

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO COUNCIL – (#53)

For September 27, 2007 Council Meeting

(May 1, 2007 to August 31, 2007)

This Report covers the months of May through August 2007. ASTTBC is generally on track with the 2007 Work Plan and, beyond that, making great stride in enhancing professional regulation, recognition and awareness of ASTTBC and the professionals registered with the Association. Notable activities include the special industry leaders' 'Technology Skills Roundtable', in which Minister Hansen played a key role, participation in PNWER, formal and informal meetings with various industry, regulatory and association leaders, cabinet ministers, MLAS and, to top it off, even Premier Campbell. Meetings and exchanges with APEGBC Executive and senior staff are considering pathways for possible joint initiative(s) leading to enhance professional regulation for all professionals involved in the Engineering, Geoscience & Technology Teams. Financial reports indicate we are tracking the 2007 Budget, which has been revised slightly to take into consideration a few unknowns when it was first prepared.

“When preparation meets opportunity.”

Josh Grobin (Canadian Singer & Songwriter)

GOAL #1 – PROFESSIONAL LEGISLATION & REGULATION

ASTT ACT CHANGES. ASTTBC's request for changes is with Government.

UMBRELLA LEGISLATION. ASTTBC continues to advance the concept, recognizing, though, that some form of smaller 'umbrella' may be a first step as Government addresses the need to adapt current professional legislation to meet reality.

ALBERTA AMENDS THE ENGINEERS ACT TO INCLUDE TECHNOLOGISTS & TECHNICIANS. The Alberta government has amended, through Bill 39, the Engineering, Geological and Geophysical Professions Amendment Act, creating a one act – 2 association (1A-2A) regulatory framework. ASET will, once the legislation is proclaimed (which will occur once the Regulations pursuant to the Act are approved), be incorporated and will continue with new powers and responsibilities as laid out in the Act. I completed a review of the statute and new model, noting several key achievements and a few areas requiring attention or of concern. This report, tabled with Council at the May 2007 meeting, has now been shared with the BC Government, ASET, APEGGA and APEGBC.

HOUSE INSPECTOR LICENSING. ASTTBC has been advised by Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, John Les, that the government intends to move forward with enhanced regulation of house inspectors. The Minister pointed to the Business Practices and Consumer Protection Authority, an agency known to ASTTBC and one which has a growing role in consumer protection. I have met with their CEO and discussed this field and will continue to link with the BPCPA. ASTTBC has indicated a willingness to cooperate / partner with BPCPA but also notes that most of those doing this work will be technicians and technologists and therefore a key role for professional registration should rest with ASTTBC.

ARCHITECTS ACT CHANGES. AIBC continues in its efforts to get government commitment to amend the Architects Act. ASTTBC has advised the Minister of Advanced Education that ASTTBC believes the Architects Act is 'broken' and requires attention, especially as it continues to be the most restrictive piece of architectural legislation in Canada and inappropriately limits (in law but not always in practice) the rights of ASTTBC-registered professionals. ASTTBC will continue to advance the view that the Act should be amended to include appropriate recognition of ASTTBC-registered professionals, possibly in a similar manner to Saskatchewan where there is an exemption for technologists and technicians. BDIBC continues its involvement in a joint task force with AIBC and IDIBC (interior designers). While ASTTBC is aware of, and has certain literature associated with AIBC's proposal, it seems we are not privy to all AIBC info, in particular the draft legislation which is in circulation. A letter (June 11, 2007) sent to the Ministry by AIBC President and endorsed by BDIBC and IDIBC Presidents was received at ASTTBC and is being provided to Council. In discussions with government folk it is clear that there has been no clear direction set for the framework for future professional legislation in this field. Quite possibly government will agree that some form of 'umbrella legislation' is the most effective form of legislation going forward. **(See attachment 1-1)**

BDIBC Letter to BDIBC Members. On July 31, 2007 Carson Nofle, AScT, RBD, lead person for BDIBC re the work of the AIBC JTF, sent out a letter, as agreed by the BDIBC Board, to all BDIBC members. Copy attached. This letter was sent without prior consultation with ASTTBC, as determined by the Board. **(See attachment 1-2)**

GOAL #2 – RIGHTS TO 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".

GUIDES TO PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE. Five Guides to Professional Practice (Biomedical, Electrical Design in Buildings, Electronics, Geomatics and Mechanical Design in Buildings) were approved in principle (May 2007 Council), posted to ASTTBC's web site and sent to members for comment. Comments to date have been favourable, with a few suggestions for enhancements, clarification or additional Guides. A full report with request for approval is being presented to Council at the September 2007 meeting. **Other Guides** are now being developed and will be tabled with Council at the November meeting or early in 2008.

EngL (APEGBC LIMITED LICENSE). APEGBC has drafted a 'Standard Scope for a Limited License for Electrical Technologists Providing Electrical Design Services for Building Projects'. ASTTBC has been asked to comment but with the summer months and vacations, as well as an interest in working on this together with ASTTBC's Guides, ASTTBC advised APEGBC that ASTTBC is interested in working jointly and concurrently on the LL and the ASTTBC Guides. ASTTBC and APEGBC Executives will meet in September to consider next steps.

APEGBC – ASTTBC MoU. At a joint executives meeting there was discussion about a possible MoU to define a path toward joint resolution of the most appropriate regulatory framework going forward. APEGBC is talking about working together in defining the 'House of Engineering and Geoscience'. ASTTBC has indicated an interest in working together, to the extent possible and within parameters acceptable to both associations. ASTTBC is mindful of the requirements of TILMA and the need to 'harmonize' professional regulation. The Alberta 1A-2A model provides a base as does the current framework in BC, which, while not working as smoothly as we'd like, is an excellent base from which to advance.

WORKSAFE BC OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY REGS. The Regs are being amended in areas of interest to ASTTBC. A brief submission asking that ASTTBC-registered professionals be appropriately recognized has been submitted, with Worksafe now committed to working with ASTTBC and other interested stakeholders on the question of WHO is recognized as a 'qualified person / professional'. In addition I have arranged a meeting with Worksafe leadership to review ASTTBC regulatory responsibilities and interests.

ELECTRONICS TECHS DOING ‘ELECTRICAL WORK’? Further to last Report, a Regional District has provided a copy of a Report on the issue of the role of electronics technologists and technicians as pertains to the work they perform in the electrical field. A concern has merged as to whether a portion of their work is ‘electrical work’ as defined by the BC Safety Act and Regulations. ASTTBC has connected with the BC Safety Authority to seek a solution to the issue.

ONTARIO RECOGNITION IN WELLS REGULATION. The members of OACETT have been exempted from a new regulation establishing a licensed well technician who is primarily involved with monitoring, sampling and testing. The letter from Keith West, ADM, Drinking Water Management Division, follows:

I am pleased to inform you that the Ontario Ministry of Environment has amended Ontario’s Wells Regulation (Regulation 903) to strengthen protection of public health and drinking water supplies.

As you know, Regulation 903 covers all wells including public and private, municipal and rural, agricultural, commercial and industrial – as well as test holes, dewatering wells, and monitoring wells. It sets out minimum standards for siting, constructing, tagging and reporting, maintaining and decommissioning wells. The regulation also sets out the licensing requirements for businesses and individuals engaged in well construction, pump and other equipment installation, as well as standards for the design, construction, maintenance and abandonment (or decommissioning) of wells.

Key changes to the regulation:

- Allow well owners to pursue alternatives such as installing treatment rather than requiring that wells producing non-potable water be abandoned.
- Make the regulation clearer to enhance compliance with record keeping, maintenance and abandonment requirements by both the well industry and well owners. This includes reordering sections to more closely follow the order of activities from well siting through construction to make the regulation easier to understand and follow.
- Provide for a new class of licence for well technicians who primarily do monitoring, sampling and testing. Qualified professional engineers and geoscientists as well as certified engineering technicians and technologists are exempt from this licence.
- Improve the protection of well water by strengthening and expanding the disinfection requirements to protect both new wells and existing wells when pumps are replaced or the well is altered.

These changes will come into effect on December 31st, 2007. A *Best Practices Manual* is being developed to accompany the regulation, and will provide detailed and important information on best practices for all aspects of well design, construction, maintenance, disinfection, and abandonment.

For more information about the changes you can view the final Regulation 903 on the Environmental Bill of Rights registry at: www.ontario.ca/environmentalregistry (registry number 010-0098) or contact the Ministry’s Public Information Centre at 416-325-4000 or 1-800-565-4923 for a copy. Please share this with your membership as appropriate.

GOAL #3 – PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS & REGULATION

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

REGISTERED TECHNOLOGY MANAGER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM (RTMgr). Certification Policy has been drafted and will be presented to the September meeting of Council for approval in principle. A member survey has been designed to gather information and comments about preliminary RTMgr certification program details. The survey content is now finalized and will be prepared for electronic distribution by IT staff soon.

Goal #4 – PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

PROFESSIONAL RELIANCE TASK FORCE. Work has stalled on the preparation of a generic version of a professional reliance statement due to other priorities. Anticipate completion by year end. While the four associations which formed the Professional Reliance Task Force (PRTF) continue to move forward, they are not keeping ASTTBC abreast of developments, a promise that was made to ASTTBC by the Ministry of Forests and the four associations. I have asked that this be addressed.

TECH – IMPACT. In a recent ASTT e-NEWS we asked members to send us information on the work they do and its impact on BC's economy, environment, and society in general. We received many great submissions and will package up and post in the near term.

INTERNATIONALLY EDUCATED PROFESSIONALS. ASTTBC continues to take an active role with other stakeholder groups to help IEPs integrate into the BC workforce. ASTTBC has applied to the BC Government for a special grant to enhance services.

EMPLOYER LIAISON PROGRAM. An ELP plan is being developed. A promotional clock with "*Technology Careers... it's Time*" and the ASTTBC logo was presented to employers who attended the June 19th Roundtable on Technology Skills Shortage, along with the ELP brochure and other collateral. The work ASTTBC is doing in bringing various stakeholders together to address HR issues serves also to link with employers.

EMPLOYERS' TOOLKIT FOCUS GROUP. ASTTBC was invited, and participated in, a special session during which attendees addressed the question of the needs of employers, especially the small to medium enterprises. The meeting, convened in Nanaimo, was sponsored by MISTIC.

TELUS. Certification of new and existing TELUS engineering tech employees is ongoing. Two seminars were held in August to assist TELUS with initial application/reinstatement process. There will be additional meetings to assist TELUS employees with the application process in northern BC locations such as Prince George, Ft. St. John, and others. Seminars are a combination of a corporate overview and review of the application process, including questions/assistance with internal training course equivalency.

As well, TELUS outside plant management has been in fairly regular contact with the Manager, Technology Careers to assist them with registration issues such as confirmation of registration and eligibility requirements. All is progressing well.

BCIT and COLLEGE LIAISON. Have continued dialogue with several Deans at BCIT, Okanagan College, and Camosun with regards to automating a student registration process. While details remain to be sorted as to the exact process and its feasibility, each of the colleges mentioned are working collaboratively to promote ASTTBC to students and facilitate student recruitment within the classes.

ASTTBC attended the first year student orientation at BCIT and participated in their orientation fair held in the Great Hall. First year students attend the Great Hall to visit vendors, partners, and other related groups as an introduction to student life on campus. A large number of students visited the booth and ASTTBC had a successful day chatting with students and faculty alike.

Tentative dates have already been scheduled for student presentations and recruitment at BCIT, Camosun, and Okanagan College. These will occur regularly throughout the fall.

BCIT STUDENT ASSOCIATION (BCITSA). Finalization of ASTTBC-BCITSA MoU and sponsorship agreement is pending shortly. As well, staff will be meeting soon with BCITSA Student Technology Chairs to discuss ASTTBC's role in the various faculties and how we would like to be connected through the student executive (tech reps, set reps, etc.)

BCIT STUDENTS SURVEY CEBC COMPANIES. Students worked with ASTTBC in cooperation with CEBC to conduct a survey of CEBC member companies. 31 companies participated in the survey. The demand to fill the jobs of technologists and technicians is very high and therefore many employers are not requiring certification from potential employees. 97% find it difficult to acquire qualified applicants, yet only 50% of them were aware of CTEN. The main reason for not requiring certification for technicians/technologists was because engineers have to sign off on the work anyway. Employers were almost always willing to pay to support employees for continuing education and dues even if they did not require certification. Employers stated that they find experience to be as valuable as certification. Regarding the value of technologists & technicians compared to engineers, the average and median number was 8.75 (between 1 and 10). The ratio of Engineers to Technicians/Technologists was close to 1:1 with a little interest in becoming fully registered as a PEng and 2 planning to obtain their limited license to practice professional engineering.

BCIT STUDENTS SURVEY RESIGNED & CANCELLED MEMBERS FROM LAST 2 YEARS. 193 members responded to a phone or email survey. The most significant reason for resigning was "job not requiring it", followed by "moved", then "high cost". 44% strongly agreed that lowering the cost of membership would help retain them as members. The majority of respondents originally joined the organization because they saw value in being a member. However, once they were members they did not see the need for it. This response increased with age. A 1/3 of the 56+ age group stated that retirement was their reason for resignation. The survey team recommended creating a mentor program with a membership discount for retirees and a chance to tutor younger members working in their field.

CAREER ADS CALLING FOR ASTTBC REGISTRATION. A number of career ads were noticed. (See attachments 4-1 & 4-2)

Relations with other Associations

ASTTBC interacts, as appropriate given the circumstances, with other professional associations. ASTTBC links with these associations in a variety of ways, in order to most effectively meet the requirements of the ASTT Act and to generally serve the public interest.

CEBC LIAISON. ASTTBC has again committed to Platinum Sponsorship for the 2008 CEBC awards... an investment of \$5,500.

VISTA 18 SUMMIT - APEGBC & ASTTBC EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS MEET. APEGBC's Executive Director, Derek Doyle, PEng and I have enjoyed several great lunch meetings during which we have become better acquainted and explored topics of mutual interest to APEGBC and ASTTBC. These exchanges will likely continue, as one means of ensuring continuing contact, dialogue and common action wherever appropriate / possible.

ABCFP LIAISON. We continue to build a positive working relationship with Sharon Glover the Executive Director at ABCFP. The President of ABCFP, Paul Knowles, RPF, in his 'President's Report', August 2007, talked about 'Trust, Risk and Professional Reliance'. I have been in touch with Paul to clarify a couple of points in his article. (See attachment 4-3)

BC INNOVATION COUNCIL & ASTTBC LINKS. Matthew Watson, BCIC CEO and I met to consider areas of common interest. Great start on new working relationship with BCIC. One concrete outcome is BCIC partnering with ASTTBC in Tech Roundtable II on October 31, 2007.

GOAL #5 – MEMBER SERVICES

ASTT e-NEWS. ASTT e-News continues to be broadcast monthly with an average of 20 timely articles per issue. With an average size of 11 pages per issue, ASTT e-News has been distributed to approximately 8,400 addresses every month. All past editions of ASTT e-News can be found on ASTT website under Communications section.

ASTT NEWS. Issue #121 is in production and is slated to be mailed to members in November, 2007.

ANNUAL REPORT & SERVICES DIRECTORY 2007. The AR&SD 2007 has been published and mailed to members and interested stakeholders. Kevin Evans, Chief Operating Officer of the Industry Training Authority wrote to say “*Congratulations on a stellar annual report. Having just come from the association world, I can safely say you’ve raised the bar*”.

BROADCAST E-MAIL. 35 broadcast e-mails were sent during the period between May and August 2007. Ten of those went to full membership; four were directed to members residing outside of the Lower Mainland. Topics included: TechPRO launch, Award nominations, ASTT AGM, ARC, Guides to Professional Practice.

CTEN. Continues to provide a valuable service and generates positive revenue for ASTTBC. During the first quarter of 2007 ASTTBC’s revenue split (at 60%) was just under \$10,000.

PLATINUM PROPERTIES – REAL ESTATE INVESTING SERVICE. A new advertiser offering to members. Platinum's flyers are being inserted with ASTT News on a paid-advertising insert basis. Platinum is also distributing information on their service through other professional associations, eg ABCFP. (See **attachment 5-1**)

Institutes - Special Certification Programs

BCIPI. Recent advertising and promotion of BCIPI services at Pacific National Exhibition (PNE) prize home sponsor area. Discussion among BCIPI board members to have marketing materials prepared (decals and embroidered BCIPI crests to be sewn onto clothing). Meetings are starting back up after summer break. BCIPI President’s photo along with list of the new Board was published in the Vancouver SUN. (See **attachment 5-2**)

BDIBC. Work continues on professional regulation of building designers in a joint task force with AIBC and IDIBC. Exchanges between ASTTBC and BDIBC help to keep each other informed on what the other is doing. The BDIBC Board decided that a letter would be sent to all BDIBC members. See my notes under Goal #1. ASTTBC will, in the near term, send an update to ASTTBC members registered as CRDs and RBDs.

CONSTRUCTION SAFETY. ASTTBC is actively involved with WorkSafe and other stakeholders in sponsoring a CSO Workshop, to be convened this fall.

FIRE PROTECTION. As Larry Barker will step down from his contract position at the end of this year, we are actively looking for a replacement. ASTTBC will continue to pursue province-wide certification.

FOREST MEASUREMENTS REGISTRATION BOARD. Discussions about transferring the program from ASTTBC to ABCFP will resume this fall. A memo was sent to all Forest Measurements Specialists. (See **attachment 5-3**).

ONSITE WASTEWATER. Work continues to enhance regulation and practice, and marketing / communications generally: New information brochures will be published before year end. ASTTBC reps participated in a special meeting convened by Minister Pat Bell and MLA John Rustad in Prince George. Good airing of issues and several concrete suggestions for enhancements will be pursued. ASTTBC has meetings planned with senior Ministry of Health staff.

PWIS. Nothing new.

SDIBC. Meetings are starting back up after summer break.

SSLC. Monthly meetings continue with discussion on various related topics (UBCM, practitioner recruitment and sustainability, general relations). However, note that there is a discussion with regards to possible changes to the regulation, namely, SPM and other language (definitions, tightening of language). ASTTBC has requested that the ROWP title be defined and that the ASTTBC Act & Regulations are referenced in the SSR to allow us more traction on enforcement and ability (necessity) for us to grant certificates on the basis of the Act & Regs (cert. policies).

GOAL #6 – TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION & CAREERS

TECHNOLOGY CAREERS... it's TIME! A new overarching campaign (TCiT) has been launched to focus the Association's ongoing efforts to enhance awareness of careers in technology, as well as the technologist, technicians and technical specialists. This logo has been featured on a variety of marketing and promotional initiatives.

ASTTBC AWARDS. For the first time this year Nomination Forms were available on the ASTTBC Website. We had a better than expected submission of Nominations. We also introduced 2 NEW Awards for women in technology and received several outstanding nominations. ASTTBC's announcement was published by several other associations, notably APEGBC, BCSLA & CEBC (**See attachments 6-1, 6-2 and 6-3**)

BCIT ALUMNI MoA. As part of our ongoing effort to enhance linkages with BCIT and in particular the BCIT Alumni, we are working on a joint MoA with the BCIT Alumni Association. It is anticipated the MoA will be signed in the near future.

BCTech ROUNDTABLE. ASTTBC continues to take a lead role in addressing the BC's HR needs in technology: a consultant has been hired to prepare a plan; a special meeting is planned with Minister Hansen; a 'blue ribbon panel' is being pulled together, with the idea this may be the Technology Education and Careers Council; and a special 'Roundtable' meeting has been arranged for October 31, 2007 during National Technology Week – at the Wosk Center for Dialogue.

Roundtable on the Technology Skills Shortage – An Industry Call to Action was held in Vancouver at the Pan Pacific Hotel on the morning of Tuesday, June 19th. The event was presented as an opportunity for industry leaders to share their concerns and ideas for solutions regarding the technology skills shortage and related issues. **The Honourable Colin Hansen** was scheduled to attend from 9 – 10 am but came an hour early to listen to the conversation.

A few of those in attendance were:

- Josh Blair, P.Eng, Senior Vice President, TELUS
- Kerry Rudd, P.Eng, President & CEO, Associated Engineering
- Pete Stickler, VP Human Resources, Ballard Power
- John Drew, RPF, President, Forsite

- Chris Newcomb, PEng, President, McElhanney
- Alan Hartley, MAIBC, MRAIC, Senior Principal, Stantec Inc.
- Al Gorley, RPF, President, Triangle Resources Inc.
- Francois Morton , Vice President, UMA and President CEBC
- Cameron Gatey, P.Eng, President & CEO, Urban Systems
- Stan Cowdell, President, Westmar Consultants Inc.

The Report from the meeting has been circulated and posted. (See attachment 6-4)

TECHNOLOGY SKILLS SHORTAGE ROUNDTABLE II – OCT 31, 2007. ASTTBC will host a group of 140 leaders in BC's technology community to further develop synergies and formulate a common strategy to address HR issues. (See attachment 6-5)

KamTECH... FOCUS 24. ASTTBC hosted special meetings in Kamloops in March. Several adverts were placed in the weeks leading up to the event. (See attachment 6-6)

TECH SHORTAGES – MEDIA COVERAGE. We have seen some results for our efforts, with media picking up on our messaging. (See attachments 6-7, 6-8 & 6-9)

Career Awareness and Liaison - General

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY WEEK (NTW) 2007. NTW will be held this year from November 5-9. ASTTBC again participated on the NTW steering committee giving BC input on national initiatives to promote careers in technology. There are a number of initiatives ASTTBC will participate in and promote including National Technology Day, Take Your Kids to Work Day, promotion of no less than three national promotions (design contest, NTW video contest, tech teacher award), and several others.

Recently at the Pacific National Exhibition (PNE), August 18 through September 3, ASTTBC and BCIPI promoted technology careers and the importance of home inspections. National technology week brochures, bookmarks, leaflets and other technology career promotional information was distributed along with displaying our new TCIT solo banner.

Work will continue in the next 2 months leading up to NTW with school boards to distribute career information and promotional poster/calendars.

GIRLS EXPLORING TRADES & TECHNOLOGY CAMP (GETT). ASTTBC was a sponsor at the recent Girls Exploring Trades & Technology Camp held at BCIT. On August 3, Jason Jung, AScT, along with Langley MLA Mary Polak, and BCIT staff were judges for the go-kart design and build competition. Designed to be an introduction to trades and technology, several teams (6) worked in pairs of two to design and build go-karts that would eventually be raced at the end of the camp week. The girls gained exposure to autocad for design, and power tools for construction. (See attachment 6-10)

TODAY'S WOMAN SHOW. ASTTBC will again be a corporate sponsor and offer the Technology Leadership Award at the event this September 21, 2007.

Marketing and PR

KWANTLEN TRADES & TECHNOLOGY BUILDING. ASTTBC was present at, and placed advertisements in support of the opening of the new facility. (See attachments 6-11 and 6-12)

SPONSORSHIPS - PARTNERSHIPS. ASTTBC sponsored / partnered with various enterprises:

- GETT Camps at BCIT - sponsor
- CEBC Awards 2007 and commitment for 3 years at platinum level
- MISTIC awards – program and Technology Leadership Award (Mid Island)
- Today’s Woman Show – sponsor and Technology Leadership Award
- Health Forum – sponsor and Technology Leadership award
- Woodworks Catapult Competition 2008 – First Place Overall Winner and 3 year commitment
- BC Safety Authority-Lt Gov Award - Silver

(See attachments 6-13, 6-14 & 6-15)

MARKETING. ASTTBC placed advertising in numerous publications, including the BC Business, ABCLS journal, Journal of Commerce, BC Business, and others. (see attachments 6-16 & 6-17)

FEAT. A selection committee met in the summer to award the ASTTBC/BC Hydro bursaries and the inaugural FEAT/TD Meloche Monnex bursaries. In spite of broadcast e-mails going out to all members, students and college awards officers, and articles in ASTT e-News, three of the bursaries remain un-awarded due to low response. An additional mini-campaign will be conducted in September. The FEAT Board is looking at a joint initiative with ASTTBC for a 50th Anniversary fund-raising drive. ASTTBC and FEAT both sponsored the GETT Summer Camp (Girls Exploring Trades & Technologies) at BCIT.

BIG LITTLE SCIENCE CENTRE. The Centre is hosting an open house this fall. ASTTBC has offered support and sponsorship. BLSC has produced a special WALL OF HONOUR and ASTTBC is prominently positioned for its support.

OKANAGAN COLLEGE SPAGHETTI BRIDGE CONTEST. ASTTBC was the primary sponsor of the secondary and post secondary individual and team competitions for 2007.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL. Whereas initially the SD was going to name the school with the term ‘science’, ASTTBC proposed that the school include the use of the term ‘technology’. The school has now been named the Bert Edwards Science and Technology School (‘BEST’). The official opening is this fall.

HON KEVIN KRUEGER WRITES RE ‘BEST’. Minister Kruger, who hails from Kamloops, connected with ASTTBC re our work on the BEST. He stated in a recent email regarding ASTTBC’s general support and sponsorship of \$2,500, *“That is good to know; well done, John and ASTTBC. Like you I was thrilled with the decision to proceed with this one. Thanks you for your message.”*

TRADES & TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL. Kamloops SD is considering a ‘Trades High School. ASTTBC is encouraging the SD to consider adding in ‘Technology’. (See attachment 6-18)

WOODWORKS CATAPULT CONTEST. ASTTBC has confirmed sponsorship for 2008 and will increase the level of contribution. A three year renewable commitment has been made.

ASTTBC DISPLAY BOOTH. Continued to be booked regularly for career fairs, annual meetings, tradeshow, and other awareness events.

GOAL #7 – PUBLIC POLICY

Building Standards

THE MODERNIZATION PROJECT. The Modernization Project convened consultation meetings this summer... all well attended. Key areas of support:

- Liability for local government and professionals needs to be addressed
- Competency needs to be addressed

Areas of concern:

- Mandating inspection services
- Involvement of third party inspection, such as BCSA
- Concurrent authority

BOABC BUILDING CODE WORKSHOPS. ASTTBC was one of many partners with BOABC in sponsoring workshops to inform practitioners re the new Code. The workshops were so successful that BOABC remitted \$7,000 to each of the partners. (See attachment 7-1)

HOMEOWNER PROTECTION ACT CHANGES. The statute was changed to enhance regulation of licensing of builders. (See attachment 7-2)

Economic Development

PNWER. ASTTBC is taking an active role in Pacific Northwest Economic Region. In 2007 ASTTBC was a Patron Level Sponsor. (See attachments 7-3 & 7-4)

BC-ALBERTA TRADE, INVESTMENT AND LABOUR MOBILITY AGREEMENT (TILMA).

ASTTBC continues to work with government staff in appropriate areas. Key areas of interest are portability of credentials and harmonizing professional legislation and regulation defining QPs. ASTTBC is hoping to sign a joint MoU with ASET.

PREMIER CALLS FOR FREER TRADE. Premier Campbell continues to encourage other provinces to consider embracing the key elements of the TILMA. (See attachment 7-5)

Employment & HR

EMPLOYMENT NETWORK EDUCATION & TRAINING. ASTTBC's Geoff Sale along with APEGBC's Gil Pichler, were panelists at a one day workshop, 'Climbing the Canadian Skills Ladder'. The workshop focused on ITPs.

Government Liaison

MLA LIAISON. Continue meetings (formal and informal exchanges) with MLAs to introduce them to issues of interest to ASTTBC. During this period we connected with several MLAs.

BC CABINET MINISTERS. Recent formal meetings and informal exchanges: Premier Gordon Campbell; Murray Coell; Colin Hansen; Kevin Krueger; John Les; and, John van Dongen.

MP LIAISON. Limited contact this period with BC MPs.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION. A fall session is now confirmed.

Immigration & Internationally Trained

ITPs – HOSTING CHINESE DELEGATION. Once again ASTTBC will host a Chinese delegation, this time from the Jiangsu Association for Science and Technology. (See attachment 7-6)

CONFERENCE BOARD OF CANADA – Business leaders Roundtable. ASTTBC's Prakash Joshi, ASCT attended on behalf of ASTTBC the inaugural meeting of the Business Leaders Roundtable on Immigration. The Topic was 'The World in Canada: How Immigration is Fundamental to Our Future Prosperity and Your Business Success'. This was written up in 'The Asian Outlook'. (See attachments 7-7 & 7-8)

Sustainability Agenda

TechGREEN. A 'Sustainability Agenda Task Force' has been appointed to develop a 'green agenda' for ASTTBC. The name of the program is 'TechGREEN'.

GREEN BUILDING CODE. The BC Government has launched a program to develop a BC GREEN Code. Michelle Bast, ASCT is ASTTBC's rep on the committee, supported by others within ASTTBC as needed.

Technology Education & Careers

CAMPUS 2020. ASTTBC provided comment on the Campus 2020 Report.

TRAINING TAX CREDIT. The BC Government passed an Order in Council (#512, June 25, 2007) in which a tax credit was granted to certain occupations. (See attachment 7-9)

INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY AUDIT. ASTTBC has been invited to provide input to the current audit of the ITA being conducted by the Auditor General. (See attachment 7-10)

GOAL #8– GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

BUDGET REVISED 2007. The Budget has been revised for 2007 and is being tabled with Council at September meeting.

WORK PLAN & BUDGET 2008. The 2008 Work Plan and Budget are complete and will be presented to Council for approval at the September 2007 meeting.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT – August 2007. On track with the 2007 Budget. Full report provided to Council.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF DARRIN HEISLER AS PRESIDENT & NEW COUNCIL. The Van SUN published an announcement of Darrin Heisler as President and the list of the new Council. (See attachment 8-1)

ASTTBC AWARDS & RECOGNITION CELEBRATION will take place on Saturday, November 3, 2007 at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Vancouver. ASTTBC is rolling out the RED CARPET for this gala event and all volunteers and special guests will be receiving a Special Invitation at the end of this month.

AGM 2007. The 48th AGM was held May 25, 2007. The theme was 'Technology Careers... it's TIME!'. ASTTBC clocks promoting the theme were given to delegates and guests. Discussions centered on: 1) the skills shortage and 2) professional regulation to protect the public interest. Mayor Peter Fassbender brought greetings from the City of Langley.

AGM 2008. It is proposed that next year's AGM be held at the Coast Hotel & Convention Centre in Langley on Friday, May 23, 2008. A report and proposal is being presented at the September meeting of Council.

ASTTBC 50th ANNIVERSARY will be launch at ASTTBC's AGM in May 2008. A Special Celebration will take place at the 2008 Awards & Recognition Celebration on Saturday, October 25, 2008 at the Westin Bayshore Hotel. A report and proposal is being presented to the September meeting of Council.

ASTTBC HOSTS CCTT AGM 2008. CCTT CMs will arrive in Vancouver for their AGM and Meetings on October 23-25, 2008. CCTT will be joining the ASTTBC 50th Anniversary Celebration on October 25, 2008.

TERMS OF OFFICE – COUNCIL & BOARDS. The Nominating Committee completed its work on establishing set terms of office for members of Council. This report and the recommendations approved at May meeting of Council. The Committee is now focusing on all boards and committees and CCTT Director. A report is anticipated for November Council meeting.

MEMBER SURVEY 2007. The bi-ennial general member survey is now being configured and will be conducted for the second time during the final quarter of 2007.

86% OF MEMBERS ON E-MAIL. It appears our continuous effort to communicate with the members via established and recognized means such as ASTT e-News and Broadcasts is finally paying off. Between May and August we received only 11 'unsubscribe-me' requests, 6 of those came from our complimentary mailing subscribers (non-members).

INTERNET. Due to the fact we no longer have Dowco as our ISP, we are currently looking into finding the most reliable, fast and cost-effective replacement. With a high ratio of e-mails per month (ASTT sends approximately 20,000 e-mails monthly), it is extremely important our new provider can not only handle that amount of traffic, but also do it at a price we can afford. It appears dividing the services into (1) connection provider and, (2) e-mail and e-News provider will allow us to get the best at a cost that won't have much impact on the budget. We are already in talks with 2 separate companies, details to follow.