ontario AGM's second theme, the "Winds of Change", was the main theme for the business meetings. Ontario is certainly riding those winds at this time. Their association is driving hard towards an expanded profession. One step taken in this direction was the signing of a memorandum of understanding with a group called URISA (Urban and Regional Information Systems Association), which is an international organi-

zation with over 4,000 members, including 500 members in the Ontario chapter. This group is dedicated to the effective use and management of spatially related information systems and technology. They are generally recognized by other organizations as Ontario's GIS specialist. Ontario's expanded profession will be a multi-disciplinary organization with the OLS designation changing to OLIP (Ontario Land Information Professional). It was quite impressive and uplifting to see such a well-attended AGM. It will certainly be of great interest for us to follow their development in the future.

On the home front, things have been busy as well. In December, Phil Milo and I attended a meeting with the new Executive of APENS. It was our intention to get our joint committees back on track and talking again after last year's serious derailment. At the meeting, APENS indicated that they recognized that some groups are concerned with portions of their proposed legislation and that they were in the process of reworking some of those areas. They indicated that they would forward a copy of their final version to our Executive when complete. To date, this has not happened. They also expressed concern with our association using the term "engineering principles" in our proposed definition and want us to look at alternative wording. They were in total agreement that our joint committee should be back at the table in the very near future to reopen discussions to resolve our differences. At the end of January, we held our annual Committee Workshop. I would first of all like to thank all those members who

Continued on page 4

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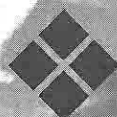
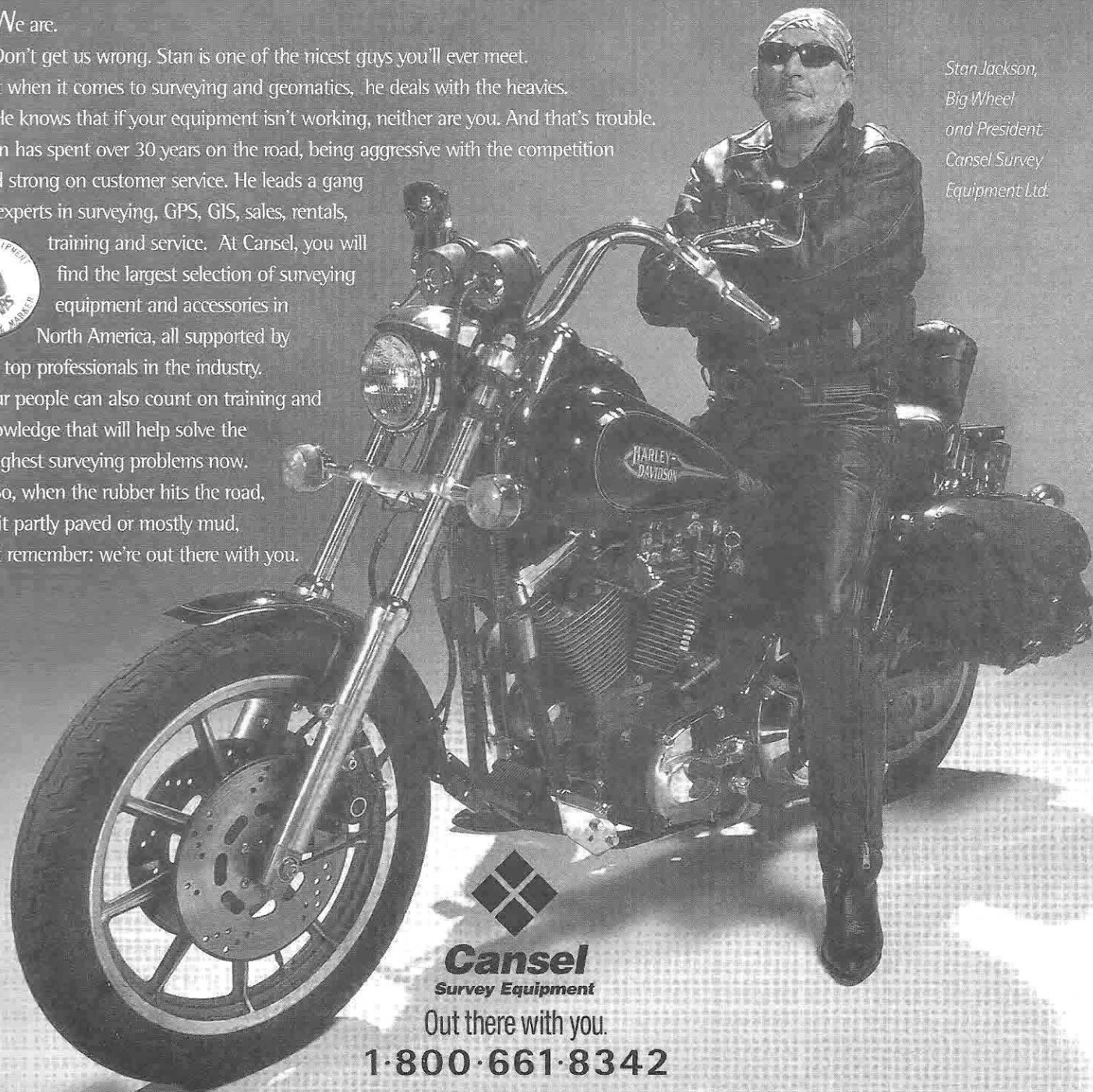
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(Continued from page 2)

participated in this year's meeting. Committees are the driving force behind our association and membership participation is extremely important. I must say that the turnout at this workshop was disappointing with less than 50% of expected participants showing up and less than 25% of the participants who did not show up sent regrets. We are in a society of rapidly changing communications and technology which impacts on us all. I cannot imagine that there has been any point in history when it has been more important to work together as a group, not only to keep abreast of but to be a key player in this evolution, and work through committees is one way to achieve this. I would encourage all chairs and members of committees that have not met this year to get together, target your goals and objectives for this year and try everything possible to achieve these goals.

Our Building Committee has

completed one of their major tasks by expediting matters to enable the ANSLs to purchase a property in Dartmouth. Once the builder has been selected and finances have been secured, construction can begin. I would not only urge those members who have made pledges to honour those pledges as soon as possible, but I would also encourage members who have not made pledges to support and invest in our association.

Bob Daniels and I also had a meeting with a group from the Nova Scotia Geomatics Centre. Very briefly, Bob and I were treated to a full tour of the facility and later met with several different groups. During these meetings, we looked at and discussed the new on-line service for the Internet as well as the "high precision network" for GPS surveys currently being developed. As most of you are probably aware, the Internet access is now available through the Department of Housing and Municipal Affairs Land Information Centres. If you are on line, it may be some-

thing worth exploring. Some information on the high precision network will be included in a mailout, probably concurrent with this issue of "The Nova Scotian Surveyor".

I just want to note that I am in the process of shopping around for an Internet provider for myself. The other evening I was looking at a computer that was hooked up to a high-speed Internet service and looked at the "web ferret" search engine. I typed the word "geomatics", and within 10 seconds, the first 200 sites dealing with geomatics were available to access. Technology and communication seem to be changing at an exponential rate and I would certainly encourage our members to get on-line and take advantage of the unlimited amount of information available.

In closing, I would like to say that this is shaping up to be an interesting year. I hope this trend continues and look forward to reporting to you again in the next issue of the "Surveyor". ■

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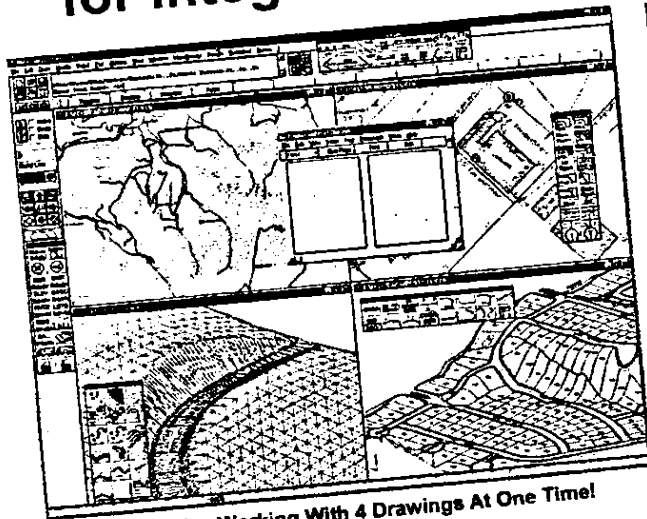
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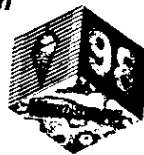
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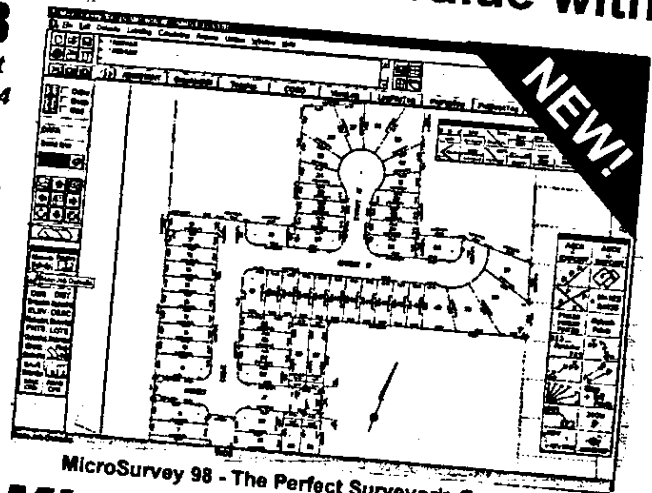
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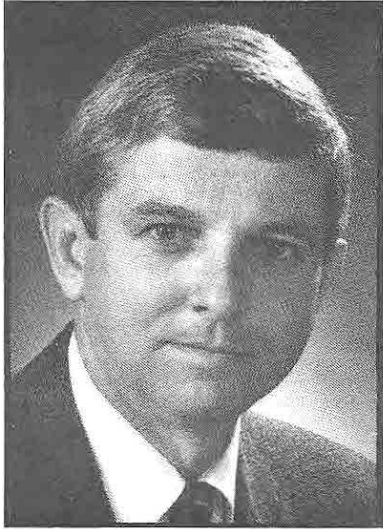
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Robert A. Daniels, NSLS, CLS



I thought for a while that winter was over, but as I look out the window today, I see snow and cold temperatures. Oh well, spring is not far away and neither is the association building. We are now owners of two lots in Dartmouth, NS. The property was too large for our purposes, so as part of the purchase agreement, it was subdivided into two lots. We will build on one lot and have the other for additional parking, if needed, or to sell in the future.

The Building Committee has been busy. The building plans are finalized and the building permit applied for. The committee is obtaining quotes from builders and checking out the quality of work. Arrangements are also being made for the necessary mortgage.

Those members who agreed to purchase shares in the building are honouring their commitment. The committee members and councillors are canvassing other members

for their support. The more shares that are purchased by the members, the smaller the mortgage, and the quicker we will own the building. Remember, the purchase of shares is an investment, not a donation. The shares purchased by members will be bought back by the association over time. It has often been said that there is "pride in ownership". Our association will finally have a place that members can proudly point to and inform the world "that is us".

As many members well know, title insurance is now in Nova Scotia. It is affecting the business of land surveyors and lawyers. There is no legal way to prevent title insurance from competing in the marketplace, but we can offer the purchasing public a better alternative. The better alternative is a lawyer's certificate of title and a land surveyor's Surveyors Location Certificate.

The public is very uneducated in these matters, therefore it is up to us to provide information to our potential clients. In order to do this, the association has prepared a brochure entitled "*An Information Guide, Surveyor's Location Certificate or Title Insurance, Make an Informed Decision*". This idea comes from the land surveyors in British Columbia. Copies have been sent to all our members, all Development Officers and soon to all registry offices. The Nova Scotia Real Estate Association sent copies to all of their members.

Some surveyors and several lawyers have contacted this office for additional copies to give to their clients. I would encourage each member to distribute the brochure to their clients, lawyers, lenders or anyone else who uses their services. We have distributed over 2000 so far, and we would like to distribute more. The brochure is available from the association office at no charge.

We have not had any formal contact with APENS concerning their proposed new act and our definition. We have discussed the matter on an informal basis. It appears that APENS is reviewing their act and plans to submit it to the government at the fall session. We will have an opportunity to review the legislation and offer comments before that time. It would be a great day if surveyors and engineers could finally put this issue to bed.

We are trying to continue meeting with representatives of the NS Department of Transportation and Public Works. We had one meeting scheduled, but it had to be postponed. We hope to focus our discussions on two things: (1) having the land surveyors within the department manage the department's survey affairs and (2) bringing their survey standards closer to those in the regulations made under the Land Surveyors Act.

Although we have not yet started building the association database,

we have met on several occasions with representatives from Land Information Services (LIS). One option is to have our survey database as part of the LIS database, which is now on-line. The survey data would be secure, with access only to those authorized by the association. The committee is considering several other options as well.

Jim and Sharon Gunn will not be returning to Dartmouth with the Survey Review Department. They have decided to stay in Ingonish. Personally, I want to thank Jim and Sharon for their dedication and hard work during their time with SRD. The SRD is now an integral part of the survey profession in Nova Scotia. It has significantly raised the level of professional

surveying in this province and has set an example for other associations to follow. Much of the credit for the success of the SRD belongs to Jim and Sharon.



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(Press Release September 1997)

SRD MANAGER'S REPORT

by Jim Gunn, NSLS, CLS

1997 was another busy year for the Survey Review Department. There never seemed to be quite enough time to get everything done. As it stands, it will likely take the first couple of months of 1998 to tidy up all the reports from our 1997 season.

There are a number of reasons why we were particularly busy this year. First of all, we were told by the SRD Review Committee to put extra emphasis on field checks, making them much more thorough. This slowed us down somewhat and we ran out of good weather before we had completed our goals for the year. We did, however, manage to inspect 62 surveys out of a planned 75.

Another major change was the introduction of Surveyor's Location Certificates to our department. Much of our time in the last six months has been learning how to integrate this new activity into our system without bogging us down too much. We are pleased with our progress. The SLC numbering system seems to be working quite well and the filing is getting done, but the inspection process is not up to speed yet.

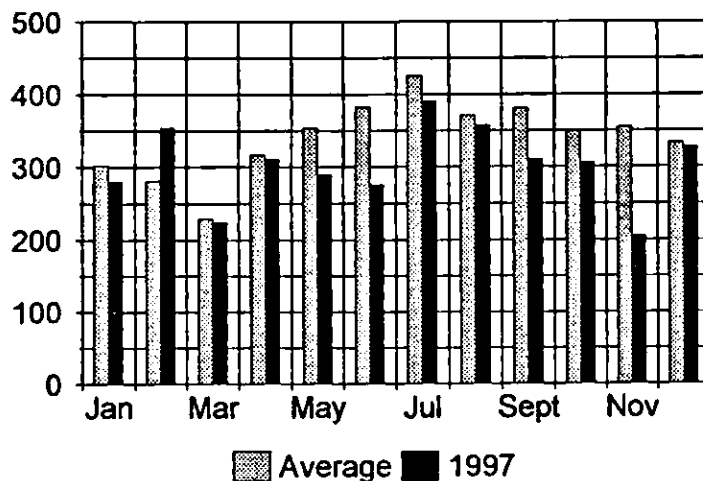
Last year we issued approximately 7000 SLC numbers of which about 3700 were returned on certificates. The number of survey plans we received in 1997 was down from

previous years. We usually average around 4000 plans but last year we received about 3500. This relates to a shortfall in anticipated revenue of about \$10,000. Fortunately, this is offset by \$21,000 of new revenue generated by the sale of location certificate numbers. The following graphs show how 1997 stacked up against previous years and how it compared with an average year.

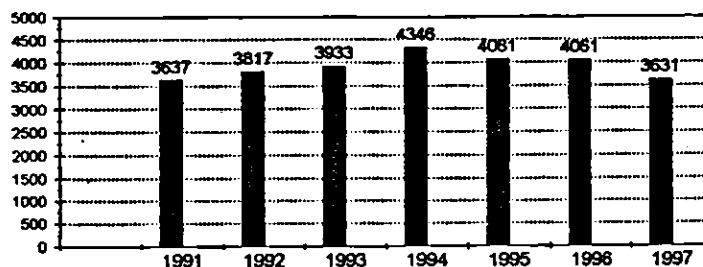
The big news around here is that the SRD operation will be moved to Dartmouth on April 1, 1998. We have declined the option of moving along with the department, so you can expect to see some new faces around the Survey Review Department in the very near future. We wish them well.

We would like to thank all those members who supported our efforts in this department since its formation seven years ago. We have come to realize that there are some very good people in this association and it has been our privilege to work with many of them. ☐

Survey Plans Received at SRD
Average year compared with 1997



Volume of Plans



Tribute to Marcellin Chiasson - Recipient of Life Membership Award

by Wayne D. Hardy, NSLS, CLS

On November 6, 1982, at our annual meeting in Halifax, I had the pleasure as Chairman of the Public Relations Committee, of presenting Marcellin Chiasson with the Nova Scotia Land Surveyor of the Year award. Acknowledging his outstanding dedication to our profession and his active participation in his community, he was a very popular choice. Little could I imagine that fifteen years later I would be here tonight taking part in another prestigious honour that our association will bestow on him.

It is with mixed emotions that I will share with you some of the reasons why he is so deserving of recognition. **Deep pride** in knowing him as a close friend for thirty-three years and hearing so many sentiments of concern and respect that have been expressed by so many for him over the past few days.

Sadness that because of his poor health, he is unable to be here tonight to accept this honour himself and to be part of such a wonderful gathering so close to the scenes of his childhood - his beloved "Cape Breton Home".

I first met Marcellin at the Nova Scotia Land Survey Institute, where we were students in Phil Milo's survey class. It was Phil's second year in his teaching career. He is now happily retired, so that will give you some indication of how long ago it was.

As fellow Cape Bretoners, although from opposite sides of the island, we shared many interests. Because of his easy going, always obliging character and his ability to make music with guitar, mandolin or fiddle and sing and compose songs, he quickly became the most popular guy in Lawrencetown. He never refused to take up the guitar and sing to the pleasure of any who wished to hear.

Upon parting from Survey School, we went our separate ways, although always keeping in touch. He was able to find his way back to Cape Breton and met and married the love, loyal companion and caregiver of his life - Yvette. They have two lovely daughters - Lynn, recently married and living and working in Halifax; and Denise, a teacher at Margaree Forks. Marcellin beams with pride when he speaks of them. As an attentive parent, he was

involved in their school and sports activities and made sure they were well-versed in the Inverness Celtic traditions of step dancing and fiddle playing.

It is incredible how he has volunteered his time for the many worthwhile activities in his community and not remaining only a member of the group, but usually rising to leader or president and, in some cases, the founder. Such as: for self-improvement, a branch of the Toastmasters' Club. When the dreaded disease Alzheimer's affected a member of his family, he formed a support group to help others in similar circumstances. He has always been active in his church life, fundraising for the hospital and many, many other projects.

As we read in the Oran newspaper article about him yesterday, throughout the years he has had to battle cancer and a heart attack. But with great determination and a strong will, he continued to work and share his time, pushing himself to the limit when others would have stopped.

Some months ago, he finally had to stop work and withdraw from all his volunteer activities because of a rare condition diagnosed as blepharospasm, simply, the involuntary closing of his eyelids. Treatments to date have not been successful and, as we read in the newspaper article, he is searching the world via the Internet for any help he can get concerning this ailment so he can share it with others.

How much can one person endure? Why are children in Ethiopia dying of starvation, why did a bus filled with seniors plunge over a cliff, taking them to their deaths in Quebec? We don't know why and, as Marcellin says, we only seek the "strength" to keep going and it is our hope that soon he will recover.

As a valued member of our association for twenty-nine years, he has served as councillor, president, and as a member on most regular and special committees throughout the years. A regular attender without fail, of annual and zone meetings, even in the worst weather conditions Cape Breton and Mount Thom could send. He was also an associate editor of our "Surveyor" with his



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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kingsford".

own page "From the Field Book".

You can usually judge one's personality by the way they write. His page contained tidbits of information, humorous stories and jokes and words of inspiration, some of which I have gleaned from back issues and which you may recall.

Did you know that a bee has 5 eyes, 5000 nostrils, can smell apple trees 2 miles away and flaps its wings 600 times per minute?

Working for a law firm, court cases were of interest to him, especially the amusing incidents that went on before the judge, such as: a case in which the judge read the charges against this poor fellow and then asked, "Are you the defendant?" to which the poor fellow replied, "No sir, your Honour, I got me a lawyer to do the defending. I'm the guy who done it."

Another case that happened in a Halifax court was about a woman who testified about a fight she'd been involved in at an area near Downs Avenue where Doug MacDonald lives. And the judge asked her, "Were you kicked in the fracas?" The woman replies, "No, your Honour, I was kicked halfway between the fracas and the bellybutton."

In 1982, shortly after recovering from his cancer surgery, Marcellin wrote: "Happiness is being able to attend our Annual Meeting." And underscored in a 1987 issue, "It is nice to be important but it is more important to be nice."

Because of his many years contributing to the professional stature of our association and for his display of leadership to the public, even and especially in times of poor health, Marcellin Chiasson is a most deserving recipient of this honour, Life Member, and I congratulate him and thank him for his influence upon us all.

If Marcellin were here tonight, I know he would be most grateful and would, as is his habit, to ask God's blessing on you all.

Thank you for this opportunity and, please, remember Marcellin and Yvette in your daily prayers and that he may soon recover. ■

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Tel: 434-0784

What is QP2?

Jim Gunn, NSLS, CLS

Land surveyors in Nova Scotia are one of the groups who stand to benefit from changes outlined in the new Environment Act. Five of our members recently attended a pilot QP2 course put on by the Nova Scotia Department of the Environment and TUNS. Now, you might ask yourself "what is a QP2"?

Qualified Persons 1 (QP1) and Qualified Persons 2 (QP2), are designations contained in Part II of the Regulations of the new Environment Act for Nova Scotia. Part II deals with on-site sewage disposal systems. QP1 and QP2 refers to those people who

are authorized under the Act to: assess site suitability; determine minimum lot size; design or select an on-site sewage disposal system; and to inspect its installation.

Until recently, the only people who could provide these services were inspectors for the Department of the Environment (the former Department of Health). But that has all changed with the new Environment Act. Now, anyone who meets the requirements of QP1 or QP2 as established by these regulations can provide this service. But, as the designations imply, a QP1 and a QP2 are not the

same; they have different qualifications and different levels of authority.

In short, a QP1 is a P.Eng. with a minimum of 1000 hours experience in designing sewage disposal systems; who completes a course of instruction; who completes the installer's course; who carries the necessary liability insurance; and who pays an annual license fee. A QP1 is permitted to design on-site sewage disposal systems from the "ground up", if you will excuse the pun. A QP1 qualification is required for commercial and multi-unit complexes.

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A QP2, on the other hand, is a person who has become qualified under the Act to select any one of a number of pre-designed on-site sewage disposal systems for single family dwellings. To become qualified as a QP2, a person must complete the installer's course; complete a Qualified Person 2 course; carry the necessary liability insurance; and pay an annual license fee of \$500.

Once qualified, a QP2 can assess a property to determine the appropriate lot size and recommend a sewage disposal system. After the system is constructed, the QP2 will conduct the necessary inspection for approval under the Act. Keep in mind, if the property is not suitable to accept one of the standard pre-designed systems, then a QP1 must be engaged to design a system that would be appropriate for the circumstances.

Not all lands in Nova Scotia are suitable for on-site sewage disposal systems. Site suitability essentially depends on three factors: the permeability rating of the soil; the depth and density of the permeable soil; and the slope of the ground. These factors are all variables in the equation. They must be considered together, and together they determine the size of the lot and the size and complexity of the system. Of course, there are many other factors that come into play: the proximity of wells; the proximity of watercourses; the elevation of the water table and a myriad of setback distances to boundaries, buildings and all sorts of things mentioned in the regulations.

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The pilot QP2 course was held in Truro. It covered three full days of instruction spread over two weekends in November of last year. The instructors were from Daltech (TUNS) and from the Department of the Environment (DOE). Unfortunately, the course material had been put together in a hurry. It was not indexed and it contained a great deal of misinformation. This was because the guidelines for QP2 qualifications were still in draft form. Furthermore, the course covered too much material for anyone who was seeing it for the first time and there was far too little practical lab work on soil analysis. There was also a final examination that most people could not complete within the three hour time limit. The results of the pilot course speak for themselves. Only 20% of the class passed.

The Department of the Environment will be offering additional QP2

courses in late spring but don't expect them to be anything like the pilot course. They have extended it to four days with increased emphasis on soil analysis. It will be offered at a cost of \$450 to anyone who has already taken the installer's course. This is where land surveyors get special mention. To take the installer's course you must belong to one of three groups: a person who has held an installer's license in the last seven years; a person with 3000 hours of installation experience; or a land surveyor.

The next couple of years are expected to be a period of transition as the Department of the Environment withdraws its site inspection services and adopts a more supervisory role

of auditing and enforcement. The DOE will monitor qualified persons very closely during this time to ensure the service is being provided properly.

This is not the first time we have witnessed a government department off-loading some of its work to the private sector. Our surveyors on the South Shore have been measuring sight line distances for the Department of Transportation for a couple of years now. Who knows? We might even be approving our own subdivision plans some day - and why not? The more things we can do for our clients, the better our service.

Surveyors who acquire this new QP2 designation will be pleased to learn that the CCLS insurance managers at ENCON have agreed that this activity is not excluded from coverage under the present policy. ■

FROM THE FIELDBOOK...

THANK YOU

Dear Fellow Land Surveyors:

Words alone cannot express how I feel after learning that I had been granted a Life Membership in our association at the 47th annual meeting at Ingonish this year. I feel so honoured and humbled. I have always believed so strongly in the objects of the association and, in particular, in protecting the public interest and this Life Membership makes my faith in the association this much stronger. Yet, an association is only as strong as its members and our membership has shown over the years that they are worthy to be called Land Surveyors in accordance with our Act.

I was even more surprised when I was presented with a Pentium 166 computer with a colour printer as well as a hookup to the Internet.

For those who do not know, I am afflicted with blepharospasm, a form of dystonia, locally known as spasm of the eyelids. Most of the time, I cannot open my eyes without forcing them open with my fingers, just as I am doing as I type this letter. I cannot work, drive or watch tv and reading is practically impossible. The tremendous value of the Internet is that I can communicate (though very slowly) with patients right across the world who have the same affliction. Through the Internet we can share ideas about the disorder. At the present time, there is no known cause or cure. I also have other forms of dystonia, however I am able to bring them under "limited" control through different medications. I

understand that much of the funds for the computer were raised by selling tickets on prizes furnished by the exhibitors at the annual meeting as well as tickets sold on an antique level donated by a fellow surveyor. Yet I have come to realize that extra funds were required and some of my personal survey friends added additional funds to make this project possible.

I know that some particular surveyors did more than their share in this project, however, to anyone who had any part in the granting of the Life Membership as well as the donation of the computer, my deepest heartfelt thanks.

Yours truly,
Marcellin Chiasson, NSLS, CLS

The following item was seen in "Fieldnotes ... The Monthly Newsletter of the Maine Society of Land Surveyors".

IF IT'S WET

Frustrated with the federal government's inability to define a wetland? Some wit came up with the following. We don't know who the author is ...

1. If it's wet, it's wet.
2. If it's dry, it's wet.
3. If it's wet, but not overly dry, or dry, but not overly wet, refer to items 1 and 2.
4. If it's wet but could be dry, or dry, but could be wet, refer to item 3.

5. If it's neither wet nor dry, see the atmospheric Delineation Manual.

6. If it is wetter than dry, or drier than wet, then it is damp. If it is damper than what could be considered dry, then refer to item 1. But if it is drier than wet, but would still be considered damp, but not as damp as would be considered wet, or is drier than a damp wet area, then refer to item 2.

7. For wet areas that are sometimes damp, but not dry and have standing water except when damp, and would not be classified as dry areas that are sometimes damp, but not wet, at which time the dampness is dependent upon its wetness; then it would be considered a damp wet area which is not the same as a bay (because a bay is a bay), but classified as a damp area that is sometimes wet, but not enough to be considered a river (because a river is a river), but wet enough to be considered damp, which is not enough to be considered wet, so it is dry.

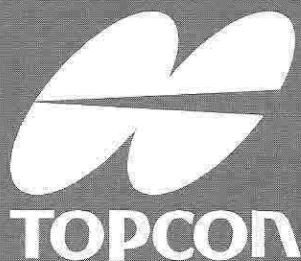
8. For dry areas that are sometimes damp, but not wet, and don't have standing water, except when wet, and would not be classified as wet areas that are sometimes damp, but not dry, at which time the dampness is dependent on its dryness, then it would be considered a damp dry area, which is not the same as a lake (because a lake is a lake), but would be classified as a damp wet area that is sometimes dry, so it is wet.

Continued on page 16

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FROM THE FIELDBOOK ...

Continued from page 14

9. If in doubt about dryness or wetness, and uncertain if water occurs in a form other than H₂O, contact your political representative.

CALL FOR MATERIAL

Exhibition - The Art of Surveying

During the week of the FIG Congress in Brighton, 20-24 July 1998, it is proposed to hold an exhibition at the University of Brighton Art Gallery. The theme will be *The Art of Surveying*.

To make it a success, contributions

are required from FIG Commissions and Member Associations around the world. Would all those who have suitable material or who know of sources of art depicting the activities of surveyors - ancient or modern, please send details to the address below. To make the exhibit as professional as possible, the material would be required in a reproducible form (eg. slide, negative or good quality copy in some other media) at the earliest opportunity.

Symposium - 2000 Years of Measurement

As part of the FIG Congress technical activities, a symposium is to be held on Wednesday 22 July 1998 in a lecture theatre adjacent to the above exhibition. The theme of

this will be *2000 Years of Measurement*. It is proposed that while some of the papers will concentrate on pre-18th century topics, others will cover the anniversaries of the introduction of the metric system in the 1790's and the introduction of EDM instruments in the late 1940's. Suggestions for topics and speakers please to the address below.

JR Smith Esq FRICS,
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GEOMATICS ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

APRIL 8, 1998 - 2:00 PM

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MINUTES OF THE 47th ANNUAL MEETING
Held at the Keltic Lodge Resort
Ingonish Beach, Nova Scotia
October 17 & 18, 1997

Friday, October 17, 1997

1. President Valerie George introduced the general manager of Keltic Lodge, Jim Frise, who brought greetings from Keltic Lodge and the Northeast Highlands Chamber of Commerce and welcomed ANSLS members and guests to Ingonish.

2. Valerie introduced the out-of-province guests who brought greetings and wishes for a successful meeting: Corporation of Land Surveyor of the Province of BC - President Jon Magwood.

Alberta Land Surveyors' Association - President Stan Longson.

Saskatchewan Land Surveyors' Association - President Patrick Maloney.

Association of Manitoba Land Surveyors - President Al Degner.

Association of Ontario Land Surveyors - President Peter Stringer and Executive Director Carl Rooth.

Association of NB Land Surveyors - President Jules Breau.

Association of PEI Land Surveyors - President David Morris.

Association of Newfoundland Land Surveyors - President John Berghuis.

Maine Society of Land Surveyors - Vice-president Joe LaBranche.

CCLS - NS Director, John Pope.

Surveyor-General of Canada Lands - Head of the Atlantic Client Liaison Unit, Gordon Isaacs.

ACLS & CIG - Jeff Fee.

3. President Valerie introduced the exhibitors, thanked them for their support and encouraged members to visit the exhibits.

Norman Wade Company Ltd. - Todd Ching, Dick Honan, Bill Phillips, Ken Totten, Gary Wright, Dave Crighton, Bo Skapski.

MicroSurvey Software Inc. - Darcy & Julie Detlor.

Gemini Positioning Systems Ltd. - Philippe Doucet.

Cansel Survey Equipment - Brad Smith.

Spectra Precision of Canada Limited (Geodimeter) - Bob Martin.

Azon Canada Inc. - King Flood.

Trimble Navigation Ltd. - Perry DesRosiers.

Leica Geosystems Ltd. - Paul Lyon.

4. President Valerie called the meeting to order at 10:34 am. She indicated that the meeting would be governed by Robert's Rules of Order and common sense. Murray Banks was appointed Parliamentarian.

5. Ms. George then introduced this year's Executive and Council: Past President - Phil Milo, Vice-President - Joe Alcom, Councillors - Zone 1 - Lester Berrigan, Zone 2 - Dean Benedict, Zone 3 - Bruce MacQuarrie, Zone 4 - George Sellers, Zone 5 - Lester Tingley & David Attwood, Zone 6 - Allen Hunter, Paul Slaunwhite, Ken Robb & Peter Lohnes.

6. Valerie then asked that everyone stand and observe a moment's silence in memory of member - James Grant, life member - Alexander MacKay, retired member - Richard Theriault who passed away in the last year.

7. President Valerie read a note from Marcellin Chiasson who sent greetings to all, but said he was unable to attend the meeting due to his health.

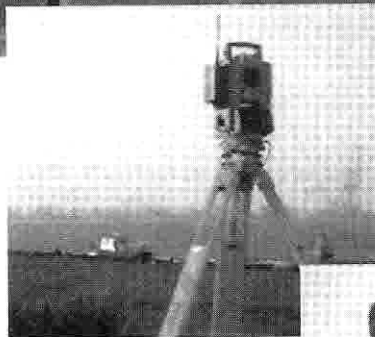
8. Valerie then reviewed the agenda for the business meeting.

9. Secretary's Report on the Convention: Bob Daniels reported that 74 members had registered to date and a recent count showed 45 - 50 members present at the meeting, fulfilling the requirement of 35 for a quorum.

10. Approval of Minutes of the 46th Annual Meeting: It was moved by Robert Feetham, seconded by John MacInnis that the minutes of the 46th annual meeting, held on October 18 and 19, 1997 at Digby Pines, Digby, NS be approved as published in the Winter/Spring 1997 issue of *The Nova Scotian Surveyor*. Motion carried.

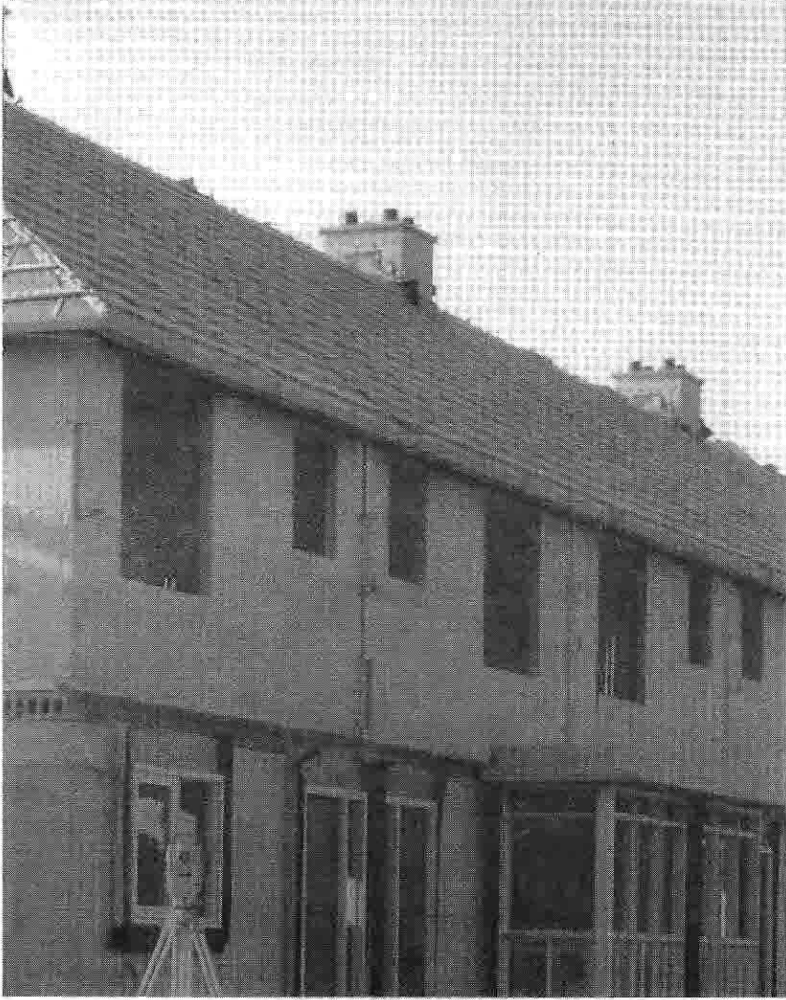
11. Business Arising from the Minutes of the Last Annual Meeting: There was none.

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12. Report on Council Activities: Council met in December 96 and April, June and September 97.

There was 1 executive meeting, most issues were discussed by phone and/or fax.

The committee workshop was held again in Truro.

The ongoing meetings with APENS ended in March 1997. APENS was to provide wording to summarize land surveyors' role in the subdivision process. To date, the wording has not been received. In June ANSLs received a letter from APENS' president outlining their interpretation of the court cases involving surveyors and APENS. In August, a letter from ANSLs to APENS was sent indicating our position on the court cases. There has been no contact since then. Our definition has been forwarded to government for consideration.

Representatives of ANSLs have met with the NS Department of Transportation and Public Works. Our committee has reviewed their survey methods and offered a number of suggestions.

Members met with the NS Department of Housing and Municipal Affairs to provide input into the new Planning Act, specifically with respect to removing "Instrument of Subdivision".

ANSLs was represented by Fred Hutchinson on the HRM Development Advisory Group to provide input into regulations and by-laws affecting development.

Public relations - There was a second printing of the ANSLs brochure. ANSLs is a co-sponsor of the Geomatics Atlantic Conference in Halifax on October 27 - 29, 1997. ANSLs is also co-sponsoring, with COGS, a one-day workshop on copyright during the conference. Valerie strongly recommended that members attend the Atlantic Geomatics Conference. There was an article on Surveyors' Location Certificates with a photo of John Conn in the April 30, 1997 Chronicle-Herald. ANSLs was also a co-sponsor of the 1997 World Canoe Championships in Dartmouth during August and was promoted as a Bronze Sponsor. In conjunction with Servant Dunbrack McKenzie & MacDonald Ltd, we provided survey services for the race course.

Council approved Surveyors' Location Certificates being included in the SRD review process at a fee of \$3.

The Building Committee made presentations to Council regarding the purchase and financing of a lot in Dartmouth with an office building to be constructed by March 31, 1998. Council gave the committee approval to proceed with the project.

Members of ANSLs met with representatives of the Barristers' Society to discuss Title Insurance. At this time, there is not much we can do to stop the use of Title Insurance.

ANSLs is participating in a group known as "Professionals in Land Development". They include planners, development officers, engineering technicians, landscape architects, architects and others. To date, most of the discussion has centred on the proposed APENS legislation and a "professional omnibus act" that may include a number of professional groups under one piece of legislation.

ANSLs provided input and met with representatives of the NS Department of the Environment concerning the new On-Site Sewage Disposal Regulations.

13. Report from CCLS: John Pope, CCLS Director from Nova Scotia, presented a report from CCLS president, Dick Wright. The report is attached to these minutes as Appendix A.

Bob Daniels updated the members regarding the CCLS Public Relations project. At the CCLS meeting in PEI in June, the directors discussed the next step in the CCLS PR project following completion of the report issued to each director in early 1997. The consensus was television advertising. Gordon Isaacs is now looking after this project with some help from Bob Daniels. They are currently trying to contact a production group to put together two 15-second commercials to promote the profession.

14. APENS Update: Phil Milo reviewed the last year's activities with respect to the ANSLs/APENS meetings about the proposed APENS legislation. In the fall of 1996 things looked optimistic, with the committee at the point of discussing the use of particular wording in our definition. The issue of road design within a subdivision was not yet resolved, but it was felt that it could be settled. Following APENS' agm last fall, the engineers formed an "Act Implementation Committee" to bring the whole thing to a conclusion. This committee totally rejected the proposed ANSLs definition and the Memo-

randum of Agreement drafted by the ANSLs / APENS Liaison Committee. At a December 1996 meeting of the Executives, it was agreed that if the ANSLs definition was open to review then APENS Act would be also. At a subsequent meeting in January 1997, APENS refused to make changes to their definition and denied having agreed to it. They also proposed that both definitions be removed from the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). The other major problem was the use and definition of the word "design" as it applies to roads and the level of traditional surveyors' involvement. To date, there has been no further correspondence with the exception of the letter from APENS regarding their interpretation of the court cases, as noted in the report on Council activities.

Bob Daniels reported that correspondence may have diminished from APENS because their executive director, Ed Tupper, resigned this summer and has been replaced by John Woods. Peter Mitchell, their director of Professional Affairs and chair of their part of the ANSLs / APENS Committee, also left Nova Scotia and has relocated to BC. Recently, articles have appeared in newspapers indicating that one of their priorities is to get their proposed act ready for government approval in the spring of 1998. Bob said he would contact John Wood to see if any amendments have been made to their proposed act. He also recommended that ANSLs begin the discussion / lobbying process again. He noted that our definition has been sent to the Minister of the NS Department of Natural Resources to be forwarded to the government for approval.

15. Presentation on Title Insurance in Ontario: Carl Rooth, Executive Director of the Association of Ontario Land Surveyors gave an interesting and comprehensive presentation on the history, development and current status of Title Insurance in Ontario and how the Association of Ontario Land Surveyors has approached the problem. For further information regarding this presentation, contact the ANSLs office.

16. Registry 2000 Update: Keith AuCoin reported to the members about a new initiative called Registry 2000, under the NS Department of Housing & Municipal Affairs. Registry 2000 occurred as a result of two events. After Marketable Title legislation was enacted, lawyers saw it as an opportunity to meet with the NS Department of Housing & Municipal Affairs to upgrade the current registry system. The second item was Title Insurance. Lawyers in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick are noticing the financial effects of Title Insurance.

It was decided that a concentrated effort would be made and a meeting was arranged with title searchers, lawyers, surveyors, real estate and financial representatives to look at how the registry system could be reformed. A meeting was held on October 16th which was attended by about 30 people. It was a "think tank" session to look at current status and where this can be taken. Over the next 2 months, a select group of about 6 - 7 people from the aforementioned groups will be meeting for 7½ days to discuss how the registry system can be made more efficient and also to make recommendations on long-term changes. A report will be made in early December 1997 for review by the primary group and from there, final recommendations will be made.

At 4:33 pm, President Valerie adjourned the meeting until 9:30 am, Saturday, October 18, 1997.

Saturday, October 18, 1997

President George called the meeting to order at 9:45 am.

17. Report of the Secretary of the NS Board of Examiners: Bob Daniels reported that there have been no new members since 1995. There are 15 active student files. An exam on Statute Law was written in January 1997. There are 2 students who have been assigned final projects, and may become members in 1998. The board meets twice annually. One of the things being discussed at these meetings is possible changes to the articling process. There may not be enough training for students in the area of boundary decision making. Information has been collected from COGS and UNB about their course content and the board has drafted some points of change to the regulations for further discussion.

Bob Daniels spoke to David Woolnough at COGS to request that the NS Board of Examiners meet with COGS staff to review course content in detail. After Dr. Woolnough agreed, Mr. Daniels spoke to the Chair of the NS Board of Examiners, John MacInnis, who also agreed to the proposal. The December 1997 meeting of the Board of Examiners may be held at COGS to cover this item.

Members of the NS Board of Examiners are: John MacInnis (C), Jim Chisholm, Forbes Thompson, Chris Masland, Dave Cushing, Bruce Gillis and Lee Johnston, who now represents the Minister of Natural Resources.

18. Honorary & Life Membership: Bob Feetham, Chairman of the Honorary & Life Membership Commit-

tee, reported that he had received 1 nomination for Life Membership and 1 nomination for Honorary Membership in the Association of Nova Scotia Land Surveyors. Marcellin Chiasson was nominated for Life Membership by Athol Grant, Wayne Hardy and Jim Gunn. Bob then read a short biography, including details about Marcellin's term as president, service on numerous committees, his contributions to *The Nova Scotian Surveyor*, and involvement in the business and affairs of the association.

It was moved by Bob Feetham, seconded by Athol Grant, that Marcellin Chiasson be given Life Membership in the Association of Nova Scotia Land Surveyors. Motion carried unanimously.

Ken Allred was nominated in the fall of 1996 by Marcellin Chiasson for Honorary Membership in ANSLS. Mr. Feetham noted that Mr. Allred is an ALS and has had long involvement in CCLS and the survey profession in Canada.

It was moved by Bob Feetham, seconded by John MacInnis, that Ken Allred be made an Honorary Member of the Association of Nova Scotia Land Surveyors. Motion carried unanimously.

19. Secretary-Treasurer's Report: Bob Daniels noted that the audited financial statement for 1996 was published in the Fall 1997 issue of *The Nova Scotian Surveyor*. He reviewed the Statement of Operations and reported that there was a year-end total surplus of \$11,730.

It was moved by Doug MacDonald, seconded by Carl Hartlen, that the 1996 audited financial statement as published in the Fall 1997 issue of *The Nova Scotian Surveyor* be approved. Motion carried.

20. SRD Report: Jim Gunn noted that there have been no changes since his report was published in the Fall 1997 issue of the "Surveyor". All items are still on schedule.

21. Secretary's Report on Membership: Bob Daniels reported on the membership numbers from 1993 to 1997, as follows:

<u>Category</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>
Regular	227	239	246	254	261
Life	14	14	14	13	14
Retired	33	31	36	31	27
Student	15	15	16	14	12

<u>Category</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>
Associate	3	3	6	7	10
Non-Prac.	3	3	3	3	4
Honorary	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
TOTAL:	<u>298</u>	<u>308</u>	<u>324</u>	<u>326</u>	<u>332</u>

Mr. Daniels noted that the membership decline is continuing.

Athol Grant asked that the new Council look at declining membership and what can be done.

Jon Magwood (BC) commented that a seminar entitled "How to Operate a Small Business" which was held in BC last year was most informative and did more to stop undercutting that anything else to date.

President Valerie commented that declining membership is also an important issue in Manitoba, where current membership is about 60 surveyors.

22. Report of Scrutineers: Valerie noted that all positions on the Executive and Council were filled by acclamation. She noted that in Zone 3, Bruce MacQuarrie will remain on Council as no candidate has come forward to replace him. She strongly encouraged members to participate and become involved. President Valerie then introduced the new Executive and Councillors:

President elect - Joe Alcorn, vice-president - Gerald Pottier.

Councillors: Zone 2 - Michael MacNeil, Zone 3 - Bruce MacQuarrie, Zone 5 - John Pope, Zone 6 - Forbes Thompson, Rod MacInnis.

Valerie said that Rod MacInnis's biographical information had not been published in the Fall 97 issue of *The Nova Scotian Surveyor* and read it to the members present.

23. NS Power Presentation: Don Horne of Nova Scotia Power Inc. gave a presentation regarding NS Power easements and some situations which occur regarding these easements. Easements are one of various interests in land held by Nova Scotia Power, and they usually have a specific purpose attached to them. The following items summarize important points in the presentation: (1) NS Power Inc. rights are being challenged more since privatization. (2) All rights must be granted by the property owner or purchased by NSPI. (3) Surveyors can provide critical information to the public with respect to easements and the impact they may have on the development of a property. (4) Abandoned right-of-way struc-

tures may be gone, but the easement rights remain.

Some discussion regarding specific examples followed the presentation. Mr. Home concluded by saying that NS Power Inc. looks forward to working together with surveyors on the subject of easements.

24. **Committee Reports:** President Valerie listed the committee reports which were published in the Fall 97 issue of *The Nova Scotian Surveyor* and asked that questions or updates be mentioned as the committee name was read. The committees are: APBELS, CCLS, Complaints, Discipline, Fee Study, GANS Liaison, Manual of Good Practice, NS Board of Examiners, Private Practice, Public Relations, Regulations, Survey Profession.

CCLS Evaluation: Bob Daniels noted that he had a report from the CCLS Evaluation Committee. He read a portion of the recommendations from the report to the members present. The report is attached to these minutes as Appendix B.

Private Practice Committee: Bob Daniels gave the members present an update regarding this committee. Since the report was published, members of the DOT & PW Committee met with new representatives of the department to discuss 2 issues: (1) the department land surveyors should be responsible for doing the department's land survey work, and (2) ANSLs wants DOT & PW to use our regulations. The DOT & PW representatives agreed with point no. 1, but believe totally adopting our regulations may not be possible. Bob will correspond with DOT & PW endorsing their committee's position.

Regulations Committee: Jeff Fee, Chairman of the Regulations Committee, reported as follows:

"Work on developing regulations and / or guidelines for carrying our cadastral surveys with GPS is ongoing.

We expect to consolidate our findings and develop a first draft by year end. We will most likely be recommending that any detailed procedures be limited to a guideline format such as the *Manual of Good Practice*.

Once Council has had a chance to review our recommendations, we will go to the zone level for input from our members and hopefully have an acceptable document for presentation at next year's AGM.

We have not met with the NS Department of Housing and Municipal Affairs in the last year with respect to the new reference system. We prefer to focus at present on our own regulations. This process will help to clarify whether there are any external issues to be dealt with in the future."

APENS Liaison Committee: Joe Alcorn reported that at the APENS banquet in September, their incoming president, Paul MacLellan, indicated strong interest in resuming the talks regarding their act and our definition.

SRD / Administration Review Committee: Joe Alcorn reported that the committee met four times during the past year. The committee members are: Al Wallace, Dave Roberts, John Sutherland, Phil Milo and Joe Alcorn. The biggest issue the committee dealt with is cursory plan inspections. The committee recommended to Council that cursory plan inspections be implemented. Council agreed and set an implementation date of January 1, 1998. The plans will be roughly sorted into two categories - suspect and non-suspect. Review will be carried out on the suspect group.

Building Committee: Bob Feetham reported that the members of the committee are: Fred Hutchinson (C), Bob Feetham, Ed Rice, Allen Hunter, Murray Banks, Bob Daniels. Rod MacInnis has supplied resource material. After a motion to acquire or build a building was approved at the annual meeting in 1994 in Baddeck, the committee sent out a questionnaire to get membership opinion. 74% of those who responded were in agreement with ANSLs acquiring or building a building.

Council approved a request for the committee to proceed with its investigation, including site, funding, budget. There were many buildings available, but most were unsuitable due to price or upgrading required. At the September 19, 1997 Council meeting, the committee presented floor plans and a budget to build a split level bungalow. Floor plans are currently being modified and should be available in the near future. A property was found on Prince Albert Road in Dartmouth. The cost was more than anticipated, but the lot can be subdivided and the additional lot used as equity or sold. Council gave the committee approval to proceed. ANSLs has entered into an Agreement of Purchase and Sale to purchase the lot for \$51,250. The seller has also agreed to buy 15 building shares at \$250 / each.

Present equity position is \$51,250 which includes cash, share purchases and share pledges. Currently a title search is being done, financing is being investigated, preliminary plan has been submitted to HRM for subdivision approval. If all goes well, building can begin the first week of November 1997 and can be completed in 90 days, which would coincide with the end of our current lease.

The building would be a turn-key operation, which is included in the \$140,000 estimate. There may be a possible tax rebate available as well. The mortgage value would be \$80,000 to \$100,000. Under the current proposal, 20 - 25 shares can be bought back from shareholders every 5 years at a currently evaluated rate.

Statutes Committee: Art Backman, Chairman of the Statutes Committee, reported that there is ongoing review and discussion regarding a couple of items. The committee has almost finished reviewing the acts pertaining to the Manual of Good Practice.

The committee has also been looking at proposed changes to the Complaints and Discipline process. They met with John MacInnis and Harold Lively (Chairs of the Complaints and Discipline Committees) in January 1997 to discuss some possibilities. They also met in Truro in February at the Committee Workshop, where some new ideas were discussed. Later in February, Art sat in on a Complaints Committee meeting in order to get a better idea of how the process currently works in order to determine if and where changes can be implemented. Council suggested the addition of a "Reprimand Committee", which could handle minor problems without the matter having to go to the Discipline Committee, but which would also have the authority to send the matter to Discipline if necessary. The committee is currently reviewing the information and will meet in the next month or so.

Insurance Committee: Paul Slaunwhite, Chairman of the Insurance Committee, submitted a written report. The report is attached to these minutes as Appendix C.

25. Motions for Consideration: It was moved by George Sellers, seconded by Carl Hartlen that the following resolution be approved:

- Be it resolved that effective December 1, 1997, the Survey Review Department will maintain all copies of Surveyor's Location Certificates submitted by members for entry into the data base

when it is created, unless notified by each member that their Surveyor's Location Certificates are not to be kept by the Survey Review Department and are not to be included in the data base.

George Sellers spoke to the motion as a member of the committee reviewing this. The committee recommends that Surveyor's Location Certificates be saved for entry into the data base as they are as valuable an item as plans which are currently saved.

After some questions and discussion, the motion was carried.

It was moved by George Sellers, seconded by Carl Hartlen that the following resolution be approved:

Be it resolved that the Data Base Committee be authorized to spend \$10,000 in 1998 from the 1998 SRD revenues to proceed with establishing an association data base under the following guidelines.

- a) Identify and purchase the appropriate hardware and software to meet the objectives of creating a data base for the benefit of the members.
- b) Develop methods of building the data base by using existing staff or employing part-time staff.
- c) Determine and establish methods that will allow members to access the information in the data base.
- d) Once the backlog of plans has been input into the data base, establish methods to ensure continued upkeep and maintenance of the data base.
- e) The budget for this project will be approved by Council on an annual basis.

George Sellers spoke to the motion. This is a follow-up to the previous motion in order to put the mechanics in place to allow the creation of the data base.

Bob Daniels reported that has been speaking to the Department of Housing and Municipal Affairs (DHMA) as well as several suppliers during the past year. The DHMA has a data base which is close to our needs.

Mr. Daniels also said that Ron Robinson from New Brunswick has developed a data base which is FoxPro-based combined with other features which are survey related. Bob then showed overheads giving details of information which can be input into the system and how easily it can be upgraded. He also presented an "Association Data Base Plan - 1998" which he developed using figures and information based on the NB Data Base. A copy of the plan is attached to these minutes as Appendix D.

There were comments both in favour and against a data base. There was also discussion of concerns which include: some members do not want information specific to individual surveyors to be made available; the data base should include graphics and be tied into the provincial system which is updated regularly; too much reliance may be placed on the data base information, and could cause problems if the data is not complete or not updated regularly; could the data base be a duplication of the work done by Land Information Service (DHMA); if Internet access becomes available, a "search only" feature may be an alternative.

The question was called. Motion carried.

26. Installation of Officers: President Valerie thanked the retiring Councillors and asked those who were present to come forward and accept a plaque. They are: Zone 2 - Dean Benedict, Zone 3 - Bruce MacQuarrie, Zone 5 - Lester Tingley, Zone 6 - Ken Robb and Peter Lohnes. Valerie then introduced the new and returning Councillors and the Executive and asked that they come forward. They are: Zone 1 - Lester Berrigan, Zone 2 - Michael MacNeil, Zone 4 - George Sellers, Zone 5 - David Attwood, Zone 6 - Allen Hunter, Paul Slaunwhite, Forbes Thompson, Rod MacInnis. DNR Appointee - Lee Johnston. President elect - Joe Alcorn, vice-president - Gerald Pottier.

President elect Joe Alcorn assumed the Chair. Past president Valerie presented him with the President's pen and he in turn presented her with a Past President's pin and thanked her for her work and effort on behalf of ANSLs.

27. New Business: President Joe Alcorn opened the meeting for new business and noted that members could make resolutions for Council's consideration.

Bob Daniels presented the 1998 budget for consideration. He said that this budget differs from the one published in the Fall 1997 issue of *The Nova Scotian Surveyor* in that Council had recommended and approved a 5% salary increase for the administration staff at the September 19, 1997 meeting, effective January 1, 1998. He also said that there is a proposed deficit for the first time in a long time, but said that it would be offset by the anticipated surplus at the end of this year. Mr. Daniels then presented detailed information regarding the 1998 budget.

It was moved by Phil Milo, seconded by Dave Roberts that the 1998 budget be approved as presented.

The question was called. Motion carried.

It was moved by Athol Grant to extend the SRD term in Ingonish for two more years until March 2000.

Athol's reasons for the motion are: (1) it works well where it is, (2) Jim Gunn has provided good service to ANSLs, (3) Jim took less money to move to Ingonish and has offered to pay the SRD rent in Ingonish, which may help the overall revenue picture, and (4) it would create 2 more jobs in Victoria County.

Prior to seeking a seconder for the motion, President Alcorn asked Parliamentarian Murray Banks whether the motion was in order as Council made the original decision to send SRD to Ingonish for 2 years, made the decision to extend the term for another year and most recently decided to return SRD to the administration office.

Murray Banks responded that there were 2 things at issue. (1) Council is elected by the members to do the business of the association. Council approved the original motion as well as the 2 subsequent ones on behalf of the membership. (2) Under parliamentary law, motions of major significance require prior notice. The membership must decide whether this is an issue of major significance. He suggested that today's motion could request that Council take the matter back for reconsideration. Based on point #2, the motion is out of order.

After considerable discussion covering: Council is elected to do the business of the association when the members are not present; Jim Gunn has made many contributions to ANSLs; suggestion regarding a motion to reconsider the original motion by Council; Councillors should be made aware of members' position on the matter; the

annual meeting may be the governing body with Council directed by members to carry on the operation of the association; suggestion that the members' position be indicated by a show of hands; if members cannot make a motion on the floor of the annual meeting, then why attend; this is too complex an issue to be considered on the floor of the annual meeting; the issue may require a special general meeting - President Joe called a 5 minute recess to review the Act, Regulations, By-laws and Robert's Rules of Order so that a decision could be made.

After the recess, President Alcorn ruled the motion out of order for the reasons that the Parliamentarian ruled it out of order, during the past year each zone indicated that the decision should be made by Council, it was originally a Council decision to move SRD to Ingonish and it was a Council decision to return SRD to the administration office. He noted that if 10 members call for a special general meeting to deal with this matter, one will be called in short order.

28. President Alcorn then presented plaques to the winners of the Plan Contest. The winners were:

Government Agency - Duncan MacDonald
Subdivision - Jeff Fee
Retracement - Jeff Fee

29. Joe Alcorn called on the out-of-province guests to make closing comments. All thanked Valerie and Barry George and ANSLs for the invitation and hospitality, offered congratulations for a successful meeting and invited Joe Alcorn and Donna Smith to their upcoming annual meetings.

30. At 5:14 pm, it was moved by Valerie George, seconded by Bob Feetham that the meeting be adjourned.

Robert A. Daniels, NSLS, CLS
Executive Director



1998 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 15 - 17	Alberta Land Surveyors' Association AGM	Westin Hotel, Calgary
May 28 - 30	Saskatchewan Land Surveyors' Association AGM	Ramada Plaza Hotel, Regina
June 5 - 7	L'Ordre des arpenteurs-géomètres du Québec AGM	Chateau Cartier Sheraton, Aylmer
June 8 - 11	Canadian Institute of Geomatics AGM	Ottawa Congress Centre, Ottawa
June 98	Association of Newfoundland Land Surveyors AGM	Gander
June 98	Association of PEI Land Surveyors AGM	T.B.A.
July 19 - 25	FIG '98 - XXII International Congress of Surveyors	Brighton, England
Sept 98	Association of Manitoba Land Surveyors AGM	Holiday Inn West, Winnipeg
Oct 29 - 31	Association of Nova Scotia Land Surveyors AGM	Prince George Hotel, Halifax

Appendix A**CCLS Report**

It is hoped that at the conclusion of this report, you will see that CCLS is a strong and viable institution working for your benefit in cooperation with your provincial association.

For the past two years, we have had our office staffed under contract to the Association of Ontario Land Surveyors. This business decision has enable us to have a full-time Executive Director and access to other support staff, as needed. The end result has been increased operational efficiency at reduced costs and therefore more funds have been available for projects in response to the requests of members.

As some of you may be aware, Brian Munday left to accept a position as Executive Director of the ALSA and we are pleased to announce that Sarah Cornett, OLS, has accepted the position of CCLS Executive Director. Sarah has worked in the AOLS office for the past 6 months in the Survey Review Department and has some understanding of the CCLS position, having discussed the position with Brian prior to her interview. Sarah has already attended her first executive meeting (3 days into the job) and we look forward to working with Sarah in her new position.

Thus you new executive is as follows:

Dick Wright, BCLS, President

John Holmlund, ALS, Vice-President

Gerry Hawryluk, MLS, Secretary-Treasurer

Doug Simmonds, OLS, Past President

Sarah Cornett, OLS, Executive Director

Communication is a buzz word around CCLS these days. Thus, in pursuant of keeping the lines of communication open, minutes of all CCLS meetings are forwarded directly to Provincial Council / Board members in order that they are fully aware of what is happening at a national level.

Several issues are before the Board of Directors, either as new issues or ongoing ones.

1. Finances

Finances have always been a concern for CCLS. However, with our present report system and operational control, we are getting a good return for our dollar and making the information as open as possible. In order for all members to have an awareness of expenses and revenues, we publish in each issue of *Focus* magazine, the up-to-date financial statements for both the general operation and for the Loss Control Fund.

Due to this financial control, we were able to hold a directors' meeting in conjunction with the Nova Scotia general meeting in the fall of 1996. It has been found that face-to-face meetings are more effective than teleconferencing where contentious issues are concerned. Teleconferencing is used for dealing with general business matters and all executive meetings. The best financial news is that we are within our present and long-range budget and NO fee increase is seen in the near future.

2. Public Relations

It is not the objective of CCLS to conduct a public awareness program. Rather, CCLS's position in this matter is seen as a form of clearing house. CCLS should be used as an assist in coordinating the results of public awareness programs of the various provincial associations. It would be hoped that this would benefit all surveyors by preventing redundancy of effort and expenditure.

Appendix A

Bob Daniels, NSLS, prepared a very comprehensive and compelling Public Relations report that was circulated to all the provincial associations for distribution. There is a very good action plan in that report that both our association and our members can follow.

3. Environment Issues

It seems more and more governments are being forced to or are imposing environmental regulations upon the private sector professional organizations. An example in British Columbia is that all subdivisions must have a "site profile" filled out that deals with every imaginable pollutant from the 45 gallon drum of diesel fuel for the farm tractor to a mega-size pulp mill. This profile is part of the surveyor's subdivision application.

4. Copyright

An ongoing issue. We recognize that land surveyors have copyright, yet to enforce it seems to be a problem. This will continue to be monitored by CCLS, and Max Sullivan, Newfoundland director, has taken this on to pursue further.

5. Focus

The national magazine continues to grow and hopefully keeps you informed of national issues and concerns as well as being informative on historical and technical issues. If you have anything that you believe would be interesting to the surveying profession, write about it and get it to Sarah.

It is to be emphasized that this magazine is produced as an area of additional information and NOT a competitor or replacement for provincial magazines.

6. Board of Examiners Coordinating Committee

In May of 1996, the directors approved the new accreditation schedules which were developed in conjunction with representatives of the various universities and examining boards. These new schedules allow for greater flexibility and variance in university courses and content, while meeting the ever changing requirements of our profession. It is hoped that this will lead to greater standardization of programs and graduates.

Since then, CCLS has approved the three accreditation schedules, extended the accreditations of the Universities of Calgary, Laval and New Brunswick and attended a meeting in which an MOU was signed among the CLS, Western and Atlantic Boards.

7. NAFTA

Under the provisions of NAFTA, professions such as surveying have the opportunity to negotiate a separate sub-agreement within the spirit of the overall agreement.

For two years, CCLS has been in constant communication with NSPS in a continuing attempt to reach a satisfactory agreement. At the present time, we have prepared a presentation for the associations and other related parties which will explain certain items and directions and will hopefully invoke comments and questions in order that we might determine our own direction before the government establishes criteria without our input.

This presentation has been given to NSPS and they were initially concerned that we were so far ahead of them. However, upon review, they accepted our proposal as a basis from which to work and they are presently soliciting comments from their various state representatives for further discussion at their next meeting in Seattle.

Appendix A

Recently, CCLS held meeting with federal government representatives in Ottawa to further discuss the status and position of surveying within NAFTA. Within Industry Canada, CCLS will be meeting with representatives of International Investments and Services Policy and Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

A draft brochure has been prepared directing the required procedures for performing cross-border business. At present, this has tentative approval from the government and once final approval is given, this will be distributed to all surveyors.

Wayne Brubacher and John Holmlund have been presenting the CCLS NAFTA presentation to the provincial associations across the country.

8. Agreement on Internal Trade

Brian Munday, former Executive Director of CCLS, met with representatives of the Labour Mobility Chapter on the Agreement on Internal Trade. Several provincial associations have been approached by provincial Labour Mobility Chapter representatives. CCLS will be monitoring this subject as it is of interest to all self-governing associations.

9. Professional Liability Insurance

This has been the flagship program of CCLS for nearly 20 years. As such, and due to its importance to individual business operations, the directors continue to spend a significant amount of meeting time reviewing the insurance committee's management report to ensure that the members' needs and concerns are being met. These areas include:

- the effectiveness of Loss Control seminars
- premium increases are in line with various available options
- claims are being efficiently handled

One of the reasons for the face-to-face meeting last fall in Digby, NS, was to review a proposal from the Insurance Committee regarding changing the existing program to a reciprocal insurance program, which had been discussed by the Insurance Committee over the past several years. The intention was to review this proposal prior to having it presented to the different individual association members.

At the same time, Ontario submitted a proposal whereby they would potentially wind down their existing program and combine with CCLS to create a new partially self-funded liability insurance program run entirely under the direction and auspices of CCLS. Ontario proposed that this new program with a much larger number of insureds than the present 2 separate programs, might allow for lower insurance costs due to the numbers involved.

Upon review, it was found that the common thread of both proposals was the need for an actuarial study prior to any change in programs. Thus, the directors, by a motion passed at the Digby meeting, directed the Executive Committee to seek actuarial proposals to perform these studies. It should be noted that this direction was given to the Executive since the Insurance Committee's specific mandate is to manage the existing program.

Subsequent to receiving various proposals, the actuarial firm of Normandin Beaudry of Montreal was retained to perform the required work. Initially, the final report was to be provided by April 16th for review; however, due to delays in obtaining all background information, the report wasn't made available until May 15th, and then was circulated to the respective parties of both CCLS and AOLS for their review.

A meeting was held May 25th and 26th in Toronto between the CCLS Executive and the AOLS Executive, together with representatives of the 2 insurance committees to discuss the actuarial results and proposals. Out of this meeting came final recommendations which were made to the Board of Directors at the June 1997 AGM in PEI.

Appendix A

The 1997 AGM was held at Brudenell River Resort, PEI, in conjunction with the APEILS AGM. A presentation by Andre Normandin of the actuarial firm Normandin Beaudry was given, outlining the process and concluded with the following recommendations:

- (1) This is not the right time to look at self-insurance mechanisms;
- (2) Self-insurance remains an option for the future;
- (3) Be prepared to set up a self-insurance mechanism if the need arises;
 - (a) Achieve total control over your insurance statistics;
 - (b) Identify the preferred mechanism for self-insuring;
 - (i) Identify the possible ways of funding the initial capital requirements;
 - (ii) Mandatory participation would lower the initial capital requirements.

It should be noted that the cost of this actuarial study (upset fee of \$24,00 plus \$3,000 in travel expense) was equally shared by CCLS and the Association of Ontario Land Surveyors.

The intention of this work was to ensure that the members are receiving the best dollar value possible in regard to their E & O insurance.

The executive and Professional Liability Insurance Committee will be meeting in Ottawa to review these recommendations and determine an action plan.

10. Title Insurance

Title insurance seems to be thriving in many parts of Canada. Several provinces have title insurance committees that liaise with their provincial counterparts in the legal profession. There continues to be a need to monitor this issue.

11. GPS / GIS

There was a GPS / GIS Symposium in Calgary during the first week of October. The Vision 2000 Conference is sponsored by the ALS and in conjunction with the CIG AGM. CCLS President Wright and Vice-President Holmlund met with the CIG executive to discuss common interests as well as those highly skilled professionals that do not have self-regulating professional associations to call their own.

12. Quebec

We continue to pursue discussions with OAGQ in Quebec. At this point, there seems to be an interest by them in opening up some type of dialogue, however, it was recognized that for the OAGQ to endorse a national organization at this time is to make a political statement.

**13. Items Arising from CCLS Directors' Meeting
June 28 & 29, 1997 Action Plan****Financial**

1. Review 1998 preliminary budget.
2. Review cost savings under AOLS contract. (re: CCLS Executive office)

Insurance

1. Review actuary's recommendations.

Appendix A

2. Examine communications issues and report.
3. Prepare a method of data acquisition.
4. Review terms of reference on PLIC.

Public Relations

1. Speak with each provincial association and recommend a CCLS public relations (TV, print, etc.)

Internet

1. Upload home page (underway).

History

1. Complete history project.

In conclusion, CCLS continues to encourage input from all surveyors on various issues in order to fulfil its mandate of serving the best interest of surveyors.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard D. Wright
President

Appendix B

CCLS Evaluation Committee Report

At the 1995 AGM in Antigonish, Council put forth that a committee be formed to evaluate the value of ANSL's membership in CCLS. The committee members include Clive MacKeen, Dave Roberts, Mike Crant and Andy DeCoste (C). The committee met at the workshops in January 96 and February 97 and had subsequent telephone discussions.

The mandate of the committee was to determine if ANSL receives value from CCLS for the membership dues. Further discussion indicated that two issues were responsible for the discontent among the membership. First was the lack of information and communication forthcoming from CCLS, in particular the CCLS Professional Liability Insurance Committee (PLIC), and second was the fiscal responsibility of the CCLS operations and the reserve fund.

In an attempt to address these issues, a review of correspondence and the minutes of the past four years of CCLS executive meetings and director meetings was completed. The issues were further assessed through conversations with the NS Director, R. Daniels, President Doug Simmonds and former Executive Director, Brian Munday. Input was also received through informal conversations with the membership.

The most notable observation of the minutes between 1993 and 1997 were the efforts to bring the CCLS financial house in order. Authority to Commit and Spending Guidelines were approved in the fall of 1995. The office was relocated from its Ottawa base to be consolidated with the AOLS to reduce overhead and expenses. The executive director is a part-time employee complementing his time with the AOLS. As the economic reality set in, CCLS has been trying to adjust and develop cost saving measures. Meetings have been teleconferences to reduce expenses. The net effort has seen the annual budget go from a \$25,000 deficit in 1993 to a forecasted balanced budget for 1997.

The communications issues have also evolved in the past few years. The *Focus* magazine is produced twice annually. The magazine now includes project reports to inform of CCLS activities as opposed to just human or technical interest articles. The newsletter "Bulletin" is distributed six to eight times per year and is distributed to the Directors and provincial councils. CCLS encourages the provincial associations to include copies of the letter to the membership or incorporate it in provincial publications.

At the 1994 AGM, there was lack of understanding by the CCLS directors of the Insurance Committee Loss Control Fund. Many questions were put to the CCLS president and executive about the PLIC and the Loss Control Fund. Of particular note was that there were no guidelines for the PLIC. Terms of Reference as outlined in the handbook were as follows:

To finalize, monitor and promote the Professional Liability Insurance Program will all associations and act as a liaison with the insurance broker.

It was disturbing to see the PLIC Chairman respond (August 8, 1994) to an inquiry by stating that there are no terms of reference and "does not appear to be necessary in the near future". Subsequent correspondence had indicated that this was not acceptable. At the Regina meeting of May 1996, guidelines were passed. However, the guidelines appear to be still somewhat vague. The guidelines state the members of the PLIC shall be appointed by the Board of Directors and one member shall be a Director, however, there are no terms of office for the committee. Also, the guidelines require a minimum of an annual report to the Board. It is questionable if this is acceptable but regardless, there should be an indication as to the depth of information to be given to the Board. Subsequent to the preparation of the guidelines, it has been decided that the CCLS Executive Director will sit on the PLIC.

Although the confidentiality required for the Insurance Committee is of importance, the statistics which identify problem areas by survey type, region or possibly a significant number of claims against one company are also of importance. This is not to suggest that the names of survey firms be introduced to the report, but the statistics should indicate the extremes such as 5% of the firms generate 25% of the claims. This information, type and frequency are important to each provincial association to assure the provinces that the nature and frequency of claims are not isolated. However, if statistics do

Appendix B

indicate a problem sector (geographic area or survey category), then consideration should be given to corrective measures or premium adjustment. Upon recognition of a problem sector, the PLIC should inform the CCLS directors and request authorization to investigate and then report findings. The committee may be comfortable with the present statistics, however, it is important that the entire membership can review more detailed statistics, especially in light of the varying situations under which private practice surveyors operate.

The CCLS minutes also indicated dissatisfaction with the progress with the self-funded insurance program. To that end, the board mandated an actuarial study be completed by the spring of 1997. The study is presently being assessed.

CCLS History

I believe a brief history may be important to put our present pending decision of CCLS value in perspective.

The Canadian Council of Land Surveyors was incorporated under a Federal Charter in 1976. It should be noted that the Council was the vision of one of our fellow members, John Pope, in 1968 and was nurtured through its early years by another member of ANSLs, Bob Feetham. The first meeting of the provincial presidents was held in 1969 in conjunction with a CIS convention. In 1971, the following motion was passed to investigate the creation of CCLS:

WHEREAS there is a recognized need for closer cooperation between the individual provincial land survey organizations.

WHEREAS there is a recognized need for continual discussion and consultations on such matters as education, licensing, standards and ethics.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: This meeting approve in principle the creation of a permanent coordinating body consisting of representatives of all provincial land survey associations, and ...

Of particular interest is that the need for such a body can be no less relevant now than it was some twenty-five years ago. This is especially true if we consider that:

- the market area has grown well beyond the county line;
- a national body provides a venue for discussions of mutual interest, from legal decisions to practical problems for all associations;
- the international scene is developing and a national spokesgroup is essential.

Conclusion

- The ANSLs has put forth many of the concerns expressed above to the CCLS though both the ANSLs Council and the Nova Scotia Director.
- Other provincial associations have expressed similar concerns about the PLIC mandate and performance.
- CCLS has shown more fiscal responsibility in the last four years.
- CCLS has expressed dissatisfaction with the progress toward the self-funded professional liability insurance and are attempting to resolve this:
 - by mandating an actuarial study, completed in Spring 1997 and the subsequent preparation of detailed proposal for a program,
 - preparation of PLIC guidelines,
 - and more direct involvement by the Board in PLIC.

Appendix B

- CCLS has completed or are in the process of completing other projects of national interest, such as contract forms for services, title insurance examination, accreditation procedures to assist policies toward education and reciprocity, NAFTA and comparison of definitions and acts.

Recommendations

The ANSLS, as all provincial associations, requires a national voice and communication link for a wide range of topics of mutual interest. It would not be advisable to discontinue our participation in CCLS without an alternative for a national organization. The performance of the CCLS may not have been as proficient as we would have liked in some instances, however, we should not focus on the past. There have been notable improvements in recent years and the ANSLS should continue to foster improvements through constructive criticism.

- That ANSLS executive, through its CCLS Director, continue the pursuit of accountability and improvement.
- Request revisions to the PLIC Terms of Reference / Guidelines, the following should be considered:
 - rotation of committee members (one of five each year)
 - a minimum of three members from private practice
 - a review of PLIC Chairman honorarium (this committee is not aware of the level of effort of the Chair)
 - a report format be established to depict claims per type, region and frequency.

The guidelines may require changes to address the impending report (from the actuarial study results), which will probably warrant restructuring of the committee.

- Council should ensure that CCLS updates form part of zone meeting agendas to permit a review of CCLS activities and communication by the entire membership.

S. Andy DeCoste, NSLS
Chairman

Appendix C**Insurance Committee Report**

I have had the opportunity to speak with Brian Moors of London Life to ask a few questions as to how the ANSLs might proceed with a group insurance plan.

Apparently, to gain the benefits from a group insurance plan such as guaranteed insurability, lower rates, etc., there must be a singular administration for the group. In this case, it would imply that the ANSLs would administer the plan for the signed-on members. Duties here would include billing and collecting premiums, updating policies to account for members changing coverage and handling concerns when there are questions and problems. Also there may be liability attached to the association for any mistakes regarding the management of the coverage.

I would therefore suggest the management of a group insurance plan is an involved task and should not be taken lightly. The ANSLs is currently not structured to facilitate this added responsibility. Furthermore, does our professional association want to expand into this kind of endeavour?

Some other associations who endorse a particular company provide a mailing list to the company, which may contact each name on the list. By being associated with the group, each member may receive a 5% discount on auto insurance, for example. Contact with the insurance company is generally phone-based. (London Life uses direct contact through its representatives).

Upon review of a letter sent to you by Robert Morrow, he indicates that the AOLS group insurance plan is administered by a third party administrative firm (TPA Administrative Services Ltd.). This may be another method of overcoming the administration problem. I would still be concerned about the liability issue however.

I would suggest that before we make any final decisions, we consult with the AOLS (Carl Rooth) for help.

Paul Slaunwhite, P.Eng., NSLS
Chairman

Appendix D

Association Data Base Plan

1. Prior to the compilation of the data base, investigate the following:

Availability and cost of LIS digital mapping

Internet accessibility to data base by members.

Making data base software available to members.

Determine who has access to data base.

Determine information to be included in data base.

Get proposal from software supplier.

2.	Purchase Pentium computer	\$2500
3.	Purchase software and training	\$1000
4.	Hire part-time help to input backlog of plans 12,000 plans, input @ 20 per hour = 600 hours x \$8/hr =	<u>\$4800</u>
TOTAL:		<u>\$8300</u>

NOTE: Members need Pentium computers and appropriate software to use the data base. Software cost is \$500. The data can be supplied on disk if necessary.

Leica GPS *Surveyor 1 System*

\$23,990.00*



9400-BLD2 Bundle

Surveyor 1 GPS System
bundle includes:

2 SR9400 Receivers with
AT201 antenna

2 CR333D Static controllers

SKI-L1 Software

Datum and map software

1.0 Mb PCMCIA card

Adapters and cabling,
batteries, and transport case.

Affordable: Low cost static GPS measurements.

Expandable and Upgradeable: Clearly defined upgrade path and low cost start-up.

High Accuracy: Centimeter grade results.

Fast Initial Fix: High quality 12-channel (phase and code) GPS engine.

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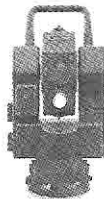
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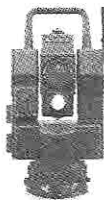
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