

THE NOVA SCOTIAN SURVEYOR

SPRING/SUMMER 2023

No. 213



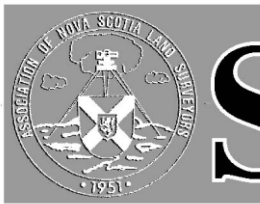
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THE NOVA SCOTIAN SURVEYOR

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Raymond Pottier, P.Surv, NSLS



This year, after three years of COVID-19 restrictions, the world seems to be moving slowly towards a new normal. It seems that all our sister Associations are planning face-to-face Annual General Meetings (AGMs) or, at the

very least, some sort of hybrid meeting. In keeping with this theme, we started the year with a face-to-face Council meeting in November at our new office on Windmill Road, where it was agreed, the remaining Council meetings would be online meetings.

In January, with the New Brunswick AGM less than a week away, I tested positive for COVID and was unable to attend. Fortunately, Past President Andy was planning to attend the New Brunswick meeting and he agreed on very short notice, to represent our Association in my stead. I attended the Ontario AGM, held at Niagara Falls in early March. This was their first meeting in three years, and we were introduced to seventy-five newly minted OLS's. In April, I also attended the Alberta AGM, held at Lake Louise. Topics of conversation at the President's Forums centered around Professional Governance Acts in both British Columbia and Alberta, unauthorized practice in all jurisdictions across Canada, staff shortages, and attracting new members to the profession. In anticipation of the introduction of a Professional Governance Act in Ontario, sometime in the future, the Association of Ontario Land Surveyors has been altering their existing governance documents to more closely align with the requirements being introduced in the British Columbia and Alberta Acts. At both the Ontario and Alberta AGMs, there were presentations from CBEPS on the move Towards an On-Line Degree (TOLD) and the effects this would have on candidates obtaining their CBEPS Certificate. CBEPS has also introduced a new Syllabus which had been in need of updating and has been approved by all Canadian jurisdictions. There is also a pathway for Foreign Trained Land Surveyor evaluation.

A bit closer to home, your Council has been very busy

over the past six months. We've had four regular Council meetings and one Special Meeting to deal with an urgent matter requiring immediate attention. Council has approved a number of policies meant to bring the Association into compliance with the Fair Registrations Practices Act. Now that we have policies bringing us into compliance with the Act, we are working towards demonstrating that we are, in fact, compliant with the Act by our actions. In the past six months, Simeon has also brought forward a number of policy documents dealing directly with the Association being compliant with all of our governance documents, including the Land Surveyors Act, Regulations and By-Laws made under the Act and our Standards of Practice. Council has also approved changes to the Practice Review Department's Manual of Administrative Procedure, to ensure that the manual procedures mirror our governance documents. Council approved a Complaints Committee Manual, to ensure that the Complaints Committee has clear procedures to follow. A comprehensive Strategic Plan framework for the Association was also approved, and Simeon has been fleshing out the goals for the Association and setting realistic timelines for us to meet those goals. As I mentioned, it has been a busy year with some interesting and difficult challenges for Council.

We have been in our new office for well over a year now, and staff have settled into a routine under the guidance of our Executive Director, Simeon Roberts. COVID-19 has changed our work reality over the past three years, and consequently, the Association office has morphed into a hybrid workspace, allowing for a better work-life balance while still accomplishing all of our member service delivery goals.

Back in 1985, a few weeks after earning my commission, my boss asked me how I was going to participate in our Association. I said that extensive travel for work left me little time to volunteer. He then asked, "If you don't do it, who will?" Turns out that he was correct. I got involved that year and have met and worked with some amazing people in this Association over the years. Get involved and stand out among your peers! Have a great and productive summer.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

Simeon I. Roberts, B.Sc. (Hons), MA

**The Times They Are a—Changin’**

When I was an undergraduate student, I studied Geography at Middlesex University in London, England. I shared a flat with four others and Joe became my best friend. He was a busker, often being sighted in London underground stations singing Bob Dylan songs, to earn a few pounds to help out with his tuition and living expenses. He would practice over and over again in our flat and although Bob Dylan was not my favourite, I soon became a fan. I remember one song in particular – *These Times They Are a-Changin’* (1964). The lyrics start with:

*Come gather 'round people
Wherever you roam
And admit that the waters
Around you have grown
And accept it that soon
You'll be drenched to the bone
If your time to you is worth savin'
And you better start swimmin'
Or you'll sink like a stone
For the times they are a-changin'*

I fondly recall the Geographical Techniques course at Middlesex, when at our first class, we undertook a plane table surveying project on campus. Later during a field camp, we surveyed potential sites for a proposed nuclear power station in the south of England, and presented our results to a mock public inquiry. Oh, how the times have changed...

“Surveying is a classical profession that goes back at least 500 years, and perhaps as many as 3,000 and many of our classical instruments – levels and

theodolites – can be traced back to the Middle Ages” (Rudolf Staiger, *The Surveyor* 4.0, GIM International, March 30, 2023).

Staiger, in his article, summarized the following: in the so-called archaic phase (up to 1590), not much is known about the early surveying instruments, but during 1590-1924, in the optical phase, technical developments produced many instruments with opto-mechanical components. Some might recall the WILD T2, T3 & T4 and the KERN DKM3. The electro-optical phase followed, and lasted until 1989 and “was characterized by the arrival of electronic distance measurement, electronic or digital calculators, and digital storage of geodetic measurements and data”. Since 1990, we have been in the multi-sensor phase with the rollout of the first digital level, the first usable GPS receivers, and the first one-man total station.

I wonder how many surveyors are familiar with (or are already using) any of the following: low cost GNSS sensors, cloud storage and computing, quantum computing, edge computing, robotics, augmented reality, hyperspectral imaging, smart cities and digital twins, simultaneous localization and mapping (SLAM), blockchain, enhanced digital rights management, internet of things, unmanned aerial vehicles, data fusion, data cubes, high altitude pseudo satellites (HAPS), interferometric synthetic aperture radar (InSAR), and artificial intelligence (AI).

I recall reading an Alberta Land Surveyors’ Association (ALSA) guest article in the ALS News on Artificial Intelligence. It began “As the world continues to rapidly advance with technology, it’s no surprise that the profession of land surveying will be greatly impacted by the rise of Artificial Intelligence (AI). In the province of Alberta, this

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impact is already being felt, and it's essential that land surveyors are aware of the changes and are prepared to integrate AI into their professional practice."

With the use of advanced algorithms (e.g., automated feature extraction) vast amounts of data can be processed in a fraction of the time it takes traditional surveying methods. As a result, projects can be completed much faster and more accurately, potentially reducing any human error. The author of the guest article posed a question from a previous professional exam, and I noted many of the answers in the previous sentences. What is interesting to note is that the article was fully written by an AI language model. Scary!

There is much current debate concerning the ethical use of AI and there are many stories regarding its misuse. We need to understand that AI is not a replacement for human expertise. AI can certainly process data quickly, but we still need to ensure the results are interpreted correctly. What this means is that surveyors will need to be trained in how to use AI, and how to analyze its results. Our regulatory bodies will also need to ensure proper testing, and entry requirements are established to ensure only qualified professionals are using the technology.

I believe there is no doubt that predictive AI will continue to be an important tool in surveyors' work and education while also threatening and undermining both. I prefer to see AI as both an opportunity and a challenge. I wonder what we can be doing now to get ahead of this emerging trend?

Many of these new advances are already having an impact on surveying and some raise important questions for regulators (e.g., need for new standards and training). There are two questions that should be considered. Firstly, do these

potential changes require changes to our areas of practice? And secondly, what changes are required in terms of specific processes/procedures and standards of practice to respond to these changes?

New technologies are affecting how we do our surveys, but most importantly, they are impacting the very way we operate our businesses and how we serve the public. Nowadays, it is much easier for surveyors to master any instrumentation. Measurements have become fully automatic (think automatic target finding, tracking and laser scanning) and there are many software packages that conduct calculations with ease. Today, it's not just a matter of mastering the instrumentation itself, but surveyors have to master and manage the whole process (as project managers) – from data acquisition, data processing and analysis right through to the visualization and validation of the final product.

So, why is this relevant today? I believe we are at a critical juncture in the evolution of our profession. Not only is technology advancing at an ever-increasing rate (e.g., ChatGBT), we are facing labour shortages, declining membership, increased numbers of retirees, and a competitive environment related to the attraction and retention of new candidates. This means the role and definition of a professional land surveyor is also changing. What skills will today's (and the future) surveyor need? At some point our whole fabric will change, and to stay ahead of the curve, we will need to be proactive and begin a dialogue with all of our stakeholders to map out a way ahead. This will impact all of our internal processes, our vision of who we are and how we market our products and services, and how we protect the "public interest". It is certainly a daunting challenge, but our new strategic plan is starting to put in place the necessary building blocks. Sometimes we get caught up with focusing on the trees and not seeing the wider forest.



PRACTICE REVIEW MANAGER REPORT

S. Andy Decoste, NSLS



I hope the milder weather and longer sunlit days have added spring to your step. Spring also typically adds survey clients to the project list. Although anecdotal only, my discussions with

members from across the province, suggest the survey industry is still healthy. The descriptor that has been most common is 'busy but manageable'. It is not the hectic pace of 18 months ago, but there still appears to be a demand for resources.

This "manageable" business stage may be an appropriate time to review your work practices and workflow. Do you require additional resources? Did the quality control process remain intact during that busy period? Were clients being properly informed of (potential) delays? Were your staff stressed, properly compensated, commended, retained...? Employee retention will generally yield a smoother business operation than training new staff. Remember to appreciate staff that also put in the extra effort to complete the survey.

Spring has also permitted my tasks to proceed in the field. Since my last communication with the membership, via the recent round of zone meetings, I have completed 27 field inspections as part of the comprehensive reports. During the zone meetings, I discussed many of the observations resulting from the systematic (desktop) reviews. In this communication, I will touch on the field inspections.

I realize the importance of arriving to inspect a site as soon after the survey as possible. Being onsite shortly after the plan is signed, provides me the opportunity to see what the client sees in the field. That clientele may be a developer, government department, or

private individual. Those clients may have a different long-term goal or reason for the survey. The survey may be used by a purchaser we don't even know. Regardless, we must comply with standards, and hopefully complete the survey such that the client will be a repeat customer and will speak positively of the service.

It is imperative we remember the clients' needs, perspective, and knowledge. Most of the inspections completed to date have been on modest size lots that were surveyed for residential development. I did not anticipate the broad range of field practice, and detail, observed during the inspections. The range is not a blatant compliant/noncompliant adherence to the Standards. It is more a range of the field deliverable; what was left for the client to see, or to assist them achieve their goal for the property. At one end of the scale, there were painted wood stakes left at the survey markers to clearly identify the corner set in the ground, and there were painted wood stakes placed along the boundary. This client could clearly see the boundaries; to build the fence, to satisfy the bylaw clearances, or see the encroachment.

The other end of the range was a ribbon (not always) tied around a survey marker, and no stakes to show the line, especially when the corners are not intervisible. It is frequently the case that the surveyor will not be on site with the client to review the corner locations. Therefore, clear and obvious demarcation is what the client should observe when they arrive on site after the survey is complete. It is also important to recognize that many clients will not have the skillset to fill in the blanks, if adequate markings aren't placed along the boundary.

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All boundary lines in wooded areas **shall** be brushed out (Standard 5.11) unless such action would have an adverse effect on the value or the aesthetics on the property. I am speculating in some instances the surveyor felt the orange flagging was adequate to mark the line to the next corner. I do not believe that is the intent of the Standard. If not brushed, then it must be noted on the plan (Standard 6.12.19). It may be prudent to note on the plan the reason the line was not brushed out. Although flagging tape is very helpful, it is a temporary marking. It may be argued that wood stakes, and even our conventional rebar survey markers are not permanent. However, the wood stakes along the line at least afford the owner the opportunity to distinctly see that boundary on the ground and use as they see fit. Having the line clearly visible may encourage the owner to maintain the boundary. Our regulatory requirement is to protect the public – what better way than to have them maintain the boundary the surveyor has defined for them?

The second notable observation was the amount of detail collected and shown on the survey plans. Until completing the field inspections, I had not considered how much variation there could be on the detail shown on plans. Almost all comply with the standards, showing main structures and buildings within 3 metres of the boundary. But most show the driveways, the electrical service into the building, walkways and steps, planters, hedges, rows of ornamental trees (near the boundary), treeline limit (even if not relevant to the boundary determination), drainage swales, clothes lines..... Also, features not on the property can be significant for development: fire hydrants, utility poles, curb stops or drop curbs.

The boundary determination and compliance with the standards is a minimum. However, your client probably requested a survey for a purpose and, as

much detail as possible, will assist their planning for lot improvements. What your client sees when they arrive onsite will form a significant part of their impression of the service provided to them by their surveyor. When they look at their plan, they want to see how the improvements on their lot are situated, relative to their property boundaries.

One other observation too frequently noted, was lawn encroachments. Lawn mowing is occupation of adjoining property owners' land, and is an encroachment. It should be shown on the plan as such. I will reiterate the above: this is an instance where clear demarcation in the field is significant. Boundary establishment is our mission, but all improvements on the lot must be assessed relative to the boundaries.

As mentioned above, I will endeavor to complete the field inspection as soon as practical, after the plan is submitted or recorded. Prompt submission may also prove worthwhile, because there were a few instances where reviews noted omissions/errors that warranted revisions to the plan, and were noted prior to approval and recording. Many of you have reached out with inquiries of Standards, related matters, or boundary determination dilemmas. I emphasize that I am available to discuss all survey related matters with the hope a second set of eyes may assist to resolve your quandary, or at least provide options to explore.

I do feel the quality of boundary determination is professional and mostly compliant with the requirements outlined in our Standards of Practice. I encourage surveyors to consider their client's needs, and the overall product they will be left with upon completion of your/their survey.

I hope you have a successful spring of surveying. I look forward to seeing you at the June seminar.





PO Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3A5 Canada

MEMORANDUM

TO: Construction & Development Industry Associations & Groups
HRM Development Liaison Group

CC: Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer
Denise Schofield, Deputy CAO, Citizen Services
Caroline Blair-Smith, Deputy CAO, Corporate Services
Kelly Denty, Executive Director, Planning & Development
Mayor Savage and Members of Regional Council

FROM: Margaret Pike, Business Services Manager, Planning & Development

DATE: February 6, 2023

SUBJECT: **Update - Permitting, Planning, Licensing & Compliance Solution - Release 3, Planning & Subdivision**

On **Tuesday, February 21, 2023**, Halifax Regional Municipality will roll out the third release of the Permit, Planning, Licensing & Compliance (PPL&C) system. The release will bring Subdivision Applications, Zoning Confirmation Letters and Planning Application processes like development agreements, rezonings, by-law amendments, variances, and site plan approvals online. Now, in addition to applying for a permit and/or a license, businesses, professionals & individual citizens will also be able to apply for these approvals online.

Here are some key features of the online planning system:

- Apply online 24/7 - when it's convenient for you
- Secure online credit & debit payments accepted
- Unified & transparent records
- Full integration with Open Data and the municipal GIS map database (target fall 2023)

Also, of note:

- Subdivisions applications involving new or changed infrastructure, will be improving to allow customers better insight into the process and ability to request inspections online. Support will be provided.
- We'll be setting an upfront, flat fee for Planning Applications and will charge the remainder (as outlined in Administrative Order 15) once the initial review is completed and any required changes to the application (s) are determined.
- All measurement fields in the online system must be entered using metric measurements only.

If you are not already a user of the PPL&C system, please register. Registration is easy!

Please reach out if you have any questions or comments related to the online planning solution, email PPLC-Info@halifax.ca. Thanks in advance for your support as we strive to improve your experience and our planning processes.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

MEMBERSHIP STATUS

Wayne Collet, NSLS #623, resigned his full membership, November 2022
Kevin Brown, NSLS #601, retired his membership, May 2022
Nathan Hughes, NSLS #670, joined with DesignPoint Eng. & Surveying in Bridgewater, May 2022
Kevin Fogarty, NSLS #610, ceased his business and joined with DesignPoint Eng. & Surveying, May 2022
S. Andy DeCoste, NSLS #567, began as Practice Review Manager, May 2022
John Conn, NSLS #517, retired his membership, June 2022
Rodney Humphreys, NSLS #520, resigned his full membership, June 2022
Norval Higgins, NSLS #475, retired his membership, January 2023
Paul Harvey, NSLS #509, resigned his full membership, October 2022
Carl Hartlen, NSLS #544, received Life Membership, October 2022
Glenn Crews, NSLS #579, received Life Membership, October 2022
Jason Bond, NSLS #667, retired his membership, January 2023
Gregory Smith, NSLS #527, resigned his retired membership, January 2023
Adam King, NSLS #688, retired his membership, January 2023
Nicholas Dearman, NSLS #530, retired his membership, January 2023
Jenny Magee, NSLS #651, resigned her retired membership, January 2023
Allan Owen, NSLS #536, resigned his full membership, March 2023

CANDIDATE STATUS

Zach d'Entremont joined the membership in May 2022 and is articling with Eric Morse, NSLS #609
Conor Herget joined the membership, June 2022 and articling with Sheldon Chisholm, NSLS #647
Alex MacQuarrie joined the membership, July 2022 and articling with Robyn Ash, NSLS #656
Alex MacQuarrie joined SDMM Ltd., March 2023 and articling with Dan Gerard, NSLS #619
Branden Rankin joined the membership, July 2022 and articling with Dylan Mossman, NSLS #677
Noah Thomas joined the membership, August 2022 and articling with Matthew LeBlanc, NSLS #673
Coleman Ward joined the membership, May 2022 and articling with Kevin Lombard, NSLS #613
Jarret Green has joined Trevors Surveying Ltd., February 2023 and articling with Darren Trevors, NSLS #662
Christopher Leslie has joined Natural Resources and Renewables, February 2023 and articling with Robyn Ash, NSLS #656
Tim Soper has joined the membership, March 2023 and is articling with Sheldon Chisholm, NSLS #647
Benjamin Kaul has joined the membership, April 2023 and articling with Kevin Fogarty, NSLS #610

COMPANIES

DesignPoint Engineering & Surveying opened a branch office at: 3 - 109 Logan Road, Bridgewater, NS
Lakeside Surveys Ltd. has begun as a part-time surveying business by Kyle Harrington, NSLS #645

We are always looking for past experience and journeys from members who may want to share and place in an issue of The Nova Scotian Surveyor. If anyone would like to add anything to our collection, please contact us by email: admin@ansls.ca, or mail to: 800 Windmill Rd, Unit 209, Dartmouth, NS B3B 1L1

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

CODY P. DEROACH, NSLS #694



Cody was born in Halifax, NS, and is a graduate of COGS and UNB, majoring in Geodesy and Geomatics Engineering. Cody began his geomatics career in 2017 working primarily with legal surveys across the province and joined the Association of Nova Scotia Land Surveyors in 2019. He articulated under Brian Anderson with Brian A. Anderson and Associates Ltd. until 2020, then under Greg Skelhorn with North Star Surveying and Engineering Ltd. in 2021, and lastly under Wesley McNeil with Public Services and Procurement Canada from 2022-2023, where he is currently employed. Cody now lives in Beaver Bank, NS, with his partner Rebecca, enjoying their free time hiking, camping, and gardening. Cody looks forward to becoming more involved in the Association and contributing to the progression and future of the land surveying profession.

DAVID A. CHAISSON, NSLS #695



David grew up in Pictou, NS and developed an interest in surveying later in life. This interest was further realized while attending COGS and motivated him to enroll in the Geomatics Engineering program at UNB. David gained summer work experience in positions with DNR, the City of Fredericton, and DesignPoint Engineering and Surveying. After graduation, David accepted a position with DesignPoint, where he articulated under Kevin Brown and Nathan Hughes.

COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE REPORT

COMPLAINTS	DISMISSED	RESOLVED	SENT TO HEARING
IN 2020 = 6	3	3	0
IN 2021 = 12	6	5	1
IN 2022 = 8	6	2	0

In 2017, we reviewed 4 complaints, 6 in 2018 and 4 more in 2019. Are the numbers rising now? I hope not. It may be a sign of a more litigious society, or the result of Covid19. It is our responsibility to conduct ourselves in a professional manner; in all circumstances. Our Code of Ethics demands it. It's possible that our Standards of Practice is our defense. That's right, our defense.

This document outlines how to conduct a survey of lands. Practitioners that follow our Standards and our Ethics are less likely to receive a complaint. Their contracts are in order, their timelines are updated as needed, and their fees are commensurate with the complexity of the project. Clients generally don't become irate just because the project is behind, they're upset when they don't know what they should know. Keep your clients updated. Stuff happens, but it's better to be part of the solution, and not part of the problem.

Glenn Crews, NSLS
Chair, Complaints Committee

NOVA SCOTIA PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL – OPTIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM

Are you looking for an opportunity to educate the public on the importance of Professional Land Surveying while helping to develop a young person's potential interest in our profession? There is a Nova Scotia Public School Program called Options and Opportunities (O2) that can facilitate both.

Students in grades 10 to 12 enroll in the O2 program, in addition to their regular studies. In order to graduate from this program the student needs to successfully complete a few different work term placements with an employer. The local school administrator attempts to match the student/employer according to the student's interests and the employer's willingness and availability.

How can you become involved as an employer? The link below shows contact info for the community consultant for each regional centre of education. You can reach out to the community consultant to find a teacher that administers the program at your local high school. You can connect with the local high school administrator in your area and let them know you are interested in being part of this program. <https://www.ednet.ns.ca/cbl/skilled-trades/contacts>

Good luck in finding and growing the next generation of geomatics professionals in your area.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Issue 144, Spring 1993, Page 35

WHAT IS THE FUTURE FOR THE LAND SURVEYING ASSOCIATIONS?

*by David C. Clark, NSLS
Chairman - CCLS Editorial Board*

The land surveying profession in Canada is presently experiencing turmoils which have never been confronted before to such an extent: deep economic recession, an explosion of technological development, erosion of public image, loss of market, changes in societal attitudes, competition and encroachment by other professions.

Due to low memberships and declining numbers of new entrants in some provincial associations, programs have been trimmed to lessen the already heavy burden of annual members' fees.

The very survival of the land surveying profession is going to depend on greater interprovincial cooperation. The provincial associations must look beyond their own borders for mutual assistance in order to

provide at a reasonable cost the services and support that their members deserve.

The Canadian Council of Land Surveyors, recognizing the need to understand the changing pressures on land surveyors, has in recent months, undertaken a strategic planning process. This project, carried out by an outside management research organization, chronicles not only the problems of the organization, but also those of the land surveying profession generally.

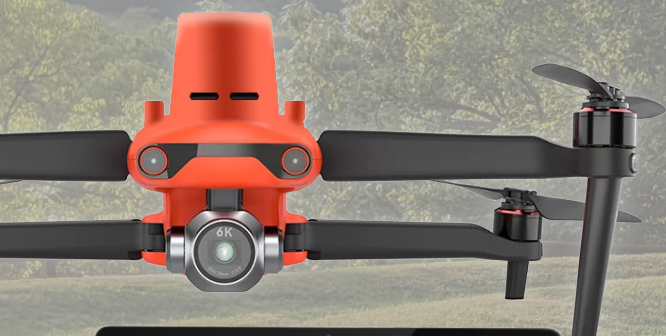
The CCLS and indeed the whole Canadian land surveying profession suffered a serious setback in December when the Board of Directors of l'Ordre des arpenteurs-géomètres du Québec withdrew that organization from membership in CCLS.

Implementation of the strategic plan will now require a radical streamlining of the operation of the organization. Due to financial constraints, CCLS will not be able to provide all the services that land surveyors have benefitted from in the past.

It has become obvious that there must now be greater cooperation between all the individual associations. This just makes good common sense. As an example, a step in the right direction would be for the four western associations and the four eastern associations to work together regionally to provide common services. They now share common Boards of Examiners; why not common publications, professional services, review departments, administrations -- dare we go further?

Let's seriously think about it! ■

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CBEPS Update – TOLD & New National Syllabus

By Simeon Roberts, Jody Isenor & Robyn Ash

The Towards an On-Line Degree in geomatics/surveying (TOLD) project had three objectives:

1. Update CBEPS National Syllabus to meet changing societal needs and priorities, and adapting to a future driven by technological change;
2. Update CBEPS Accreditation and Exemptions Process;
3. Develop a clear path to an online Canadian surveying/geomatics engineering degree.

CBEPS recently announced that they are phasing out the in-person, paper-based examinations at the end of October 2026. Meanwhile, both that and the new system will run concurrently.

Candidates who choose to stay with the current program will not be affected as long as they finish their exams by the October 2026 exam session. CBEPS will require a written plan of how candidates intend to finish those requirements, to be discussed with the Registrar. If a candidate plans on moving to the new system, they will need to contact CBEPS by email.

The new CBEPS National Syllabus includes eight sections:

S1 – Mathematics and Science

S2 – Modeling and Analysis

S3 – Geodesy

S4 – Surveying

S5 – Remote Sensing

S6 – Geospatial Information Systems

S7 – Law, Tenure, Boundaries, Cadastres, and Planning

S8 – Professional Practice

Replacing the previous exams, there will be two ways to obtain the CBEPS Certificate of Completion:

1. *Completing an online surveying/geomatics engineering degree through a CBEPS accredited educational institution;*
OR
2. *Completing all the requirements of the new CBEPS National Syllabus through the online or in-person courses that meet the CBEPS requirements.*

Matrices showing which course is required for which item of the new syllabus will be available for each institution as soon as possible. This will include courses from technical colleges that cover some of the items required.

Matrices may not be available for certain institutions for a year as they make changes to their curriculum. However, the institution, or the Registrar, should be contacted for clarifications on courses if a matrix is not available.

The new accreditation process has also been approved and is similar to what the engineering profession does. The first round of accreditations will begin in 2024 and many university programs are already adapting their programs to the new syllabus. Students will be required to take 50% of their courses at their home university and will be able to take the rest at other universities. Some colleges also have courses that meet requirements of the new syllabus.

For further information <https://cbeps-cceag.ca/>

2023 COGS AWARDS

George T. Bates Award



David Charbonneau

Survey Technician

"As a mature student I am proceeding through this period of study with adult bills as a parent of three and maintaining a home and property, vehicle, etc. I have been financing my study period with a combination of student loan, investment savings and whatever other funds I have been able to pull together, so every dollar matters currently and this award is of significant benefit to me at this time."

"I am a mature student with a previous career in electronics and procurement and a previous NSCC graduate in Electronics Engineering Technology. I was looking for a change at this point in my career, and a change significant enough that some retraining might be required. I was already aware of NSCC-COGS, but had never closely looked into the programs available. In my research, I took a closer look at the Survey program and found interest in every subject. After working primarily at a desk, or a bench for many years, I was looking for more physically active work and preferably outdoors or at least a mix of office and outdoors. In speaking with student services, I was asked if I liked math, problem solving and being outdoors, to which the answers were yes. I applied in the spring I left my job and went all in. I am currently enrolled for the follow up year to the Survey Technician program, Geomatics Engineering Technology, and this award will go towards funding that next year of study.

Many thanks to the Association of Nova Scotia Land Surveyors for this award. Although this award does indeed represent a year of sacrifice, many hours of work, living out of a bag for 9 months, and a collision with a deer on a Sunday night returning to the Valley from HRM, an award for high grades can sometimes be a gift for learning, which is the case for my part, to some degree."

John S. Pope Award

no photo provided

Kailey Graves

Geomatics Engineering Technology

"This award is so helpful to me and my family as I approach graduation. My husband has been working out West to support our family and I have been focusing on my studies. The cost of my tuition and then fulltime daycare for two toddlers on top of that has been really hard for us. I am on an installment payment plan for my tuition and this award will take care of a good chunk of my balance remaining – the cherry on top of a great year!"

"Hello to the Association of Nova Scotia Land Surveyors, thank you so much for this award! I am a 32 year old mom and surveyor who recently returned to finish my diploma at NSCC. After graduating, I will be enrolling in Canadian Board of Examiners for Professional Surveyors and making a game plan toward my professional designation. Thank you not only for this financial award, but for the insightful conversations and advice from various members of the Association I have had over the past few months."

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2023 COGS AWARDS

JAH Church Award



Karen MacKenzie

Survey Technician

"This takes some financial pressure off me and my family as I approach the end of my program, and enables me to invest in some good quality rain gear for work (which I wouldn't otherwise have been able to do). Thank you so much for this award! I'm so excited to work as a technician as part of the surveying profession, and these funds help me on the journey there."

"I'm a mom of two living in Lunenburg County. Most recently I worked in construction administration and started meeting survey techs on job sites. I chose to pivot to this profession because I like to work hard and work outdoors, and the techs I spoke with were always enthusiastic about the profession, and their experience at COGS.

I have secured employment with a local survey company and will start work immediately upon the completion of classes. In the near term, I'm just excited to dig in and use the skills I gained at COGS. I'll use these bursary funds to purchase good quality workwear, which will contribute directly to this work experience.

Over the next few years, I want to become the kind of technician an employer can depend on to do the job well and efficiently. In the longer term, down the road, I'd love to explore a course in wetland certification to augment the skills I bring to the job."

J E R March Award



Izaak Edgar

Survey Technician

"I plan to return next year for the Geomatics Engineering Technology Program. The main obstacle in the way of this goal is money, so I will be saving over the summer to allow my return in the fall. This award makes that goal more achievable."

"For the last 6 years, I have worked in forestry, specifically silviculture. I loved that being outside and active were a part of my job. However, when the Northern Pulp Mill shut down, I lost work for 5 months. I realized there wasn't much job security in forestry, so I started searching for a new career path. The Survey Technician Program at NSCC was a great fit. I could maintain the aspects of forestry that I enjoyed while working in an industry that has better job security.

I have enjoyed the Surveying Program this year, and I'm confident Surveying is a field I want to build a career around. As the end of the semester approaches, life is becoming busy. My top priorities are doing well in class and finding a job placement for the summer. This award will ease the financial strain of school and allow me to focus on the responsibilities of being a student.

I would like to thank you for your generosity. This award will help me continue building my career around a great industry, as I'm sure it has helped many students do before me. Thank you very much.

Long-Time GIS Faculty Member receives Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal



Dave MacLean, long-time Geographic Information Systems faculty at NSCC COGS, is the proud recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal for services in education. For over 35 years, he's used his passion for mapping technology to take him around the world for work and then to teach students so they can do similar.

"When what you do is what you're passionate about, it's not work, and I've been fortunate to use this passion to mentor COGS students for over 20 years in the geomatics industry.

It's a lot of fun, providing students examples of interactive maps and showing how this technology can be used. In 2017, NASA asked us to be involved in mapping social media contributions during their unique "1 Orbit, 1 World" event, which was led by astronauts on the International Space Station (ISS). It's not every day that you can give students that kind of hands-on mapping experience. It's nice to be part of the experiences that gives our Geomatics grads a competitive edge when entering the workforce.

My career in mapping technology has led me to work alongside wonderful people across Canada, as well as in countries like Qatar when the nation transitioned from paper maps to a digital system, and even people during missions "off Earth" on the ISS. And now, it's an absolute honour to be recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal for this work.

I look forward to many more years of helping interested and interesting people learn and use geospatial tools for their careers." ([Posted to LinkedIn from NSCC](#))

Dave is from Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, and has also received an Award of Distinction from the Geomatics Association of Nova Scotia (GANS) in 2020 who is a true champion and pioneer of Geographic Information. He is well-known in the Geomatics community as an instructor at the acclaimed Centre of Geographic Sciences (COGS) in Lawrencetown, NS, where he has instructed students primarily in Geographic Information Systems for many years.

David was also widely recognized for his valuable contribution to 'space photography', including that time he mapped Chris Hadfield's collection of Earth photographs from the International Space Station. This endeavor not only sparked a working relationship between Mr. MacLean and Mr. Hadfield, it also garnered him national recognition in MacLean's magazine.

David is also a current member of the GANS' board of directors as treasurer, and is celebrating his 15th year as a highly valued member. ([GoGeomatics.ca](#))

MY FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

David C. Clark, PLS (Maine), NSLS(Life), P. Surv.

The first Annual General Meeting I attended was in November 8-9, 1963. Back then, it was called the Association of Provincial Land Surveyors of Nova Scotia. Part of my apprenticeship time had been served with *Ron Chisholm*, PLS, at the Department of Lands and Forests, where Ron and others had urged me as a new member to attend the AGM and become involved in Association activities. I had received my certification as a Provincial Land Surveyor on February 11th, 1963. My certificate was signed by *Dr. G.W.I. Creighton*, PLS, Deputy Minister of Lands and Forests; Dalhousie University *Professor Arthur F. Chisholm*, PLS, Chair of the Board of Examiners; and *Vincent P. Harrison*, Deputy Crown Land Surveyor with the Department of Lands and Forests, as Secretary of the Board.

Joseph F. Archibald was our President that year and *Edward P. Rice* was Secretary-Treasurer, both volunteering to do the executive duties of the Association in their spare time, from their regular full time employment. The Association did not have an office of its own so the Association AGM was held in a large conference room at the Lord Nelson Hotel in Halifax. At the opening of the meeting, there was concern that not enough members were in attendance for a quorum. Someone was dispatched to call around to local surveyors to get enough members to come and have the necessary twenty members to officially hold the meeting.

Much of the business of the association happened at the annual meeting in those times, leading to considerable discussion and argument from the floor. There were members who held very strong opinions and who were not afraid to make those opinions known in colourful language during the meeting. A large contingent of the attendees

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included land surveyors with the Nova Scotia Department of Lands and Forests. The Association was closely connected with the Department since it played an integral role in the qualification process for new Provincial Land Surveyors. *Vincent Harrison* fulfilled the role of Registrar and the records of all certified land surveyors were held by the Department (*available at ANSLS office*). Some DLF staff helped organize and did floor duties for the annual meeting.

Department land surveyors who were at that meeting were: *Joseph F. Archibald*, *J. Ronald Chisholm*, *George W. Swanburg*, *Hoyes A. Cameron*, *Noel R. Harrington*, *Ernest F. Boehk*, *Roy M. Schofield*, and Director of Surveys, *J. Ruskin "Rusty" March*. Some of the other surveyors I remember were *Major James A.H. Church*, Principal of the Land Survey Institute; *Eric Millard*, Editor of the Nova Scotian Surveyor; *Col. E.O. Temple Piers*, Professor at Nova Scotia Technical College; *Prof Arthur Chisholm*, Dalhousie University; and members in private practice *Walter E. Servant*, *John S. Pope*, *Ralph Kendall*, *Eldon Adams*, *George T. Bates*, *Murray F. Cossitt*, *Ivan P. MacDonald*, *Melvyn H. Wadden*, *Errol B. Hebb*, and *John E. MacKenzie*. The Department of Highways was represented by *Herbert V. Martell* and *Chester A. Keen*. *Reginald E. Dickie*, *Stirling G. Snow* and *Donald L. Eldridge* were with the forestry companies.

There was a representative delegation who attended our annual meetings from the Massachusetts Association of Land Surveyors and Civil Engineers. Several Schofield brothers who had roots in the Annapolis Valley were core to this group and were always willing to participate in the business discussions. Another guest was

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Col Spencer Ball representing the Gurley Instrument Company of Schenectady, New York. *George Bates* always acted as a social coordinator for our annual meetings. George would fit himself out in Nova Scotia tartan and do his utmost to make our guests feel special. In the American's honour, George always presented a toast to the President of the United States at the banquet.

Ralph Kendall from Sydney was another unique character. Ralph had a bad leg and used a shortened range pole as a cane when he walked around the city. Ralph came from Cape Breton by the Acadia Lines bus and brought a tube of his survey plans to have prints made by Norman Wade in Halifax. The only other out-of-province guest I remember was [Archie McLaughlin](#), who I believe may have been the New Brunswick Director of Surveys.

There were several exhibitors at that meeting, primarily Norman Wade, who would have been there to sell survey equipment and supplies. The difference in those times was the variety of the equipment for sale. On display besides the K&E transits and levels, there might have been new Wild T-1 and T-16 Theodolites, as well as the latest in steel chains, hand compasses, plumb bobs, field books, lettering guides and tracing paper. I remember one surveyor commenting as he viewed a big crank operated adding machine, that one day those would be the size of a package of cigarettes. Those around him laughed at his joke.

One of the controversial items of business was the proposal of the annual association membership fee be raised from twenty to thirty dollars a year. Some members expressed their concern that this amount was too much. The Association had a

recommended schedule of fees at that time, which stated that land surveyors should charge \$5 an hour for their professional services. The greater concern was that engineers with a PLS could practice land surveying without joining or paying membership fees to the association. The business conducted was not without the occasional clash of opinions. During the meeting, *Major Church* pushed for higher education standards, and rather forcefully expressed his views to *E.O. Temple Piers*, who was instrumental in preparing the land surveyor qualifying examinations. The *Major* in his very proper English, once referred to *Temple Piers* as the "south end of a horse facing north". A topic that generated considerable discussion was the proposal to switch from magnetic to astronomic bearings for property surveys, and to use metal bars rather than wooden posts for all new property corners.

Those were different times. Looking back, we were content with doing our surveys and plotting our survey plans in the same manner our predecessors had been doing. There was a reluctance of some members to make changes to modernize the profession. Those of us attending, had no idea of the changes in technology that would develop in the years to come. In hindsight, we missed a number of opportunities to broaden our scope of practice into developing fields that were soon taken over by other professionals.

Nevertheless, the Association gradually evolved and flourished. Credit must be given to that core group of early surveyors for their strength of character and initial fortitude, blazing the trail for the contributions of many others in the development of the Association of Nova Scotia Land Surveyors that it is today. ❖❖❖

Dr. Bob Maher Reflects on Geography Education at COGS

Posted on December 4, 2022 ([GoGeomatics](#))

It was 1980 when I joined the Nova Scotia Land Survey Institute (NSLSI) to teach Scientific Computer Programming (SCP) with Bruce Peveril. Bruce was primarily responsible for computer languages while I was responsible for the applications. The administration at the Institute had recognized the need for computer technology in their current programs.

Over the next few years, we added Business Computer Programming, Computer Graphics, GIS programming, and Business Geographics. By 1986 we had three departments: Computer Programming, Cartography and Planning, and Surveying. It was time to change the name from Land Surveying to Geographic Sciences, thus the College of Geographic Sciences (COGS).

In terms of content, there was recognition that there was new software for GIS and Image Analysis. Edward Wedler was teaching Remote Sensing, along with Manou Akhavi. It was important to be able to customize the software. The relationship with the private sector included ESRI, DIPIX, and later PCI. The second realization, reflected in the curriculum, was major cooperative projects with industry and government partners. These projects demonstrated the application of technology to real-world problems; including Forestry, Geology, Statistics Canada, Health Sciences, and more.

The emphasis was on geographic science, and less on technology. Over time, there were changes in the academic community; Surveying, with its link to UNB, became more aligned with Geomatics Engineering. My background is a Ph.D. in Biogeography, under Dr. Michael Goodchild at the University of Western Ontario, and later teaching at the Memorial University

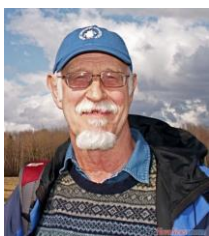
of Newfoundland in the Geography department. Geographic Science encompassed Physical Geography, Human Geography, Cultural Geography, Historical Geography, Economic Geography, Fisheries Geography, and Cartography. Through *John Wightman*, Vice-Principal at COGS, we were connected to [Roger Tomlinson](#), 'Father of GIS' in Canada.

After COGS became part of NSCC, the emphasis was more on technology and less on the landscape. Surveying remained focused on property boundaries. I left COGS and joined the Dalhousie EMDI project in Indonesia, subsequently, joined ESRI in California, and later the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, working with Sir Sanford Fleming College on GIS education with Tim Easley.

When I returned to COGS in 2000, the emphasis was on Applied Geomatics research. This was a period when the focus shifted more toward technical employment skills.

What is the situation at COGS today?

- are there still three departments? Computer programming? Cartography and Planning? Surveying?
- do we still teach the application of geographic technologies to a wide range of landscape issues?
- what has happened to the use of GIS technology in municipal planning, health planning, agriculture, forestry, and biodiversity studies?
- do students still undertake projects with business and government agencies on the best application of these computer-based technologies to the landscape (seascape)?
- what has happened to our knowledge of the landscape? To the different cultures and species who share this landscape? What are the impacts of climate change?



Bob Maher obtained his Ph.D in Geography from the University of Western Ontario. He subsequently went to teach at Memorial University of NL, Dept. of Geography-Quantitative Methods, Computer Mapping and Biogeography. In 1980, he joined the faculty at NSLSI and was instrumental in its transformation into COGS. Between 1988-1999, he was a GIS consultant in Indonesia, and worked for ESRI in the United States and across Canada with universities and government agencies. He returned to COGS in 2000 as Senior Research Scientist in the Applied Geomatics Research Group (AGRG). He retired from AGRG in 2011.

COGS INDUSTRY EXPO

January 24, 2023

Despite the bad weather, many showed up at the Centre of Geographic Sciences for the Expo



OBITUARIES

JEFFREY, EDWARD GEORGE, NSLS #580 – Age 68, of Dartmouth, NS, passed away peacefully at home, with his darling dog Grace by his side. Born in Halifax, he was the son of Edward and Bernadette Jeffrey. Ed attended the NSLSI and graduated in 1980. He then articulated with Frank Longstaff, NSLS #279 & Kent Carrick, NSLS #356 and received his NSLS commission in 1985. Ed joined partnership with RK Carrick Surveying Ltd. and then joined Halifax Water in 2009. Ed ran as a Zone 6 Councillor from 1991 to 1993 and was involved in the Errors & Omissions Committee and Chair for the Continuing Education Committee in 1992. Ed was the Secretary-Treasurer of the Association of Metropolitan Land Surveying Consultants during 1991-1993. Ed was a proud member of the Association of Nova Scotia Land Surveyors and took great pride in his work, both as a surveyor and during his 14 years at the Halifax Water Commission. He was highly respected within his community and as a surveyor. “Eddie” had many friends. On most Friday nights, he would be playing music with whoever dropped in. His door was always open and anyone was welcomed with open arms and warmth. He always had at least one dog, if not more, and they were loved immensely. He will be greatly missed by the membership and his family. His daughter Carli, who he loved dearly, was his pride and joy. Visitation will be held on December 29th from 6-8pm at A. L. Mattatall Funeral Home in Dartmouth. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to any animal shelter, in honour of his love for all animals - especially dogs.

O'BRIEN, ROBERT EDWARD, NSLS #303 – Age 84, of Enfield, NS, passed away on January 25, 2023, in the Colchester East Hants Health Center. He was born to Walter and Frances O'Brien in Windsor, Nova Scotia. Upon graduation from the Nova Scotia Land Survey Institute in 1962. Robert was a surveyor in training under Chester A. Keen, NSLS #17 & A. Blake Rutledge, #205. He received his commission in 1963. Shortly thereafter, began his career with the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Public Works. After more than a decade of public service, he moved to the private sector and formed a civil construction company, which he operated until the late 1980's. Not quite ready for retirement, he returned to the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation, in the position of Highway Superintendent, and finally retired in 1996 and resigned his commission in 1997. He enjoyed life with his wife, Nancy, in their home overlooking the Grand Lake. He enjoyed boating, gardening, and repairing any mechanical device which may, or may not, need repair. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Nancy; his three children, Janice (Rick), Tim (Rabia), Lisa (Jan); his granddaughter, Megan (Dan); and 4 great-grandchildren. According to his wishes, there will be no formal service or visitation at the time of his death. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Heart and Stroke Foundation.

WHITE, KEITH TERRANCE, NSLS #424 – Age 81, of Dartmouth, NS, passed in his sleep on January 27, 2023. Keith grew up in Lawrencetown, Annapolis County. A son of Arleigh and Gladys (Potter) White. He was a hard-working teenager who excelled in his math courses at school and worked at his father's gas station. After high school, he attended the NSLSI and graduated with a diploma in hydrography and received his PLS commission in 1962. He spent the early years of his career traveling on the Baffin and Acadia ships and working for the Polar Continental Shelf Project. In order to spend more time with his family, he eventually took a position as a hydrographic computer analyst at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography, until he retired his license in 1991. In addition to his loving wife, Judy, Keith is predeceased by his parents and brother-in-law Art Gilmore. He is survived by his children, Stephanie Bigelow (Jeff), and Derek (Lori); and his sister Joan Gilmore. His grandsons Cooper, Tucker and Hunter, and step-grandchildren Jordan, Shamus and Maria.

There will be a private celebration of Keith and Judy's lives held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Judy's name to Craig's Cause, which is support for pancreatic cancer patients. Arrangements are under the care of the T. J. Tracey Cremation & Burial Specialists, Halifax.

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OBITUARIES

CHISHOLM, ARTHUR FREDERICK, NSLS #46 – Age 98, of Great Village, NS, passed away on Friday, April 28, 2023. Born in Highland Village, Colchester Co. The only son of the late Judson L. and Abbie (Layton) Chisholm. He was the first in his family to attend university. He graduated at Mount Allison University in 1946. After graduation, he attended the Nova Scotia Technical College in Halifax in 1948 with a degree in Civil Engineering. Prior to receiving his license, Arthur was employed with the Department of Public Works Canada in location and property boundaries. In 1949, Art was employed at Dalhousie University for the next 35 yrs. He began as Chairman of the Surveying Examination Board and continued as he received his commission, also in 1949. Arthur taught surveying to student engineers; also Assistant Engineer in charge of buildings and grounds; as well as planning and construction of new buildings. Being presented to the Queen Mother at the opening of the Sir Charles Tupper Medical building was a highlight of his career. He was Director of Physical Plant in the National Association of Physical Plant Administrators and was the President for the Eastern Region of APPA for two years. Art was ANSLS President in 1961-1962, and received Life membership after his retirement in 1983. Art continued to stencil graduates' degrees by hand well after his retirement. He received an Award of Distinction for his long and valuable service to the Association in 1987. In 1989, he was given a Life Membership with APENS. After his retirement, he served in various roles in the Royal Canadian Legion (Branch 72) as a life member. He was active in many organizations supporting seniors, historical societies, NS Garden Club, Clan Chisholm and others where he gave of his time readily, assisting in any role. In 1992, he was provided with recognition from the Premier, Don Cameron, for Volunteer of the year for Colchester County, and in 2019 Art received a resolution from the House of Assembly to recognize his contributions. In Halifax, he volunteered as a trustee and elder at Bethany United Church. Arthur was an Elder, Steward, and Treasurer, at St. James United Church where he sang in the choir. On November 11, 2018, the beautiful and massive bell in the St. James United Church in Great Village rang 100 times, where Arthur rang more than 60 times, repeating again in 2019 at 95; a job he had done on Sundays for years as his father had before him. Committed to keeping busy, he took up "engineering" quilt tops, sewing over 100 quilts. He was a generous supporter of various charities and causes, especially for research into Alzheimer's disease (due to his wife's death). Arthur remained active, alert, and continued to live in his own home until his death. Along with his parents, Art was predeceased by his wife, Shirley (Lewis) and sister, Ruth McKinnon. He is survived by four children, Richard (Maureen), Nancy (Hubert Smith), Patricia Isnor (John), Alexander; four grandchildren, Fiona Chisholm (Garth Murphy), Jacqueline Mahoney (Andy), Nicholas Isnor, Craig Comeau (Janet); six great-grandchildren; nephews and nieces. Arrangements have been entrusted to Mattatall~Varner Funeral Home, 55 Young Street, Truro, where a service of celebration of Arthur's life will be held Monday, August 14 at 1:30 p.m. Interment in Mahon Cemetery, 8480 Highway 2, Great Village. Donations may be made in his Arthur's name to Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia or any charity of your choice. Private messages of condolence may be sent to the family by viewing Art's obituary at: www.mattatallvarnerfh.com.

DOOGUE, TERRANCE "TERRY" RANDOLPH, NSLS #376 – Age 76, passed away suddenly on Thursday, May 18, 2023. Terry was born in Hantsport, NS on October 9, 1946. Articled with Walter E. Servant, NSLS #4, with Servant, Dunbrack, McKenzie & McDonald Ltd. in 1969 – 1970 and received his commission in 1971. After 30 yrs with SDMM Ltd., he retired his commission in 2010. Terry's funeral will be held virtually at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses on May 27th, 2023. There has been no announcement other than from another Land Surveyor with SDMM Ltd.

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OBITUARIES

DOIG, JAMES “JIM” FREDERICK, C.D., B.Sc., B.Ed., C.L.S., NSLS(Life), #220 – Age 97, of Mahone Bay, NS, passed away on Sunday June 18, 2023 at the Veterans Unit of the Fisherman’s Memorial Hospital in Lunenburg. Born in Saint John, NB, being a son of Frederick and Hilda(Longley) Doig. At the age of 18, he enlisted in the Canadian Army and was qualified as a paratrooper and commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (RCEME). After WWII, he remained with the RCEME Corps and served in the Korean War with the 3rd Battalion of the Royal Canadian Regiment. Following the ceasefire in 1953, he continued to work in Korea as a member of the UN Military Armistice Commission operating in the Demilitarized Zone. Returning to civilian life and Nova Scotia, Jim chose a career in land surveying and received his PLS commission in 1957. In 1958, he married Madeline and moved to Lawrencetown, Annapolis County, where they raised their daughter Mary. He commanded the West Nova Scotia Regiment in the 1960s, retiring with the rank of Colonel and was later Militia Advisor for mainland Nova Scotia. After 10 years as a survey instructor at NSLSI(now COGS, NSCC), Jim became principal in 1968. While working full time at NSLSI, he obtained a B.Sc. (Mathematics) and a B.Ed. at Acadia University. He was President with the Association of Nova Scotia Land Surveyors in 1971-1972, received his CLS commission in 1980, received his Life Membership as well as Surveyor of the Year at the AGM in 1989. Also, an Honorary member of the Canadian Institute of Geomatics(CIG). He wrote articles for survey journals and contributed a chapter for the textbook “*Survey Law in Canada.*” in 1977. He also wrote “*A Life worthwhile*”, about Major James A.H. Church, founder of NSLSI. He also served on many committees for the association, By-Laws Committee, Editorial Board for Nova Scotian Surveyor (1986-1989), Regulations Committee, Board of Examiners. Served on APENS, APBELS, CISM(Associate Editor). Compiled a 218 page book *Case Reports Concerning Legal Principles of Boundaries* which was published by the association. He served as Village Commissioner in Lawrencetown and was a long time member of Lawrencetown Branch No. 112, The Royal Canadian Legion. After retirement in 1986, Jim and Madeline moved to Wolfville, where they enjoyed 22 more years together. Jim became a consultant whose expertise was in boundary law. Over the years his interests and activities were diverse: canoeing, bee keeping, genealogical research, gardening, chess, hooking rugs and learning to play the bagpipes. Due to the advancing macular degeneration that eventually stole his sight, he moved to Mahone Bay to be with his daughter Mary. In 2020, he moved to the Veterans Unit, Fishermen’s Memorial Hospital, Lunenburg and became very grateful for CNIB audiobooks. Jim valued his family and friends and also kept in touch with Madeline’s family.

Besides his parents, Jim is predeceased by his wife Madeline, sisters Barbara Biggs, Marjorie Toole, Mary Curren, and brother David Doig; all of Saint John, and sister Jean Miller of Branford, Connecticut.

He is survived by daughter Mary Doig(Peter Redden), Mahone Bay; grandchildren Patrick (Jennifer Smeltzer) Redden, Porters Lake; Dr. Krista (Jacob) Ritchie, Halifax; great granddaughters Adele, Bettina, and Lydia Ritchie, Halifax; sisters-in-law Myrna Conrad and Mildred West, both of Kentville; and many nieces and nephews.

It was requested there be no funeral service, and in keeping with his wishes to contribute to medical science, a brain donation was made to the Maritime Brain Tissue bank. At a later date, his ashes will be interred at Lower Horton Cemetery, next to Madeline. His family gives their heartfelt thanks to the nurses, support staff and volunteers at the Veterans Unit for their kind and compassionate care. In particular, we thank Amy Bezeau, Recreation Therapist, who brought joy and interest to his last, most difficult years. Donations can be made to one of his favourite charities: SHAID Tree Animal Shelter in Bridgewater, info@shaidanimalshelter.com, 902-543-4849; Mahone Bay Food Bank in Mahone Bay, 902-624-089; CNIB, 902-453-1480, or any charity of your choice. Online condolences can be made by visiting: www.mahonefuneral.ca.

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Minutes of the 72nd Annual General Meeting Association of Nova Scotia Land Surveyors

Delta Hotels by Marriott Dartmouth
Friday October 14, 2022

Land Acknowledgement:

We in are Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People. This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship", which Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik people first signed with the British Crown in 1725.

Meeting called to Order:

Meeting called to order at 9:11 AM by President Andy DeCoste.

Determination of Quorum:

The Association of Nova Scotia land Surveyors (ANSLS) is required under its legislation to have a quorum of 35 for the annual General Meeting (AGM) to be a valid meeting. Simeon Roberts confirmed that 97 voting members were present and that a quorum had been confirmed.

Conduct of Meeting:

President Andy DeCoste (as Chair) opened the AGM and mentioned that the meeting would be governed by Roberts Rules of Order and common sense. Each member wishing to speak should approach microphone, state their name or be recognized by the Chair. Speaking to a motion there would be a maximum of five minutes and limited to one time only until all wishing to speak have had a chance. If time remains, members may speak a second time. Voting shall normally be done by a show of hands, but the Chair reserves the right to call for a secret ballot. Only active and life members of the association are permitted to vote. In the case of a tie the Chair shall decide the vote.

President Andy DeCoste introduced Phil Milo, NSLS #277 as Parliamentarian for the AGM.

Moment of Silence:

Everyone was asked to stand for a moment of silence for those who are no longer with us since the last AGM. As the names were read out there was a PowerPoint presentation accompaniment.

Robert "Robb" Blaine Ashley, NSLS #600
Curtis Milton Boylan, NSLS #166
John Raymond Fiske, NSLS #143
Arthur Claude Gilmore, NSLS #252
Everett Bevington Hall, NSLS #323

Walter "Stewart" Laurence, NSLS #253
Burney Arthur Smith, NSLS #290
Thurlow MacIntosh Smith, NSLS #27
Frederick Weston Roberts, NSLS #354
Cyril Blair Carlin, NSLS 174

Introductions of Out-of Town Guests:

President Andy DeCoste welcomed and thanked the out-of-town guests for attending the AGM:

British Columbia –Dave Swaile, President
Alberta –Kevin Swabey, President
Saskatchewan –Heather Maloney, President
Manitoba –Paul Burtnick, President
Ontario – Andy Shelp, President

Ontario –Gavin Lawrence, Past President
New Brunswick –Andre Boissonnault, President
PEI –John Mantha, Vice-President
Newfoundland –Terry Yates, President
ACLS –Robert Halliday, President
PSC – Mike Williams, Director

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Introduction of Council Members:

President Andy DeCoste introduced the current 2021-2022 Executive and Council.

Past President – Peter Berrigan	Zone 2 – Timothy Wamboldt
Vice-President – Raymond Pottier	Zone 3 – Matthew Berrigan
President – Andy DeCoste	Zone 4 – Rodney MacLean
Zone 1 – Arthur Backman	Public Representative – Sasha Sears
Department of Natural Resources and Renewables – Bradley Middlemiss	

Introduction of New Members:

New members were recognized and welcomed:

Adam King, NSLS #688	Matt Fillier, NSLS #691
Brian Nutter, NSLS #689	Rory Roach, NSLS #692
John Benere, NSLS #690	Neil Hanlon, NSLS #693

Introduction of 2022 Exhibitors:

President Andy DeCoste welcomed and thanked the exhibitors for helping to make the AGM possible and successful. Exhibitors were all invited to the podium to say a few words:

Leica Geosystems	Carlson Software
Arthur J Gallagher Canada Ltd.	Brandt Tractor Ltd.
Cansel Survey Equipment	NS Environment and Climate Change
GeoNOVA	Canadian Lidar

President Andy DeCoste thanked sponsors for helping out with nutrition breaks:

J P Morasse Inc. & Geomatics Association of Nova Scotia (GANS)

Review and Approval of the 71st Annual General Meeting Minutes:

Held at the Oak Island Resort & Conference Centre in Western Shore on October 15, 2021 and published in the Spring 2022 edition of the Nova Scotia Surveyor, pages 18-26.

Call for any errors or omissions: None

Call for mover to approve the minutes: Art Backman

Call of Secunder: Gary Parker

Motion Carried.

Business arising from the minutes of the 71st Annual General Meeting Minutes: None

Presidents Report: As published in the Fall 2022 edition of the Nova Scotia Surveyor, pages 2-3.

BREAK 10:15 AM

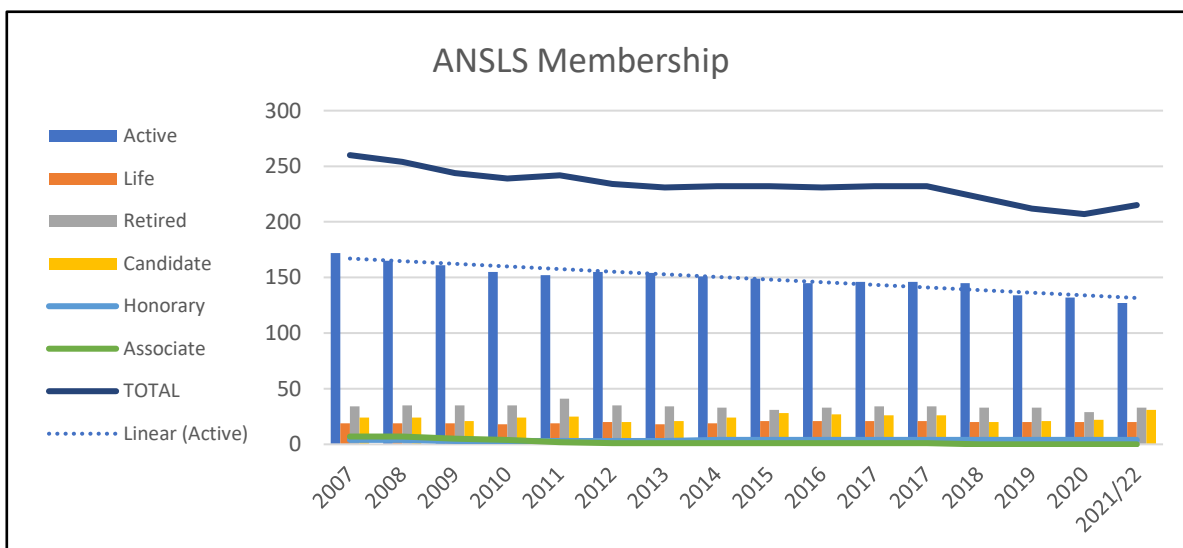
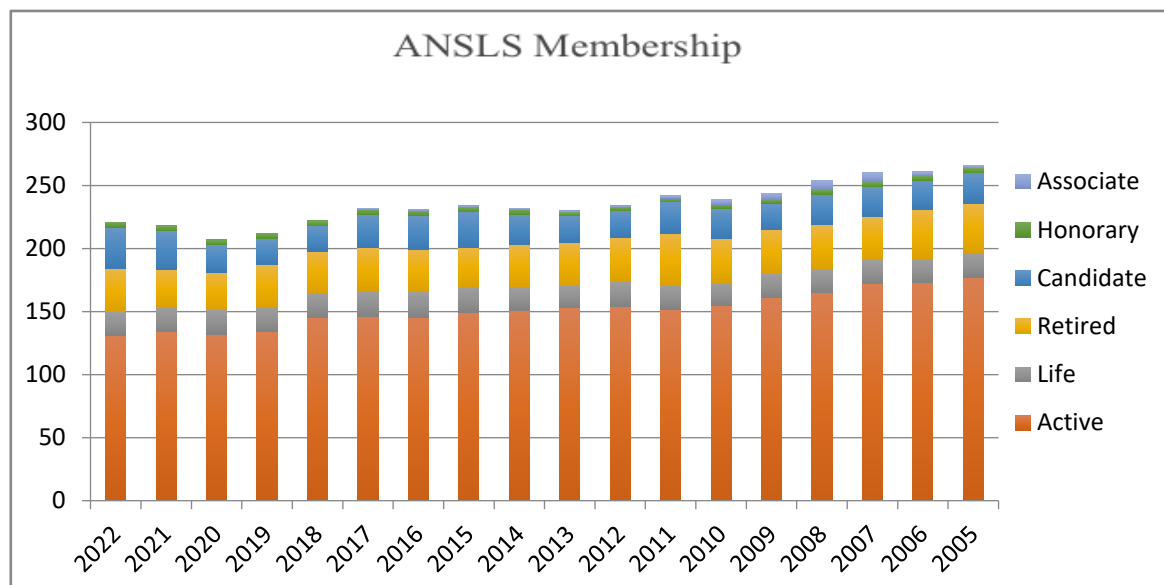
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Executive Director's Report:

Simeon Roberts gave the executive director's report starting with the membership report:

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Dues \$	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100
Active	131	134	132	134	145	146	145	149	151	153	154	152	155	161	165
Life	19	20	20	20	20	21	21	21	19	18	20	19	18	19	19
Retired	34	29	29	33	33	34	33	31	33	34	35	41	35	35	35
Candidate	33	31	22	21	20	26	27	28	24	21	21	25	24	21	24
Honorary	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	4
Associate	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	4	5	7
TOTAL	221	218	207	212	222	232	231	234	232	230	234	242	239	244	254



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Simeon mentioned that if you look at the trend lines on the graph of active members, it is really clear how we are facing quite a serious problem. We are coming to point where members are looking to retire; which will put stress on the organization. We are seeing an increase in candidates coming through the system. It will be very important to get the pipeline functioning so the candidates can move through and become members.

Simeon continued to mention the biggest challenge we and other associations are facing is our declining memberships, increasing retirements, and a lack of surveyors in the field.

He went on to mention that it is great to see six new members and a growing list of candidates. There were also exciting things coming up with the Coastal Protection Act especially regarding designated professionals, and our new office is working out very well. From an operational point of view, there are things we can be doing differently, so we can be more effective and efficient, including a series of metrics to monitor our performance.

Finally, Simeon stressed that we are the regulator and ultimately need to ensure that we are compliant with our respective legislative documents including the Fair Registration Practices Act (FRPA).

Presentation of new Strategic Plan:

Simeon Roberts provided a brief presentation on the Strategic Plan that had been approved by Council:

1) Sustainability & Governance

- a) Modernize zone meetings, committee structures & mandates to address and adapt to emerging issues (e.g., digital management, fiscal management, climate change, trends in land development, recruitment & future of the office – including archiving of historical documents)
- b) Maintain public confidence & strengthen the integrity of the profession – consult with stakeholders to ensure related acts & regulations align with the NSLS Act & Regulations
- c) Improve relationships with COGS & UNB to enhance engagement & recruitment of candidates
- d) Update the candidate process to increase conversion rate of candidates to members.

2) Public Image & Confidence

- a) Develop & implement a marketing, communication & public relations strategy & member engagement strategy
- b) Ascertain the value of services we offer & the importance of our profession
- c) Develop public education & awareness materials (including brochures) in partnership with PSC and other associations to advance & promote the profession; present to related professions such as foresters, engineers, lawyers, realtors, government agencies, etc.; engage with school counselors
- d) Modernize our on-line & website presence as a “go to” for everyone (including a member portal & use of social media).

3) Professional Development (PD)

- a) Evaluate current PD model & enact changes
- b) Identify common issues raised from the Complaints process & Practice Review Department (PRD) reviews & implement PD workshops (e.g., leadership, sales, best business practices, communications, employee recruitment & retention, succession planning, etc.)
- c) Build awareness and competencies for understanding the impact of cultural, social, and economic differences in the communities we serve
- d) Support the development of a national online program.

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4) Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI)

- a) Form an EDI Committee & develop a ToR & strategy
- b) Engage, motivate & grow a diverse & robust membership by actively supporting & encouraging prospective members from other regions and from racially diverse visible communities (such as African Nova Scotians & Mi'kmaq)
- c) Actively support and encourage women to join the profession
- d) Make it easier for those who traditionally will not consider surveying as a profession be able to explore it.

Financial Report:

Simeon Roberts noted that the 2021 financial report is published in the 2022 Fall issue of the Nova Scotian Surveyor and the finances are open for review to any member who may have questions.

Report of Committees:

President Andy DeCoste informed the AGM that committee reports are published in the Nova Scotia Surveyor. Kevin Robb (Chair of the Board of Examiners) was then invited to say a few words. He began by thanking members that assisted with the Board in the past, especially Nick Dearman who had been the senior special examiner for many years. This important position involves working with the selected special examiners to accept and review a candidate project, then meeting with the candidate, recommending any changes, and finally approving the project.

With Nick retiring in June finding a replacement was going to be a priority for the Board. Kevin went on to mention that in the interim Jim McIntosh and Fred Hutchinson had taken on project reviews and thanked them for volunteering. Kevin mentioned that if anyone would like to be a special examiner with the Board of Examiners, they should reach out to himself, Simeon Roberts, or any other Board member, if this was of interest.

Finally, Kevin Robb thanked Kevin Brown for his service on the Board of Examiners as he would also be retiring, and mentioned that the Board would be looking for a replacement for him as well.

LUNCH 11:46 AM

Upon calling the meeting back to order after the lunch break President Andy DeCoste began by informing attendees that the Life and Honorary membership committee had submitted its report to Council and Council had voted unanimously to forward two names to the floor for final approval of life membership in the ANSLs.

The first nominee was Glenn Crews

Moved by Fred Hutchinson

Seconded by David Clark

Motion Carried.

The second nominee was Carl Hartlen

Moved by Fred Hutchinson

Seconded by David Clark

Motion Carried.

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Installation of Officers & Presentations to Out-Going:

President Andy DeCoste provided an overview of proposed new Council members as recommend by the Nominating Committee. He called three times for the floor to nominate additional names to be added to the roster of Council members. There were none. Therefore as a vote was not necessary Andy introduced the new 2022-2023 Executive and Council as acclaimed:

President – Raymond Pottier	Zone 2 – Timothy Wamboldt
Vice-President – Geoffrey Dick	Zone 3 – Matthew Berrigan
Past President – Andy DeCoste	Zone 4 – Nathan Clark
Zone 1 – Matthew LeBlanc	Public Representative – Sasha Sears
Department of Natural Resources and Renewables – Bradley Middlemiss	

Thank you to Out-Going Officers and Members:

Past President – Peter Berrigan
 Zone 1 – Arthur Backman
 Zone 4 – Rodney MacLean
 Survey Review Department Manager – Paul Harvey

Service Recognition – 20 years:

Joseph Alcorn	James Gunn
Michael Allison	Wayne Hardy
Kevin AuCoin	Fred Hutchinson
Murray Banks	Douglas MacDonald
Kevin Brown	Brian MacIntyre
Marcellin Chiasson	Grant McBurney
Glenn Crews	Allan Owen
Robert Daniels	Raymond Pottier
Andrew Giles	Kenneth Whalen

Service Recognition – 25 years

David Clark
 James McIntosh
 David Roberts

Service Recognition – 30 years

Michael Crant
 Norval Higgins
 Walter Rayworth
 Edward Webber

Approval of the 2023 Budget:

President Andy DeCoste indicated that the 2023 Proposed Budget is published in the 2022 Fall issue of the Nova Scotian Surveyor.

Call for a mover to approve the 2023 budget: Bradley Middlemiss

Call for seconder: Nathan Clark

Motion Carried.

Motions for Consideration:

Raymond Pottier - as Chair of the Governance Committee reviewed the motions as follows:

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MOTION #1:

WHEREAS the Practice Review Department Manual of Administrative Procedures makes reference to **Section 94(2)** of the Regulations made under the Land Surveyors Act, R.S.N.S 1989 c. 249 which reads;

94(2) A Survey Review Department sticker shall, in accordance with the administrative procedures, be affixed on all original plans and surveyor's location certificates certified by a member in such a fashion that the sticker is legible on all copies of the plan or surveyor's location certificate produced from the original.

AND WHEREAS Section 100 of the Regulations made under the Land Surveyors Act, R.S.N.S. 1989 c. 249, which provides some clarity as to the role of the Practice Review Department, and which reads;

100 A review by the Survey Review Department of any plan certified or work conducted by a member shall not be construed to warrant in any way to any member or any person the accuracy or correctness of the plan or work.

BE IT RESOLVED that the following Sections 6.13 and 6.14 be added to the Standards of Practice and that the existing Section 6.13 be renumbered as Section 6.15, highlighted in yellow below;

6.13 A Practice Review Department stamp shall, in accordance with the administrative procedures, be affixed on all original plans and surveyor's location certificates certified by a member in such a fashion that the stamp is legible on all copies of the plan or surveyor's location certificate produced from the original, printed at an appropriate scale.

6.14 A review by the Practice Review Department of any plan or surveyor's location certificate certified or work conducted by a member shall not be construed to warrant in any way, to any member or any person, the accuracy or correctness of the plan or work.

~~6.13~~ **6.15** Revisions made to a plan shall be identified

Moved by: Raymond Pottier

Seconded by: Luke Sarginson

Motion Carried.

MOTION #2:

BE IT RESOLVED that the following **Section 10** be added to the Standards of Practice, highlighted in yellow below.

10 Practice Review Requirements

10.1 A record of all plans and surveyor's location certificates certified by a member shall, in accordance with the administrative procedures, be submitted to the Survey Review Department within 30 calendar days of signing, or in the case of plans of subdivision, within 30 days of final approval under the Municipal Government Act.

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10.2 Upon the request of the Survey Review Department, a member shall submit a copy of the full plan or surveyor's location certificate requested within 14 calendar days of receipt of the request.

10.3 The Survey Review Department may request in writing that a member supply additional information with respect to any plan or surveyor's location certificate or work under review.

10.4 The member shall submit any information requested under section 10.3 within 14 calendar days of the receipt of the request.

10.5 It is the duty of every member to fully co-operate with the Survey Review Department.

10.6 If a member fails to co-operate with the Survey Review Department during or otherwise with respect to a systematic review, a comprehensive review or recommended training, the Survey Review Department shall report that lack of co-operation to the Complaints Committee for their consideration.

Moved by: Raymond Pottier

Seconded by: Luke Sarginson

Motion Carried.

New Business:

Representing the ANSLS - Fred Hutchinson and Cathy McInnis presented a retirement gift to Paul Harvey for his work over the years with Survey/Practice Review.

Open Forum:

Art Backman, Tom Giovannetti, Bradley Middlemiss, James Redden, Mark Whynot, Eric Whyte, Kevin Lombard and Art Backman spoke to the continuing issue of imperial vs metric. Phil Milo closed the discussion by saying: "going metric, inch by inch....".

Adjournment:

President Raymond Pottier called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Moved by: Kevin Lombard

Meeting adjourned by President Raymond Pottier at 3:42pm.



ANSLS 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



We will be having our next AGM at the Old Orchard on October 12 – 14, 2023.

Located at 153 Greenwich Road South, Wolfville, NS

Be sure you make your reservations early to get a room at our special rate.

Call Toll Free: 1-800-561-8090 or Local: 1-902-542-5751

Email: reservations@theoldo.com

Website: <https://oldorchardinn.com/contact/>

Annual General Meeting Pics

October 2022



President Andy DeCoste



Exec Director, Simeon Roberts



Past President, Peter Berrigan



Receiving Past President Pin



Receiving Presidential Plaque



Glenn Crews, Life Membership



Lunch at Annual General Meeting

Annual General Meeting Pics (Cont'd)



*David Clark swearing in President,
Ray Pottier*



New President, Ray Pottier



Paul Harvey, SRD Manager, Retirement Gift



Fred Hutchinson, Paul Harvey



Banquet, Exchanging Presidency



Passing on NS Tartan Tradition



President's Gift to Andy DeCoste



Certificates of Appreciation through COVID

SEMINAR



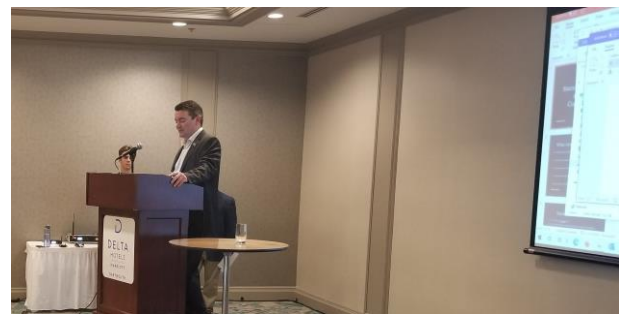
ANSLS Seminar



Immigration Services Assoc. of NS, Colleen Belle

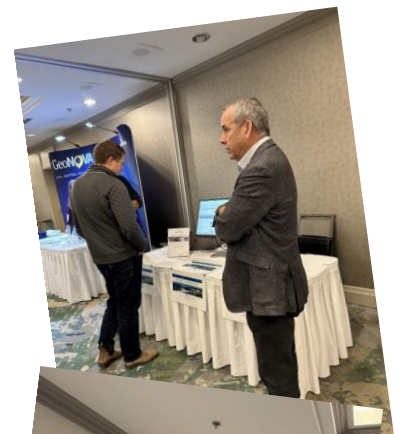


Succession Planning, AC Belliveau Veinotte Inc.



Digital Signatures, Jody Isenor

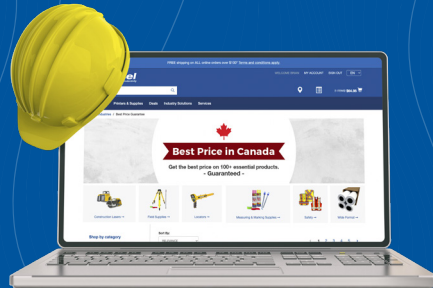
EXHIBITORS





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