

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO COUNCIL – (#57)

For February 2009 Council Meeting

(Covering the Period September 16, 2008 to January 17, 2009)

This Report covers the last quarter of 2008 and the first month of 2009. Last year saw great progress on the ASTTBC 2008 Work Plan and other ongoing and unexpected initiatives. Budget targets are met in most areas. The new opportunities identified and acted upon provided enhanced regulatory programs and processes as well as added benefits, services and profile.

“The thing always happens that you really believe in and the belief in a thing makes it happen. “

Frank Lloyd Wright

GOAL #1 – PROFESSIONAL LEGISLATION & REGULATION

AIBC IGNORES ASTTBC and CONTINUES TO OFFER ‘ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP’ TO BUILDING DESIGNERS. AIBC continues along a path to include ‘building designers’ as ‘Associate Members’ of AIBC. ASTTBC does not support the AIBC approach and the stripping away of ASTTBC members. ASTTBC believes AIBC’s proposal is NOT the preferred / ideal legislative model. ASTTBC’s messaging to the BC Government is that AIBC is acting outside of its mandate.

APEGBC – ASTTBC Relations. There was limited direct connection between ASTTBC and APEGBC at the elected Executive level in 2008. APEGBC Executive director, Derek Doyle and I managed to get together a couple of times, with little in the way of outcomes. The conversation and meal is always delightful. Derek and I met in January and explored possible solutions as we move forward on the practice rights file. One suggestion being considered is to relate practice rights to competencies. We agreed to further consider this possible approach.

ARCHITECTS ACT CHANGES. ASTTBC continues to discuss with government representatives the need to change this very restricted and outdated legislation. ASTTBC is seeking an exemption in the Architects Act to state that ASTTBC-registered professionals may practice independently within the scope of their competencies.

HOUSE INSPECTOR LICENSING. The Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, the Hon John van Dongen announced on January 31, 2009 that Government had now introduced licensing of house inspectors. The licensing commences March 31, 2009 and will be issued by the Business Practices and Consumer Protection Authority (BPCPA). ASTTBC and BCIPI are working together to decide what we need to do to meet the requirements of the Regulation and to promote our registered professionals to the marketplace. ASTTBC will engage with other interested stakeholders to ensure the most effective implementation of the Regulation. ASTTBC has some concerns such as the lack of one standard for professional certification. This and other issues will be reviewed with the Ministry and BPCPA as we move forward.

GOAL #2 – RIGHTS TO PRACTICE

APEGBC Comment on ASTTBC Guide. APEGBC has written to ASTTBC expressing concern with the ASTTBC draft Guide to Professional Practice in Fire Protection. While APEGBC’s letter requires a response by January 31, 2009, Derek has agreed to receive a response by end of February. I have agreed to find ways to adjust ASTTBC’s approach on Guides, especially the Fire Guide, to help the two associations direct attention to the bigger picture issues.

APEGBC – ASTTBC SoC. ASTTBC is awaiting a response to the request that APEGBC agree to proceed with the Statement of Collaboration as prepared and recommended by the Executive Directors of APEGBC and ASTTBC. Derek Doyle advised that APEGBC Council is reviewing the models identified in the SoC. No indication as to when ASTTBC might hear from APEGBC.

FIRE PROTECTION. Continuing to seek approval of a Municipal Bylaw in Metro Vancouver municipalities as a priority.

GUIDES TO PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE. There are two Guides posted on the ASTTBC web site. We received positive response from members on the Architectural Technology / Building Design and Fire Protection Guides. Given APEGBC concerns I am not bringing to Council for approval the Fire Guide. Because the BC Building Code has been amended to include up to 6 storey design in wood, I am holding back the Architectural Technology / Building design for member comment on possible change to the Guide in consideration of this Code amendment.

LANDFILL GAS MANAGEMENT REGULATION. ASTTBC professionals are recognized as a ‘Qualified Professional’ in the latest Regulation out of the Ministry of Environment. A ‘QP’ is defined as ‘an applied scientist or technologist...’ For details go to http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/codes/landfill_gas/index.htm.

ONSITE WASTEWATER. The Ministry has invited stakeholders, including ASTTBC, to provide suggestions as to how to make more effective the Sewage System Regulation. ASTTBC has drafted a response and will seek input of other parties before finalizing.

SSLC. Meetings continue. Nothing new to report.

GOAL #3 – PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS & REGULATION

This Goal is covered by the Registrar’s Report to Council.

Goal #4 – PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

BCIT and COLLEGE LIAISON. ASTTBC is maintaining contact with Deans and Instructors at BCIT, Okanagan College, Camosun, and Kwantlen Colleges.

BCIT is fully immersed in the development of an engineering technology awareness campaign that will span several different schools within the BCIT portfolio. This is being led BCIT’s School of Construction and Environment. ASTTBC is connecting where needed.

BCIT STUDENT ASSOCIATION (BCITSA). BCITSA and ASTTBC concluded a sponsorship agreement in late December 2008. Formal signing and photo opportunity soon as it is expected that the ASTTBC banner (15x5) will be hung from the rafters at the Great Hall shortly for a number of weeks.

CAMOSUN COLLEGE has been including ASTTBC in a number of different events on campus and granting excellent access to students through the office of the Dean, Tom Roemer. April Atkins, Tom’s assistant, is essentially a front line ASTTBC liaison on campus. This model is proving very valuable and has added credibility to ASTTBC. Visits to classes and presentations to students in latter part of 2008. Camosun hosted a GoTECHGirl camps (Taste of Electronics) on October 28th and November 4th with 30 Grade 10 girls exploring electronics.

CAREER ADS CALLING FOR ASTTBC REGISTRATION. ASTTBC has noted several career ads calling for ASTTBC registration.

EMPLOYER LIAISON.

City of Richmond. Discussions continued at a steady pace regarding a connection with the City of Richmond and its exploration of the development of a Public Works Certification Program.

TELUS. We have completed the first phase of registering the majority of technicians and technologists. In the new year ASTTBC will further refine linkages and support for TELUS' wish to register all technology professionals. Have developed a process whereby ASTTBC offers advice to TELUS as to the possible certification of someone they are considering hiring. This allows TELUS to proceed with the reasonable assurance that the new hire will qualify for ASTTBC certification.

Terasen. Relationship continues to grow with Terasen sponsoring speakers at 'Today's Woman' conference in Prince George and helping sponsor the financial award for the FNCC logo contest.

HEALTH SCIENCES ASSOCIATION. In relation to technology careers and skills shortage, Jason Jung has been involved in a number of meetings with the HSA union. These meetings are currently inclusive of up to 20 different associations with practitioners and fellow professionals within the health industry. The HSA is the union in which ASTTBC-registered Biomedical technologists and technicians are members.

INTERNATIONALLY TRAINED PROFESSIONALS. ASTTBC received two new government grants to enhance services to ITPs and improve mobility under TILMA. One calls for a review of Onsite Wastewater licensing and practices in both Alberta and BC and the second will produce methodologies for assessing applicants against the new National Technology Benchmarks and create a database of courses that will assist applicants achieve needed courses to get fully certified.

KWANTLEN TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY – Presentation to Environmental Protection Technology students.

MarComm. ASTTBC Marketing & Communications (MarCOMM) plan is being refined to provide overarching concept and strategies for the long term, as well as a 2009 MarCOMM plan to be prepared to reflect the ASTTBC Work Plan. Development work continues on the ASTTBC 'Partners In Technology' program.

OKANAGAN COLLEGE – Peter Boucher of Willis accompanied Jason Jung to Kelowna to discuss insurance and risk management with students in the OC Civil program Civil Law Class. Had 40 students engaged in a 2-hour session discussing everything about insurance, risk management and ASTTBC membership and benefits.

Relations with other Associations / Organizations

ABC FP. The primary focus has been on the transfer of FMRB from ASTTBC to ABC FP.

ABCLS. ASTTBC is seeking a meeting with ABCLS staff, expected for first part of 2009.

AIBC. No contact with AIBC. On behalf of ASTTBC I continue to bring to the attention of the BC Government ASTTBC concerns re AIBC initiative to register building designers as Associate Members of AIBC.

APEGBC. ASTTBC President or representative attended APEGBC Council meetings in 2008 and APEGBC reciprocated at ASTTBC Council meetings. ASTTBC is seeking a joint meeting of the two Executives.

BC INNOVATION COUNCIL. ASTTBC hosted a table at the BCIC awards. I have scheduled a meeting with the new CEO.

CEBC. Continued exchange in areas of mutual interest, eg Internationally Trained Professionals and skills shortage generally. ASTTBC and CEBC will likely have joint Executive meeting in early part of 2009.

UBCM. Met the new Executive Director. Exchanged information on a number of topics including licensing house inspectors, ASTTBC certifications in house inspection, fire protection, onsite sewage, public works inspection, and site improvements surveying.

GOAL #5 – MEMBER SERVICES

ASTT e-NEWS. ASTT e-News continues to be broadcast monthly with an average of 20 timely articles per issue. It is sent to members and stakeholders.

ASTT NEWS. Issue #123 was mailed to members at the end of January. It contained 40 articles and 3 dozen photographs. Inserts included: ‘our bestFEATures’ brochure for the 500x50 campaign; the ‘Engineering Team in Canada’ brochure; a flyer for the new Olympia Trust health & dental plan and a new Marks Work Warehouse discount card.

ASTTBC BROADCAST E-MAIL. 70,000 personalized, broadcast messages were distributed between September 2008 and January 2009. Two new Tech Spec broadcast templates for BCIPI and Fire were added. All Staff has been trained to use new YMLP broadcasting program.

ASTTBC.ORG WEBSITE. ASTT website received approximately 8,600 visits a month between September and January 2009. Most visited web pages were once again: Technologist Register, Tech Spec Register, How to Apply, Classifications, Programs, e-News, TCIT. Newly introduced Career Videos page received an impressive 1,500 hits. Among the sites that linked to us were: bcit.ca, bcossa.com, cicic.ca, cctt.ca, workfutures.bc.ca. Our foreign visitors came mostly from the following countries: Russian Federation, Netherlands, France, Great Britain, Germany, China, Romania and New Zealand. New sections added to ASTTBC website in the 2008 were: Career Videos, TECC and TechGREEN.

ASTTBC WEBSITES –OTHER:

1. **500x50** website is in final prototype stage and should be launched shortly. Online pledge program will be installed to help us raise funds and display the results in real-time.
2. **CPD** - online database is nearly completed, currently in the hands of BCIPI members who will be submitting final feedback shortly.
3. **CSO** website has been schedule for a major re-vamp. Old legacy site will be replaced with a new database driven site in the first quarter of 2009.
4. **FNCC** – First Nations Career Council website approved for development in February and scheduled for official launch in March is already in the design stage as we collect materials and artwork.
5. **NTB** – National Technology Benchmarks online database project will take few months to complete. Phase I of the project – the database prototype will be launched in late January/early February 2009.
6. **TECC** – launched
7. **TechGREEN** – launched
8. **TechPROFILE.ca** website currently hosts only 75 member profiles, averaging 30 profiles per year. Those numbers are extremely low and more concentrated marketing efforts are needed to help TechPRO expand.
9. **TECHWorks.org** was updated to reflect current salary levels for 2008.

10. **WIT** – Women in Technology started as a one page plus Survey project and it's already gaining a great momentum. WIT Forum was approved for implementation and is currently under construction; new wit.asttbc.org will soon house the new Women in Technology pages. WIT Survey brought unprecedented levels of response as 23% of the female members decided to participate providing us with the most valuable data. Preliminary Survey results are already posted to www, final Survey' results should be completed by the end of February.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION CELEBRATION. The annual Awards & Recognition Celebration was held October 25. It was a 'red carpet' event in celebration of ASTTBC's 50th Anniversary. Murray Coell, Minister of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development, was the guest speaker. A message of congratulations was received from the Premier. Mayor Sam Sullivan brought greetings on behalf of the City of Vancouver. The Awards & Recognition Celebration was held simultaneously with National Technology Week and with the CCTT AGM in the same venue.

BCIT 'ALUMNI AMBASSADOR' NEWSLETTER. ASTTBC published 'alumni profiles' in the Alumni Association's twice-yearly newsletter. Featured in 2008 were ASTTBC members/BCIT graduates Darrin Heisler, ASCT, and Bill MacPherson, ASCT. Another profile has been produced for the next issue, this one featuring Richard Mayer, ASCT. ASTTBC will continue to run these profile ads which reinforce the value of membership in ASTTBC amongst BCIT tech grads.

e-BUSINESS GENERAL.

1. **ASTTBC multimedia set** now includes a color flatbed scanner bought especially with PRB pictures in mind, a CD/DVD burning tower, a portable projector/laptop combo.
2. **e-Communications** - and will soon be presenting a proposal to ED on how to capitalize on current web tools and technologies. Video messages are gaining quick popularity among old and new generations of web users and are now commonly used in politics, finance, art and especially news. Short 5 min clips such as e.g. Obama weekly address and the most popular forms of e-Communication in 2009. Details to follow.
3. **Membership database** – extensive amount of time in 2008 investigating possible replacements to membership database. Will resume my work in March 2009 and seek the advice of professional database analyst/consultant.
4. **Professional designations - new (RTMgr and PTech)** - will re-configure and test the database. Additional changes will have to be made to ASTTBC www and the membership database we output online.
5. **Video conferencing** has been approved for 2009. Now investigating various options.

MEMBER COMPENSATION SURVEY. The Survey 2009 will be completed by mid February, with the March 30th deadline. This year's MCS will make clear distinctions between male and female members. Complete results of the MCS will be presented at the AGM.

MEMBER MEETINGS. Meeting held in Prince George with 50 members and guests in attendance to hear from College of New Caledonia President, John Bowman, CTAB member, Pirie Elliot RPF, ASCT and Executive Director John Leech.

PR AND RELATED ARTICLES. ASTTBC continues to enhance the profile of its members and the association through a combination of paid advertising and media releases.

TECHPROFILE. We continue to encourage members to post their profile to *TechPRO*.

Member Benefits Program

AFFINITY PARTNERS. A new affinity partner has been signed. Olympia Trust provides a trust plan (as opposed to insurance) for health and dental coverage. A trust plan provides greater flexibility and significant tax savings. ASTTBC members also receive a discount on enrollment fees and Olympia Trust will become a FEAT supporter. It is expected this plan will appeal primarily to consultants, sole proprietors and small business owners. APEGBC has offered the Olympia Trust service for a number of years with good response.

MEMBER SERVICES. Olympia Trust affinity partner program up and running. Special introductory \$225 savings for members.

MEMBER SERVICES BROCHURE. Mailed out to members with ASTT NEWS #123

VANCOUVER WHITECAPS. Met with the Vancouver Whitecaps in December 2008 to discuss a non-affinity partnership agreement. ASTTBC will agree to purchase a block of season tickets and in exchange we will be given a standing ¼ page add in their program which is produced 5-6 times per year in the Vancouver Province and distributed at their games. As well, they are trying to work ASTTBC into its lineup of community sponsors or provide extra recognition. Of course, they'll be offering season tickets, packages, and game day tickets at discounted rates to our members. I am in negotiating with them to market a FEAT night where a portion of ticket sales are returned to FEAT as a donation. This would only apply to tickets purchased by quotation of the ASTTBC membership.

YOUTHINK MAGAZINE. Meetings with YouThink magazine's publisher to discuss getting editorial coverage by some of their beat reporters. YouThink magazine is a magazine for youth written by youth. These magazines are distributed within the high schools, grocery stores, and in paper boxes everywhere. The magazine will be writing an article about educational choices with technology programs as a focus. We're working out final details about how ASTTBC will plug in through a multi-month marketing campaign to support the project. Exciting.

Institutes - Special Certification Programs

BCIPI AGM. The BC Institute of Property Inspector will be holding their AGM on February 21st at the Fort Langley Golf Course. Hon. John van Dongen will speak on BC House Inspector Licensing. Other informative presentations have been lined-up. The day includes 3 seminars, networking opportunities and a dinner.

BDIBC. Update message planned for first part of 2009.

CONSTRUCTION SAFETY. Event poster and information handouts produced for WorkSafeBC 2008 Construction Safety Symposium. ASTTBC was a key sponsor for this event.

FIRE PROTECTION. Ads promoting ASTTBC's Registered Fire Protection Technicians placed in 'Illusions – Magic 'n Miracles 2009' program for Vancouver and Victoria shows; 30 complimentary tickets to the Vancouver and Surrey shows donated to BC Children's Hospital and Surrey Memorial.

FOREST MEASUREMENTS REGISTRATION BOARD. Reached agreement with ABCFP on the transfer of Forest Measurements Specialists from ASTTBC to ABCFP. Transfer to be completed by April 2009.

ONSITE WASTEWATER. TILMA Project for Onsite Wastewater Practitioners. Project awarded by the BC Ministry of Economic Development \$35,000 to evaluate the BC and AB regulatory systems pertaining to Onsite Wastewater Practitioners for the purposes of TILMA. Project team includes Jason Jung and Ron Hein. Expected completion date mid March in time for TILMA commencement date of April 1, 2009. New brochure being developed to explain maintenance requirements to homeowners.

SDIBC. Modest effort in communications, including to increase awareness and membership. Attending district career fair to promote Steel Detailing. AGM in near future.

GOAL #6 – TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION & CAREERS

Career Awareness and Liaison - General

BIG LITTLE SCIENCE CENTRE (BLSC). ASTTBC continues as an active sponsor and supporter of BLSC. ASTTBC donated \$2,500 to BLSC during Awards and Recognition Celebration. I continue contacts with BLSC Executive Director Gord Stewart as we look for ways to collaborate. ASTTBC using BLSC science experiments in our KIDS PAGE feature in Prince George Free Press.

BLACK PRESS MEDIA PLAN. Now completed two years working together. By mid 2009 ASTTBC and Black Press will review progress and set future course.

HEALTHIER YOU CONFERENCE. ASTTBC was a sponsor of this northern event hosted in Prince George. ASTTBC presented the ‘Technology in Health Care’ award and placed a booth in the trade show.

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY WEEK 2008. Two page NTW 2008 feature, including Think Technology and TechACTion ads, produced and published in 27 Black Press newspapers the week prior to NTW. Partners and sponsors supporting the NTW feature included... BCIT, BC Safety Authority and Terasen Gas as NTW Partners; BCIT Alumni Association, Camosun College, Canadian Home Builders’ Association BC, Okanagan College, Pacific NorthWest Economic Region and Black Press as sponsors. NTW and TCiT pages on ASTTBC web site updated as part of benefits provided to NTW partners and sponsors; special poster recognizing NTW partners and sponsors produced for ASTTBC Awards event; TA ads being developed that will feature NTW Partner and ASTTBC logos to run on a regular basis starting early 2009; preliminary work on updates for 2009 in progress.

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY WEEK 2008 and CCTT. Jason Jung was in Ottawa during the start of National Technology Week to help promote NTW to politicians, Ottawa School Districts, and overall help CCTT with a very large event. This event was used to kick-off NTW and garnered national news coverage.

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY WEEK 2008 and BLACK PRESS. ASTTBC sponsored a minimum of two pages in 27 Black Press newspapers around BC. Some papers, eg Prince George Free Press expanded the two to four pages and went with full color. A great initiative and excellent exposure for ASTTBC, its members and technology careers. .

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY WEEK 2009. NTW Steering Committee beginning work again in February. BC will be submitting 3 finalists from the poster design contest which was to research and design a poster on the greatest Canadian invention ever. We will be sending special recognition certificates to the students and Jason Jung will be making a fun visit to the classroom and showing the Canadian Space Agency video to them.

TECC. The Technology Education & Careers Council has developed a statement of what success looks like at the end of its 3 year mandate. TECC wrote to a letter to Premier Campbell and Ministers Bond, Chong and Coell, outlining the role of TECC and some initiatives identified by TECC in the early part of its mandate.

TECC representatives Sid Siddiqui, PEng, Vice President, Stantec and Harry Watson, CTech, President Metro Testing and John Leech met with Minister Bond. Good conversation, with emphasis on suggestions for K-12, including adding technology courses in K-12 system, with linkages to BC Institutes and Colleges. ASTTBC also promoted the Big Little Science centre concept, proposing that the model be replicated in a couple of additional centres in BC (Kelowna, Nanaimo and Prince George suggested). TECC has lined up meeting with Minister Coell mid February and hopes to meet Minister Chong and others in near term. TECC has a full schedule of meetings for 2009.

TechACTion. Modest update to web site, to include partner logos supporting the NTW 2008 feature and 'By The Numbers' page added.

TechWORKS! Career Profile Sheets updated and posted to web site.

TODAY'S WOMAN SHOW. ASTTBC sponsors the event and presents a 'Technology Leadership award. This year ASTTBC and Terasen co-sponsored a panel including Nancy Fowler AScT, an ASTTBC Councilor, Jan Marston, Vice President, Terasen, Patti Nitsch, CTech of Terasen and Meaghan Harrington, Graduate Technologist with Stantec Architecture. Stantec contributed a \$1,000 bursary for one of the female high school students who attended the sessions.

Marketing, PR and FEAT

ADVERTISING IN THIRD PARTY PUBLICATIONS. ASTTBC ads promoting the Association, Technology Professionals in BC and technology careers placed the following publications... BC College of Teachers – TC Magazine (Inspire Youth to Think Tech); BCIT Alumni newsletter (ASTTBC corporate ad plus alumni/member profile); Black Press community papers (Kids page plus Northern BC Business & Industry Awards 2009); The Right Course 2009 (Business In Vancouver special publication), other TBC.

ASTTBC DISPLAY BOOTH. The two booths were fully engaged during this period.

CAREER VIDEO LAUNCH ON ASTTBC WEBSITE. ASTTBC produced some 14 videos designed to raise awareness for technology careers. Target audiences included students, parents, others who may be

FEAT

- a) The Awards & Recognition Celebration included presentation of the following bursaries: ASTTBC / BC Hydro bursaries; the ASTTBC / TD Insurance bursaries; and the ASTTBC High School Student bursary. (Other FEAT bursaries are presented directly through the awards offices at BCIT and the colleges)
- b) The 500x50 fund-raising campaign was launched at the Awards & Recognition Celebration with a \$25,000 cheque presentation from ASTTBC to FEAT. By the end of the evening the 500x50 campaign had total contributions of nearly \$40,000. This included the cheque from ASTTBC; donations from members, staff and past presidents; and proceeds from the silent auction and raffle at the gala.
- c) Preliminary discussions have been held with BC Hydro about extending their bursary program for another 3 years and this needs to be wrapped up early in 2009.

SPONSORSHIP. ASTTBC ads promoting the Association, Technology Professionals in BC and technology careers placed event features that formed part of ASTTBC sponsorship... MISTIC Awards 2008, Today's Woman Awards 2008, A Healthier You Expo 2008, Northern BC Business & Industry Awards 2009 and more.

Media

CKPG-TV AD. ASTTBC produced a 30 second clip that is running during QuizMe program.

KIDS PAGE IN PG FREE PRESS. ASTTBC is sponsoring a science and technology experiment in a one quarter page position. Running twice a month, ASTTBC includes a skill-testing question and awards an ipod for the first correct answer drawn.

QUIZME – PGTV. ASTTBC is sponsoring the science questions for ‘QuizMe’, a program like ‘Reach for the Top’, being aired on CKPG in and around Prince George. ASTTBC has developed a 30 second clip that runs during the program. The program airs three times a week until January 2009.

GOAL #7 – PUBLIC POLICY

Building Standards

GREEN BUILDING CODE. The BC Government adopted changes to the BC Building Code to include elements which address Governments ‘green agenda’.

6 STOREY WOOD CONSTRUCTION. The BC Building Code has been amended to permit design of 6 storey wood frame buildings.

MODERNIZATION PROJECT. The Modernization Project continues, but at a somewhat slower pace due to priority being given to other Building Code initiatives.

Economic Development and Employment

CCPE – CCTT LABOUR MARKET STUDY. ASTTBC is taking an active role in this national study sponsored by HRSDC and delivered by CCPE and CCTT. The first reports have been released with more to come. ASTTBC will continue to stay engaged with this initiative.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST ECONOMIC REGION (PNWER). PNWER held its winter leadership conference in Whistler. I attended and participated in various discussions relating to skills shortages and regional economy.

TECHNOLOGY SKILLS ROUNDTABLES. The most recent Roundtable was convened in Kelowna, with about 40 attendees. ASTTBC and our partners Okanagan College and Okanagan Science, Technology and Entrepreneur Centre joined the Kelowna Chamber of Commerce for a joint lunch. ASTTBC arranged Claude Kisteman, HR Business Partner, TELUS, as guest speaker. ASTTBC is working on Roundtables for Ft St John and Castlegar.

First Nations

FIRST NATIONS CAREER COUNCIL LAUNCH. ASTTBC will launch the First Nations Career Council (FNCC) in Kamloops. Tentative date is April 24th. The launch will comprise a reception, unveiling of a new Logo and will include special guest speakers and presentations. Artwork in progress on FNCC logo, based on winning submission to logo contest as selected by the FNCC Board members; conceptual design and graphics for FNCC web site, stationery and marketing collateral to follow.

Government Liaison

BC CABINET MINISTERS. Recent formal meetings, correspondence and informal exchanges: Pat Bell, Shirley Bond, Murray Coell, Rich Coleman, Colin Hansen, Richard Neufeld, Mary Polak, John van Dongen.

BC LEGISLATIVE SESSION. The Legislature re-convenes in February. This will be a pre-election session, with the Budget the likely focus of the Session. The next BC election is May 12, 2009.

BC MLA LIAISON. Continued communications with MLAs to introduce them to issues of interest to ASTTBC. Informal meetings and conversations with Dave Hayer, Bruce Ralston, John Rustad to name a few.

MLA & MP LIAISON – ‘Outlook 2009’. MLAs and MPs were sent a personalized letter with a copy of the World Futures Society (WFS) **Outlook 2009**. The WFS Report provides helpful insights which may well guide some decision-making.

MUNICIPAL. Met Prince George Mayor and Councilors while at Economic Summit in Prince George.

Immigration & Internationally Trained

CHINA VISIT RE TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION & CAREERS. Darrin Heisler and I joined a delegation representing the BC, Alberta and Ontario Associations. Our purpose was to learn more about China’s technical education and careers. We visited several technical schools, colleges and universities, met with Government officials and the Shanghai Technicians Association.

INTERNATIONALLY EDUCATED PROFESSIONALS. ‘The Engineering Team in Canada – A British Columbia Perspective’, as published by ASTTBC, is being adapted for use by ACETTPEI and others in Engineering Team.

Sustainability Agenda

TechGREEN. The formal launch of ‘TechGREEN’ has been postponed because of other business pressures. The ASTTBC-appointed member on an OACETT-lead initiative regarding environmental education and protection reports good progress. Technical articles are being prepared and will be published by OACETT and ASTTBC.

GOAL #8– GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

50th ANNIVERSARY. Solid progress in celebrating ASTTBC’s 50th. Major celebration at the Awards and Recognition Celebration. Will wrap up the 50th Anniversary at AGM 2009.

AGM 2009. Planning for the 2009 Annual General Meeting on May 22, 2009 is underway. Will continue with level of programming set at the 2008 AGM. This year ASTTBC will host a special Council Dinner following the AGM to recognize Darrin Heisler’s term as President and to thank Council for their time and commitment to the Association.

ASTTBC CORPORATE MONOGRAPH. Design and production of a top-end ASTTBC corporate brochure deferred to mid to late 2009.

ASTTBC AWARDS. ASTTBC awarded its first 50 Year Certificate to Sever Rondestvedt, AScT at our Annual Awards Dinner on October 25th. Seven other prestigious awards were also presented at the Awards Dinner. CCTT also presented a National Achievement Award to ASTTBC’s Harold Clifford, AScT, a Volunteer of the Year Award to ASTTBC’s Geoff Sale, AScT and a Retiring Director Award to Roger Poitras, AScT of NBSCET.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION CELEBRATION. This highly anticipated event was held on October 25th at the Westin Bayshore Hotel. Over 300 guests attended including our Constituent Members from across Canada. Guest Speaker Hon. Murray Coell congratulated ASTTBC on our 50th Anniversary. Mayor Sam Sullivan brought greetings on behalf of the City of Vancouver and a message of congratulations from Premier Gordon Campbell was read out. *A great time was had by all!*

CCTT AGM HELD IN VANCOUVER. ASTTBC welcomed our Constituent Members from across Canada to Vancouver for their 37th Annual General Meeting on October 23rd-25th. CCTT had full days of meetings and made time to enjoy the sights of Vancouver.

e-DUES. 4,067 members have already paid their membership dues online between December and January 2009, which compares to a (year) total of 4,105 electronic online payments collected in 2008.

FINANCES. Statement and Report to November 2008 will be presented to Council on February 19, 2009. Overall Budget targets being met.

STAFFING. A couple of changes to note. Effective January 1, 2009 John Shortreid ASCT, CLS assumes the position of Registrar. This appointment made by Council. Effective January 1 2009, the position of FEAT Executive Director was transferred from Ted Nodwell to Jason Jung. Effective February 1, 2009 I engaged Anne Sharp as Director, Marketing as well as Director, Development for FEAT.

WORKPLAN 2008. Most objectives achieved. Full report being prepared for Council and members. Annual report will be published with Spring issue of ASTT NEWS.

WORKPLAN 2009. The 2009 Plan was approved by Council at September 2008 meeting.