



ASTT e-News, December, 2007

ASTT e-News is broadcast to technologists, technicians, technical specialists and others. It contains the latest information about your profession and your association. Each issue is also posted to the ASTTBC web site.

In Appreciation... *This past year has been very rewarding, with many achievements, thanks to the support of ASTTBC volunteers, members, and many 'friends' of ASTTBC. We thank you for your support and assistance. As we focus on 2008, let's also take a moment to reflect on the many blessings we enjoy in this incredible country, Canada, and our home province, British Columbia... the 'best place on earth'!*

Darrin Heisler, AScT
President

John Leech, AScT, CAE
Executive Director & Registrar

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ASTTBC Sets 2008 Workplan

ASTTBC is now firmly re-established following the agreement by APEGBC and ASTTBC to not pursue a proposed merger. ASTTBC has a new statement on vision, mission and goals and enjoys a strong position relative to governance and management. ASTTBC is well positioned and well-regarded as a professional regulatory body. Our Association has excellent working relationships with other stakeholders, especially the BC government and key professional,

technical and trade associations.

ASTTBC continues to enhance professional regulation, including a program to formally define members' scope of practice and secure appropriate recognition as 'Qualified Professionals'. ASTTBC is enhancing the profile of ASTTBC-registered technology professionals and of the Association itself as a regulatory body. ASTTBC is launching strategic initiatives relating to public policy, notably in the critical areas of technology education and careers, and regarding sustainability.

The 2008 Work Plan was developed based on this strong foundation and mindful that ASTTBC Council has decided to govern within the full potential of the ASTT Act and Regulations. To view the full 2008 Workplan click on www.asttbc.com/services/docs/workplan2008.pdf

Reminders From The ASTTBC Office

- **Dues Notices.** Invoices for ASTTBC annual dues are being sent out electronically for the first time this year. Members who have not provided ASTTBC with an e-mail address will continue to receive their annual dues notice by regular mail.
- **Festive Season Holiday Hours.** The ASTTBC office will be closed from December 24 to January 2 2007.
- **Contact Information.** Please log-on to www.asttbc.com to update your contact information if you have moved, changed your email address or have a new employer.

Call For Member Profiles

Are you an ASTTBC member who is working on the Canada Line rapid transit project, the Golden Ears bridge, an Olympic Games venue, or other interesting project? We would like to highlight your work in a future issue of ASTT News or ASTT e-News. Please contact editor@asttbc.org

ASTTBC Promotes Fire Protection Technician Program

Hundreds of children and their parents are delighted every year by the 'Magic and Miracles' show. It is put on by the Firefighters Charitable Societies to raise funds for hospital burn units. ASTTBC ran a full-page, full-color advertisement in the show programme. The ad demonstrated the role that ASTTBC-certified Registered Fire Protection Technicians play in ensuring safety. Derek Dickson, RFPT, a fire protection technician with the City of North Vancouver, was profiled.

Report On Technology Skills Shortage Available Soon

A report highlighting the key dialogue from the ASTTBC-sponsored 'Roundtable on Technology Skills Shortage II' will be distributed shortly to delegates who attended the event. Other stakeholders who could not participate at the Morris J Wosk Centre for Dialogue on October 31 2007 will also receive a copy of the report. The report will zero in on key considerations as we move forward, collectively, on the technology skills shortage in British Columbia.

An email announcement will be sent when the RTSS II Report has been distributed and/or posted on the RTSS web site for downloading by interested stakeholders.

ASTTBC would like to again acknowledge our partners and sponsors, who helped make RTSS II happen:

Partners

Province of BC, TELUS, BC Innovation Council, BC Safety Authority, Dowco Group of Companies, Black Press, BC Housing, Terasen Gas, Industry Training Authority, BC Technology Industry Association, Business Council of BC, Pacific Northwest Economic Region, working.com, BC Deans of Technology, BCIT, Camosun College, Okanagan College

Sponsors

Association of Professional Engineers & Geoscientists of BC, Consulting Engineers of BC, BC Construction Association, Career Management Association of BC, College of New Caledonia, Foundation for Education & Advancement in Technology, MISTIC, BC Business Magazine, Journal of Commerce, Business In Vancouver.

Special thanks goes to those partners who took an active role by providing us with staff support including the volunteers listed below, both prior to and at the event:

BC Safety Authority - Margaret Cremona, Lily Vuckovic

BC Innovation Council - Jill Hrabinsky

Black Press - Melissa Bencze

Thanks also to the young women from Maple Ridge Secondary School, who not only volunteered their time, but voiced their opinion at RTSS II: Morgan Heisler, Allison Chan, Kaitlyn Salonga

Minister Applauds ASTTBC Work On Careers

National Technology Week is Canada's showcase of career choices in applied science technology and in engineering technology. Held annually during the first week of November, it offers activities to help students, teachers and parents explore what 50,000 certified technicians and technologists contribute to Canada.

ASTTBC asked the provincial government to proclaim National Technology Week in British Columbia. Colin Hansen, Minister of Economic Development, also sent the following message:

"BC is experiencing unprecedented economic growth, and our prosperity is closely tied to the success of our technology industry. With these successes come challenges. Employers in all sectors are finding it hard to recruit skilled workers, and over the next decade it is estimated that there will be one million job openings, with only 650,000 students coming through our school system. BC will need more technologists, technicians and technical specialists in the years ahead. We face the challenge of attracting a sufficient number of our youth into technology careers and we also need to ensure portability of credentials across Canada and from other countries. I applaud the work of ASTTBC as it reconciles its professional registration and practice between provinces, a key goal of the BC - Alberta Trade, Investment, and Labour Mobility Agreement. During National Technology Week, I encourage British Columbians to explore the many exciting and rewarding technology careers available."

National Technology Week is coordinated by the Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists, in partnership with the National Council of Deans of Technology, and is made possible with the generous support of TD Meloche Monnex, ASTTBC's affinity partner for home insurance.

Students See Value In ASTTBC Membership

Students in accredited technology programs at BCIT and the colleges of BC are eligible for free student membership in ASTTBC. Student membership helps give them an early start on building a career in technology.

ASTTBC works closely with BCIT and the colleges to make sure technology students are aware of their professional association. This year, a record 90% of the eligible students at Camosun College signed up for membership in ASTTBC according to Tom Roemer, MSc, Dean, School of Trades and Technology.

ASTTBC Sponsors BC Safety Authority Awards

The Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of BC was a Silver Safety Vest Level sponsor of the 2007 BC Safety Authority Awards. The awards recognize individuals and

organizations for exceptional leadership, innovation or achievement in the promotion of safety in British Columbia. Award recipients were honoured at a luncheon at the Vancouver Convention & Exhibition Centre on November 21, 2007. Representatives from ASTTBC who attended the ceremony included: Darrin Heisler, ASCT, President; Prakash Joshi, ASCT, EngL, Council member; and staff Richard Mayer, ASCT; Geoff Sale, ASCT; John Shortreid, ASCT; Jason Jung, ASCT; Wendy Lawson and Brian Stegavig.

ASTTBC Sponsors First Nations Science Event

ASTTBC was a sponsor for the Community Science Celebration held in December at the Chemainus First Nation Community Centre. The Snuneymuxw and Chemainus First Nations bands organized the event in partnership with Science World and the Mid-Island Science, Technology and Innovation Council. ASTTBC provided funding and prizes and set up the Association's display booth. Cliff Shackelly, ASCT, attended so that youth at the event could hear first-hand about the work of a technologist.

ASTTBC Calls On First Nations Members

In response to a short article in the last issue of ASTT e-News, four ASTTBC members who are also First Nations have already offered to volunteer for ASTTBC committees and events. Council feels that engaging First Nations, especially encouraging young people to consider a career in technology, should be a focus for the Association. This is a reminder that if you are First Nations and would like to get involved, you are invited to e-mail the ASTTBC Executive Director at jleech@asttbc.org

BC Innovation Council To Promote Technology Careers

The BC Innovation Council is taking an active role in encouraging BC high school students to pursue careers in science, technology and engineering. ASTTBC members are encouraged to get involved.

Three projects are in the planning stages:

- **Outreach Programs' Workshop.** A workshop on February 15 in Vancouver will provide information on outreach initiatives. This joint NSERC/ BCIC event will encourage collaboration among BC science, technology and engineering outreach organizations and science and technology companies.
- **Richmond Science Expo and Careers Fair.** On March 13, 400 youth will showcase their science fair projects to the public. This will be coupled with a Science, Technology and Engineering Careers Fair where companies and post-secondary institutions will be invited to interact with participating youth and public.
- **Student/ Industry Project.** This pilot project in the Richmond School District invites companies to work with students on a science fair project in their specialty area that will be showcased at the Richmond Science Expo and PMC-Sierra Science Fair Fun Run Event.

Anyone interested in these projects can contact Amy Wakeford, High School Science and Innovation Career Development Officer at awakeford@bcinnovationcouncil.com or 604-602-5214.

Science Day Camp Sponsored By ASTTBC

ASTTBC agreed to sponsor the First Invitational Science Day Camp. The Camp was organized by the BIG Little Science Centre in Kamloops. On December 3 2007 elementary school students got hands-on experience in chemistry and they had the opportunity to build a battery to run a clock and to make an electromagnet.

Science Centre To Hold Kamloops Open House

The BIG Little Science Centre in Kamloops will be hosting an Open House on Saturday Feb 16 2008. The action runs from 11 AM to 4 PM at the Bert Edwards Science and Technology

School, located at 711 Windsor Avenue in Kamloops. ASTTBC members are encouraged to volunteer and/or take their families to the Open House. Contact Gord Stewart at 554-2572 or e-mail gord@blscs.org

Wood Design Competition Deadline Looms

The deadline for nominations for the 4th annual Wood WORKS! BC 'Wood Design Awards Competition' is February 1 2008. Wood WORKS! invites architects, engineers, designers, builders and project owners to submit entries in 12 categories.

The Wood WORKS! BC Wood Awards honour excellence in wood-based construction projects, and they recognize the people and organizations that are pioneering and preserving the use of wood in British Columbia.

www.wood-works.org

Occupational Health and Safety Regulation Input Sought

WorkSafeBC has released the 2008 proposed amendments to the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation for consultation. Stakeholders are invited to provide feedback which will be accepted until 4:30 pm on Thursday January 31 2008.

All input received will be reviewed and changes made to the proposed amendments, where appropriate, prior to the proposed amendments being taken to a public hearing in May or June 2008.

The proposed amendments with explanatory notes have been posted on WorkSafeBC's web site at www2.worksafebc.com/fwd/q573.htm. There is also an online survey with each regulatory amendment package for stakeholders to provide feedback.

A stakeholder consultation session is scheduled for Tuesday, January 22, 2008 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the Best Western Abercorn Inn in Richmond for stakeholders who wish to provide feedback in person. Registration is not required for this session. For further information please call (604) 232 7744, or toll free 1 (866) 614 7744.

Ministry Of Environment Updates

- The Land Remediation Section has added six new presentations to their web site. They cover topics such as the new Contaminated Sites Approved Professional Society, proposals for changing the way in which the Ministry processes site profiles, and recent developments in the contaminated sites program.
www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/remediation/presentations/index.htm
- Protocol 8 'Security for Contaminated Sites' has been approved by the Director of Waste Management and released on the Land Remediation web site.
www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/remediation/policy_procedure_protocol/index.htm
- Effective July 1 2007, the requirement for a Summary of Site Condition replaced Protocol 5 information requirements for all service applications submitted via the Approved Professional process.
www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/remediation/forms/word/summary_site_condition.doc
- The Concrete and Concrete Products Code of Practice will come into force on March 1, 2008 under the Environmental Management Act.
www.env.gov.bc.ca/epdiv/ema_codes_of_practice/index.html
- A summary of consultation comments for the Industrial Non-hazardous Waste Landfills Code of Practice is now also available on the Ministry Of Environment web page.

Plastic Bags Could Get The Toss

A Vancouver councilor wants the City to investigate options to phase out plastic shopping bags. This follows similar changes in the UK, USA and some Asian countries. British retailers hand out 13 billion plastic bags every year. All 33 authorities in the London Councils group voted to prevent shops from handing out free plastic bags. The move is intended to reduce the environmental damage done by plastic bags, which are made from oil and often end up in landfills. Shoppers will be asked to switch to reusable cotton bags or 'net' bags, a return to the approach used a number of decades ago.

Coming Events

- **Valuing Coastal Forests**, January 15 – 18 2008, Vancouver. 65th annual convention and expo of the Truck Loggers Association. www.tla.ca
 - **Northern BC Business & Technology Awards, Resource Forum & Trade Show**, January 17 2008, Prince George. ASTTBC is once again sponsoring the Technology Provider Of The Year Award. All members in the Prince George area are encouraged to attend. www.businessstechshow.com
 - **Transportation Conference**, January 29 2008, Vancouver. Morning tour of Canada Line, lunch, workshops sponsored by CEBC and BC Road Builders, Deputy Minister's Awards Dinner; www.cebc.org
 - **SPEATBC Annual Dinner**, February 1 2008, Surrey. Annual awards dinner of the Society of Punjabi Engineers & Technologists of BC. For tickets contact treasurer@speatbc.org
 - **Digital Dilemmas, Digital Dreams Conference**, February 7 – 8 2008, Victoria. Privacy, security and society in new world networks. www.rebootconference.com/privacy2008
 - **Construction Administration**, February 21 2008, Vancouver. Sponsored by the Architectural Institute of BC. www.aibc.ca
 - **BC Construction Show**, February 13 – 14 2008, Vancouver. Western Canada's largest annual exposition for the design, construction, renovation, retrofit and refurbishing of all building types for residential and commercial. www.bcconstruct.com
 - **GLOBE 2008**, March 12 -14 2008, Vancouver. Corporate sustainability and finance; energy and the environment; building better cities. www.globe2008.ca
 - **BC Building Code I**, March 14 2008, Vancouver. Sponsored by the Architectural Institute of BC. www.aibc.ca
 - **BCIT Open House**, April 11 – 12 2008, Burnaby. School students and the public can explore programs and courses and find out about the BCIT experience directly from faculty and students. www.bcit.ca/openhouse
 - **AIBC Annual Conference**, April 24 – 26 2008, Vancouver. Watch for details on www.aibc.ca
 - **ASTTBC Annual General Meeting**, May 25 2008, Langley. For details, watch ASTT e-News or visit www.asttbc.com
 - **BC Building Code II**, May 30 2008, Vancouver. Sponsored by the Architectural Institute of BC. www.aibc.ca
 - **Construction In Challenging Environments**, June 16 – 18 2008, Edmonton. A forum for sharing ideas, exploring new solutions and understanding financial impacts on the construction industry. Sponsored by the Pacific Association of Quantity Surveyors. www.paqs2008.com
 - **World Forestry Congress**, October 18 – 25 2009. Buenos Aires. Call for papers under the theme 'Forests in development – a vital balance'. www.wfc2009.org
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