

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO COUNCIL – (#45)

For June 3, 2005 Council Meeting

(Covering the Period March 16 – May 13, 2005)

INTRODUCTION

We are closing in on mid year... a time when we reflect on how we are doing with the 2005 Work Plan and Budget and start working on plan and budget for 2006. This year is moving along at a rapid pace, with ASTTBC 're-grouping' and 're-energizing' around the Association's six goals. This Report captures highlights of the work that is going on, in part in keeping with the 2005 Work Plan, and in part to address emerging issues and opportunities. The resources are being stretched in order to quickly and effectively once again get ASTTBC 'up to speed'. The accomplishments to date this year are significant.

"Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up".
Thomas Edison, Inventor.

GOAL #1 – ASTT ACT

ASTT Act and Regulations

ASTT REGULATIONS. Council has approved changes to the *ASTT Regulations* that adopt the titles 'PTech' and RTMgr' and, among a few other changes, modify the definition of practice. These have now been posted on the ASTTBC web page and sent via broadcast to all members. Information is also being sent out with the current issue of ASTT NEWS. The proposed changes will be presented to the AGM for ratification. I have been advised that the New Brunswick Society has also adopted the PTech title, effective in April. New Brunswick's new Bylaws allow members to choose to change from AScT to PTech without further qualification. **(See attachment 1-1)**

ASTT ACT CHANGES. A proposal for changes to the *ASTT Act* will be pulled together in June. Details once available.

MAVED REVIEW OF PROFESSIONAL LEGISLATION. The Ministry of Advanced Education will, at the request of the Attorney General, undertake a complete review of professional legislation and regulation. ASTTBC will take an active role in this initiative. It is assumed that this will proceed regardless of the results of the May election.

GOAL #2 – PROFESSION & REGULATION

Professional Regulation and Practice

ASTTBC is required, as one of the 'Objects' under the ASTT Act, ***"to regulate standards of training and practice of and for its members and to protect the interests of the public"***. Toward this end ASTTBC has established a Code of Ethics, complaints and disciplinary process, statement on member practice, and, in some limited areas, guides to professional practice. To ensure members' rights are acknowledged, recognized and respected, ASTTBC monitors 'demand side legislation' (typically that of the provincial and municipal governments) to ensure ASTTBC-registered technology professionals are appropriately recognized. In most areas ASTTBC interacts with appropriate professional associations.

Relations with Other Professional Associations - General

ASTTBC engages, as appropriate given the circumstances, other professional associations, including: Association of BC Land Surveyors (ABCLS); Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABC FP); Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC (APEGBC); BC Institute of Agrologists (BCIA); Building Officials Association of BC (BOABC); College of Applied Biology of BC (CABBC) / Association of Professional Biologists of BC (APBBC); Interior Designers Institute of BC; Architectural Institute of BC; Society of Landscape Architects of BC (SLABC);

ASTTBC links with the foregoing associations in a variety of ways, including: inviting a representative(s) to attend the ASTTBC Council meeting; providing, usually on a reciprocal basis, a copy of the full Council Agenda; exchanging representatives on committees / boards; reciprocal participation in continuing professional development opportunities; advertising in various publications as appropriate to furthering the ASTTBC mandate; and other linkages as might develop from time to time.

Professional Practice – General

BUILDING SAFETY REGULATION. ASTTBC participated in a special workshop hosted by the Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services (MCAWS) to consider improvements to the way building safety is achieved. John Schlosser ASCT, RBD, ASTTBC's appointee to the Building Policy Advisory Committee, attended for ASTTBC. The MCAWS will continue their work on the issue and ASTTBC will take an active role.

Engineering Technology Practice – ASTTBC & APEGBC

APEGBC and ASTTBC continue to work on matters of mutual concern. While some of the issues are not easily managed, it is essential, nevertheless, that we explore every possible avenue to address key issues (usually associated with practice rights) in a manner that effectively and responsibly serves the public interest.

Key issues being addressed with APEGBC include: rights to provide Type 3 system planning as a 'professional' under the Onsite Sewage Regulation; ASTTBC representation on the Professional Reliance Task Force; and, the APEGBC – ABCFP joint agreement re 'crossings' (small and medium sized culverts and bridges in Forest applications); and Licensed Environmental Professional program. Details will be provided as progress reports or as these issues are resolved.

Engineering & Geoscience Technology Practice - General

LICENSED ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONAL. Since last report, Ted Nodwell, CAE, Deputy Executive Director, (staff liaison for the LEP file) has submitted a formal request to the LEP Sub-committee that ASTTBC be included as one of the 'parent' organizations (with APEGBC, BCIA, CAB) and that registration as an ASCT be sufficient prerequisite to write the LEP exam. There has not been time since this request was made to receive a response and it is more likely there will be an update at next Council meeting. Ted has written to the LEP Sub-committee. **(See attachment 2-1)**

QUALIFIED ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONAL (QEP). We continue to work to ensure ASTTBC-registered professionals are appropriately recognized. We are advised that the Ministry of Water, Lands and Air Protection has delayed implementation of the Regulation to June 30, 2005 to allow greater time to bring together all pieces necessary to make it work.

QUALIFIED PROFESSIONAL (QP). Nothing new to report.

CROSSINGS AGREEMENT – ABCFP and APEGBC. ASTTBC has just received a copy of the Agreement. The work involved is small and medium sized culverts and bridges... all based on established codes and standards or ‘pre-engineered’... and all well within the scope of an ASTTBC-registered professional. Document is being tabled with ASTTBC Council this meeting. There are a number of serious concerns with this Agreement. **SEE COUNCIL ACTION AGENDA**

APEGGA GRANTS ‘RIGHTS TO VOTE’ TO RPTs. I have been advised that APEGGA is granting rights ‘as though they were members’ to the Registered Professional Technologists (limited licensees) registered under their statute. At the moment the RPTs have no vote and cannot serve on Council. The changes to APEGGA Regulations will change all that. This is supported by ASET. (See **attachment 2-2**)

CCTT STATEMENT ON PROFESSIONAL REGULATION AND PRACTICE. This document was sent out to all ASTTBC members with the spring 2005 issue of ASTT NEWS. (See **attachment 2-3**)

Engineering Technology - Other

ASET NAME CHANGE. The Alberta Society of Engineering Technologists is proposing to change their name to *The Association of Science and Engineering Technology Professionals of Alberta*.

CEBC LIAISON. Ted Nodwell and I met with the CEBC Executive Director, Glenn Martin to discuss linkages between CEBC and ASTTBC. A proposal for linkages between ASTTBC and CEBC will be prepared for consideration. Report to Council once completed.

ASTTBC SPONSORS CEBC AWARDS GALA. Once again this year ASTTBC was a SILVER sponsor of this most successful event.

GEOEXCHANGE 2005. ASTTBC provided sponsorship to the conference and trade show. (See **attachment 2-4**)

Forest Technology Practice

TIMBER CRUISERS. The report of the Voluntary Certification Task Force (VCTF) has not as yet been acted upon by the ABCFP Council. It is anticipated ABCFP Council will support the proposition that ASTTBC continue offering registration of Timber Cruisers and other forest measurement practitioners within the new Forest Measurements Registration Board (FMRB). An enhanced link will be developed with ABCFP, leading to improved professional recognition and practice of timber cruisers and other forest measurements practitioners.

MoF FOREST PLANNING & PRACTICES REGULATION. I have now heard from the Minister of Forests (MoF) on the concerns raised by ASTTBC. The letter, signed for Minister Mike de Jong by the Deputy Minister, indicates that the MoF will not change the Regulation at this time, but will re-consider in 2006. **SEE COUNCIL ACTION AGENDA.**

PROFESSIONAL RELIANCE TASK FORCE (PRTF). This group, including ABCFP, APEGBC, BCIA and CAB, has taken the position that ASTTBC should NOT be included in the group. ASTTBC has now been invited to a meeting with this group at which the Chief forester and ASTTBC will be asked to present their viewpoints regarding ASTTBC inclusion. The group has agreed that IF at least two of the associations and the Chief Forester support ASTTBC inclusion then this is the decision that will prevail. The Chief Forester is supportive.

ASTTBC MEETS WITH ABCFP COUNCIL. President Tim Murphy, Vice President Keith Switzer and I met with the Council of ABCFP. Topics included transfer of forest techs from ASTTBC to ABCFP; Forest measurements practitioners (cruisers and others tied with the FMRB); ASTT Act and Regulations changes; MoF Forest Planning and Practices Regulation; design of culverts and bridges (the APEGBC-ABCFP Crossings Agreement); PRTF; and ongoing links between ASTTBC and ABCFP. A most productive and positive meeting.

'SMALL SUCCESS AND BIG PRIORITIES'. An article by the outgoing ABCFP President, Rick Sommer, RPF is of interest. (See attachment 2-5)

'TIP OF THE PROFESSIONAL RELIANCE ICEBURG'. An article prepared by ABCFP Van Scoffield, RPF, is of interest. (See attachment 2-6)

ABCFP PROMOTES RFT REGISTRATION. The ABCFP is actively encouraging registration as a Registered Forest Technologist. (See attachment 2-7)

BC COMMUNITY FOREST ASSOCIATION AGM. ASTTBC provided sponsorship for the BCCFA AGM. (See attachment 2-8)

Geomatics Technology Practice

ABCLS – ASTTBC JOINT TASK FORCE. Nothing new to report.

ADVERTISEMENT IN ABCLS 'LINKS'. We continue to run an advertisement in the ABCLS newsletter.

Architectural/Building Technology Practice

AIBC-ASTTBC JOINT TASK FORCE (JTF). Nothing new to report on the work of the TF as there have been no further meetings. ASTTBC and BDIBC representatives Keith Switzer, Dave Boswell and I attended the AGM of AIBC. During this meeting there was a session dealing with the proposed AIBC Act.

The presenters acknowledged that the Ministry of Advanced Education has advised AIBC that the MAVED is looking for a statement of key issues. AIBC reported that the MAVED has suggested that the Institute look for the most pressing changes and bring those forward for consideration by Government, It was recognized that the significant changes proposed in the draft Act may be too 'ambitious'.

The BDIBC Board approved a resolution that BDIBC continue dialogue with AIBC on the matters of professional practice and 'transfer of members' to full registration and/or a 'limited license'. I have indicated that ASTTBC supports discussions of the key issues and will entertain further dialogue as suggested by BDIBC. Waiting a response from AIBC. Also in attendance were representatives from the Building Officials Association of BC (BOABC) and Interior designers Institute of BC (IDIBC).

Biological Technology

COLLEGE OF APPLIED BIOLOGY. I contacted CAB with suggested framework of topics for discussion / key issues that need to be addressed. His request made over 2 months ago. No response.

BC INSTITUTE OF AGROLOGISTS. I attended the AGM of the BCIA. At that meeting the Institute was proposing a change to Bylaws allowing for the registration of technologists and technicians. I was asked to speak at the AGM. The proposal was modified at the meeting 'to consider' a possible change to the Bylaws.

High Technology

The **ASSOCIATION REPRESENTING HIGH TECH SECTOR HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGERS** is participating in ASTTBC's career conference. Further linkages will be made following the conference as part of the Employer Liaison Program.

Building Officials

BOABC AGM. I attended portions of the meeting as a guest of the association. Further contacts / meetings expected.

General Practice & Liaison

ASSOCIATION COALITION? Together with BOABC and the Canadian Home Builders Association (BC), ASTTBC initiated and hosted a meeting of associations to determine their interest and willingness to participate in collaborative efforts in areas of common interest. Seven associations attended and agreed there is merit in further explorations. Another meeting is planned for June 2005.

'DEANS' DILEMMA – DEANS OF TECHNOLOGY AND APPLIED SCIENCE TECHNOLOGISTS IN INSTRUCTIONAL POSITIONS'. This paper by Tom Roemer is of interest to ASTTBC. (See attachment 2-9)

Government Appointments, Legislation & General Liaison

KEITH SWIZTER ASCT APPOINTED TO ELECTRICAL TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE OF BC SAFETY AUTHORITY. Keith has served the industry and ASTTBC well in the past and continues now as a member of the NEW advisory committees. (See attachment 2-10)

MLA LIAISON. There have been a number of meetings with various MLAs during this period. The purpose is a general information update on ASTTBC and key issues of concern to the association.

'COMPLIANCE IS THE ULTIMATE GOAL'. Article by the Hon Bill Barisoff, Minister of Water, Land and Air Protection in Van SUN, March 25, 2005, is of interest. (See attachment 2-11)

IMMIGRATION PROJECT. ASTTBC has signed a contract with the Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women Services (MCAWS) to deliver a conference and report on immigration issues, especially as it pertains to registration with ASTTBC and careers in technology. ASTTBC anticipates a much bigger project later this year.

Institutes - Special Certification Programs

BCIPI. The Institute continues its effort to promote professional recognition of ASTTBC-registered inspectors. As well, BCIPI is offering a series of CPD workshops. More details with the next report.

BDIBC. The President attended the AIBC AGM and awards gala. Further discussions with AIBC expected.

CONSTRUCTION SAFETY. Contact made with the associations representing construction safety industry nationally. Interest in considering how we cooperate re the use of the CSO title and designation.

FIRE PROTECTION. Special meeting with registrants attracted 25 participants. Larry Barker and I attended.

FOREST MEASUREMENTS REGISTRATION BOARD (FMRB). The FMRB has now been formed and the interim Board appointed. The Board will convene its inaugural meeting in late May. ASTTBC actively pursuing other registrations within the program.

ONSITE WASTEWATER. Registrations coming in at steady pace. Expect at least 350 registered by May 31, 2005, date the Regulation comes into force. Need to work with APEGBC and others re Type 3 systems, specifically WHO can do WHAT as a 'professional' and role of the OWRB.

PWIS. Nothing new to report.

SDIBC. Staff met with SDIBC Board re their future directions as an Institute. Some concerns by SDIBC about how they might best move forward in terms of recognition and member benefits.

SITE IMPROVEMENTS SURVEYS. Nothing new to report.

TIMBER CRUISING. See FMRB re changes to the Timber Cruising Certification Board.

GOAL #3 – PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

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

GOAL #4 – MEMBER & EMPLOYER SERVICES

Member Services

'Building Careers in Technology' (BCT) is a strategic planning conference June 2 & 3 in conjunction with the AGM. It is hosted by ASTTBC and we have secured significant financial support from the Province of BC. Ted Nodwell, CAE (conference staff liaison) and Wendy Lawson (BCT conference organizer on contract) have secured the following keynote or luncheon speakers: Dr. Roslyn Kunin - economist and member of the Order of Canada who will share insights on the challenges and opportunities impacting the jobs and economy of tomorrow; David Chalk - TV show host and Entrepreneur of the Year speaking on the emerging digital universe and how it is revolutionizing the way we live in every aspect; Hon. Hedy Fry, PC, MP - Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Citizenship & Immigration; Ed Wong - Vice President - Education Partnerships, Business Council of BC. Many other organizations are assisting us in spreading the word about the conference. *Based on registration response to date, it is highly likely this will be a sold out event. All Council members are urged to register right away. See the attached conference brochure and letter from Hon Hedy Fry. (See attachments 4-1 and 4-2)*

ASTT NEWS. Issue #115 inserts included: a) Building Careers in Technology conference brochure and registration form and b) the CCTT Statement on Professional Regulation and Practice.

ANNUAL REPORT & SERVICES DIRECTORY 2005. In production. Will be available for the AGM and then mailed to members later in June.

MEMBER SURVEY. Due to pressing deadlines related to the AGM and conference, it is now anticipated the Member Survey will be completed by the end of June, 2005.

BCIT AND COLLEGE STUDENT RECRUITMENT. ASTTBC was not able to put on the annual Career Day event at BCIT this year however student brochures and registration forms have been distributed through the Deans and Program Heads at BCIT. Student visits have been made at most of the colleges.

BROADCAST E-MAIL. ASTTBC sent 15 broadcast email messages in the period March 7 – May 2/05. This is a very effective communications medium for members and cost effective and fast for ASTTBC, e.g. a) a broadcast email requesting an ASTTBC rep for the APEGBC Sustainability Committee generated 24 qualified responses; and, b) the first on-line registration for the Building Careers in Technology conference was received back by ASTTBC before the broadcast had completed its cycle of the full membership. We currently have email addresses for 85% of the membership and due to the ‘churn’ on e-mail addresses several hundred of these will ‘bounce’ on a broadcast to the full membership. One benefit of updating our AMSoft association management software (second half of 2005) is a better ability to do research on bounced e-mails and this will be an important procedure to add to operations. A few members complain with each broadcast and we have a process to remove them from further broadcasts.

An ASTTBC pre-approved broadcast re home insurance by affinity partner TD Meloche Monnex generated excellent results: 6,000 messages sent; 740 bounced; 540 clicked on the insurance hotlink; 220 quotes or future quotes (based on insurance policy expiry date) were/will be issued; 7 requested unsubscribe. ASTTBC retained control of the mailing list, the message was concise, an opt-out feature was provided and a draw prize was offered to respondents.

WEB SITES. Average number of VISITORS to the ASTTBC web site dropped from 425 to 375 per day during this period. Brochure and on-line registration for the AGM and Building Careers in Technology has been added to the web site, and is being given prominent ‘billing’ on the home page until the event.

Employer Liaison

EMPLOYER LIAISON PROGRAM

ASTTBC Councilors or members have provided invaluable assistance in setting up meetings with the following:

* **BC Hydro.** Ted Nodwell, CAE and I met with the Chief Engineer and with the Community & External Relations officer. BC Hydro has come on board as a sponsor for the Building Careers in Technology conference and is providing panelists for three sessions.

* **Telus.** Ted Nodwell, CAE and Martin MacGregor, AScT met with senior management at Telus for discussions on the value of certification and how ASTTBC, Telus and the colleges can work together to address anticipated shortages of technology professionals. Telus is a sponsor of the conference and a Telus Vice-President will be a featured speaker.

* **School Plant Officials Association.** Ted Nodwell, CAE, was a speaker at the SPOA annual conference. Approximately 50 delegates from Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley school districts attended, many who were AScTs, CTechs or PEngs.

* **Fraser River Pile & Dredge.** Ted Nodwell, CAE and I met with Les Jordain, AScT, President of FRPD who is very supportive.

CAREER ADS. Duke Point Energy called for ASTTBC registration. (See attachment 4-3)

GOAL #5 – SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AWARENESS

FEAT. The audited 2004 FEAT financial statements show a Net Revenue of \$6,581 after \$9,000 in bursaries and science and technology awareness events and a one-time transfer of \$10,000 to the ABCFP ForesTrust. FEAT finished the year with \$186,775 in Net Assets Restricted for Endowment Purposes. (See attachment 5-1)

In 2005 FEAT will again offer its annual support for bursaries and events. As well FEAT will offer bursaries for: a high school student; women in technology; and the Wade Wicks Memorial Bursary for a technology student facing extraordinary challenges. FEAT is a Gold Sponsor of the ASTTBC Building Careers in Technology conference and will be providing support for the ASTTBC Leaders Legacy Award.

DISPLAY BOOTH. Preliminary investigation into options and cost of a new display nearly complete, with acquisition to be completed by the end of June; design of new display will incorporate full colour graphics in addition to the standard fabric panels.

BCIT. Meeting with key BCIT Staff to explore options and opportunities for partnering that would be a mutual benefit to both ASTTBC and BCIT, the latter being a key source of new registrants for the Association. Consideration being given to the long-term and to allow for succession, ie: changes in BCIT personnel, to ensure partnering continues regardless of a changeover in people.

WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION – BCCA EVENT. This special event, hosted by the BC Construction Association. ASTTBC supported as a MAJOR PARTNER. Some 200 female high school students participated. A MOST successful event. (See attachment 5-2)

CAMOSUN CO-OP STUDENTS. The College asked for ASTTBC assistance in placing co-op students. ASTTBC sent broadcast emails out to members on Van Island.

SD 69 SCIENCE FAIR. ASTTBC provided financial support to the SD. (See attachment 5-3)

ASTTBC MEMBER MEETINGS . I have met with members in Victoria, Prince George, Kamloops, Kelowna, Vernon, Penticton, and Nanaimo.

Articles of Interest:

TIM MURPHY ASCT MBA APPOINTED MANAGER OF ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION, DELTA. Congratulations are in order for Tim. (See attachment 5-4)

‘GOVERNMENT SHOULD ACT NOW ON PENDING LABOUR SHORTAGE’. Article by Don Cayo in the Vancouver SUN is of interest. (See attachment 5-5)

‘CANADA NEEDS MORE SKILLED WORKERS...’. Article on Canadian Business magazine of interest. (See attachment 5-6)

GOAL #6 – MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION

2004 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT. The Auditor has completed her work and has provided the final Report that will be presented to the members at the AGM. (See attachment 6-1)

AUDITOR’S LETTER. The annual letter from the auditor highlighted the association’s improved financial position, noting current assets exceeded liabilities by \$124,779 compared with \$68,474 in 2003.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT – APRIL 2005. We are on track with the 2005 Budget, with Revenues of \$1,281,661 against a Budget of \$1,907,000 and Expenses of \$573,978 against a Budget of \$1,867,000. The Surplus to date is \$707,683, up about \$6,000 over 2004. **SEE COUNCIL INFORMATION AGENDA**

ASTTBC AGM. The ASTTBC AGM will be Friday, June 3 at the Sheraton Guildford Hotel, Surrey. All Council Directors are requested to attend.

AScT/CTech RETENTION. Second statement with reminder letter mailed to members with unpaid 2005 annual dues.

Special Certification DUES. Invoices for 2005 – 2006 will go out toward the end of May.

STAFF. Since last report interviews have been conducted for a Manager, Membership Development. Jason Jung, AScT, will start in this position June 1, 2005. Karen Taylor joined the ASTTBC staff team on May 9 in a support position for the Registrations Department.

MEETING OF EXECUTIVE STAFF OFFICERS (ESO). A meeting of the Executive Directors of the technologist/technician associations in Canada is scheduled for May 19 and 20 in Toronto. I am attending.

CTHRB OPEN NEW OFFICES IN OTTAWA. ASTTBC sent best wishes and flowers.

Articles of Interest

‘TRENDS NOW SHAPING THE FUTURE’. Published by THE FUTURIST, March – April, 2005. An article of interest as we reflect on the big picture. **(See attachment 6-2)**